

Data Interpretation for Public Health Professionals

INTENDED AUDIENCE

Public health nurses, other frontline public health workers and health educators who have not had epidemiological or statistical training but need to be able to read, interpret, and present public health data.

FORMAT

Web-based, Flash presentation. This online module has an audio narration and interactive exercises and scenarios.

ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE

This module takes approximately ninety minutes to complete.

LEAD COURSE DEVELOPER

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CO-PROVIDER

This course is co-provided by the University of Washington School of Nursing. The University of Washington is an accredited provider of continuing nursing education (CNE) by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Participants who successfully complete the course are eligible to receive 1.5 contact hours for a processing fee of \$35.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See www.nwcphp.org/data



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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Do you find the thought of interpreting public health data intimidating? This narrated, one-hour module introduces the terms used to describe the public's health and provides a basic competency in reading and presenting data. If you've ever looked at terms such as confidence interval or p-value and wondered what they meant, this module is for you. Idaho-specific and U.S. national data examples are used.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- List at least three common data sources used to characterize health or disease status of a community.
- Define and interpret basic epidemiology measures, such as prevalence, incidence, mortality, and case fatality.
- Define and interpret basic biostatistical measures, such as mean, median, confidence interval, and p-value.
- Read and interpret tables and graphs.
- Determine the appropriate format for data presentation.

COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED

This module provides an awareness level training in the following epidemiology competency and subcompetencies developed by the University of Washington (www.nwcphp.org/epi/competencies).

Competency	Subcompetency
Obtain, evaluate, and interpret public health information. (Competency 5)	A. Interpret epidemiology measures.
	D. Identify and distinguish concepts in biostatistics.
	E. Apply epidemiological information.

About the Course Developer

Dr. Janet Baseman is a senior fellow in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Washington. As a member of NWCPHP's epidemiology team, she develops online trainings to improve the epidemiological knowledge and skills of front line public health workers. She also works as an epidemiologist with the UW Center for Public Health Informatics and the Kitsap County Health District.