## Some Common Statistics Distributions

| Name of Distribution | Conditions | Parameters | Equation | Graph | Typical Example |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Binomial | - Discrete data <br> - Stated (or fixed) number of trials <br> - Only two outcomes; pass or fail <br> - Probability constant throughout <br> - Independence | $X \sim B(n, p)$ | $P(X=x)={ }_{x}^{n} p^{x} q^{n-x}$ |  | Find probability of obtaining at least 4 sixes when throwing a die 6 times. |
| Normal | - Continuous data <br> - Symmetrical distribution | $X \sim N\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right)$ | $\begin{aligned} & P(X=x) \\ & =\frac{1}{\sqrt{2 \pi \sigma}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^{2}}{2 \sigma^{2}}} \end{aligned}$ |  | If mean height is 1.8 m with variance of 0.04 m , find probability that someone is less than 1.7 m tall. |
| Poisson | - Probability constant throughout <br> - Independence <br> - Two events can't occur at once | $X \sim P o(\lambda)$ | $P(X=x)=e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{x}}{x!}$ |  | If average number of lions seen on a 1-day safari is 5 , find probabilities of seeing exactly 6 lions and less than 4 lions on the next safari. |
| Geometric | - Probability constant throughout <br> - Independence <br> - Only two outcomes; pass or fail | $X \sim G(p)$ | $P(X=x)=p q^{n-1}$ |  | Find probability of passing driving test on $3^{\text {rd }}$ attempt, assuming probability of passing is $1 / 3$ each time. How about $P(X \geq 3)$ ? |


| Uniform (Rectangular) | - Discrete data <br> - Probability constant throughout <br> - Independence | [a, b] | $P(X=x)=\frac{1}{b-a}$ |  | Prove that $\begin{aligned} & E(X)=\frac{1}{2}(a+b) \text { and that } \\ & \operatorname{Var}(X)=\frac{1}{12}(b-a)^{2} \end{aligned}$ |
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| Student's <br> T-Squared | - Continuous data <br> - Non-Symmetrical distribution |  |  |  |  |

