

A B C D E F G H I J K 5/29/2013  
 Goal: Model the relationship between rho and sample size for statistical significance V0b  
 Step 1 Solve for n\_Min: Smallest value of n that is statistically significant given rho. 7/17/2014  
 Source: [www.vassarstats.net/rho.html](http://www.vassarstats.net/rho.html)  
 Step 2 Model the results using simple formulas. ROW

Given		MODEL #1				Model #2			
Rho	Vassar nMin	Rho = 2/sqr(n)	Error	n = 4/(Rho)^2	Error	Rho = 2/sqr(n-1)	Error	n = 1+ 4/(Rho)^2	Error
0.001	3,840,000	0.001	2.1%	4,000,000	4.2%	0.001	2.1%	4,000,001	4.2%
0.002	960,000	0.002	2.1%	1,000,000	4.2%	0.002	2.1%	1,000,001	4.2%
0.005	153,000	0.005	2.3%	160,000	4.6%	0.005	2.3%	160,001	4.6%
0.01	38,400	0.010	2.1%	40,000	4.2%	0.010	2.1%	40,001	4.2%
0.02	9,600	0.020	2.1%	10,000	4.2%	0.020	2.1%	10,001	4.2%
0.05	1,530	0.051	2.3%	1,600	4.6%	0.051	2.3%	1,601	4.6%
0.1	384	0.102	2.1%	400	4.2%	0.102	2.2%	401	4.4%
0.12	267	0.122	2.0%	278	4.1%	0.123	2.2%	279	4.5%
0.15	171	0.153	2.0%	178	4.1%	0.153	2.3%	179	4.7%
0.2	96	0.204	2.1%	100	4.2%	0.205	2.6%	101	5.2%
0.3	43	0.305	1.7%	44	2.3%	0.309	2.9%	45	4.7%
0.4	25	0.400	0.0%	25	0.0%	0.408	2.1%	26	4.0%
0.5	16	0.500	0.0%	16	0.0%	0.516	3.3%	17	6.3%
0.6	11	0.603	0.5%	11	0.0%	0.632	5.4%	12	9.1%
0.65	10	0.632	-2.7%	9	-10.0%	0.667	2.6%	10	0.0%
0.7	9	0.667	-4.8%	8	-11.1%	0.707	1.0%	9	0.0%
0.8	7	0.756	-5.5%	6	-14.3%	0.816	2.1%	7	0.0%
0.9	5	0.894	-0.6%	5	0.0%	1.000	11.1%	6	20.0%

Given Manual =2/SQRT(B27) =ROUND(4/A27^2, 0)  
 3 signif.digits =(D27-A27)/A27 =(F27-B27)/B27

**ANALYSIS: MODEL STATISTICAL-SIGNIFICANCE CONDITION FOR BIVARIATE CORRELATION**

Model #1 nMin =(2/Rho)^2 OK for Rho < 0.6 or n > 10  
 Over-estimates minimum n (by up to 5%) for rho < 0.3.  
 Accurate estimates of n for rho between 0.4 and 0.6.  
 Under-estimates n by one for rho > 0.65.  
 RhoMin = 2/sqr(n) Over-estimates minimum rho by up to 2.5% for n > 10

Model #2 nMin -1 =(2/Rho)^2 Over-estimates minimum n for Rho < 0.8  
 Always over-estimates (up to 5%\*) the number required for N > 5.  
 \* When over 5%, N is over-estimated by just one.  
 RhoMin = 2/sqrt(n-1) Over-estimates rho by up to 5% for n > 5

**CONCLUSIONS:**  
 Model #1: Simplest. Conservative (never under-estimates) for n > 10 or rho < 0.6  
 Model #2: Second-simplest. Conservative (always over-estimates) for n > 4 or rho < 0.9

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**  
 Statistical Literacy for non-Quants: Use model #1 in range for n > 10.  
 Statistical Literacy for Managers: Use Model #1 or #2 in associated ranges.  
 Traditional Statistics: Use Model #2 for n > 5