

Evaluating Risk: Are bacon sandwiches bad for you?



Interpreting Graphs Route: Answers to worksheets

What does an extra 20% risk on top of a 5% risk really mean?

1. 5
2. 3
3. 7
4. $\frac{5}{100} = \frac{1}{20}$; $\frac{3}{60} = \frac{1}{20}$; $\frac{7}{140} = \frac{1}{20}$; $\frac{1}{20}$
5. 20
6. 2
7. 5
8. $\frac{20}{100} = \frac{1}{5}$; $\frac{2}{10} = \frac{1}{5}$; $\frac{5}{25} = \frac{1}{5}$; $\frac{1}{5}$
9. 20% of 5 = 1, total cases = 5 + 1 = 6
20% of 3 = $\frac{3}{5} = 0.6$, total cases = 3 + 0.6 = 3.6, so (3 or) 4
20% of 7 = $\frac{7}{5} = 1.4$, total cases = 7 + 1.4 = 8.4, so 8 (or 9)

20% of 5% = $\frac{20}{100} \times \frac{5}{100} = \frac{1}{100} = 0.01 = 1\%$
(or start by observing that the additional number of cases is 1%)

The Journey to School

1. Bar graph
2. 12
3. 4
6. Even for 12 year-olds, the risk of an accident is less than 0.1% or less than 1 child in 1000 at each year of age, and the figures are for all accidents, which includes minor ones - so the risk is pretty small.
7. 12, the difference is 93 (365 compared to 272).
8. 14, the difference is 3 (214 compared to 211).
9. 16 (101 compared to 95).
12. Pie chart
13. Bus/tram
14. Walking
15. No indication of total number of children using each mode of transport so no sense of what proportion of children using a given mode are at risk. In fact, walking is pretty safe, more so than cycling, for instance - considerably more children walk than cycle.

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<http://motivate.maths.org/content/MathsHealth/Risk/>

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