

Probability Vocabulary

Probability: The likelihood or chance of an event occurring.

The probability of an event is equal to the number of favourable outcomes divided by the number of possible outcomes.

$$P(\text{event}) = \frac{\text{number of favourable outcomes}}{\text{number of possible outcomes}}$$

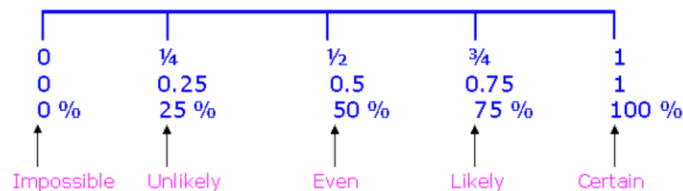
Probability is represented with a fractional number between 0 and 1 (or 0% to 100%).

The closer to 1, the more likely the event is to occur.

An event is certain to occur if it has a probability of 1 (100%)

The closer to 0, the less likely the event is to occur.

An event is impossible if its probability is equal to 0 (0%).



100%		certain
93%	Give or take about 6%	Almost certain
75%	Give or take about 12%	Probable
50%	Give or take about 10%	Chances about even
30%	Give or take about 10%	Probably not
7%	Give or take about 5%	Almost certainly not
0%		Impossible

Vocabulary

Random experiment: Is an experiment where we cannot foresee the outcome with certainty. (It depends entirely on chance).

Set of possible outcomes: All possible outcomes in a random experiment.

Outcomes

The set of possible outcomes is called the set of possibilities. We use the symbol Ω (omega). When writing the set of possible outcomes we do not repeat possible outcomes

Example 1: the set of possibilities when rolling a die numbered 1-6 is

$$\Omega = \{1,2,3,4,5,6\}$$

Example 2: the set of possibilities when randomly picking a letter in the word MISSISSIPPI

$$\Omega = \{M, I, S, P\}$$

Finding the Number of Outcomes

1. Multiplication Rule

Multiply the number of outcomes in the first step by the number of outcomes in the second step.

Example: In a random experiment a coin is flipped and then a die is rolled. Find the number of outcomes.

2. Tree Diagram

Use a tree diagram to show the possible outcomes for the following example In a random experiment a coin is flipped and then a die is rolled. Find the number of outcomes.

Types of Experiments Vocabulary

Theoretical probability: when we use a formula to find the probability of an event

Experimental probability: When you find the probability by doing an experiment.

Simple event: a random experiment carried out in a single step. Example picking a card out of a deck of cards.

Compound event: a random experiment carried out in many steps. Example tossing a coin and picking a card out of a deck of cards.

