
Guidelines for the selection of statistical methods in standardization and specification

*Lignes directrices pour la sélection des méthodes statistiques dans la
normalisation et la spécification*



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

In exceptional circumstances, when a technical committee has collected data of a different kind from that which is normally published as an International Standard ("state of the art", for example), it may decide by a simple majority vote of its participating members to publish a Technical Report. A Technical Report is entirely informative in nature and does not have to be reviewed until the data it provides are considered to be no longer valid or useful.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/TR 13425 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 69, *Applications of statistical methods*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO/TR 13425:2003), which has been technically revised.

Introduction

Statistical methods have numerous practical applications in the manufacturing and service industries, marketing, research, laboratories and other spheres. Their effectiveness depends firstly on the suitability of the chosen method for the intended purpose and secondly on the application, the way it is used. Incorrect choice or poor application can lead to improper deductions and therefore to crucial errors and inappropriate decisions.

This is one of the reasons why ISO has produced a range of International Standards for the application of statistical methods.

This Technical Report should be seen as a descriptive catalogue of the available TC 69 International Standards and Guides, published or in course of preparation, to assist the reader in selecting those most suitable for his purpose, according to his needs, whether these be in decision making, problem solving or in achieving a given purpose.

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Guidelines for the selection of statistical methods in standardization and specification

1 Scope

This Technical Report gives guidance on the selection and an overview of all the referenced standards, guides, technical reports and DIS developed by ISO/TC 69 from a user prospective. DIS are drafts which can be amended. Both categories are documents, which are available to the public. This Technical Report also gives two descriptions of the content of the standards by two sets of abstracts: non-technical abstracts and technical abstracts of all these documents. Each abstract presents a brief survey of the content of the actual standard or DIS. It also gives some indications of the use of the document in different areas.

Annex A gives the non-technical and technical abstracts. The non-technical abstracts are usually brief. In these abstracts, the number of technical terms are kept to a minimum. They give brief outlines of the actual documents. The technical abstracts are somewhat longer. More technical terms are used. The technical abstracts also go more into depth with regard to the content and the use of the actual document than the non-technical abstracts. For many documents, the two abstracts supplement each other.

Annex B lists the committee drafts, working drafts and new work item proposals in the ISO/TC 69 work program.

The types of document are identified as follows:

Published International Standard:	ISO xxxxxxx
Final Draft International Standard:	FDIS
Draft International Standard:	DIS
Committee Draft:	CD
Working Draft:	WD
New work item proposal:	NP
Draft Technical Report:	DTR
Published Technical Report:	TR
Technical Specification	TS