

WILCOXON SIGNED RANK T TEST

This test is used to compare the results of a treatment from a within groups design

A 5th-grade teacher wants to know if a reading reinforcement program will encourage her students to read more books. She tracks the number of books read before and after her students participate in the program:

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Before	10	17	19	20	21	22	23	24	29	33	57	35
After	15	23	20	20	28	26	24	29	37	40	50	55

1. DETERMINE THAT CONDITIONS FOR TEST ARE ACCEPTABLE:

- Data can be ranked
- Distribution is symmetric but not normal
- Observations are dependent

2. STATE NULL AND ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESES:

H_0 : Median number of books read before program = Median number of books read after program ($M_B = M_A$)

H_a : Median number of books read before program < Median number of books read after program ($M_B < M_A$)

3. COMPUTE THE DIFFERENCE IN SCORES FOR EACH SUBJECT:

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Before	10	17	19	20	21	22	23	24	29	33	57	35
After	15	23	20	20	28	26	24	29	37	40	50	55
Difference	-5	-6	-1	0	-7	-4	-1	-5	-8	-7	7	-20

4. RANK THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF THE DIFFERENCES (DO NOT INCLUDE “0” IN RANKING):

1 1 } 1.5
 2 1
 3 4
 4 5 } 4.5
 5 5
 6 6
 7 7
 8 7 } 8.0
 9 7
 10 8
 11 20

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Before	10	17	19	20	21	22	23	24	29	33	57	35
After	15	23	20	20	28	26	24	29	37	40	50	55
Difference	-5	-6	-1	0	-7	-4	-1	-5	-8	-7	7	-20
Rank	4.5	6	1.5	---	8	3	1.5	4.5	10	8	8	11

5. TO EACH RANK, ATTACH THE SIGN OF THE PREVIOUSLY CALCULATED DIFFERENCE SCORE:

Student	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Before	10	17	19	20	21	22	23	24	29	33	57	35
After	15	23	20	20	28	26	24	29	37	40	50	55
Difference	-5	-6	-1	0	-7	-4	-1	-5	-8	-7	7	-20
Rank	4.5	6	1.5	---	8	3	1.5	4.5	10	8	8	11
Signed Rank	-4.5	-6	-1.5	---	-8	-3	-1.5	-4.5	-10	-8	8	-11

6. DETERMINE THE SUM OF POSITIVE RANKS AND THE SUM OF NEGATIVE RANKS:

$$\Sigma_{\text{Positive}} = 8$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{Negative}} = (-4.5) + (-6) + (-1.5) + (-8) + (-3) + (-1.5) + (-4.5) + (-10) + (-11) = 58$$

7. DETERMINE P-VALUE

- a) Let N = number of paired ranks ($N = 11$)
- b) T-statistic = 8 (since we expect this number to be smaller than the sum of negative ranks based on the hypotheses*)
- c) Using Table A.8, P-value < .025

8. STATE CONCLUSION:

There is strong evidence ($p < .025$) to reject H_0 and conclude that a significantly great number of books were read after the reading program was implemented.

NOTE:

In essence this test determines whether the sum of positive ranks differs significant from the sum of negative ranks