

Unit 2: Introduction to Survival Data

Unit Purpose: To understand how to interpret summary measures and graphical summaries for survival (i.e., time-to-event) data.

Learning Objectives - Survival Data

Use these learning objectives as a checklist during the week. After completing this week, you should be able to:

- recognize survival data in an article.
- explain what constitutes an “event” in a given study.
- give examples of censored data.
- identify characteristics of survival data, such as starting date and entry criterion, from an article.
- identify summary measures of survival data analysis, such as median survival time and five-year survival rate, from an article or a survival curve.
- interpret a Kaplan-Meier survival curve, specifically:
 - know what is on the x- and y-axes,
 - know why the curve has steps,
 - know what the curve tells you,
 - be aware that censoring is taken into account in constructing the curve, and
 - be able to indicate censoring on the curve.