

Understanding and Using the F-Distribution Table: A Step-by-Step Guide

Authored by
Mohammed looti

November 9, 2025

RECOMMENDED CITATION

Mohammed looti (2025). *Understanding and Using the F-Distribution Table: A Step-by-Step Guide*. PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS. Retrieved from <https://statistics.arabpsychology.com/?p=14108>

The [F-distribution](#) table is an indispensable reference tool for anyone conducting statistical hypothesis testing. This comprehensive tutorial is designed to demystify this powerful resource, offering a step-by-step guide on how to accurately read and interpret its values. We will thoroughly explore the table's structure, identify the crucial input parameters required for lookup, and walk through detailed, practical examples illustrating its application in various statistical analyses, thereby ensuring both clarity and precision in your research findings.

What is the F-Distribution Table?

The **F-distribution table** serves as a critical statistical reference, cataloging the [critical values](#) essential for executing an [F test](#). These tabulated values are derived directly from the theoretical F-distribution, a distribution fundamental to inferential statistics. Understanding this distribution is crucial for determining the probability of observing a specific F statistic under the assumption that the [null hypothesis](#) holds true. The critical value found in the table acts as the threshold that separates the acceptance region from the rejection region, guiding the researcher's decision regarding the hypothesis.

To navigate the F-distribution table effectively and pinpoint the exact critical value, you must first gather three specific statistical parameters. These parameters are non-negotiable, as they precisely define the shape of the F-distribution curve relevant to your specific analysis and locate the precise boundary of the rejection zone. Neglecting any of these inputs will lead to inaccurate conclusions regarding statistical significance.

The **Numerator Degrees of Freedom** (DF1): This parameter is usually associated with the variability explained by the model or treatment effects.

The **Denominator Degrees of Freedom** (DF2): This parameter reflects the residual or error variability within the model.

The **Alpha Level** ([Significance Level](#)): This predetermined probability, commonly set at 0.05, 0.01, or 0.10, represents the acceptable risk of committing a Type I error.

The layout of the F-distribution table is highly standardized to facilitate quick lookups. The numbers positioned along the top row consistently represent the numerator [degrees of freedom](#) (DF1), which relate to the model or treatment effects. Conversely, the numbers aligned vertically down the left-hand column signify the denominator [degrees of freedom](#) (DF2), representing the error terms. The interior content of the table is populated entirely by the F critical values, which are specific to the [alpha level](#) of that particular table.

For illustrative purposes, the following visual displays the critical values for an F-distribution specifically calibrated for an alpha level of 0.10. Familiarize yourself with this standard layout before proceeding to the practical examples.

		$\alpha = 0.10$																		
DF2	DF1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf
1	39.863	49.5	53.593	55.833	57.24	58.204	58.906	59.439	59.858	60.195	60.705	61.22	61.74	62.002	62.265	62.529	62.794	63.061	63.328	
2	8.5263	9	9.1618	9.2434	9.2926	9.3255	9.3491	9.3668	9.3805	9.3916	9.4081	9.4247	9.4413	9.4496	9.4579	9.4662	9.4746	9.4829	9.4912	
3	5.5383	5.4624	5.3908	5.3426	5.3092	5.2847	5.2662	5.2517	5.24	5.2304	5.2156	5.2003	5.1845	5.1764	5.1681	5.1597	5.1512	5.1425	5.1337	
4	4.5448	4.3246	4.1909	4.1073	4.0506	4.0098	3.979	3.9549	3.9357	3.9199	3.8955	3.8704	3.8443	3.831	3.8174	3.8036	3.7896	3.7753	3.7607	
5	4.0604	3.7797	3.6195	3.5202	3.453	3.4045	3.3679	3.3393	3.3163	3.2974	3.2682	3.238	3.2067	3.1905	3.1741	3.1573	3.1402	3.1228	3.105	
6	3.776	3.4633	3.2888	3.1808	3.1075	3.0546	3.0145	2.983	2.9577	2.9369	2.9047	2.8712	2.8363	2.8183	2.8	2.7812	2.762	2.7423	2.7222	
7	3.5894	3.2574	3.0741	2.9605	2.8833	2.8274	2.7849	2.7516	2.7247	2.7025	2.6681	2.6322	2.5947	2.5753	2.5555	2.5351	2.5142	2.4928	2.4708	
8	3.4579	3.1131	2.9238	2.8064	2.7265	2.6683	2.6241	2.5894	2.5612	2.538	2.502	2.4642	2.4246	2.4041	2.383	2.3614	2.3391	2.3162	2.2926	
9	3.3603	3.0065	2.8129	2.6927	2.6106	2.5509	2.5053	2.4694	2.4403	2.4163	2.3789	2.3396	2.2983	2.2768	2.2547	2.232	2.2085	2.1843	2.1592	
10	3.285	2.9245	2.7277	2.6053	2.5216	2.4606	2.414	2.3772	2.3473	2.3226	2.2841	2.2435	2.2007	2.1784	2.1554	2.1317	2.1072	2.0818	2.0554	
11	3.2252	2.8595	2.6602	2.5362	2.4512	2.3891	2.3416	2.304	2.2735	2.2482	2.2087	2.1671	2.1231	2.1	2.0762	2.0516	2.0261	1.9997	1.9721	
12	3.1766	2.8068	2.6055	2.4801	2.394	2.331	2.2828	2.2446	2.2135	2.1878	2.1474	2.1049	2.0597	2.036	2.0115	1.9861	1.9597	1.9323	1.9036	
13	3.1362	2.7632	2.5603	2.4337	2.3467	2.283	2.2341	2.1954	2.1638	2.1376	2.0966	2.0532	2.007	1.9827	1.9576	1.9315	1.9043	1.8759	1.8462	
14	3.1022	2.7265	2.5222	2.3947	2.3069	2.2426	2.1931	2.1539	2.122	2.0954	2.0537	2.0095	1.9625	1.9377	1.9119	1.8852	1.8572	1.828	1.7973	
15	3.0732	2.6952	2.4898	2.3614	2.273	2.2081	2.1582	2.1185	2.0862	2.0593	2.0171	1.9722	1.9243	1.899	1.8728	1.8454	1.8168	1.7867	1.7551	
16	3.0481	2.6682	2.4618	2.3327	2.2438	2.1783	2.128	2.088	2.0553	2.0282	1.9854	1.9399	1.8913	1.8656	1.8388	1.8108	1.7816	1.7508	1.7182	
17	3.0262	2.6446	2.4374	2.3078	2.2183	2.1524	2.1017	2.0613	2.0284	2.0009	1.9577	1.9117	1.8624	1.8362	1.809	1.7805	1.7506	1.7191	1.6856	
18	3.007	2.624	2.416	2.2858	2.1958	2.1296	2.0785	2.0379	2.0047	1.977	1.9333	1.8868	1.8369	1.8104	1.7827	1.7537	1.7232	1.691	1.6567	
19	2.9899	2.6056	2.397	2.2663	2.176	2.1094	2.058	2.0171	1.9836	1.9557	1.9117	1.8647	1.8142	1.7873	1.7592	1.7298	1.6988	1.6659	1.6308	
20	2.9747	2.5893	2.3801	2.2489	2.1582	2.0913	2.0397	1.9985	1.9649	1.9367	1.8924	1.8449	1.7938	1.7667	1.7382	1.7083	1.6768	1.6433	1.6074	
21	2.961	2.5746	2.3649	2.2333	2.1423	2.0751	2.0233	1.9819	1.948	1.9197	1.875	1.8272	1.7756	1.7481	1.7193	1.689	1.6569	1.6228	1.5862	
22	2.9486	2.5613	2.3512	2.2193	2.1279	2.0605	2.0084	1.9668	1.9327	1.9043	1.8593	1.8111	1.759	1.7312	1.7021	1.6714	1.6389	1.6042	1.5668	
23	2.9374	2.5493	2.3387	2.2065	2.1149	2.0472	1.9949	1.9531	1.9189	1.8903	1.845	1.7964	1.7439	1.7159	1.6864	1.6554	1.6224	1.5871	1.549	
24	2.9271	2.5383	2.3274	2.1949	2.103	2.0351	1.9826	1.9407	1.9063	1.8775	1.8319	1.7831	1.7302	1.7019	1.6721	1.6407	1.6073	1.5715	1.5327	
25	2.9177	2.5283	2.317	2.1842	2.0922	2.0241	1.9714	1.9293	1.8947	1.8658	1.82	1.7708	1.7175	1.689	1.659	1.6272	1.5934	1.557	1.5176	
26	2.9091	2.5191	2.3075	2.1745	2.0822	2.0139	1.961	1.9188	1.8841	1.855	1.809	1.7596	1.7059	1.6771	1.6468	1.6147	1.5805	1.5437	1.5036	
27	2.9012	2.5106	2.2987	2.1655	2.073	2.0045	1.9515	1.9091	1.8743	1.8451	1.7989	1.7492	1.6951	1.6662	1.6356	1.6032	1.5686	1.5313	1.4906	
28	2.8939	2.5028	2.2906	2.1571	2.0645	1.9959	1.9427	1.9001	1.8652	1.8359	1.7895	1.7395	1.6852	1.656	1.6252	1.5925	1.5575	1.5198	1.4784	
29	2.887	2.4955	2.2831	2.1494	2.0566	1.9878	1.9345	1.8918	1.8568	1.8274	1.7808	1.7306	1.6759	1.6466	1.6155	1.5825	1.5472	1.509	1.467	
30	2.8807	2.4887	2.2761	2.1422	2.0493	1.9803	1.9269	1.8841	1.849	1.8195	1.7727	1.7223	1.6673	1.6377	1.6065	1.5732	1.5376	1.4989	1.4564	
40	2.8354	2.4404	2.2261	2.091	1.9968	1.9269	1.8725	1.8289	1.7929	1.7627	1.7146	1.6624	1.6052	1.5741	1.5411	1.5056	1.4672	1.4248	1.3769	
60	2.7911	2.3933	2.1774	2.041	1.9457	1.8747	1.8194	1.7748	1.738	1.707	1.6574	1.6034	1.5435	1.5107	1.4755	1.4373	1.3952	1.3476	1.2915	
120	2.7478	2.3473	2.13	1.9923	1.8959	1.8238	1.7675	1.722	1.6843	1.6524	1.6012	1.545	1.4821	1.4472	1.4094	1.3676	1.3203	1.2646	1.1926	
Inf	2.7055	2.3026	2.0838	1.9449	1.8473	1.7741	1.7167	1.6702	1.6315	1.5987	1.5458	1.4871	1.4206	1.3832	1.3419	1.2951	1.24	1.1686	1	

The fundamental utility of finding the critical value lies in establishing the exact threshold for statistical significance. Once the F statistic is calculated from your data (e.g., in an [F test](#)), it is directly compared against this critical value. If the calculated F statistic exceeds the tabulated critical value, the result falls into the extreme region--the rejection region--leading to the formal rejection of the null hypothesis. This outcome confirms that the observed relationship or difference is statistically significant.

Practical Applications of the F-Distribution Table

The F-distribution table is far more than a theoretical tool; it is an indispensable resource for any statistical analysis that relies on the F test framework. By providing the precise critical value required, the table empowers researchers to accurately test complex hypotheses concerning the equality of means across multiple groups, the overall fit and predictive power of a statistical model, and the comparison of variances between two populations. Its versatility makes it a cornerstone of advanced data analysis.

The F test is widely applied across statistical disciplines, but it most commonly appears in three major contexts. In each scenario, consulting the F-distribution table is essential for determining the critical threshold against which the calculated F statistic must be measured:

The F test utilized in **Multiple Regression Analysis**, which assesses the collective significance

and explanatory ability of the entire set of independent variables within the model.

The F test at the heart of [Analysis of Variance \(ANOVA\)](#), designed to test the global null hypothesis that the means of three or more distinct experimental groups are statistically identical.

The F test specifically tailored to compare the **variances of two separate populations**, often used to check the assumption of homogeneity of variance before performing other tests.

To provide a comprehensive understanding of the practical methodology, the following sections will walk through concrete, step-by-step examples demonstrating exactly how to apply the F-distribution table in each of these common statistical scenarios, ensuring you can replicate the process accurately in your own work.

F Test in Regression Analysis

Consider a scenario involving a multiple linear [regression analysis](#) where we seek to predict *final exam score* using two independent variables: *hours studied* and *prep exams taken*. After running this analysis on our sample data, the standard statistical software output typically presents an ANOVA summary table, which clearly details the sources of variance used to calculate the overall model fit. This summary is crucial because the F test in regression assesses whether the proposed model is significantly better at predicting the outcome than simply using the mean of the outcome variable.

Source	SS	df	MS	F	P
Regression	546.53	2	273.26	5.09	0.033
Residual	483.13	9	53.68		
Total	1029.66	11			

In this specific analytical context, the F statistic is derived by calculating the ratio of the Regression Mean Square (MS) divided by the Residual Mean Square (MS). This resulting F-ratio, 5.09 in our case (calculated as $273.26 / 53.68$), provides a measure of how much variance is explained by the model relative to the unexplained error variance. To determine if this ratio is statistically meaningful, we must locate the critical benchmark by looking up the F critical value in the F-distribution table, typically set for an [alpha level](#) of 0.05.

The necessary inputs for the table lookup are extracted directly from the ANOVA table: the Numerator [Degrees of Freedom](#) (DF1) is **2** (corresponding to the Regression line) and the Denominator Degrees of Freedom (DF2) is **9** (corresponding to the Residual line). Using the F-distribution table specifically designed for $\alpha = 0.05$, we intersect DF1=2 across the top row and DF2=9 down the left column.

	DF1	$\alpha = 0.05$																		
DF2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf	
1	161.45	199.5	215.71	224.58	230.16	233.99	236.77	238.88	240.54	241.88	243.91	245.95	248.01	249.05	250.1	251.14	252.2	253.25	254.31	
2	18.513	19	19.164	19.247	19.296	19.33	19.353	19.371	19.385	19.396	19.413	19.429	19.446	19.454	19.462	19.471	19.479	19.487	19.496	
3	10.128	9.5521	9.2766	9.1172	9.0135	8.9406	8.8867	8.8452	8.8123	8.7855	8.7446	8.7029	8.6602	8.6385	8.6166	8.5944	8.572	8.5494	8.5264	
4	7.7086	6.9443	6.5914	6.3882	6.2561	6.1631	6.0942	6.041	5.9988	5.9644	5.9117	5.8578	5.8025	5.7744	5.7459	5.717	5.6877	5.6581	5.6281	
5	6.6079	5.7861	5.4095	5.1922	5.0503	4.9503	4.8759	4.8183	4.7725	4.7351	4.6777	4.6188	4.5581	4.5272	4.4957	4.4638	4.4314	4.3985	4.365	
6	5.9874	5.1433	4.7571	4.5337	4.3874	4.2839	4.2067	4.1468	4.099	4.06	3.9999	3.9381	3.8742	3.8415	3.8082	3.7743	3.7398	3.7047	3.6689	
7	5.5914	4.7374	4.3468	4.1203	3.9715	3.866	3.787	3.7257	3.6767	3.6365	3.5747	3.5107	3.4445	3.4105	3.3758	3.3404	3.3043	3.2674	3.2298	
8	5.3177	4.459	4.0662	3.8379	3.6875	3.5806	3.5005	3.4381	3.3881	3.3472	3.2839	3.2184	3.1503	3.1152	3.0794	3.0428	3.0053	2.9669	2.9276	
9	5.1174	4.2565	3.8625	3.6331	3.4817	3.3738	3.2927	3.2296	3.1789	3.1373	3.0729	3.0061	2.9365	2.9005	2.8637	2.8259	2.7872	2.7475	2.7067	
10	4.9646	4.1028	3.7083	3.478	3.3258	3.2172	3.1355	3.0717	3.0204	2.9782	2.913	2.845	2.774	2.7372	2.6996	2.6609	2.6211	2.5801	2.5379	
11	4.8443	3.9823	3.5874	3.3567	3.2039	3.0946	3.0123	2.948	2.8962	2.8536	2.7876	2.7186	2.6464	2.609	2.5705	2.5309	2.4901	2.448	2.4045	
12	4.7472	3.8853	3.4903	3.2592	3.1059	2.9961	2.9134	2.8486	2.7964	2.7534	2.6866	2.6169	2.5436	2.5055	2.4663	2.4259	2.3842	2.341	2.2962	
13	4.6672	3.8056	3.4105	3.1791	3.0254	2.9153	2.8321	2.7669	2.7144	2.671	2.6037	2.5331	2.4589	2.4202	2.3803	2.3392	2.2966	2.2524	2.2064	
14	4.6001	3.7389	3.3439	3.1122	2.9582	2.8477	2.7642	2.6987	2.6458	2.6022	2.5342	2.463	2.3879	2.3487	2.3082	2.2664	2.2229	2.1778	2.1307	
15	4.5431	3.6823	3.2874	3.0556	2.9013	2.7905	2.7066	2.6408	2.5876	2.5437	2.4753	2.4034	2.3275	2.2878	2.2468	2.2043	2.1601	2.1141	2.0658	
16	4.494	3.6337	3.2389	3.0069	2.8524	2.7413	2.6572	2.5911	2.5377	2.4935	2.4247	2.3522	2.2756	2.2354	2.1938	2.1507	2.1058	2.0589	2.0096	
17	4.4513	3.5915	3.1968	2.9647	2.81	2.6987	2.6143	2.548	2.4943	2.4499	2.3807	2.3077	2.2304	2.1898	2.1477	2.104	2.0584	2.0107	1.9604	
18	4.4139	3.5546	3.1599	2.9277	2.7729	2.6613	2.5767	2.5102	2.4563	2.4117	2.3421	2.2686	2.1906	2.1497	2.1071	2.0629	2.0166	1.9681	1.9168	
19	4.3807	3.5219	3.1274	2.8951	2.7401	2.6283	2.5435	2.4768	2.4227	2.3779	2.308	2.2341	2.1555	2.1141	2.0712	2.0264	1.9795	1.9302	1.878	
20	4.3512	3.4928	3.0984	2.8661	2.7109	2.599	2.514	2.4471	2.3928	2.3479	2.2776	2.2033	2.1242	2.0825	2.0391	1.9938	1.9464	1.8963	1.8432	
21	4.3248	3.4668	3.0725	2.8401	2.6848	2.5727	2.4876	2.4205	2.366	2.321	2.2504	2.1757	2.096	2.054	2.0102	1.9645	1.9165	1.8657	1.8117	
22	4.3009	3.4434	3.0491	2.8167	2.6613	2.5491	2.4638	2.3965	2.3419	2.2967	2.2258	2.1508	2.0707	2.0283	1.9842	1.938	1.8894	1.838	1.7831	
23	4.2793	3.4221	3.028	2.7955	2.64	2.5277	2.4422	2.3748	2.3201	2.2747	2.2036	2.1282	2.0476	2.005	1.9605	1.9139	1.8648	1.8128	1.757	
24	4.2597	3.4028	3.0088	2.7763	2.6207	2.5082	2.4226	2.3551	2.3002	2.2547	2.1834	2.1077	2.0267	1.9838	1.939	1.892	1.8424	1.7896	1.733	
25	4.2417	3.3852	2.9912	2.7587	2.603	2.4904	2.4047	2.3371	2.2821	2.2365	2.1649	2.0889	2.0075	1.9643	1.9192	1.8718	1.8217	1.7684	1.711	
26	4.2252	3.369	2.9752	2.7426	2.5868	2.4741	2.3883	2.3205	2.2655	2.2197	2.1479	2.0716	1.9898	1.9464	1.901	1.8533	1.8027	1.7488	1.6906	
27	4.21	3.3541	2.9604	2.7278	2.5719	2.4591	2.3732	2.3053	2.2501	2.2043	2.1323	2.0558	1.9736	1.9299	1.8842	1.8361	1.7851	1.7306	1.6717	
28	4.196	3.3404	2.9467	2.7141	2.5581	2.4453	2.3593	2.2913	2.236	2.19	2.1179	2.0411	1.9586	1.9147	1.8687	1.8203	1.7689	1.7138	1.6541	
29	4.183	3.3277	2.934	2.7014	2.5454	2.4324	2.3463	2.2783	2.2229	2.1768	2.1045	2.0275	1.9446	1.9005	1.8543	1.8055	1.7537	1.6981	1.6376	
30	4.1709	3.3158	2.9223	2.6896	2.5336	2.4205	2.3343	2.2662	2.2107	2.1646	2.0921	2.0148	1.9317	1.8874	1.8409	1.7918	1.7396	1.6835	1.6223	
40	4.0847	3.2317	2.8387	2.606	2.4495	2.3359	2.249	2.1802	2.124	2.0772	2.0035	1.9245	1.8389	1.7929	1.7444	1.6928	1.6373	1.5766	1.5089	
60	4.0012	3.1504	2.7581	2.5252	2.3683	2.2541	2.1665	2.097	2.0401	1.9926	1.9174	1.8364	1.748	1.7001	1.6491	1.5943	1.5343	1.4673	1.3893	
120	3.9201	3.0718	2.6802	2.4472	2.2899	2.175	2.0868	2.0164	1.9588	1.9105	1.8337	1.7505	1.6587	1.6084	1.5543	1.4952	1.429	1.3519	1.2539	
Inf	3.8415	2.9957	2.6049	2.3719	2.2141	2.0986	2.0096	1.9384	1.8799	1.8307	1.7522	1.6664	1.5705	1.5173	1.4591	1.394	1.318	1.2214	1	

Consulting the chart confirms that the F critical value at these coordinates is **4.2565**. Since our calculated F statistic of **5.09** significantly surpasses this critical threshold of 4.2565, we have statistically compelling evidence to reject the null hypothesis. The conclusion is that the regression model, incorporating both independent variables, is statistically significant and provides a superior fit to the data.

F test in ANOVA (Analysis of Variance)

The F test is fundamental to [ANOVA](#), a powerful statistical approach employed when comparing the means of three or more independent groups simultaneously. Imagine an educational experiment where 60 students are randomly assigned to three distinct study techniques (20 students per technique) to see if the methods produce differing mean exam scores. A one-way ANOVA is performed on the resulting scores, generating the following summary output table:

Source	SS	df	MS	F	P
Treatment	58.8	2	29.4	1.74	0.217
Error	202.8	12	16.9		
Total	261.6	14			

Within the context of ANOVA, the F statistic is calculated as the ratio of the Treatment Mean

Square (variability between groups) divided by the Error Mean Square (variability within groups). This crucial ratio tests the core null hypothesis: that the mean exam scores across all three treatment groups are identical. Based on the table values, our calculated F statistic is $29.4 / 16.9$, resulting in an F value of **1.74**. We must now determine if this observed variation is large enough to be considered statistically significant, assuming a standard [alpha level](#) of 0.05.

To find the required critical value, we identify the [degrees of freedom](#): Numerator DF (DF1) is **2** (from the Treatment line) and Denominator DF (DF2) is **12** (from the Error line). Locating the intersection of DF1=2 and DF2=12 in the F-distribution table for $\alpha = 0.05$ (as shown below) reveals an F critical value of **3.8853**.

	DF1	$\alpha = 0.05$																	
DF2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf
1	161.45	199.5	215.71	224.58	230.16	233.99	236.77	238.88	240.54	241.88	243.91	245.95	248.01	249.05	250.1	251.14	252.2	253.25	254.31
2	18.513	19	19.164	19.247	19.296	19.33	19.353	19.371	19.385	19.396	19.413	19.429	19.446	19.454	19.462	19.471	19.479	19.487	19.496
3	10.128	9.5521	9.2766	9.1172	9.0135	8.9406	8.8867	8.8452	8.8123	8.7855	8.7446	8.7029	8.6602	8.6385	8.6166	8.5944	8.572	8.5494	8.5264
4	7.7086	6.9443	6.5914	6.3882	6.2561	6.1631	6.0942	6.041	5.9988	5.9644	5.9117	5.8578	5.8025	5.7744	5.7459	5.717	5.6877	5.6581	5.6281
5	6.6079	5.7861	5.4095	5.1922	5.0503	4.9503	4.8759	4.8183	4.7725	4.7351	4.6777	4.6188	4.5581	4.5272	4.4957	4.4638	4.4314	4.3985	4.365
6	5.9874	5.1433	4.7571	4.5337	4.3874	4.2839	4.2067	4.1468	4.099	4.06	3.9999	3.9381	3.8742	3.8415	3.8082	3.7743	3.7398	3.7047	3.6689
7	5.5914	4.7374	4.3468	4.1203	3.9715	3.866	3.787	3.7257	3.6767	3.6365	3.5747	3.5107	3.4445	3.4105	3.3758	3.3404	3.3043	3.2674	3.2298
8	5.3177	4.459	4.0662	3.8379	3.6875	3.5806	3.5005	3.4381	3.3881	3.3472	3.2839	3.2184	3.1503	3.1152	3.0794	3.0428	3.0053	2.9669	2.9276
9	5.1174	4.2565	3.8625	3.6331	3.4817	3.3738	3.2927	3.2296	3.1789	3.1373	3.0729	3.0061	2.9365	2.9005	2.8637	2.8259	2.7872	2.7475	2.7067
10	4.9646	4.1028	3.7083	3.478	3.3258	3.2172	3.1355	3.0717	3.0204	2.9782	2.913	2.845	2.774	2.7372	2.6996	2.6609	2.6211	2.5801	2.5379
11	4.8443	3.9823	3.5874	3.3567	3.2039	3.0946	3.0123	2.948	2.8962	2.8536	2.7876	2.7186	2.6464	2.609	2.5705	2.5309	2.4901	2.448	2.4045
12	4.7472	3.8853	3.4903	3.2592	3.1059	2.9961	2.9134	2.8486	2.7964	2.7534	2.6866	2.6169	2.5436	2.5055	2.4663	2.4259	2.3842	2.341	2.2962
13	4.6672	3.8056	3.4105	3.1791	3.0254	2.9153	2.8321	2.7669	2.7144	2.671	2.6037	2.5331	2.4589	2.4202	2.3803	2.3392	2.2966	2.2524	2.2064
14	4.6001	3.7389	3.3439	3.1122	2.9582	2.8477	2.7642	2.6987	2.6458	2.6022	2.5342	2.463	2.3879	2.3487	2.3082	2.2664	2.2229	2.1778	2.1307
15	4.5431	3.6823	3.2874	3.0556	2.9013	2.7905	2.7066	2.6408	2.5876	2.5437	2.4753	2.4034	2.3275	2.2878	2.2468	2.2043	2.1601	2.1141	2.0658
16	4.494	3.6337	3.2389	3.0069	2.8524	2.7413	2.6572	2.5911	2.5377	2.4935	2.4247	2.3522	2.2756	2.2354	2.1938	2.1507	2.1058	2.0589	2.0096
17	4.4513	3.5915	3.1968	2.9647	2.81	2.6987	2.6143	2.548	2.4943	2.4499	2.3807	2.3077	2.2304	2.1898	2.1477	2.104	2.0584	2.0107	1.9604
18	4.4139	3.5546	3.1599	2.9277	2.7729	2.6613	2.5767	2.5102	2.4563	2.4117	2.3421	2.2686	2.1906	2.1497	2.1071	2.0629	2.0166	1.9681	1.9168
19	4.3807	3.5219	3.1274	2.8951	2.7401	2.6283	2.5435	2.4768	2.4227	2.3779	2.308	2.2341	2.1555	2.1141	2.0712	2.0264	1.9795	1.9302	1.878
20	4.3512	3.4928	3.0984	2.8661	2.7109	2.599	2.514	2.4471	2.3928	2.3479	2.2776	2.2033	2.1242	2.0825	2.0391	1.9938	1.9464	1.8963	1.8432
21	4.3248	3.4668	3.0725	2.8401	2.6848	2.5727	2.4876	2.4205	2.366	2.321	2.2504	2.1757	2.096	2.054	2.0102	1.9645	1.9165	1.8657	1.8117
22	4.3009	3.4434	3.0491	2.8167	2.6613	2.5491	2.4638	2.3965	2.3419	2.2967	2.2258	2.1508	2.0707	2.0283	1.9842	1.938	1.8894	1.838	1.7831
23	4.2793	3.4221	3.028	2.7955	2.64	2.5277	2.4422	2.3748	2.3201	2.2747	2.2036	2.1282	2.0476	2.005	1.9605	1.9139	1.8648	1.8128	1.757
24	4.2597	3.4028	3.0088	2.7763	2.6207	2.5082	2.4226	2.3551	2.3002	2.2547	2.1834	2.1077	2.0267	1.9838	1.939	1.892	1.8424	1.7896	1.733
25	4.2417	3.3852	2.9912	2.7587	2.603	2.4904	2.4047	2.3371	2.2821	2.2365	2.1649	2.0889	2.0075	1.9643	1.9192	1.8718	1.8217	1.7684	1.711
26	4.2252	3.369	2.9752	2.7426	2.5868	2.4741	2.3883	2.3205	2.2655	2.2197	2.1479	2.0716	1.9898	1.9464	1.901	1.8533	1.8027	1.7488	1.6906
27	4.21	3.3541	2.9604	2.7278	2.5719	2.4591	2.3732	2.3053	2.2501	2.2043	2.1323	2.0558	1.9736	1.9299	1.8842	1.8361	1.7851	1.7306	1.6717
28	4.196	3.3404	2.9467	2.7141	2.5581	2.4453	2.3593	2.2913	2.236	2.19	2.1179	2.0411	1.9586	1.9147	1.8687	1.8203	1.7689	1.7138	1.6541
29	4.183	3.3277	2.934	2.7014	2.5454	2.4324	2.3463	2.2783	2.2229	2.1768	2.1045	2.0275	1.9446	1.9005	1.8543	1.8055	1.7537	1.6981	1.6376
30	4.1709	3.3158	2.9223	2.6896	2.5336	2.4205	2.3343	2.2662	2.2107	2.1646	2.0921	2.0148	1.9317	1.8874	1.8409	1.7918	1.7396	1.6835	1.6223
40	4.0847	3.2317	2.8387	2.606	2.4495	2.3359	2.249	2.1802	2.124	2.0772	2.0035	1.9245	1.8389	1.7929	1.7444	1.6928	1.6373	1.5766	1.5089
60	4.0012	3.1504	2.7581	2.5252	2.3683	2.2541	2.1665	2.097	2.0401	1.9926	1.9174	1.8364	1.748	1.7001	1.6491	1.5943	1.5343	1.4673	1.3893
120	3.9201	3.0718	2.6802	2.4472	2.2899	2.175	2.0868	2.0164	1.9588	1.9105	1.8337	1.7505	1.6587	1.6084	1.5543	1.4952	1.429	1.3519	1.2539
Inf	3.8415	2.9957	2.6049	2.3719	2.2141	2.0986	2.0096	1.9384	1.8799	1.8307	1.7522	1.6664	1.5705	1.5173	1.4591	1.394	1.318	1.2214	1

Since the calculated F statistic (**1.74**) is substantially smaller than the F critical value (**3.8853**), the result falls within the acceptance region. We therefore conclude that we lack sufficient statistical evidence to reject the null hypothesis. In practical terms, this means there is no statistically significant difference observed between the mean scores achieved by students utilizing the three distinct study techniques.

F test for Equal Variances of Two Populations

The F test is also uniquely suited for assessing the assumption of homogeneity of variances--that is, whether the variances of two independent populations are statistically equal. This test is often

performed as a preliminary step before conducting a two-sample t-test. The procedure requires obtaining random samples from both populations and calculating their respective sample variances, denoted as s_1^2 and s_2^2 .

The test statistic for the F-Test for equal variances is defined as a simple ratio of the two sample variances:

$$\mathbf{F\text{-}statistic} = s_1^2 / s_2^2$$

A key convention in this specific test is that the larger sample variance is always placed in the numerator, ensuring that the resulting F-ratio is always greater than or equal to 1. The degree to which the calculated F-ratio deviates from 1 provides a quantifiable measure of the statistical evidence against the null hypothesis of equal population variances.

To establish the boundary of the rejection region, the [F Critical Value](#) must be precisely located using the F-distribution table. The formula for determining the degrees of freedom (DF) is straightforward, based on the sample sizes (n):

F Critical Value Parameters: The critical value corresponds to the intersection of $n_1 - 1$ (Numerator DF) and $n_2 - 1$ (Denominator DF), coupled with the chosen predetermined significance level (α).

Let us assume we sample 25 observations from Population 1 ($n_1 = 25$) and 25 from Population 2 ($n_2 = 25$). Suppose the sample variance for Sample 1 is 30.5 and for Sample 2 is 20.5. Our calculated F statistic is $30.5 / 20.5$, yielding **1.487**. To test for significance at an alpha level of 0.10, we calculate the degrees of freedom: $DF_1 = 25 - 1 = 24$ and $DF_2 = 25 - 1 = 24$. We then use the F-distribution table for $\alpha = 0.10$, locating the critical value at 24 numerator [degrees of freedom](#) and 24 denominator degrees of freedom.

DF2	DF1		$\alpha = 0.10$																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf	
1	39.863	49.5	53.593	55.833	57.24	58.204	58.906	59.439	59.858	60.195	60.705	61.22	61.74	62.002	62.265	62.529	62.794	63.061	63.328	
2	8.5263	9	9.1618	9.2434	9.2926	9.3255	9.3491	9.3668	9.3805	9.3916	9.4081	9.4247	9.4413	9.4496	9.4579	9.4662	9.4746	9.4829	9.4912	
3	5.5383	5.4624	5.3908	5.3426	5.3092	5.2847	5.2662	5.2517	5.24	5.2304	5.2156	5.2003	5.1845	5.1764	5.1681	5.1597	5.1512	5.1425	5.1337	
4	4.5448	4.3246	4.1909	4.1073	4.0506	4.0098	3.979	3.9549	3.9357	3.9199	3.8955	3.8704	3.8443	3.831	3.8174	3.8036	3.7896	3.7753	3.7607	
5	4.0604	3.7797	3.6195	3.5202	3.453	3.4045	3.3679	3.3393	3.3163	3.2974	3.2682	3.238	3.2067	3.1905	3.1741	3.1573	3.1402	3.1228	3.105	
6	3.776	3.4633	3.2888	3.1808	3.1075	3.0546	3.0145	2.983	2.9577	2.9369	2.9047	2.8712	2.8363	2.8183	2.8	2.7812	2.762	2.7423	2.7222	
7	3.5894	3.2574	3.0741	2.9605	2.8833	2.8274	2.7849	2.7516	2.7247	2.7025	2.6681	2.6322	2.5947	2.5753	2.5555	2.5351	2.5142	2.4928	2.4708	
8	3.4579	3.1131	2.9238	2.8064	2.7265	2.6683	2.6241	2.5894	2.5612	2.538	2.502	2.4642	2.4246	2.4041	2.383	2.3614	2.3391	2.3162	2.2926	
9	3.3603	3.0065	2.8129	2.6927	2.6106	2.5509	2.5053	2.4694	2.4403	2.4163	2.3789	2.3396	2.2983	2.2768	2.2547	2.232	2.2085	2.1843	2.1592	
10	3.285	2.9245	2.7277	2.6053	2.5216	2.4606	2.414	2.3772	2.3473	2.3226	2.2841	2.2435	2.2007	2.1784	2.1554	2.1317	2.1072	2.0818	2.0554	
11	3.2252	2.8595	2.6602	2.5362	2.4512	2.3891	2.3416	2.304	2.2735	2.2482	2.2087	2.1671	2.1231	2.1	2.0762	2.0516	2.0261	1.9997	1.9721	
12	3.1766	2.8068	2.6055	2.4801	2.394	2.331	2.2828	2.2446	2.2135	2.1878	2.1474	2.1049	2.0597	2.036	2.0115	1.9861	1.9597	1.9323	1.9036	
13	3.1362	2.7632	2.5603	2.4337	2.3467	2.283	2.2341	2.1954	2.1638	2.1376	2.0966	2.0532	2.007	1.9827	1.9576	1.9315	1.9043	1.8759	1.8462	
14	3.1022	2.7265	2.5222	2.3947	2.3069	2.2426	2.1931	2.1539	2.122	2.0954	2.0537	2.0095	1.9625	1.9377	1.9119	1.8852	1.8572	1.828	1.7973	
15	3.0732	2.6952	2.4898	2.3614	2.273	2.2081	2.1582	2.1185	2.0862	2.0593	2.0171	1.9722	1.9243	1.899	1.8728	1.8454	1.8168	1.7867	1.7551	
16	3.0481	2.6682	2.4618	2.3327	2.2438	2.1783	2.128	2.088	2.0553	2.0282	1.9854	1.9399	1.8913	1.8656	1.8388	1.8108	1.7816	1.7508	1.7182	
17	3.0262	2.6446	2.4374	2.3078	2.2183	2.1524	2.1017	2.0613	2.0284	2.0009	1.9577	1.9117	1.8624	1.8362	1.809	1.7805	1.7506	1.7191	1.6856	
18	3.007	2.624	2.416	2.2858	2.1958	2.1296	2.0785	2.0379	2.0047	1.977	1.9333	1.8868	1.8369	1.8104	1.7827	1.7537	1.7232	1.691	1.6567	
19	2.9899	2.6056	2.397	2.2663	2.176	2.1094	2.058	2.0171	1.9836	1.9557	1.9117	1.8647	1.8142	1.7873	1.7592	1.7298	1.6988	1.6659	1.6308	
20	2.9747	2.5893	2.3801	2.2489	2.1582	2.0913	2.0397	1.9985	1.9649	1.9367	1.8924	1.8449	1.7938	1.7667	1.7382	1.7083	1.6768	1.6433	1.6074	
21	2.961	2.5746	2.3649	2.2333	2.1423	2.0751	2.0233	1.9819	1.948	1.9197	1.875	1.8272	1.7756	1.7481	1.7193	1.689	1.6569	1.6228	1.5862	
22	2.9486	2.5613	2.3512	2.2193	2.1279	2.0605	2.0084	1.9668	1.9327	1.9043	1.8593	1.8111	1.759	1.7312	1.7021	1.6714	1.6389	1.6042	1.5668	
23	2.9374	2.5493	2.3387	2.2065	2.1149	2.0472	1.9949	1.9531	1.9189	1.8903	1.845	1.7964	1.7439	1.7159	1.6864	1.6554	1.6224	1.5871	1.549	
24	2.9271	2.5383	2.3274	2.1949	2.103	2.0351	1.9826	1.9407	1.9063	1.8775	1.8319	1.7831	1.7302	1.7019	1.6721	1.6407	1.6073	1.5715	1.5327	
25	2.9177	2.5283	2.317	2.1842	2.0922	2.0241	1.9714	1.9293	1.8947	1.8658	1.82	1.7708	1.7175	1.689	1.659	1.6272	1.5934	1.557	1.5176	
26	2.9091	2.5191	2.3075	2.1745	2.0822	2.0139	1.961	1.9188	1.8841	1.855	1.809	1.7596	1.7059	1.6771	1.6468	1.6147	1.5805	1.5437	1.5036	
27	2.9012	2.5106	2.2987	2.1655	2.073	2.0045	1.9515	1.9091	1.8743	1.8451	1.7989	1.7492	1.6951	1.6662	1.6356	1.6032	1.5686	1.5313	1.4906	
28	2.8939	2.5028	2.2906	2.1571	2.0645	1.9959	1.9427	1.9001	1.8652	1.8359	1.7895	1.7395	1.6852	1.656	1.6252	1.5925	1.5575	1.5198	1.4784	
29	2.887	2.4955	2.2831	2.1494	2.0566	1.9878	1.9345	1.8918	1.8568	1.8274	1.7808	1.7306	1.6759	1.6466	1.6155	1.5825	1.5472	1.509	1.467	
30	2.8807	2.4887	2.2761	2.1422	2.0493	1.9803	1.9269	1.8841	1.849	1.8195	1.7727	1.7223	1.6673	1.6377	1.6065	1.5732	1.5376	1.4989	1.4564	
40	2.8354	2.4404	2.2261	2.091	1.9968	1.9269	1.8725	1.8289	1.7929	1.7627	1.7146	1.6624	1.6052	1.5741	1.5411	1.5056	1.4672	1.4248	1.3769	
60	2.7911	2.3933	2.1774	2.041	1.9457	1.8747	1.8194	1.7748	1.738	1.707	1.6574	1.6034	1.5435	1.5107	1.4755	1.4373	1.3952	1.3476	1.2915	
120	2.7478	2.3473	2.13	1.9923	1.8959	1.8238	1.7675	1.722	1.6843	1.6524	1.6012	1.545	1.4821	1.4472	1.4094	1.3676	1.3203	1.2646	1.1926	
Inf	2.7055	2.3026	2.0838	1.9449	1.8473	1.7741	1.7167	1.6702	1.6315	1.5987	1.5458	1.4871	1.4206	1.3832	1.3419	1.2951	1.24	1.1686	1	

Since our calculated F statistic (**1.487**) is not greater than the F critical value (**1.7019**), we conclude that we cannot reject the null hypothesis. Therefore, there is no statistically significant evidence to suggest a difference between the variances of these two populations at the 0.10 [significance level](#).

Comprehensive Resources for F-Distribution Tables

Mastering the F-distribution table requires access to tables across various significance levels. For researchers requiring a comprehensive set of F-distribution tables tailored for common alpha values--including 0.001, 0.01, 0.025, 0.05, and 0.10--we highly recommend utilizing [this resource](#). These expanded tables provide the necessary precision for rigorous statistical testing across diverse research designs.