Common Statistical Abbreviations and Symbols in APA (In *italics*)

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B. Common Statistical Abbreviations that are always in *italics*

Abbreviation	Definition
b, b_i	• In regression and multiple regression analyses, estimated values of raw (unstandardized) regression coefficients • In item response theory, the difficulty-severity parameter
b^*, b^*	Estimated values of standardized regression coefficients in regression and multiple regression analyses
d	Cohen's measure of sample effect size for comparing two sample means
df	Degrees of freedom
f	Frequency
f_e	Expected frequency
f_o	Observed frequency
F	• F distribution, • Fisher's F ratio
$F(v_1, v_2)$	F with v_1 and v_2 degrees of freedom
F_{crit}	Critical value for statistical significance in an F test
F_{max}	Hartley's test of homogeneity of variance
g	Hedges's measure of effect size
H_0	• Null hypothesis • Hypothesis under test
H_1 (or H_a)	Alternative hypothesis
k	• Coefficient of alienation • Number of studies in a meta-analysis • Number of levels in an experimental design or individual study
k^2	Coefficient of nondetermination
KR20	Kuder-Richardson reliability index

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Abbreviation	Definition
LL	Lower limit (as of a confidence interval, CI)
M (or $\overline{X}$)	Sample mean Arithmetic mean
Mdn	Median
MS	Mean square
MSE	Mean square error
n	Number of cases (generally in a subsample)
N	Total number of cases
ns	Not statistically significant
OR	Odds ratio
p	• Probability • Probability of a success in a binary trial
P_{rep}	The probability a replication would give a result with the same sign as the original result
q	Probability of a failure in a binary trial, 1 - *p*
r	Estimate of Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient
$r_{ab.c}$	The partial correlation of *a* and *b* with the effect of *c* removed
$r_{a(b.c)}$	The part (or semipartial) correlation of *a* and *b* with the effect of *c* removed from *b*
r^2	• Coefficient of determination • Measure of strength of relationship • Estimate of the Pearson product-moment correlation squared
r_b	Biserial correlation
r_{pb}	Point serial correlation
r_s	Spearman rank order correlation

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Abbreviation	Definition
R	Multiple correlation
R^2	• Multiple correlation squared • Measure of strength of association
s	Sample standard deviation (denominator $\sqrt{n} - 1$)
s^2	Sample variance (unbiased) – denominator *n* - 1
SD	Standard deviation
SE	Standard error
SEM	• Standard error of measurement • Standard error of the mean
SS	Sum of squares
t	• Student's *t* distribution • A statistical test based on the Student *t* distribution • The sample value of the *t*-test statistic
T_k	Generic effect size estimate
U	The Mann-Whitney test statistic
UL	Upper limit (as of a confidence interval, CI)
w_k	Fixed effects weight
w_{k*}	Random effects weight
W	Kendall's coefficient of concordance and its estimate
z	• A standardized score • The value of a statistic divided by its standard error

Note. Adapted from Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.), 2010, p. 119-121. Copyright 2010 by American Psychological Association.

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Reference

American Psychological Association, (2010). *The publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington D.C.: APA.