

## Probability

The **probability** of an event is a number that measures the likelihood that the event will occur.



Probabilities are between 0 and 1, including 0 and 1.

Ex: There is an 80% chance of thunderstorms tomorrow.

→ Thunderstorms are *likely* tomorrow.

Ex: The probability that you land a jump on a snowboard is  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

→ Equally likely to happen or not happen.

Probability of an event =  $P(\text{event}) = \frac{\text{number of favorable outcomes}}{\text{number of possible outcomes}}$

Ex: You roll the number cube. What is the probability of rolling an odd number?

$$P(\text{odd}) = \frac{3 \text{ (There are 3 odd numbers—1,3,5)}}{6 \text{ (There is a total of 6 numbers)}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Ex: You roll a number cube. What is the probability of rolling a number greater than 2?

$$P(\text{number greater than 2}) = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Ex: The probability that you randomly draw a short straw from a group of 40 straws is  $\frac{3}{20}$ . How many are short straws?

$$\frac{3}{20} = \frac{n}{40} \quad n = 6 \text{ short straws}$$