

AN IMPORTANT FORMULA TO CALCULATE THE NUMBER OF PRIMES LESS THAN X
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If $x \geq 4$, then:

$$\pi(x) = \sum_{k=2}^x \left\lfloor \frac{S(k)}{k} \right\rfloor - 1$$

where $S(k)$ is the Smarandache Function: the smallest integer such that $S(k)!$ is divisible by k , and

$$\lfloor a \rfloor$$

means the integer part of a .

Proof:

Knowing the Smarandache Function has the property that if $p > 4$ then $S(p) = p$ if only if p is prime,
and $S(k) \leq k$ for any k ,
and $S(4) = 4$ (the only exception from the first rule),
we easily find an exact formula for the number of primes less or equal than x .