

Statistics

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1. POPULATION, SAMPLE, AND DATA

1.1. Basic Terms.

A **population** is the set of all objects under study, a **sample** is any subset of a population, and a **data point** is an element of a set of data.

Example 1. Population, sample, data point

Population: all ASU students

Sample: 1000 randomly selected ASU students

data: 10, 15, 13, 25, 22, 53, 47

data point: 13

data point: 53

The **frequency** is the number of times a particular data point occurs in the set of data. A **frequency distribution** is a table that lists each data point and its frequency. The **relative frequency** is the frequency of a data point expressed as a percentage of the total number of data points.

Example 2. Frequency, relative frequency, frequency distribution

data: 1, 3, 6, 4, 5, 6, 3, 4, 6, 3, 6

frequency of the data point 1 is 1

frequency of the data point 6 is 4

the relative frequency of the data point 6 is $(4/11) \times 100\% \approx 36.35\%$

the frequency distribution for this set of data is: (where x is a data point and f is the frequency for that point)

x	f
1	1
3	3
4	4
2	2
5	1

Data is often described as ungrouped or grouped. **Ungrouped** data is data given as individual data points. **Grouped** data is data given in intervals.

Example 3. Ungrouped data without a frequency distribution.

1, 3, 6, 4, 5, 6, 3, 4, 6, 3, 6

Example 4. Ungrouped data with a frequency distribution.

Number of television sets	Frequency
0	2
1	13
2	18
3	0
4	10
5	2
Total	45

Example 5. Grouped data.

Exam score	Frequency
90-99	7
80-89	5
70-79	15
60-69	4
50-59	5
40-49	0
30-39	1
Total	37

1.2. Organizing Data.

Given a set of data, it is helpful to organize it. This is usually done by creating a frequency distribution.

Example 6. Ungrouped data.

Given the following set of data, we would like to create a frequency distribution.

1 5 7 8 2
3 7 2 8 7

To do this we will count up the data by making a tally (a tick mark in the tally column for each occurrence of the data point. As before, we will designate the data points by x .

x	tally
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

Now we add a column for the frequency, this will simply be the number of tick marks for each data point. We will also total the number of data points. As we have done previously, we will represent the frequency with f .

x	tally	f
1		1
2		2
3		1
4		0
5		1
6		0
7		3
8		2
Total		10

This is a frequency distribution for the data given. We could also include a column for the relative frequency as part of the frequency distribution. We will use $rel\ f$ to indicate the relative frequency.

x	tally	f	rel f
1		1	$\frac{1}{10} * 100\% = 10\%$
2		2	$\frac{2}{10} * 100\% = 20\%$
3		1	10%
4		0	0%
5		1	10%
6		0	0%
7		3	$\frac{3}{10} * 100\% = 30\%$
8		2	20%
Totals		10	100%

For our next example, we will use the data to create groups (or categories) for the data and then make a frequency distribution.

Example 7. Grouped Data.

Given the following set of data, we want to organize the data into groups. We have decided that we want to have 5 intervals.

26 18 21 34 18
 38 22 27 22 30
 25 25 38 29 20
 24 28 32 33 18

Since we want to group the data, we will need to find out the size of each interval. To do this we must first identify the highest and the lowest data point. In our data the highest data point is 38 and the lowest is 18. Since we want 5 intervals, we make the computation

$$\frac{\text{highest} - \text{lowest}}{\text{number of intervals}} = \frac{38 - 18}{5} = \frac{20}{5} = 4$$

Since we need to include all points, we always take the next highest integer from that which was computed to get the length of our interval. Since we computed 4, the length of our intervals will be 5. Now we set up the first interval

$$\text{lowest} \leq x < \text{lowest} + 5 \quad \text{which results in} \quad 18 \leq x < 23.$$

Our next interval is obtained by adding 5 to each end of the first one:

$$18 + 5 \leq x < 23 + 5 \quad \text{which results in} \quad 23 \leq x < 28.$$

We continue in this manner to get all of our intervals:

$$\begin{aligned} 18 &\leq x < 23 \\ 23 &\leq x < 28 \\ 28 &\leq x < 33 \\ 33 &\leq x < 38 \\ 38 &\leq x < 43. \end{aligned}$$

Now we are ready to tally the data and make the frequency distribution. Be careful to make sure that a data point that is the same number as the end of the interval is placed in the correct interval. This means that the data point 33 is counted in the interval $33 \leq x < 38$ and NOT in the interval $28 \leq x < 33$.

x	tally	f	rel f
$18 \leq x < 23$		7	$\frac{7}{20} * 100\% = 35\%$
$23 \leq x < 28$		5	$\frac{5}{20} * 100\% = 25\%$
$28 \leq x < 33$		4	$\frac{4}{20} * 100\% = 20\%$
$33 \leq x < 38$		2	$\frac{2}{20} * 100\% = 10\%$
$38 \leq x < 43$		2	10%
Totals		20	100%

1.3. Histogram.

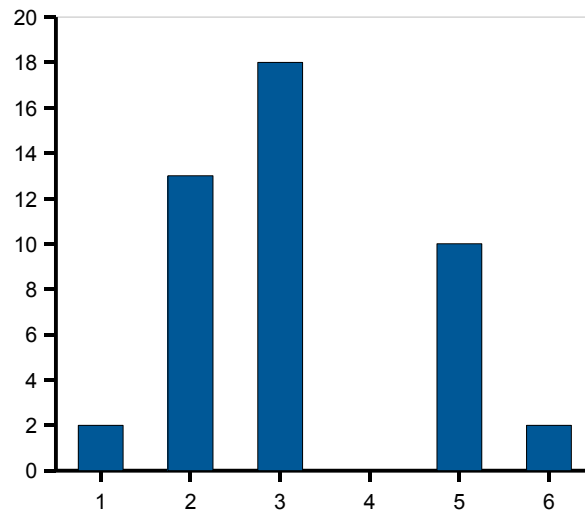
Now that we have the data organized, we want a way to display the data. One such display is a *histogram* which is a bar chart that shows how the data are distributed among each data point (ungrouped) or in each interval (grouped)

Example 8. Histogram for ungrouped data.

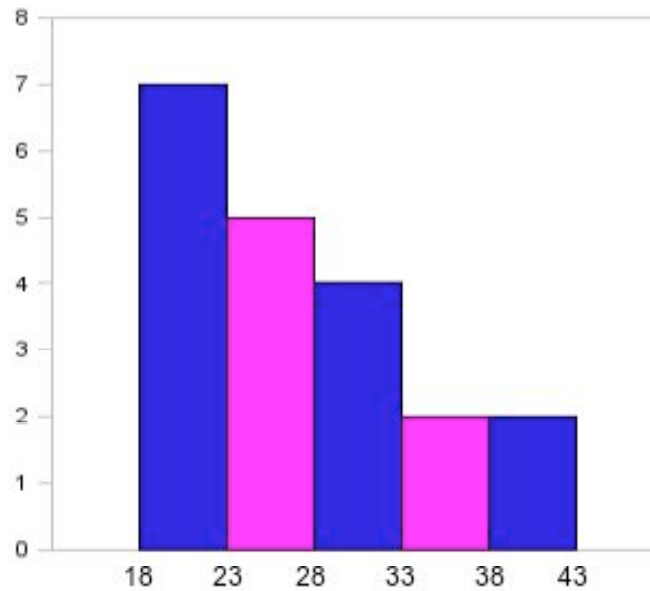
Given the following frequency distribution:

Number of television sets	Frequency
0	2
1	13
2	18
3	0
4	10
5	2

The histogram would look as follows:



Example 9. Histogram example for grouped data. We will use the data from example 7. The histogram would look as follows.



2. MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY

2.1. Mode.

The *mode* is the data point which occurs most frequently. It is possible to have more than one mode, if there are two modes the data is said to be *bimodal*. It is also possible for a set of data to not have any mode, this situation occurs if the number of modes gets to be “too large”. It is not really possible to define “too large” but one should exercise good judgement. A reasonable, though very generous, rule of thumb is that if the number of data points accounted for in the list of modes is half or more of the data points, then there is no mode.

Note: if the data is given as a list of data points, it is often easiest to find the mode by creating a frequency distribution. This is certainly the most organized method for finding it. In our examples we will use frequency distributions.

Example 10. A data set with a single mode.
Consider the data from example 8:

Number of television sets	Frequency
0	2
1	13
2	18
3	0
4	10
5	2

You can see from the table that the data point which occurs most frequently is 2 as it has a frequency of 18. So the mode is 2.

Example 11. A data set with two modes.
Consider the data:

Number of hours of television	Frequency
0	1
0.5	4
1	8
1.5	9
2	13
2.5	10
3	11
3.5	13
4	5
4.5	3

You can see from the table that the data points 2 and 3.5 both occur with the highest frequency of 13. So the modes are 2 and 3.5.

Example 12. A data set with no mode.
Consider the data:

Age	Frequency
18	12
19	5
20	3
21	9
22	1
23	8
24	12
25	12
26	5
27	3
Total	71

You can see from the table that the data points 18, 24 and 25 all occur with the highest frequency of 12. Since this would account for 36 of the 71 data points, this would qualify as “too large” a number of data points taken accounted for. In this case, we would say there is no mode.

2.2. Median.

The *median* is the data point in the middle when all of the data points are arranged in order (high to low or low to high). To find where it is, we take into account the number of data points. If the number of data points is odd, divide the number of data points by 2 and then round up to the next integer; the resulting integer is the location of the median. If the number of data points is even, there are two middle values. We take the number of data points and divide by 2, this integer is the first of the two middles, the next one is also a middle. Now we average these two middle values to get the median.

Example 13. An odd number of data points with no frequency distribution.

3, 4.5, 7, 8.5, 9, 10, 15

There are 7 data points and $7/2=3.5$ so the median is the 4th number, 8.5.

Example 14. an odd number of data points with a frequency distribution.

Age	Frequency
18	12
19	5
20	3
21	9
22	2
Total	31

There are 31 data points and $31/2=15.5$ so the median is the 16th number. Start counting, 18 occurs 12 times, then 19 occurs 5 times getting us up to entry 17 ($12+5$); so the 16th entry must be a 19. This data set has a median of 19.

Example 15. An even number of data points with no frequency distribution.

3, 4.5, 7, 8.5, 9, 10, 15, 15.5

There are 8 data points and $7/2=3.5$ so the median is the 4th number, 8.5.

2.3. Mean.

The *mean* is the average of the data points, it is denoted \bar{x} . There are three types of data for which we would like to compute the mean, ungrouped of frequency 1, ungrouped with a frequency distribution, and grouped.

Starting with the first type, ungrouped of frequency 1, is when data is given to you as a list and it is not organized into a frequency distribution. When this happens, we compute the average as we have always done, add up all of the data points and divide by the number of data points. To write a formula for this, we use the capital greek letter sigma, Σx . This just means to add up all of the data points. We will use n to represent the number of data points.

$$\text{mean: } \bar{x} = \frac{\Sigma x}{n}$$

This corresponds to the left hand column of your calculator instructions.

Example 16. Given the ungrouped data list below:

10 15 13 25 22 53 47

We would enter the data into the calculator following the instructions in the left hand column, the result is $\bar{x} = 26.4285714$.

When have a frequency distribution for the data, we have to take the average as before but remember that the frequency gives the number of times that the data point occurs.

$$\text{mean: } \bar{x} = \frac{\Sigma(fx)}{n}$$

This corresponds to the right hand column of your calculator instructions.

Example 17. Given the frequency distribution for ungrouped data below:

Number of television sets	Frequency
0	2
1	13
2	18
3	0
4	10
5	2

We would enter the data into our calculators following the directions in the right hand column. The result is $\bar{x} = 2.2$.

Our final type of data is grouped data. This requires a computation before we can begin. Since we cannot enter the entire interval as a data point, we use a representative for each interval, x_i . This representative is the midpoint of the interval, to find the midpoint of an interval you add the two endpoints and divide by 2. These are the numbers that you use as data points for computing the mean.

Example 18. Mean for Grouped data.

We will use the data from example 7 again:

x	f
$18 \leq x < 23$	7
$23 \leq x < 28$	5
$28 \leq x < 33$	4
$33 \leq x < 38$	2
$38 \leq x < 43$	2
Total	20

Start by calculating the representative for each interval.

$$\frac{23 + 18}{2} = \frac{41}{2} = 20.5$$

Since this is the midpoint of the first interval and the intervals have length 5, we find the rest by adding 5 to this one.

x	x_i	f
$18 \leq x < 23$	20.5	7
$23 \leq x < 28$	25.5	5
$28 \leq x < 33$	30.5	4
$33 \leq x < 38$	35.5	2
$38 \leq x < 43$	40.5	2
Totals		20

Now enter the data as directed using the right hand column of the calculator directions. You use x_i as the data point (list 1) and the frequency as usual in list 2. The result should be $\bar{x} = 27.25$.

To be continued . . .