Measures of Central Tendency

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Measure of central tendency and its types

- Arithmetic mean for ungroup and group data. Its uses and applications
- Median for ungroup and group data. Its uses and applications
- Mode for ungroup and group data. Its uses and applications
- Empirical relationship between mean, median and mode.

Measures of Central Tendency

⊕ A measure of central tendency is a descriptive statistic that describes the average, or typical value of a set of scores.

Types of Averages

There are five common measures of central tendency.

- Arithmetic Mean
- Median
- ⊕ Mode
- Geometric Mean
- Harmonic Mean

 First three known as primary and last two known as secondary.

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Measures of Central Tendency



The Mean

 \oplus The *mean* is sum of all observations divide by no of observations.

The mean of a population is represented by the Greek letter μ ; the mean of a sample is represented by \overline{X}

the arithmetic average of all the scores $(\Sigma X)/N$

The Mean (Arithmetic Mean)

•It is the Arithmetic Average of data values:



•The Most Common Measure of Central Tendency



Calculating the Mean

Calculate the mean of the following data:
1 5 4 3 2

Φ Sum the scores (ΣX): 1 + 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 = 15

Divide the sum (ΣX = 15) by the number of scores (N = 5): 15 / 5 = 3

 \oplus Mean = X = 3

Mean for group data

Hourly wages	No of workers	XI	tx
50-54	4	52	208
55-59	8	57	456
60-64	12	62	744
65-69	20	67	1340
	20		1340
70-74	16	72	1152
75-79	10	77	770
00.04		22	44.0
.80-84	5	82	410
Total	75		5080



Properties of A.M

 \oplus the number, m, that makes $\Sigma(X - m)$ equal to 0

- \oplus the number, m, that makes $\Sigma(X m)^2$ a minimum
- **Draw back**
- Affected by Extreme Values (Outliers)

When To Use the Mean

You should use the mean when

the data are interval or ratio scaled

Many people will use the mean with ordinally scaled data too

and the data are not skewed

- The mean is preferred because it is sensitive to every score
 - ⊕ If you change one score in the data set, the mean will change

The Median

The *median* is simply another name for the 50th percentile

 It is the score in the middle; half of the scores are larger than the median and half of the scores are smaller than the median

How To Calculate the Median

- Conceptually, it is easy to calculate the median
 - There are many minor problems that can occur;
 it is best to let a computer do it
- Sort the data from highest to lowest or lowest to highest.
- # Find the score in the middle

 \oplus middle = (n+1) / 2 th value

- If n is odd, the median is the middle number.
- If n is even, the median is the average of the 2 middle numbers.

Median Example

th What is the median of the following scores: 10 8 14 15 7 3 3 8 12 10 9 \oplus Sort the scores: 15 14 12 10 10 9 8 8 7 3 3 Determine the middle score: middle = (n + 1) / 2 = (11 + 1) / 2 = 6 \oplus Middle score = median = 9

Median Example

What is the median of the following scores:24 18 19 42 16 12

⊕ Sort the scores:

42 24 19 18 16 12

(19 + 18) / 2 = 18.5

Median for group data

$$Median = l + \frac{h}{f}(\frac{n}{2} - c)$$

- # L lower class limit of selected class
- ⊕ h class interval
- ⊕ n total frequency
- C preceding cumulative frequency

When To Use the Median

- The median is often used when the distribution of scores is either positively or negatively skewed
 - The few really large scores (positively skewed) or really small scores (negatively skewed) will not overly influence the median.
 - Median is not Affected by Extreme Values

Quantiles

⊕ Quartiles
 ⊕ Deciles
 ⊕ Percentiles



- A Not a Measure of Central Tendency
- Split Ordered Data into 4 Quarters

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For Group data

$$Q_{1} = L + \frac{h}{f}(\frac{N}{4} - CF)$$
$$Q_{2} = L + \frac{h}{f}(\frac{2N}{4} - CF)$$
$$Q_{3} = L + \frac{h}{f}(\frac{3N}{4} - CF)$$

Decile

$$D_i = l + \frac{h}{f} \left(\frac{in}{10} - c\right)$$

$$D_1 = l + \frac{h}{f} (\frac{n}{10} - c)$$

$$i = 1, 2, ..., 9$$

Percentile

$$Pi = l + \frac{h}{f} \left(\frac{iN}{100} - c\right); i = 1, 2, 3 \dots, 99$$

Where:

- l = lower boundary of Percentile group
- h = Width of Percentile group
- f = Frequency of Percentile group
- N = Total number of observations i.e. sum of the frequencies
- c =Cumulative frequency preceding Percentile group

Relationship between quantiles

First Quartile $Q_1 = P_{25}$ First Decile $D_1 = P_{10}$

Second Quartile $Q_2 = P_{50}$ Second Decile $D_2 = P_{20}$

Third Quartile $Q_3 = P_{75}$ Fifth Decile $D_5 = P_{50}$ and so on

Second Quartile = Fifth Decile = 50th Percentile = Median

 $Q_2 = D_5 = P_{50} = Median$

The Mode

The *mode* is the score
 that occurs most
 frequently in a set of
 data



Bimodal Distributions

When a distribution
 has two "modes," it is
 called *bimodal*



Multimodal Distributions

If a distribution has more than 2 "modes," it is called *multimodal*



Mode for group data

mod
$$e = l + \frac{f_m - f_1}{(f_m - f_1) + (f_m - f_2)} \times h$$

For group Data

1.1.1.24			
	Hourly wages	No of workers	
	50-54	4	
	55-59	8	
	60-64	12	f1
	65-69	20	fm
	70-74	16	f2
	75-79	10	
	.80-84	5	

Calculte the mode by putting the value in formula \oplus Mode=65+ $\frac{(20-12)}{(20-12)+(20-16)} \times 5$

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When To Use the Mode

The mode is not a very useful measure of central tendency

It is insensitive to large changes in the data set
That is, two data sets that are very different from each other can have the same mode





When To Use the Mode

The mode is primarily used with nominally scaled data

It is the only measure of central tendency that is appropriate for nominally scaled data



Shapes

Describes How Data Are Distributed Measures of Shape:

⊕ Symmetric or skewed

 Left-Skewed
 Symmetric
 Right-Skewed

 Mean
 Median
 Mean = Median = Mode
 Mode

 Mean
 Mean = Median = Mode
 Mode
 Median