

3.1 Measures of Location:

- ① Mean ② Median ③ Mode ④ Percentiles ⑤ Quartiles
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① Mean: the most important measure of location is the mean or average value, for a variable.

Sample Mean: $\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$ is a sample statistics.

n : is the number of observations

x_i is the i^{th} observation
 sample of a

Example one: Consider the following class marks:

46 54 42 46 32
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $x_1 \quad x_2 \quad x_3 \quad x_4 \quad x_5$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} = \frac{46 + 54 + 42 + 46 + 32}{5} = 44$$

The sample mean class mark is 44.

Population Mean $\mu = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i}{N}$ N is the total (whole) population number

[2] Median: is a measure of central location.

→ Arrange the data in ascending order (smaller to largest value)

(a) For an odd number of observations, the median is the middle value.

(b) For an even n , $x_{(n/2)} = x_{(n/2+1)}$ = average of the two middle values.

In Example one: Arranging the data ascending order:

32 42 46 46 54

Because $n=5$ odd, the median is the middle value = 46

Example two: If the data were ordered like:

32 42 46 46 54 60 70 80 90 96

Then $n=10$ even, the median = $\frac{54+60}{2} = \frac{114}{2} = 57$

Whenever a data set contains extreme values, the median is often the preferred measure of central location.

[3] Mode: is another measure of location.

The mode is the value that occurs with greatest frequency

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In Example one: The mode is 46

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* If data contains exactly two modes, then the data are called bimodal.

* If ρ is more than $\frac{1}{2}$, ρ is multimodal.

* More than 2 modes would not be helpful in measuring location for data.

4) Percentile :

(28)

The p^{th} percentile is a value such that at least p percent of the observations are less than or equal to this value, and at least $(100-p)$ percent of the observations are greater than or equal to this value.

How to calculate the p^{th} percentile?

Step 1: Arrange the data in ascending order (smallest to greatest value).

Step 2: Compute an index $i = \left(\frac{p}{100}\right)n$ where

p is the percentile of interest

n is the number of observations.

Step 3: [a] if i is not integer, then round up to the next integer greater than i . This tells us the position of the p^{th} percentile.

[b] if i is an integer, then the p^{th} percentile is the average of the values in positions i and $i+1$.

Example [a] Compute the 85^{th} percentile for the following data

46 54 42 46 32

Step 1: 32 42 46 46 54

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Step 2: $i = \frac{85}{100} \times 5 = 4.25$

Step 3: Because i is not integer $\Rightarrow i = 5$ 5^{th} position $\Rightarrow$
we see that the 85^{th} percentile is the data value 54

[b] Compute the 40^{th} percentile
the 40^{th} percentile = $\frac{42+46}{2} = 44$
 $i = \frac{40}{100} \times 5 = 2$ integer $\Rightarrow$

(c) Compute the 50th percentile:

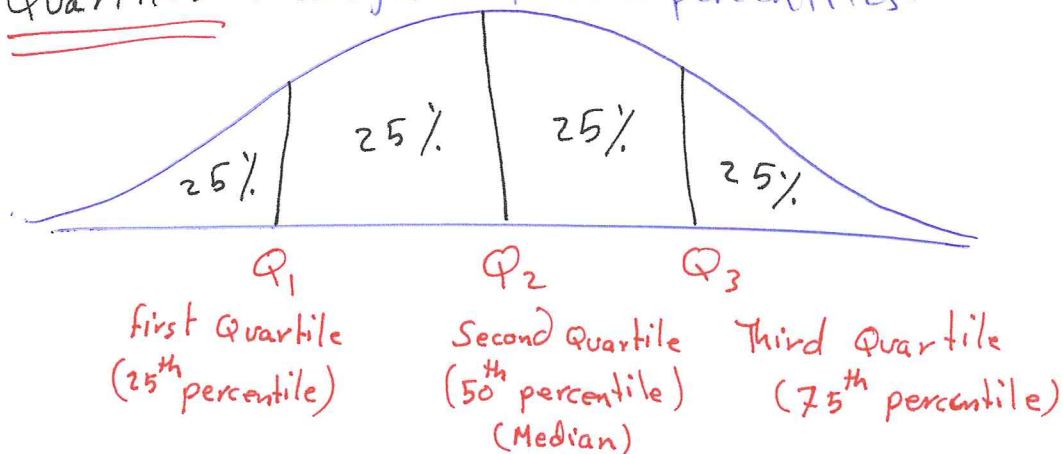
(29)

$$i = \left(\frac{50}{100} \right) \times 5 = 2.5 \Rightarrow i = 3$$

$\Rightarrow$ the 50th percentile is 46 "Median"

Note that the 50th percentile is also the median.

5 Quartiles : are just specific percentiles.



Example: Compute Q_1, Q_2, Q_3 for the data:

46 54 42 46 32

Step 1: 32 42 46 46 54

Step 2: $Q_1 = 25^{\text{th}}$ percentile

$$i = \left(\frac{25}{100} \right) \times 5 = 1.25 \Rightarrow i = 2 \text{ 2nd position} \\ \Rightarrow Q = 42$$

STUDENTS-HUB.com = 50th percentile = median = 46 see part (c)

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• $Q_3 = 75^{\text{th}}$ percentile

$$i = \left(\frac{75}{100} \right) \times 5 = 3.75 \Rightarrow i = 4 \text{ 4th position} \\ \Rightarrow Q_3 = 46$$