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# Describing Data: Numerical

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Data Driven Healthcare

Module B

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# Goals

- Compute and interpret the mean, median, and mode for a set of data
- Find the range, variance, standard deviation, and coefficient of variation and know what these values mean
- Apply the empirical rule to describe the variation of population values around the mean
- Explain the weighted mean and when to use it
- Explain how a least squares regression line estimates a linear relationship between two variables

# Topics (1 of 2)

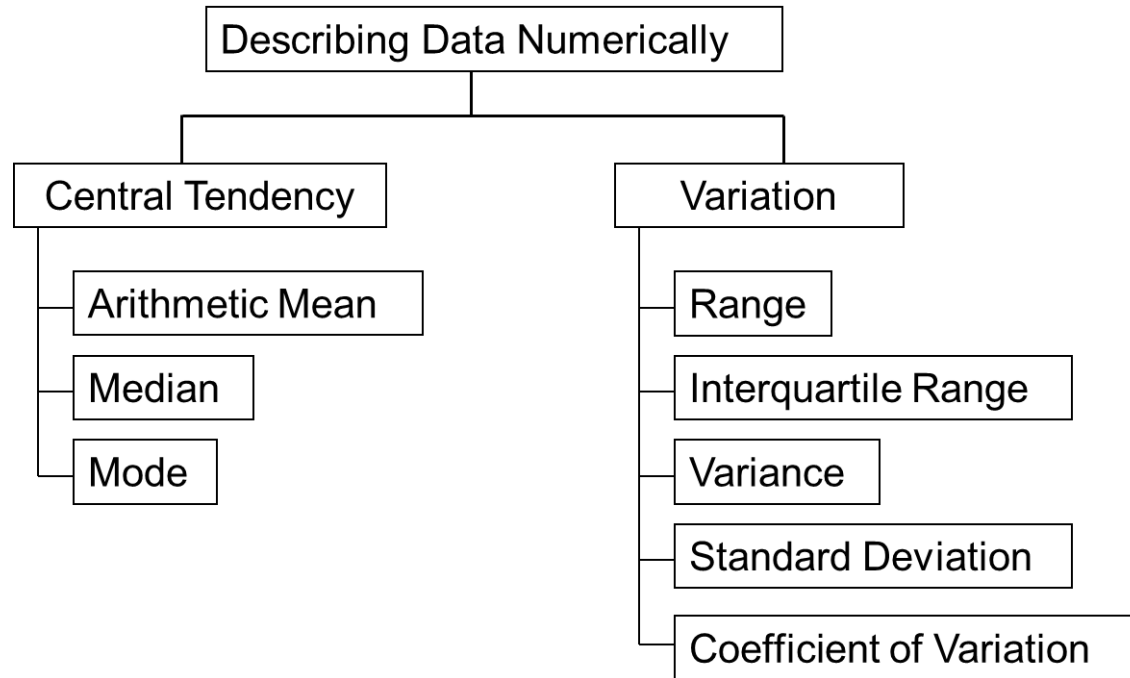
- Measures of central tendency, variation, and shape
  - Mean, median, mode, geometric mean
  - Quartiles
  - Range, interquartile range, variance and standard deviation, coefficient of variation
  - Symmetric and skewed distributions
- Population summary measures
  - Mean, variance, and standard deviation
  - The empirical rule and Chebyshev's Theorem

# Chapter Topics (2 of 2)

- Five number summary and box-and-whisker plots
- Covariance and coefficient of correlation
- Pitfalls in numerical descriptive measures and ethical considerations

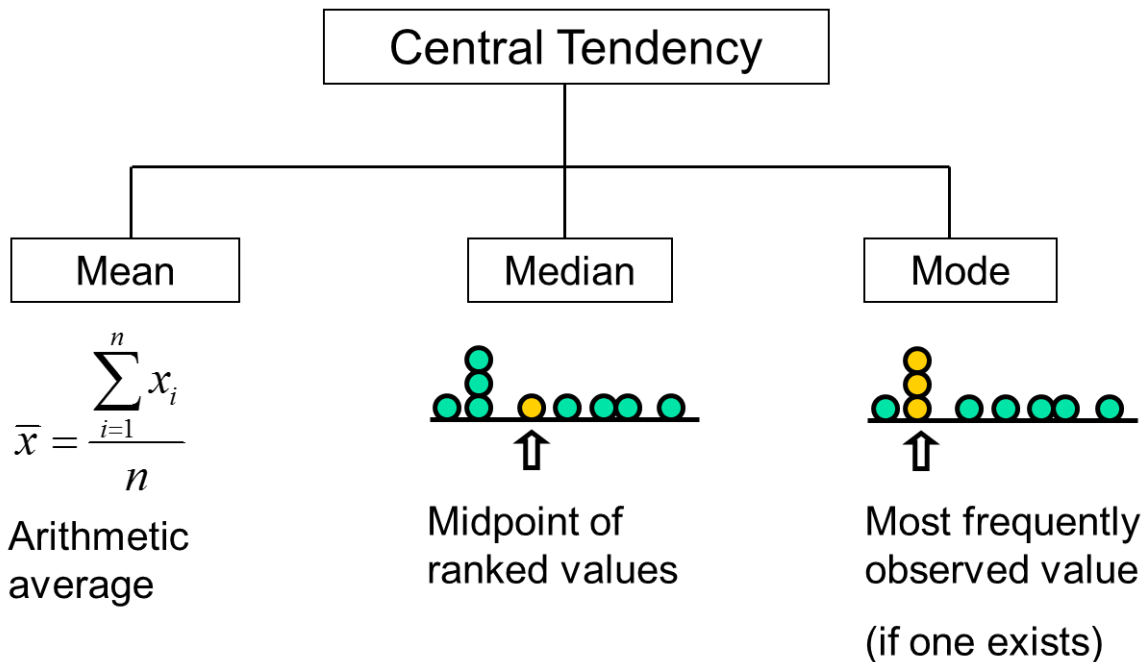


# Describing Data Numerically



# Measures of Central Tendency

## Overview



# Arithmetic Mean (1 of 2)

- The arithmetic mean (mean) is the most common measure of central tendency

- For a population of  $N$  values:

$$\mu = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N x_i}{N} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_N}{N}$$

Population values

Population size

- For a sample of size  $n$ :

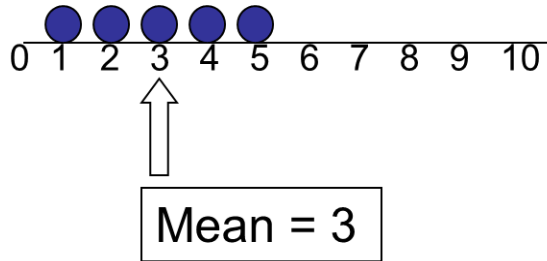
$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n}{n}$$

Observed values

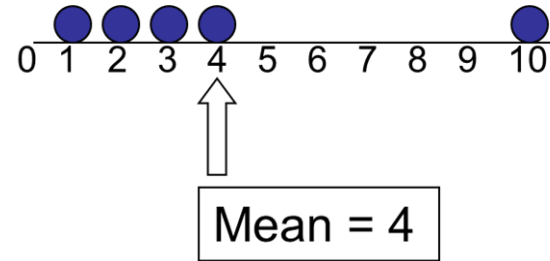
Sample size

## Arithmetic Mean (2 of 2)

- The most common measure of central tendency
- Mean = sum of values divided by the number of values
- Affected by extreme values (outliers)



$$\frac{1+2+3+4+5}{5} = \frac{15}{5} = 3$$

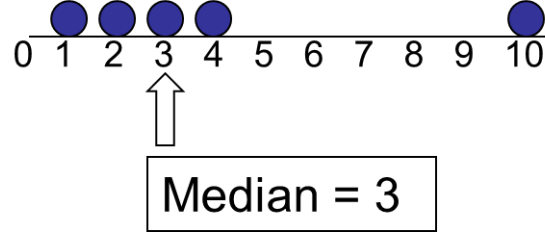
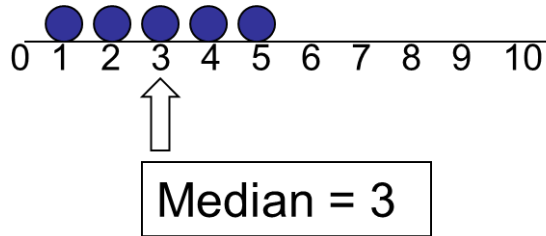


$$\frac{1+2+3+4+10}{5} = \frac{20}{5} = 4$$



# Median

- In an ordered list, the median is the “middle” number (50% above, 50% below)



- Not affected by extreme values

# Finding the Median

- The location of the median:

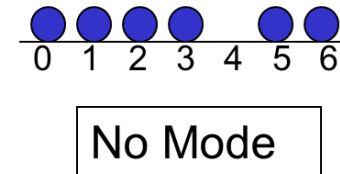
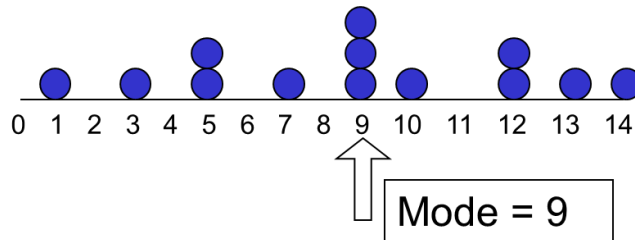
$$\text{Median position} = \left( \frac{n+1}{2} \right)^{\text{th}} \text{ position in the ordered data}$$

- If the number of values is odd, the median is the middle number
- If the number of values is even, the median is the average of the two middle numbers

- Note that  $\frac{n+1}{2}$  is not the value of the median, only the position of the median in the ranked data

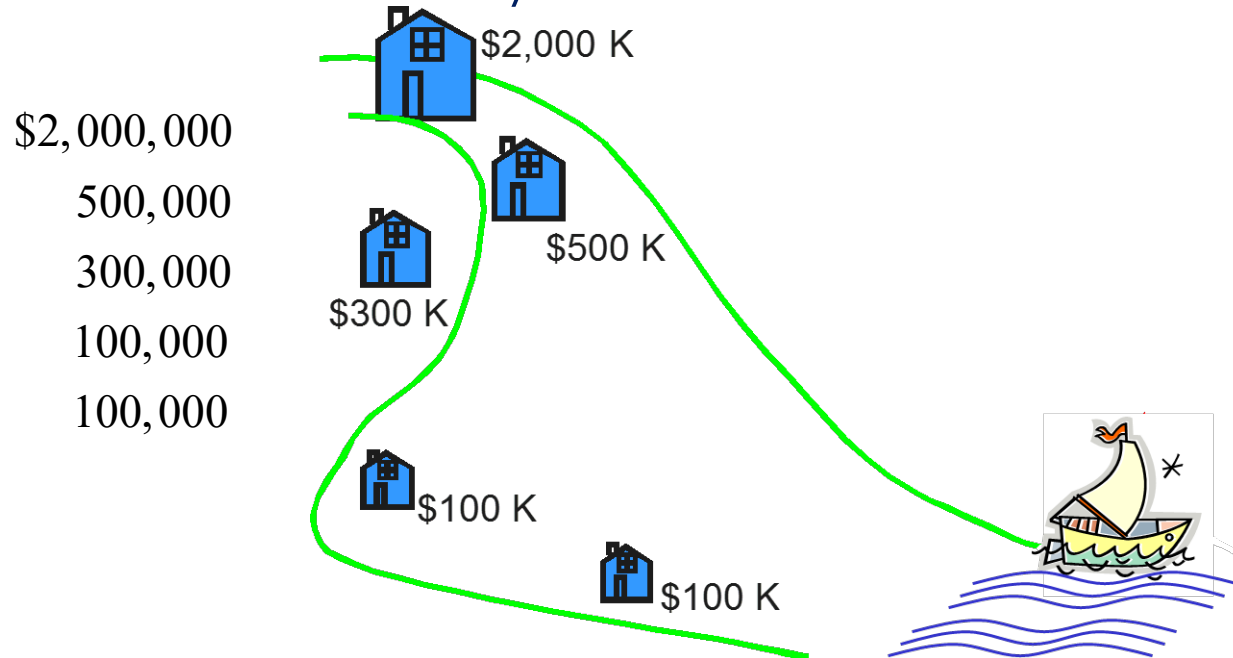
# Mode

- A measure of central tendency
- Value that occurs most often
- Not affected by extreme values
- Used for either numerical or categorical data
- There may be no mode
- There may be several modes



# Review Example

- Five houses on a hill by the beach





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# Review Example: Summary Statistics

House Prices :

\$2,000,000

500,000

300,000

100,000

100,000

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Sum 3,000,000

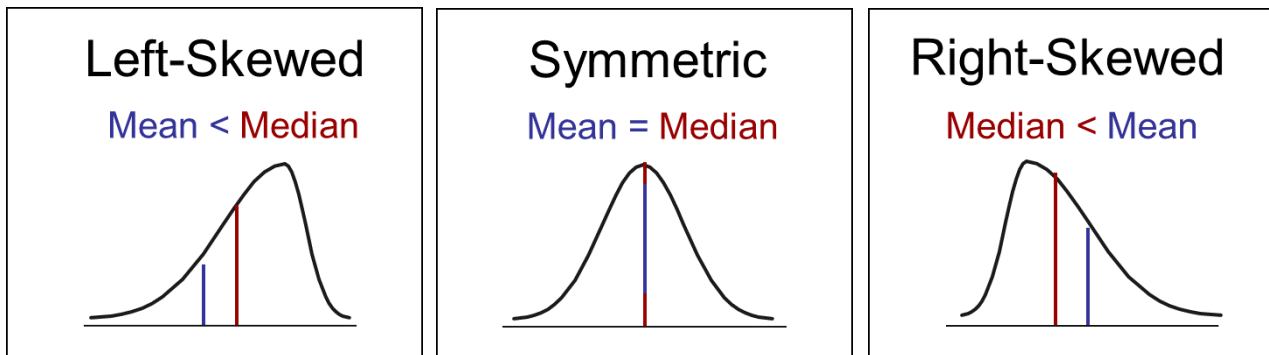
- **Mean:**  $\left( \frac{\$3,000,000}{5} \right)$   
= \$600,000
- **Median:** middle value of ranked data  
= \$300,000
- **Mode:** most frequent value  
= \$100,000

# Which Measure of Location Is the “Best”?

- **Mean** is generally used, unless extreme values (outliers) exist ...
- Then **median** is often used, since the median is not sensitive to extreme values.
  - Example: Median home prices may be reported for a region – less sensitive to outliers

# Shape of a Distribution

- Describes how data are distributed
- Measures of shape
  - Symmetric or skewed



# Percentiles and Quartiles

- Percentiles and Quartiles indicate the position of a value relative to the entire set of data
- Generally used to describe large data sets
- Example: An I Q score at the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile means that 10% of the population has a higher I Q score and 90% have a lower I Q score.

$P^{\text{th}}$  percentile = value located in the ordered position  $\left(\frac{P}{100}\right)(n+1)^{\text{th}}$



# Quartiles (1 of 2)

- Quartiles split the ranked data into 4 segments with an equal number of values per segment (note that the widths of the segments may be different)



- The first quartile,  $Q_1$ , is the value for which 25% of the observations are smaller and 75% are larger
- $Q_2$  is the same as the median (50% are smaller, 50% are larger)
- Only 25% of the observations are greater than the third quartile

# Quartile Formulas

Find a quartile by determining the value in the appropriate position in the ranked data, where

First quartile position:  $Q_1 = 0.25(n + 1)$

Second quartile position:  
(the median position)  $Q_2 = 0.50(n + 1)$

Third quartile position:  $Q_3 = 0.75(n + 1)$

where  $n$  is the number of observed values

# Quartiles (2 of 2)

- Example: Find the first quartile

Sample Ranked Data: 11 12 13 16 16 17 18 21 22

$(n = 9)$



$Q_1 =$  is in the  $0.25(9 + 1) = 2.5$  position of the ranked data

so use the value half way between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> values,

so

$$Q_1 = 12.5$$

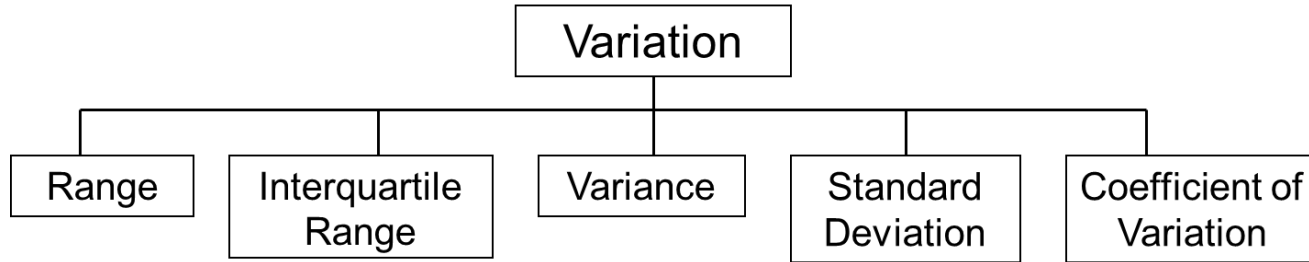
# Five-Number Summary

The **five-number summary** refers to five descriptive measures:

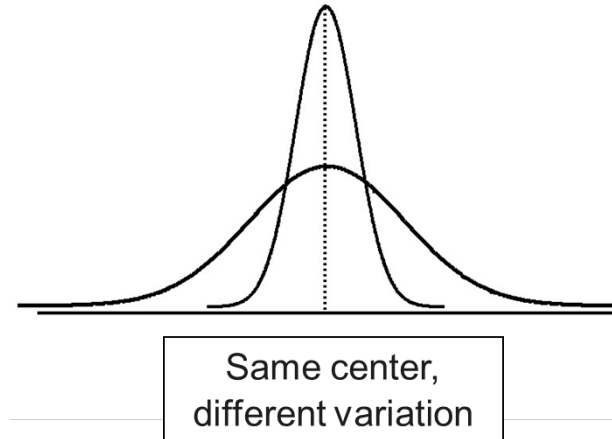
minimum  
first quartile  
median  
third  
quartile  
maximum

$$\text{minimum} < Q_1 < \text{median} < Q_3 < \text{maximum}$$

# Measures of Variability



- Measures of variation give information on the spread or variability of the data values.

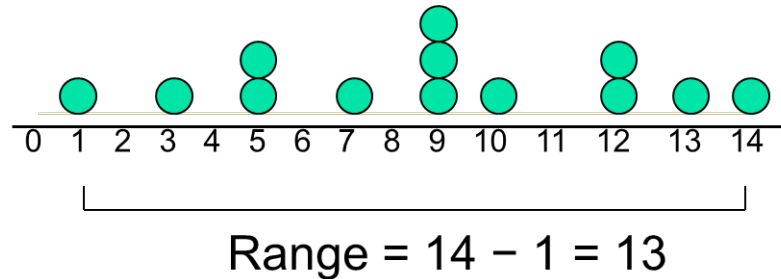


# Range

- Simplest measure of variation
- Difference between the largest and the smallest observations:

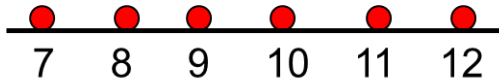
$$\text{Range} = X_{\text{largest}} - X_{\text{smallest}}$$

Example:

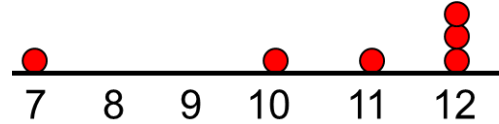


# Disadvantages of the Range

- Ignores the way in which data are distributed



$$\text{Range} = 12 - 7 = 5$$



$$\text{Range} = 12 - 7 = 5$$

- Sensitive to outliers

1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,3,3,3,3,4,5

$$\text{Range} = 5 - 1 = 4$$

1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,2,3,3,3,3,4,120

$$\text{Range} = 120 - 1 = 119$$

## Interquartile Range (1 of 2)

- Can eliminate some outlier problems by using the interquartile range
- Eliminate high-and low-valued observations and calculate the range of the middle 50% of the data
- Interquartile range = 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile – 1<sup>st</sup> quartile

$$\text{IQR} = Q_3 - Q_1$$



## Interquartile Range (2 of 2)

- The interquartile range (IQR) measures the spread in the middle 50% of the data
- Defined as the difference between the observation at the third quartile and the observation at the first quartile

$$\text{IQR} = Q_3 - Q_1$$

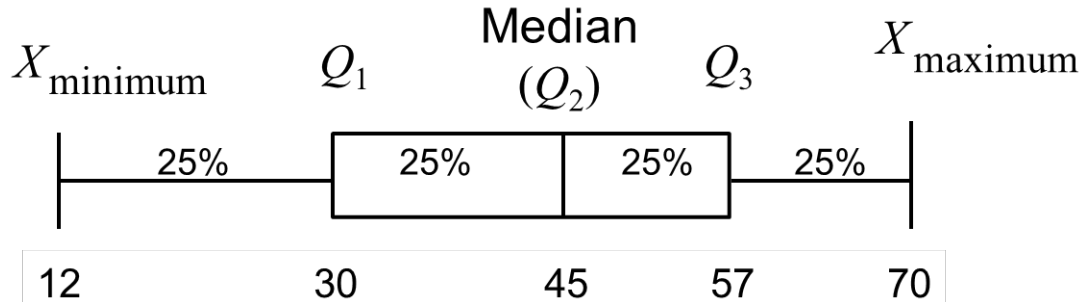
# Box-and-Whisker Plot (1 of 2)

- A box-and-whisker plot is a graph that describes the shape of a distribution
- Created from the five-number summary: the minimum value,  $Q_1$ , the median,  $Q_3$ , and the maximum
- The inner box shows the range from  $Q_1$  to  $Q_3$ , with a line drawn at the median
- Two “whiskers” extend from the box. One whisker is the line from  $Q_1$  to the minimum, the other is the line from  $Q_3$  to the maximum value

# Box-and-Whisker Plot (2 of 2)

The plot can be oriented horizontally or vertically

Example:



# Population Variance

- Average of squared deviations of values from the mean

- Population variance: 
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}$$

Where  $\mu$  = population mean

$N$  = population size

$x_i = i^{\text{th}}$  value of the variable  $x$

# Sample Variance

- Average (approximately) of squared deviations of values from the mean

- Sample variance:

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}$$

Where  $\bar{x}$  = arithmetic mean

$n$  = sample size

$x_i = i^{\text{th}}$  value of the variable  $x$

# Population Standard Deviation

- Most commonly used measure of variation
- Shows variation about the mean
- Has the same units as the original data
- Population standard deviation:

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2}{N}}$$

# Sample Standard Deviation

- Most commonly used measure of variation
- Shows variation about the mean
- Has the same units as the original data
- Sample standard deviation:

$$S = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}}$$

# Calculation Example: Sample Standard Deviation

Sample Data

$$(x_i): \boxed{10 \quad 12 \quad 14 \quad 15 \quad 17 \quad 18 \quad 18 \quad 24}$$

$$n = 8$$

$$\text{Mean} = \bar{x} = 16$$

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{(10 - \bar{x})^2 + (12 - \bar{x})^2 + (14 - \bar{x})^2 + \cdots + (24 - \bar{x})^2}{n - 1}}$$

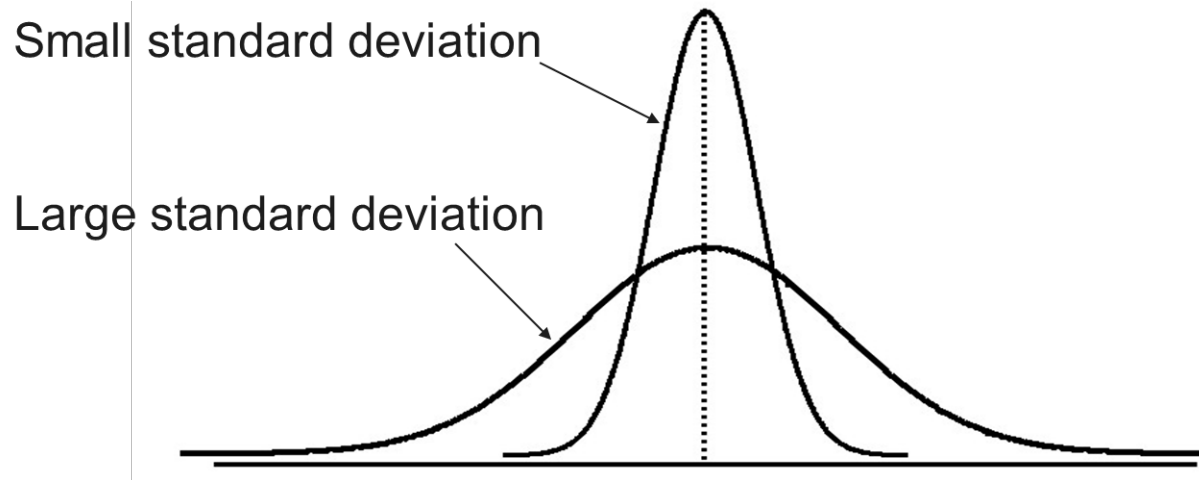
$$= \sqrt{\frac{(10 - 16)^2 + (12 - 16)^2 + (14 - 16)^2 + \cdots + (24 - 16)^2}{8 - 1}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{130}{7}} = \boxed{4.3095}$$

⇒ A measure of the  
“average” scatter  
around the mean

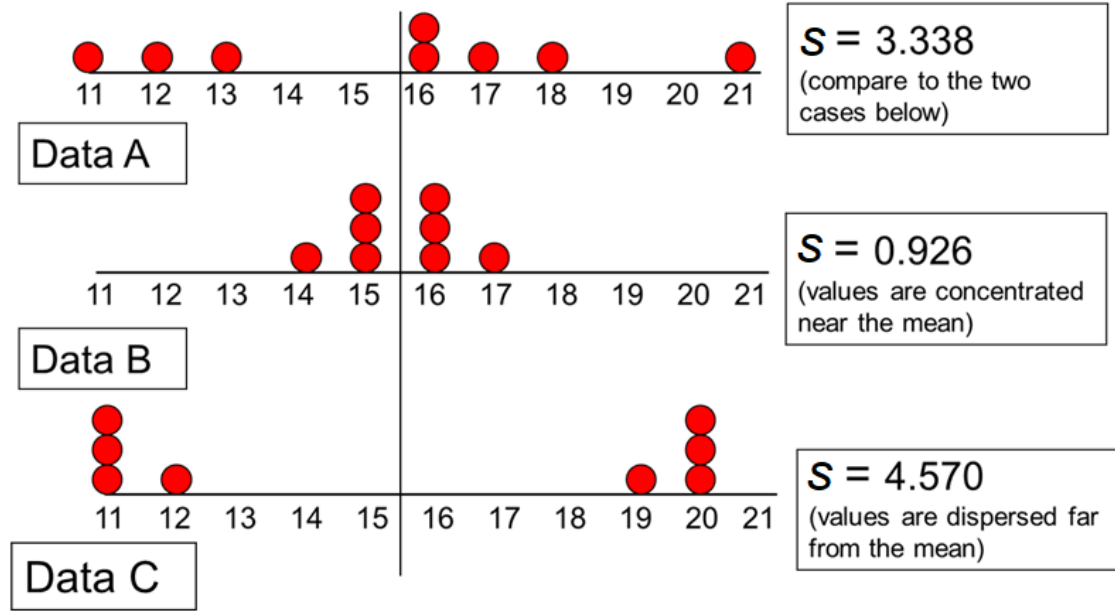


# Measuring Variation



# Comparing Standard Deviations

Mean = 15.5 for each data set



# Advantages of Variance and Standard Deviation

- Each value in the data set is used in the calculation
- Values far from the mean are given extra weight (because deviations from the mean are squared)

# Using Microsoft Excel

- Descriptive Statistics can be obtained from Microsoft<sup>®</sup> Excel
  - Select:  
data/data analysis/descriptive statistics
  - Enter details in dialog box

# Using Excel (1 of 2)

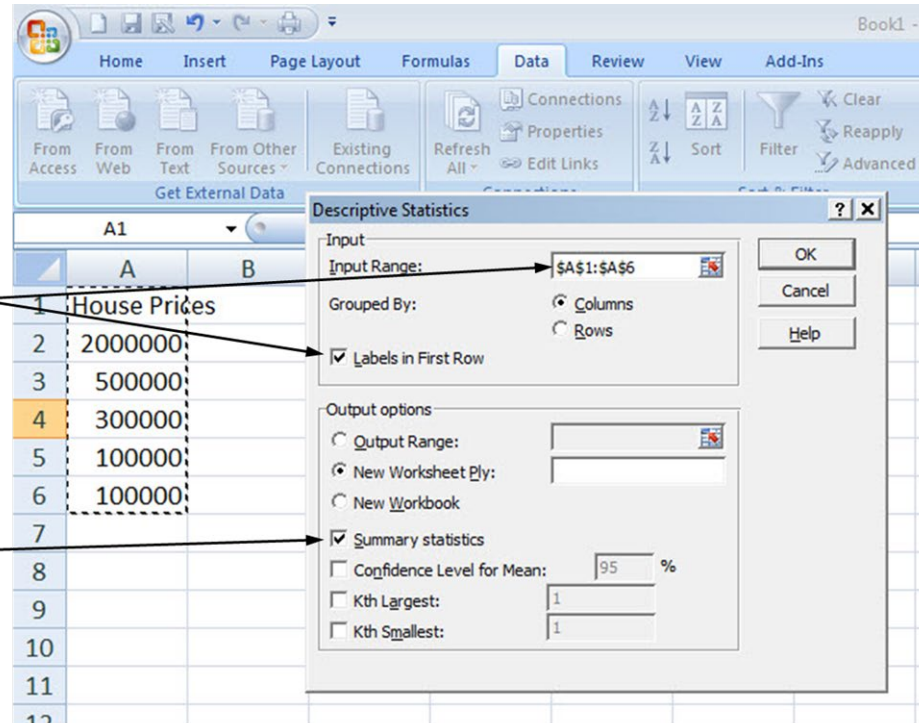
- Select data/data analysis/descriptive statistics

The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface. The 'Data' tab in the ribbon is circled in black. Below the ribbon, the 'Data Analysis' task pane is open, displaying a list of analysis tools. 'Descriptive Statistics' is highlighted with a blue selection bar. An arrow points from the 'Descriptive Statistics' option in the task pane to cell A7 in the spreadsheet. The spreadsheet data is as follows:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	House Prices						
2	2000000						
3	500000						
4	300000						
5	100000						
6	100000						
7							
8							
9							

# Using Excel (2 of 2)

- Enter input range details
- Check box for summary statistics
- Click OK



The screenshot shows the Microsoft Excel interface with the 'Descriptive Statistics' dialog box open. The spreadsheet has a column of house prices. The dialog box is configured as follows:

- Input Range:** \$A\$1:\$A\$6
- Grouped By:** Columns
- Labels in First Row**
- Output options:**
  - Summary statistics**
  - Confidence Level for Mean:** 95 %
  - Kth Largest:** 1
  - Kth Smallest:** 1

Arrows from the list on the left point to the 'Input Range' field, the 'Labels in First Row' checkbox, and the 'Summary statistics' checkbox.

# Excel output

Microsoft Excel

descriptive statistics output,  
using the house price data:

House Prices:

\$2,000,000

500,000

300,000

100,000

100,000

	A	B
1	<i>House Prices</i>	
2		
3	Mean	600000
4	Standard Error	357770.8764
5	Median	300000
6	Mode	100000
7	Standard Deviation	800000
8	Sample Variance	6.4E+11
9	Kurtosis	4.130126953
10	Skewness	2.006835938
11	Range	1900000
12	Minimum	100000
13	Maximum	2000000
14	Sum	3000000
15	Count	5
16		



# Coefficient of Variation

- Measures relative variation
- Always in percentage (%)
- Shows variation relative to mean
- Can be used to compare two or more sets of data measured in different units

Population coefficient of variation:

$$CV = \left( \frac{\sigma}{\mu} \right) \cdot 100\%$$

Sample coefficient of variation:

$$CV = \left( \frac{s}{\bar{x}} \right) \cdot 100\%$$



# Comparing Coefficient of Variation

- Stock A:
  - Average price last year = \$50
  - Standard deviation = \$5

$$CV_A = \left( \frac{s}{\bar{x}} \right) \cdot 100\% = \frac{\$5}{\$50} \cdot 100\% = 10\%$$

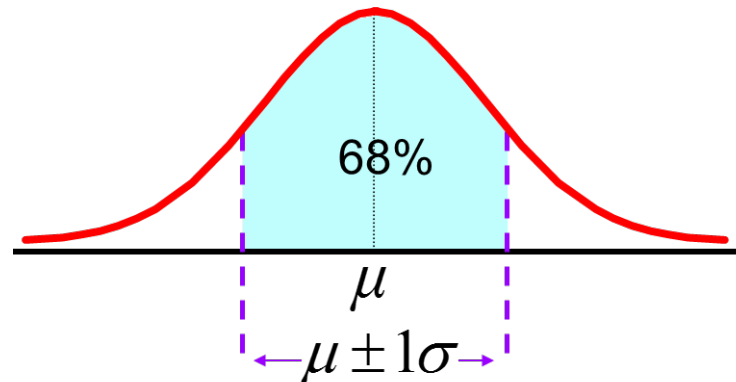
- Stock B:
  - Average price last year = \$100
  - Standard deviation = \$5

$$CV_B = \left( \frac{s}{\bar{x}} \right) \cdot 100\% = \frac{\$5}{\$100} \cdot 100\% = 5\%$$

Both stocks have the same standard deviation, but stock B is less variable relative to its price

## The Empirical Rule (1 of 2)

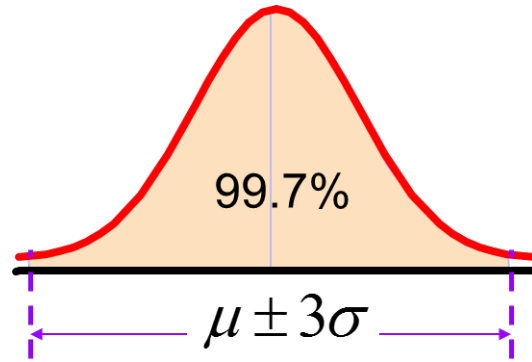
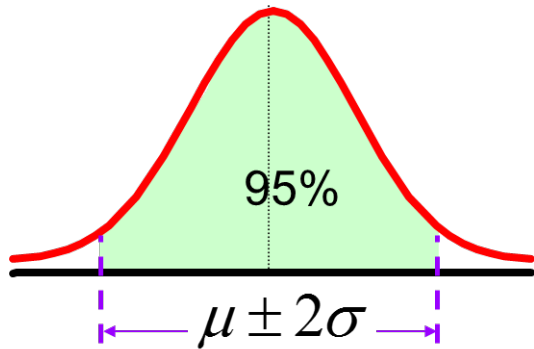
- If the data distribution is bell-shaped, then the interval:
  - $\mu \pm 1\sigma$  contains about 68% of the values in the population or the sample



# The Empirical Rule (2 of 2)

$\mu \pm 2\sigma$ . contains about 95% of the values in the population or the sample

$\mu \pm 3\sigma$ . contains almost all (about 99.7%) of the values in the population or the sample



## z-Score (1 of 3)

A z-score shows the position of a value relative to the mean of the distribution.

- indicates the number of standard deviations a value is from the mean.
  - A z-score greater than zero indicates that the value is greater than the mean
  - a z-score less than zero indicates that the value is less than the mean
  - a z-score of zero indicates that the value is equal to the mean.

## z-Score (2 of 3)

- If the data set is the entire population of data and the population mean,  $\mu$ , and the population standard deviation,  $\sigma$ , are known, then for each

value,  $x_i$ , the z-score associated with  $x_i$  is

$$z = \frac{x_i - \mu}{\sigma}$$

## z-Score (3 of 3)

- If intelligence is measured for a population using an IQ score, where the mean IQ score is 100 and the standard deviation is 15, what is the z-score for an IQ of 121?

$$z = \frac{x_i - \mu}{\sigma} = \frac{121 - 100}{15} = 1.4$$

A score of 121 is 1.4 standard deviations above the mean.