(a) Negatively skewed — (b) Normal (no skew) — (c) Positively skewed

Central tendencies tells a lot about how your data are situated. We all know **mean** (average), **median** (middle number), and **mode** (most common number).

The alignment of these values indicates the **skew** of your data.

Variance measures the spread (and deviation) from your data from your central tendency (mean). Variance is a squared measure, which is helpful for **two** reasons.

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\sum(x - \mu)^2}{N}$$