Untitled

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Previous Reading	This Reading	Next Reading
Lesson 4: Probability; Discrete Random Variables	Lesson 05: Normal Distributions	Lesson 6: Distribution of Sample Means & The Central Limit Theorem

{| style="width:50%" |- align="center" ! This is a histogram created in Excel: |- align="center" | |}

Two male Northern Elephant Seals battling over breeding territory

Piedras Blancas, San Simeon, California

Photo by Michael "Mike" L. Baird bairdphotos.com

DivingElephantSeals

At this point, it may be difficult to understand the meaning and usefulness of the standard deviation. For now, it is enough for you to recognize the following points:

- The standard deviation is a measure of how spread out the data are.
- If the standard deviation is large, then the data are very spread out.
- If the standard deviation is zero, then all the values are the identical–there is no spread in the data.
- The standard deviation cannot be negative.

Sampling Chapter.pdf