

Continuous Variables (Chapter 3)

Continuous Variables

We're looking for features such as:

- Asymmetry
- Outliers
- Multimodality
- Gaps
- Heaping / Rounding
- Impossibilities / Errors

Histograms

- primary tool for continuous data
- count / relative frequency / cumulative frequency / density
- boundaries
- binwidth

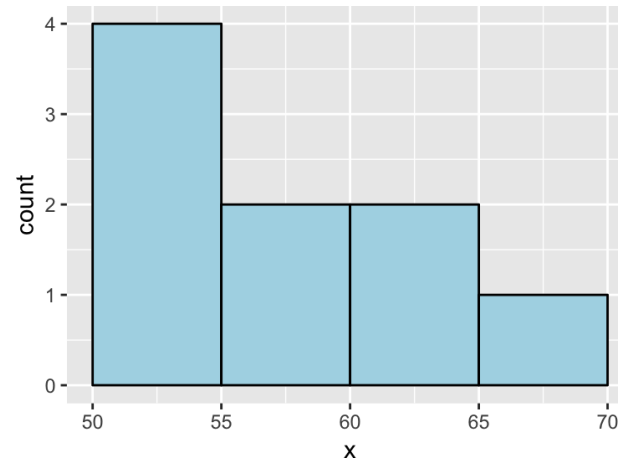
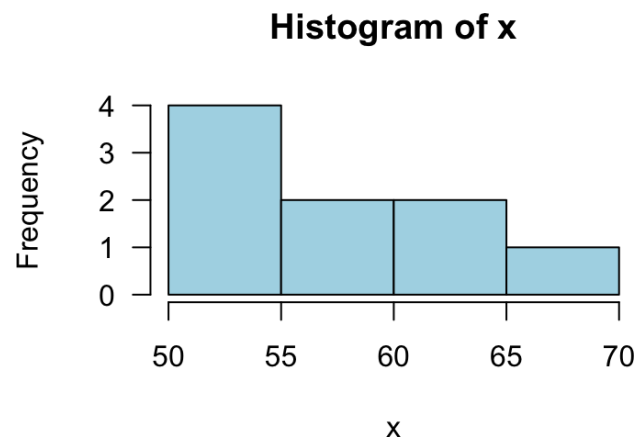
How are histograms created?

Draw a histogram on paper of the following data.

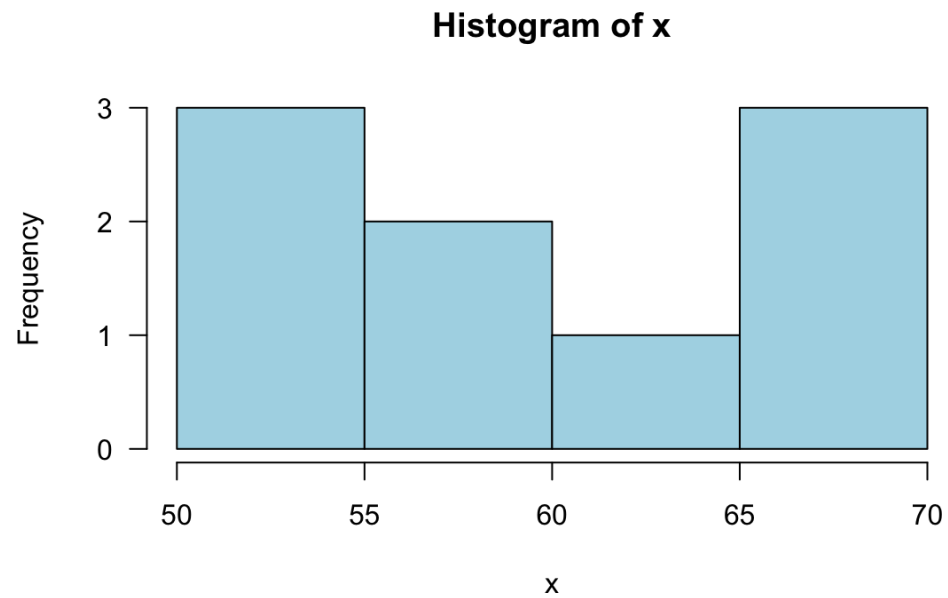
(use binwidth = 5)

50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 60, 65, 65, 68

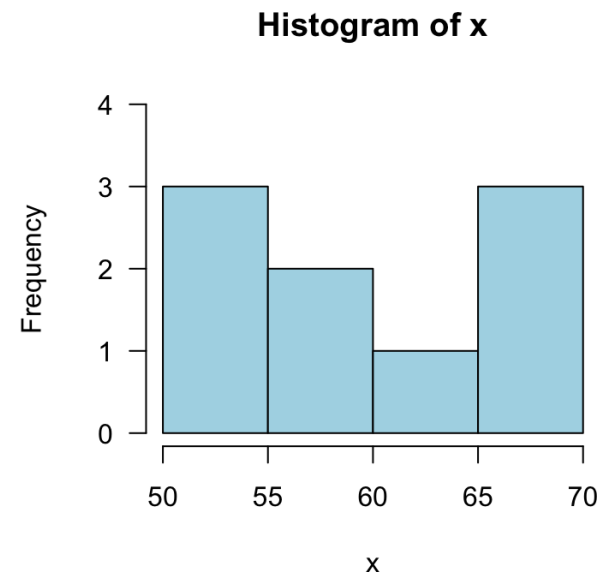
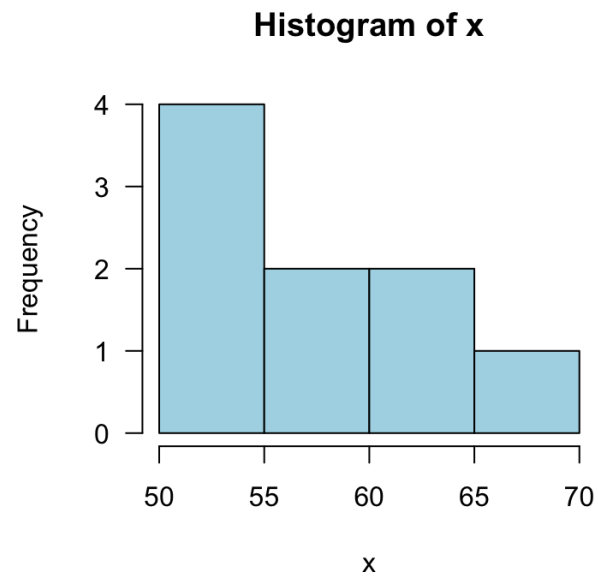
How are histograms created?



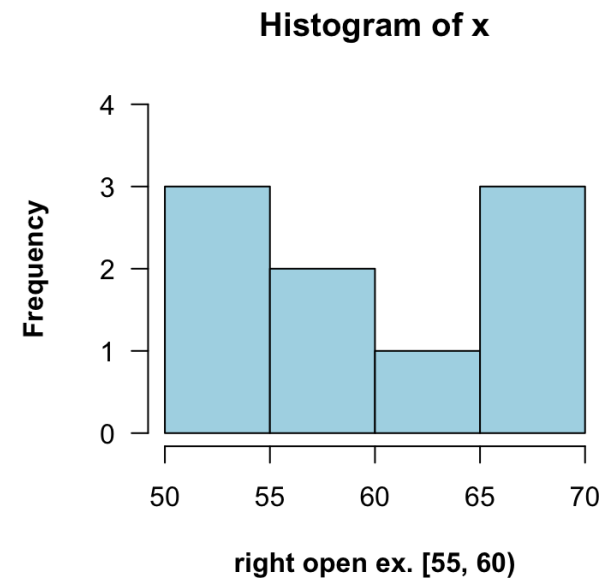
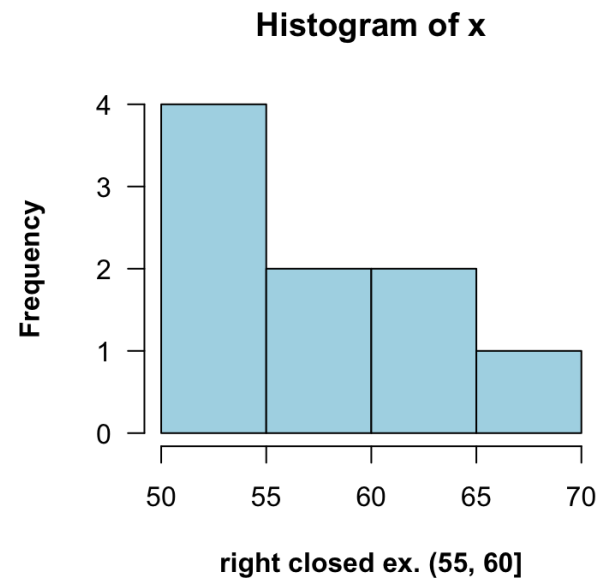
How are histograms created?



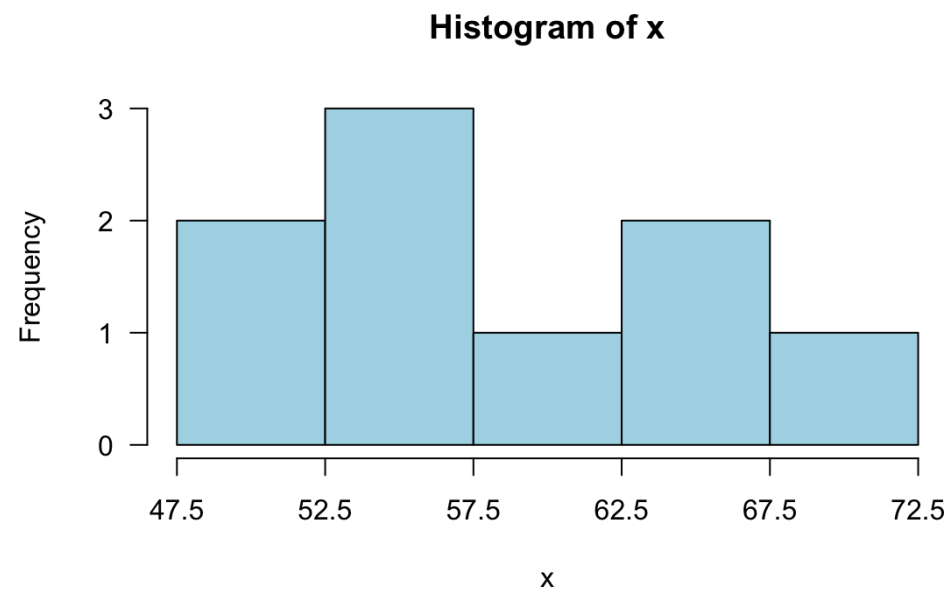
What is causing the difference?



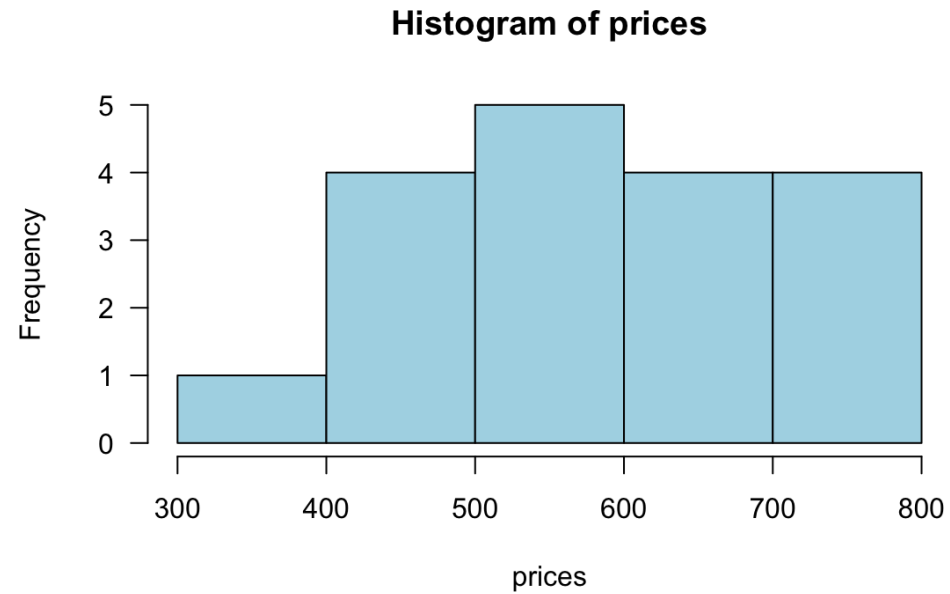
Bin boundaries



Bin boundaries

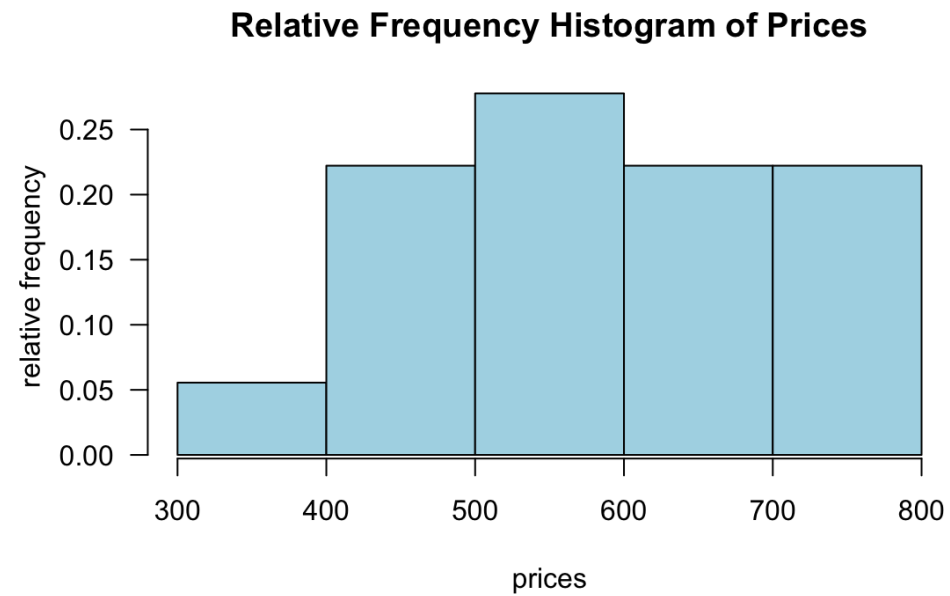


Frequency (count) histogram

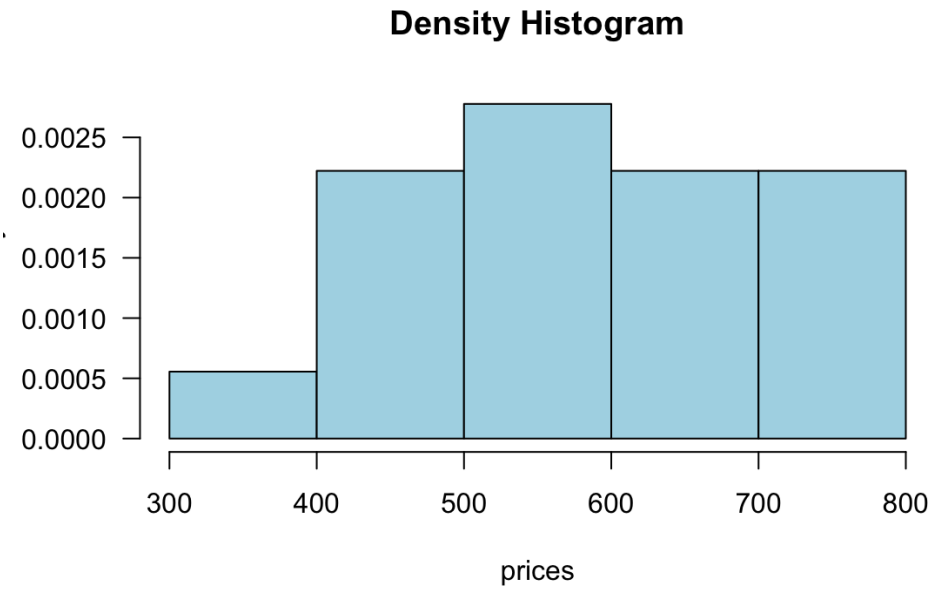


Prices of one-bedroom apartments in Morningside Heights (zip 10027) in \$1000k

Relative frequency histogram



Density Histogram

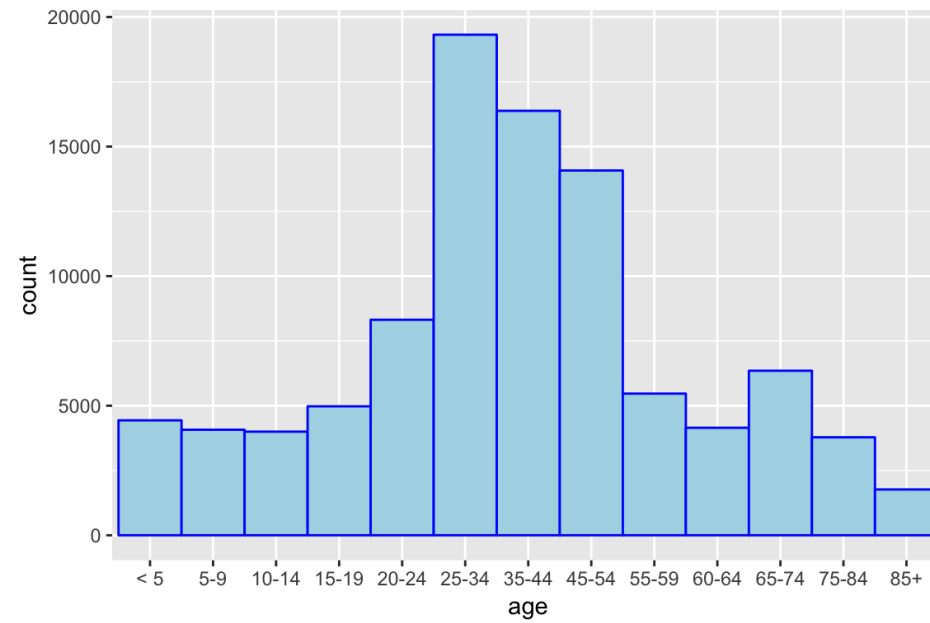


Count, Relative Frequency, Density

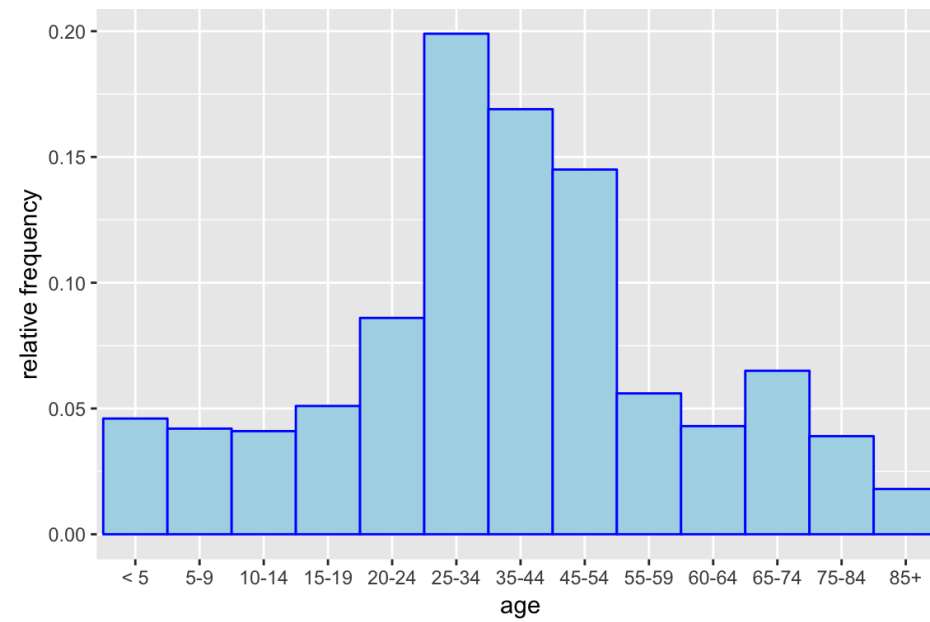
| Bin | Count | Relative Frequency | Density |
|---------|-------|--------------------|---------|
| 300-400 | 1 | .056 | .00056 |
| 400-500 | 4 | .22 | .0022 |
| 500-600 | 5 | .28 | .0028 |
| 600-700 | 4 | .22 | .0022 |
| 700-800 | 4 | .22 | .0022 |

- How is relative frequency calculated?
- How is density calculated?

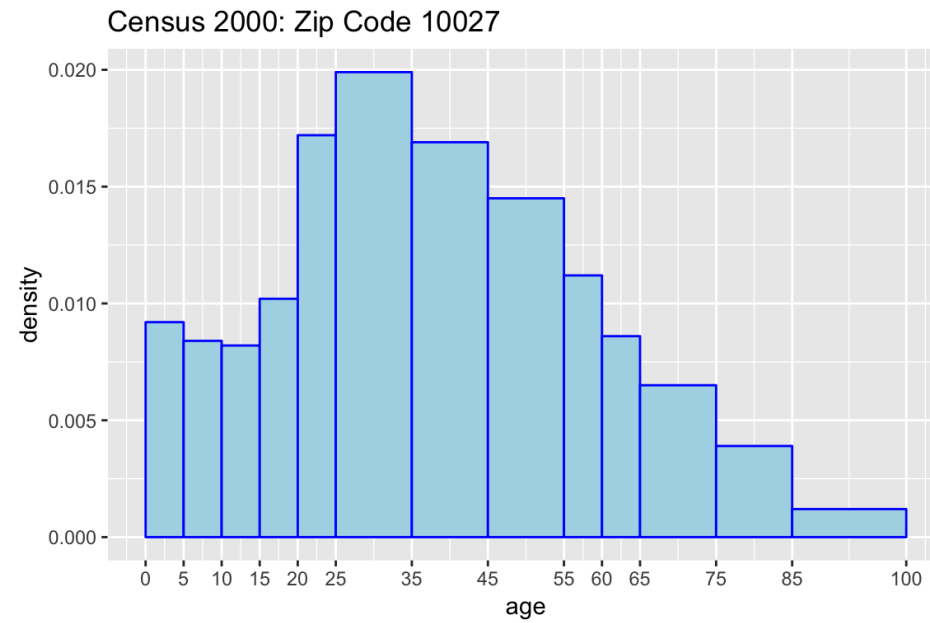
What's wrong with this histogram?



Relative frequency histogram



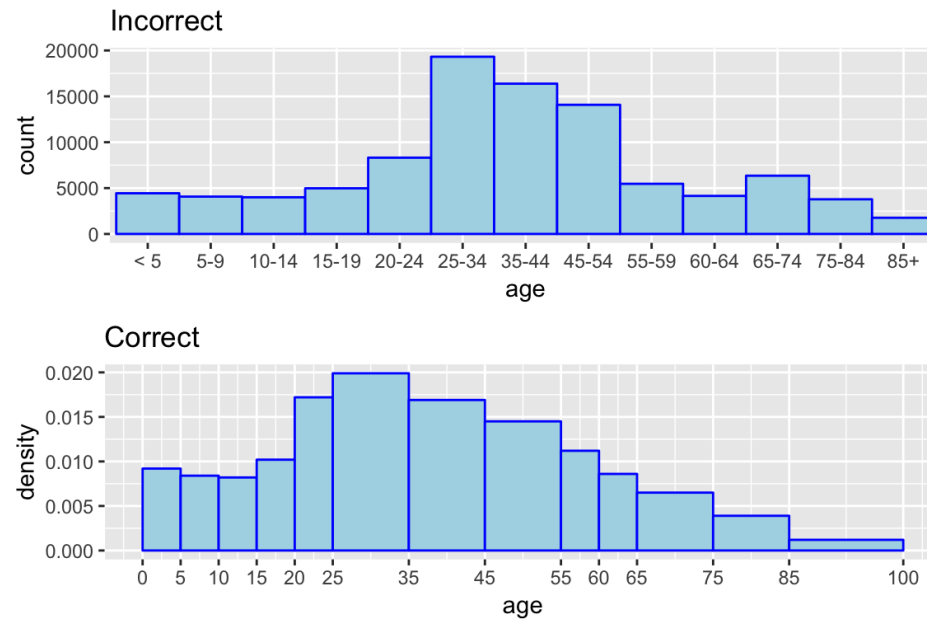
Density histogram with unequal bin (or class) widths



$$\text{Density} = \text{RelFreq} / \text{Binwidth}$$

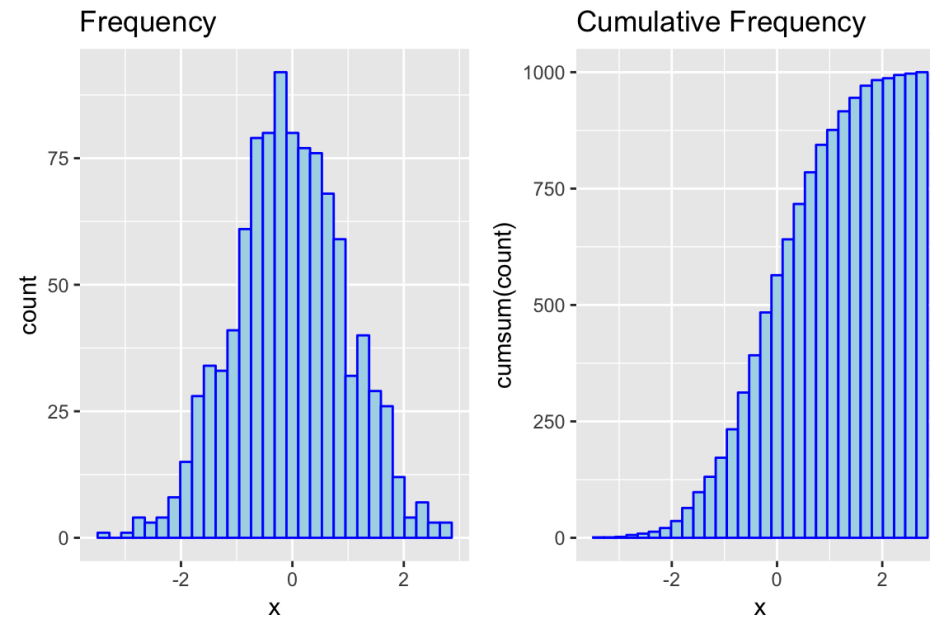
| Class | Frequency | RelFreq | ClassWidth | Density |
|--------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| < 5 | 4435 | 0.046 | 5 | 0.009 |
| 5-9 | 4072 | 0.042 | 5 | 0.008 |
| 10-14 | 3999 | 0.041 | 5 | 0.008 |
| 15-19 | 4977 | 0.051 | 5 | 0.010 |
| 20-24 | 8316 | 0.086 | 5 | 0.017 |
| 25-34 | 19317 | 0.199 | 10 | 0.020 |
| 35-44 | 16380 | 0.169 | 10 | 0.017 |
| 45-54 | 14077 | 0.145 | 10 | 0.014 |
| 55-59 | 5467 | 0.056 | 5 | 0.011 |
| 60-64 | 4148 | 0.043 | 5 | 0.009 |
| 65-74 | 6350 | 0.065 | 10 | 0.007 |
| 75-84 | 3781 | 0.039 | 10 | 0.004 |
| 85+ | 1767 | 0.018 | 15 | 0.001 |

Compare the histograms



Source: <https://factfinder.census.gov/>

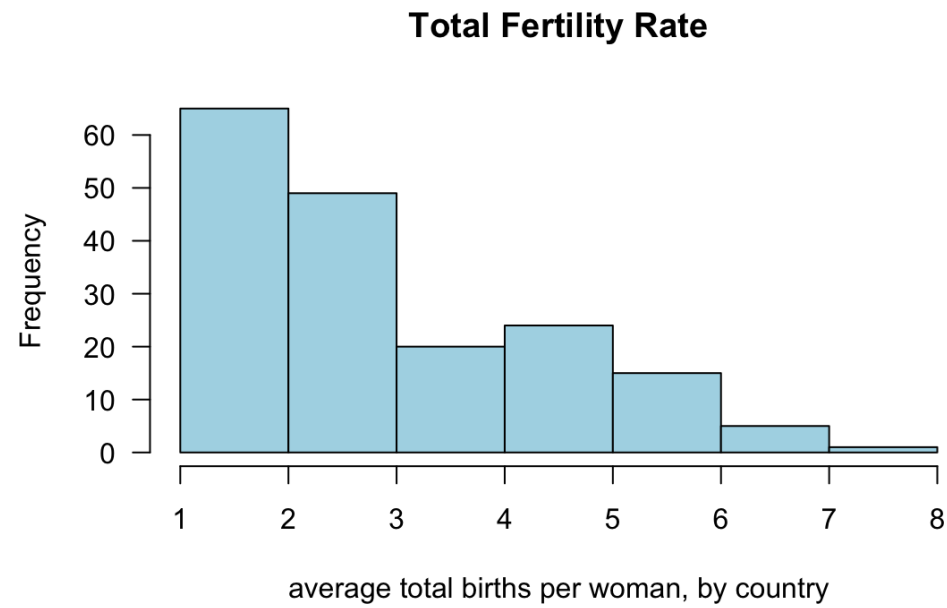
Cumulative frequency histogram



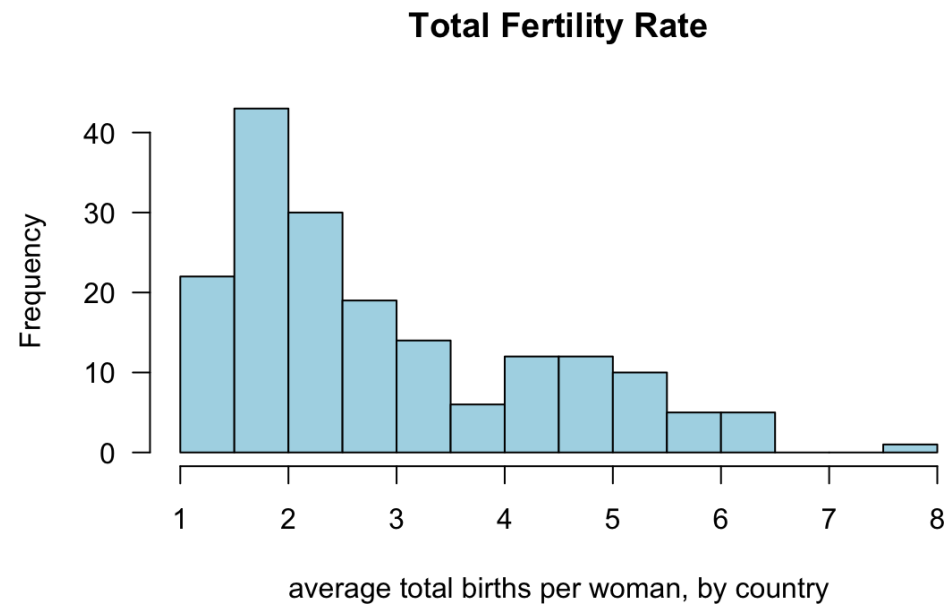
Binwidth

'stat_bin()' using 'bins = 30'. Pick better value with 'binwidth'.

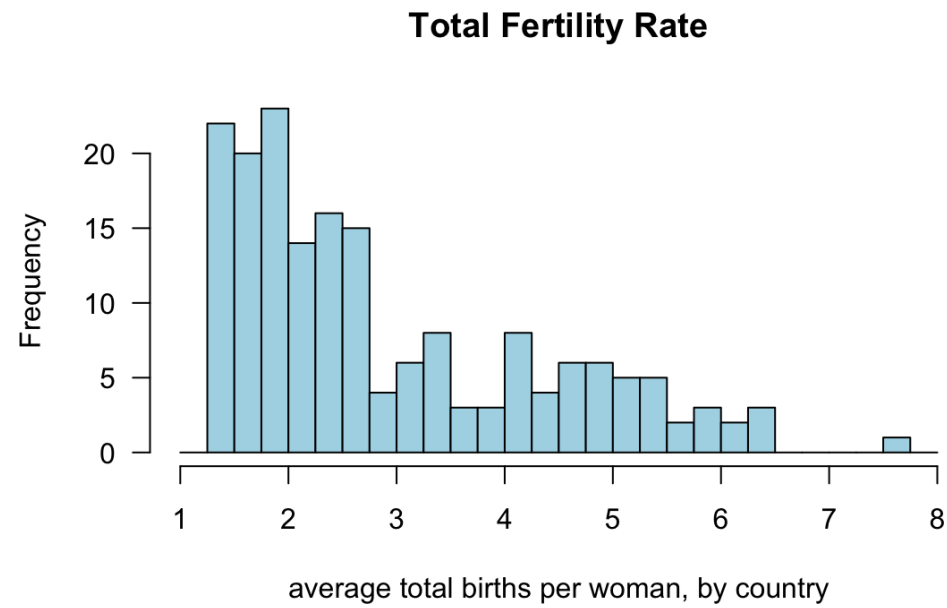
Histograms



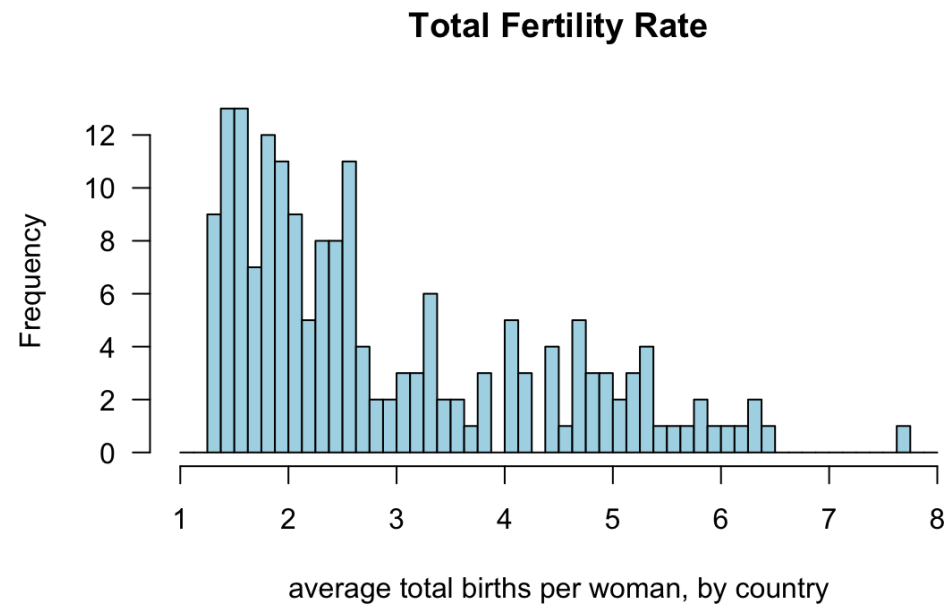
Histograms



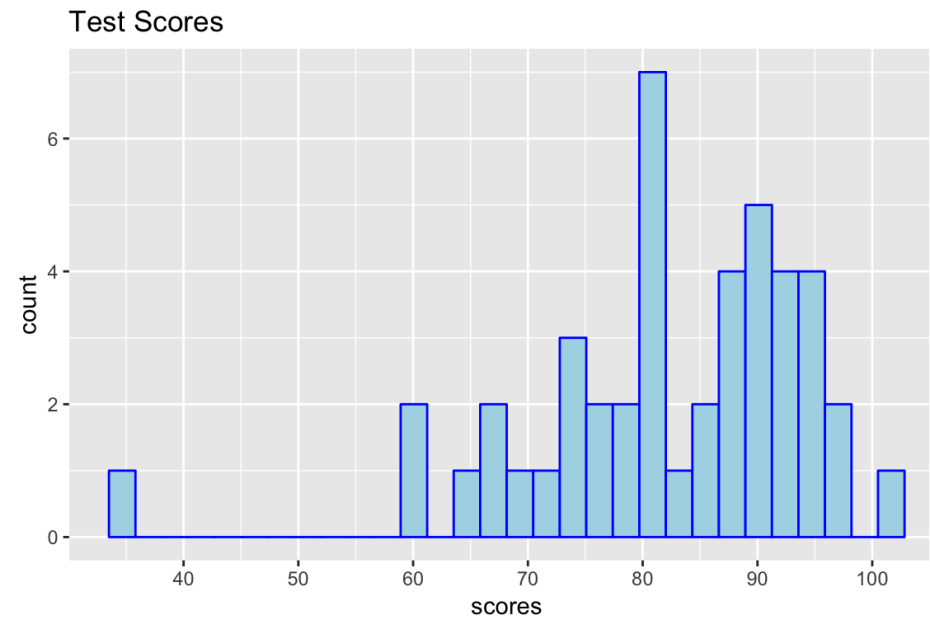
Histograms



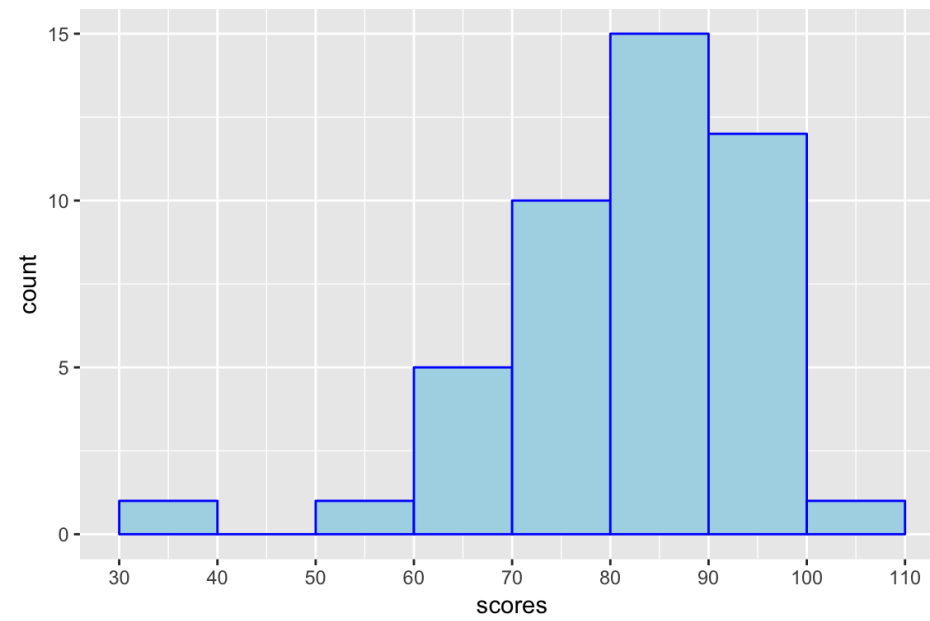
Histograms



Histograms

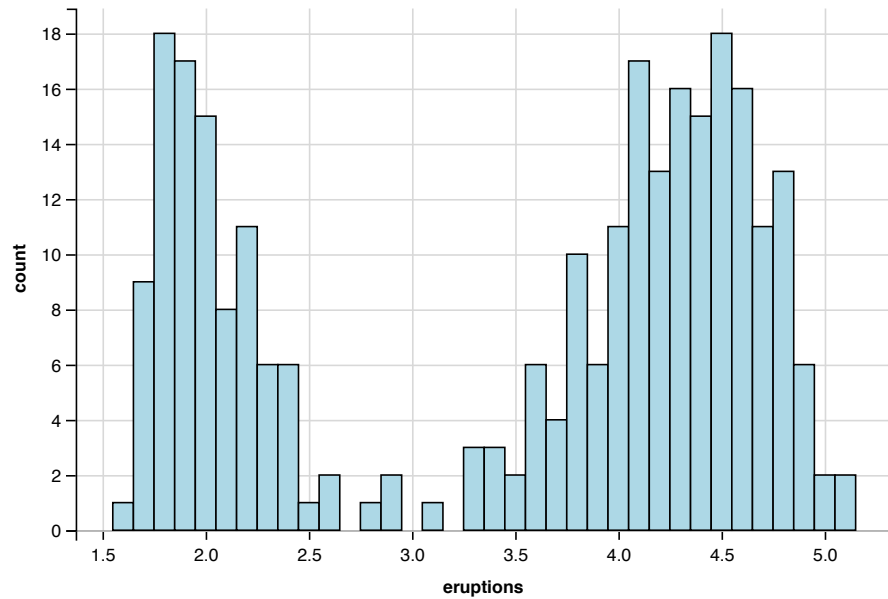


Fewer bins



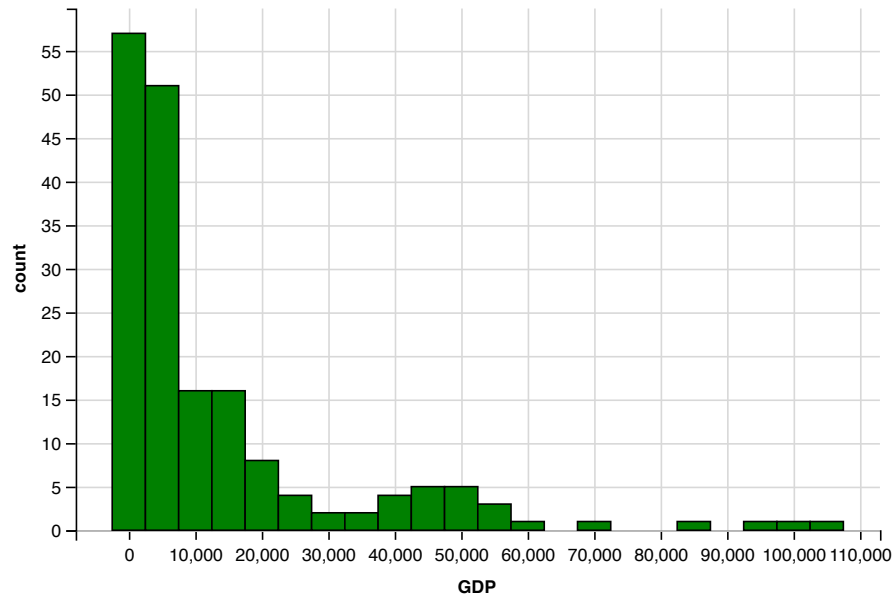
Change binwidth interactively

```
## Warning: Can't output dynamic/interactive ggvis plots in a knitr document.  
## Generating a static (non-dynamic, non-interactive) version of the plot.
```



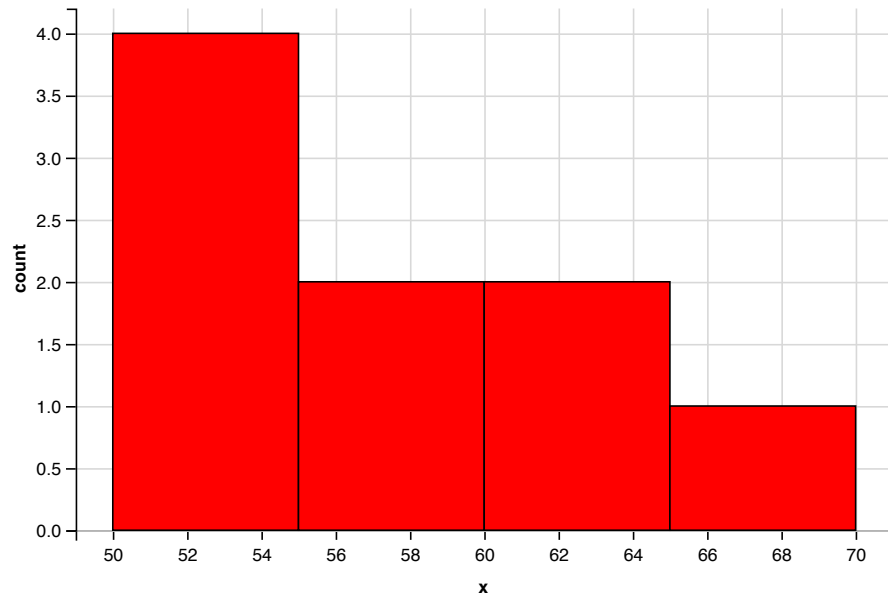
GDP

```
## Warning: Can't output dynamic/interactive ggvis plots in a knitr document.
## Generating a static (non-dynamic, non-interactive) version of the plot.
```



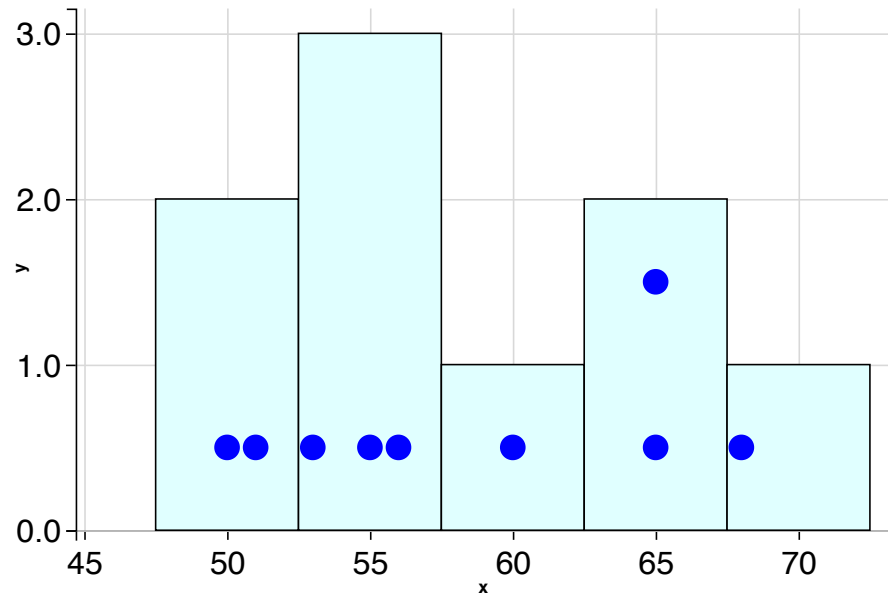
Center

```
## Warning: Can't output dynamic/interactive ggvis plots in a knitr document.  
## Generating a static (non-dynamic, non-interactive) version of the plot.
```



Center (with data values shown)

```
## Warning: Can't output dynamic/interactive ggvis plots in a knitr document.  
## Generating a static (non-dynamic, non-interactive) version of the plot.
```



Boundary

```
## Warning: Can't output dynamic/interactive ggvis plots in a knitr document.  
## Generating a static (non-dynamic, non-interactive) version of the plot.
```

