Comparing Distributions:

* When comparing distributions we look at the shape (skewed or symmetric), the center (mean or median), the spread (standard deviation, interquartile range (IQR)), and look for outliers
* Shape (draw density curves to show each)
  + If a distribution looks approximately the same on either side of the center than it would be said to be symmetric
  + A distribution that has a long tail in either direction is said to be skewed.
    - Right – skewed – long tail to the right
    - Left-skewed – long tail to the left

Examine shape first because it changes how we report center and spread.

* Center
  + We typically use the mean as the measure for center for symmetric distributions and the median for skewed distributions
  + The median is robust to outliers, meaning it is not affected by the presence of outliers while the mean is pulled in the direction of outliers
* Spread
  + As with the center we use the standard deviation for measure of spread for symmetric distributions and the IQR for skewed distributions
  + We will look to see which distribution shows the largest spread.
* Use examples to compare shape, center, spread
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