

Measures of dispersion: The numerical values by which we measure the dispersion or variability of a data set are called measures of dispersion.

There are two kinds of measures of dispersion. They are

- i) Absolute measures of dispersion
- ii) Relative " " "

Absolute measures of dispersion are

- i) Range
- ii) Quartile deviation
- iii) Mean deviation
- iv) Variance and Standard deviation.

Relative measures of dispersion are

- i) Co-efficient of range
- ii) Co-efficient of quartile deviation.
- iii) Co-efficient of mean deviation.
- iv) Co-efficient of variation.

## Measures of Dispersion

Dispersion: Dispersion measures the variability of a set of observations among themselves or about some central values.

### Purposes of dispersion:

Measures of dispersion is needed for four basic purposes

- i) To determine the reliability of an average.
- ii) To serve as a basis for control of the variability.
- iii) To compare two or more series with regard to their variability.
- iv) To facilitate the computation of other statistical measures.

### Properties of a good measures of dispersion:

- i) It should be simple to understand.
- ii) It should be easy to compute.
- iii) It should be rigidly defined.
- iv) It should be based on all the observations.
- v) It should be sampling stability.
- vi) It should be suitable for further algebraic treatment.
- vii) It should not be affected by extreme observations

Range: Range is the difference between the largest and smallest observations in a set of data.

$$\text{Range} = X_L - X_S, \quad X_L = \text{largest observation} \\ X_S = \text{smallest "}$$

co-efficient of range: The relative measures corresponding to range, called the co-efficient of range is computed by the following formula

$$\text{Coefficient of range} = \frac{X_L - X_S}{X_L + X_S} \times 100$$

Quartile deviation: if  $Q_3$  and  $Q_1$  are third and first quartiles of a data set, quartile deviation denoted by, Q.D is given by

$$Q.D = \frac{Q_3 - Q_1}{2}$$

Small quartile deviation means high informity and large quartile deviation means large variation among the central observations.

Co-efficient of quartile deviation:

The relative measures corresponding to quartile deviation is called co-efficient of quartile deviation.

$$\text{Co-efficient of Q.D} = \frac{Q_3 - Q_1}{Q_3 + Q_1} \times 100$$

### Mean deviation:

Mean deviation is obtained by calculating the absolute deviations of each observation from mean or median or mode and averaging these deviations by taking their arithmetic mean.

So we can define mean deviation in three ways, namely

- i) mean deviation about mean
- ii) " " " median
- iii) " " " mode.

Suppose  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are  $n$  observations of a data set and  $\bar{x}$  is the mean, then mean deviation about mean is

$$M.D(\bar{x}) = \frac{\sum |x - \bar{x}|}{n}$$

Mean deviation about median is

$$M.D(Me) = \frac{\sum |x - Me|}{n}$$

Mean deviation about mode is

$$M.M(Mo) = \frac{\sum |x - Mo|}{n}$$

Here  $Me$ ,  $Mo$  are median and mode of the observations.



### Co-efficient of mean deviation:

The relative measures corresponding to the mean deviation is called co-efficient of mean deviation. The co-efficient of mean deviation can be computed by the following three formulae.

Co-efficient of mean deviation about

$$\text{mean} = \frac{M.D(\bar{x})}{\bar{x}} \times 100$$

Co-efficient of mean deviation about median

$$= \frac{M.D(M_e)}{M_e} \times 100$$

Co-efficient of mean deviation about

$$\text{mode} = \frac{M.D(M_o)}{M_o} \times 100$$

Example: The following data refer to number of years worked by 9 employees of a factory:

7, 4, 10, 9, 15, 12, 7, 9, 7

Compute the mean deviation (i) from mean  
(ii) Median, (iii) Mode,

(iv) show that the mean deviation from median is minimum. (v) Also calculate co-efficient of mean deviation from mean, median, mode and comment.

Solution:

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{7+4+10+9+15+12+7+9+7}{9} = 8.9 \text{ years.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Median} &= \left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ observation, Here } n=9 \text{ (odd)} \\ &= \left(\frac{9+1}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ " } \\ &= \left(\frac{10}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ observation.} \end{aligned}$$

Now arrange ascending order

4, 7, 7, 7, 9, 9, 10, 12, 15

5<sup>th</sup> observation is 9.

Hence median = 9 years.

Mode = 7 years, since 7 has highest frequency

computation of mean deviation

No of years worked	Deviation from mean $ D  =  x - \bar{x} $	Deviation from median $ D  =  x - Me $	Deviation from mode $D =  x - Mo $
7	$ 7 - 8.9  = 1.9$	$ 7 - 9  = 2$	$ 7 - 7  = 0$
4	4.9	5	3
10	1.1	1	3
9	0.1	0	2
15	6.1	6	8
12	3.1	3	5
7	1.9	2	0
9	.1	0	2
7	1.9	2	0
$\Sigma x = 80$	$\Sigma  D  = 21.1$	$\Sigma  D  = 21$	$\Sigma  D  = 23$

Mean deviation about mean  $(M.D(\bar{x})) = \frac{\Sigma |x_i - \bar{x}|}{n} = \frac{21.1}{9} = 2.34$  years

" " " median  $\{M.D(Me)\} = \frac{\Sigma |x_i - Me|}{n} = \frac{21}{9} = 2.33$  years

" " " Mode  $\{M.D(Mo)\} = \frac{\Sigma |x_i - Mo|}{n} = \frac{23}{9} = 2.56$  years

$$\begin{aligned} \text{co-efficient of mean deviation about mean} &= \frac{M.D(\bar{x})}{\bar{x}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{2.34}{8.9} \times 100 \\ &= 26.29\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{median} &= \frac{M.D(Me)}{Me} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{2.33}{9} \times 100 \\ &= 25.89\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Mode} &= \frac{M.D(Mo)}{Mo} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{2.56}{7} \times 100 \\ &= 36.57\% \end{aligned}$$

From these calculations it is clear that both mean deviation about median and co-efficient of mean deviation about median is minimum.



## Variance and Standard deviation:

Variance: The arithmetic mean of the squares of the deviation of the observations from their arithmetic mean is known as variance.

Standard deviation: The positive square root of variance is called standard deviation.

Population variance: Suppose  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N$  are  $N$  observations of a population and  $\mu$  is the mean of population, then population variance denoted by  $\sigma^2$  is given by

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

and population standard deviation is the positive square root of population variance. It is defined by the formula

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

Sample variance: Suppose  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are  $n$  values of a sample data and  $\bar{x}$  its sample mean, then sample variance denoted by  $s^2$  is defined by

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

The sample standard deviation denoted by  $s$  is the positive square root of the sample variance.

$$\text{Hence } s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}}$$

Example: 12, 15, 17, 20

Soln: sample mean,  $\bar{x} = \frac{12+15+17+20}{4} = 16$

$$\begin{aligned} s^2 &= \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} \\ &= \frac{(12-16)^2 + (15-16)^2 + \dots + (20-16)^2}{4-1} \\ &= \frac{16+1+1+16}{3} = 11.33 \end{aligned}$$

Sample standard deviation

$$s = \sqrt{11.33} = 3.37$$

### Sample variance for grouped data:

let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  be  $k$  values of a variable or  $k$  mid points of  $k$  classes with corresponding frequencies  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k$  then sample variance is defined by

$$s^2 = \frac{\sum f_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} \quad n = \sum f_i$$

For convenience and simplicity, the divisor  $n$  in place of  $n-1$

$$\therefore s^2 = \frac{\sum f_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}$$

Computing formula for sample

$$\text{variance } s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum f_i x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum f_i x_i)^2}{n} \right]$$

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum f_i x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum f_i x_i)^2}{n} \right]}$$

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Example:

No. of workers per month	30-55	55-80	80-105	105-130	130-155	155-180
Number of workers	3	4	6	9	12	11
	30-55					
	5					

calculate variance and standard deviation of the frequency distribution.

Soln.

class interval	Midpoint $x$	Frequency $f$	$fx$	$fx^2$
30-55	42.5	3	127.5	5418.75
55-80	67.5	4	270	18225.00
80-105	92.5	6	555	51337.50
105-130	117.5	9	1057.5	124256.25
130-155	142.5	12	1710	243675
155-180	167.5	11	1842.5	308618.75
180-205	192.5	5	962.5	185281.25

$$\sum f_i = 50 \quad \sum f_i x_i = 6525 \quad \sum f_i x_i^2 = 936812.5$$

Sample Variance:

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum f_i x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum f_i x_i)^2}{n} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{49} \left[ 936812.50 - \frac{(6525)^2}{50} \right]$$

$$= 1740.82$$

Sample Standard deviation

$$s = \sqrt{1740.82}$$

$$= 41.72 \text{ hours.}$$

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co-efficient of variation: ~~stand~~

The corresponding relative measure of standard deviation is known as co-efficient of variation.

co-efficient of variation for population:

if  $\mu$  is the mean and  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation of a population data set, then co-efficient of variation denoted by c.v is defined by 
$$c.v = \frac{\sigma}{\mu} \times 100$$

co-efficient of variation for a sample:

if  $\bar{x}$  is the sample mean and  $s$  is the standard deviation of sample data set, the co-efficient of variation is defined by

$$c.v = \frac{s}{\bar{x}} \times 100$$

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\* Examples: lives of two models of refrigerators in a recent survey were found as follows

life (No of years)	Model A	Model B
0-2	5	2
2-4	16	7
4-6	13	12
6-8	<del>17</del> 8	19
8-10	5	9
10-12	4	1

- i) what is the average life of each model of these refrigerators?
- ii) which of the two models shows more uniformity?
- iii) A person wants to buy a new refrigerator; which one will prefer?

soln:

class interval	mid-points $x_i$	Model A			Model B		
		$f$	$f x_i$	$f x_i^2$	$f$	$f x_i$	$f x_i^2$
0-2	1	5	5	5	2	2	2
2-4	3	16	48	144	21	63	189
4-6	5	13	65	325	12	60	300
6-8	7	7	49	343	19	133	931
8-10	9	5	45	405	9	81	729
10-12	11	4	44	484	11	121	1331
		50	256	1706	50	308	2146

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computations of mean, Variance, and co-efficient of variation of lifetimes for two models are shown below.

Model - A	Model - B
Arithmetic mean, $\bar{X}_A = \frac{256}{50} = 5.12 \text{ years}$	$\bar{X}_B = \frac{304}{50} = 6.08 \text{ years}$
$s_A^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum f_i x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum f_i x_i)^2}{n} \right]$ $= \frac{1}{49} \left[ 1706 - \frac{256^2}{50} \right]$ $= 8.07$	$s_B^2 = \frac{1}{49} \left[ 2146 - \frac{308^2}{50} \right]$ $= 5.08$
$s_A = \sqrt{8.07}$ $= 2.84 \text{ years}$	$s_B = \sqrt{5.08}$ $= 2.25 \text{ year}$
$e.v(A) = \frac{2.84}{5.12} \times 100$ $= 55.47\%$	$e.v(B) = \frac{2.25}{6.08} \times 100$ $= 36.53\%$

- i) Average lifetimes of refrigerator of model A is 5.12 years while of model B is 6.08 years
- ii) Since  $e.v(B) < e.v(A)$ , hence refrigerators of model B shows greater uniformity.
- iii) Due to greater uniformity in lifetime, the person will prefer model B.



Example:

Two cricketers scored the following runs in randomly selected 10 one-day matches.

Player A	42	32	40	45	17	83	59	64	76	72
Player B	35	3	28	70	31	14	82	0	59	108

- who is the better run-getter?
- who " " consistent player?
- A prize is given to the best player, who will get the prize.

Soln: In order to find out who is better run-getter, we will compare the average runs scored and to find out who is more consistent, we will compare the co-efficient of variation.

calculation of mean and co-efficient of variation

Cricketer A: $x_i$	$x_i^2$	Cricketer B: $x_i$	$x_i^2$
42	1764	35	1225
32	1024	3	9
40	1600	28	784
45	2025	70	4900
17	289	31	961
83	6889	14	196
59	3481	82	6724
64	4096	0	0
76	5776	59	3481
72	5184	108	11664
530	32127	490	37744

Cricketer A

$$\bar{x}_A = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \frac{530}{10} = 53$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_A^2 &= \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum x_i)^2}{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{10-1} \left[ 32127 - \frac{530^2}{10} \right] \\ &= 448.56 \end{aligned}$$

$$s_A = 21.18$$

$$\begin{aligned} C.V_A &= \frac{s_A}{\bar{x}_A} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{21.18}{53} \times 100 \\ &= 39.96\% \end{aligned}$$

Cricketer B

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x}_B &= \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \frac{490}{10} \\ &= 49 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s_B^2 &= \frac{1}{n-1} \left[ \sum x_i^2 - \frac{(\sum x_i)^2}{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \left[ 37744 - \frac{490^2}{10} \right] \\ &= 1526 \end{aligned}$$

$$s_B = 39.06$$

$$\begin{aligned} C.V(B) &= \frac{s_B}{\bar{x}_B} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{39.06}{49} \times 100 \\ &= 79.71\% \end{aligned}$$

- (i) Since the average score for the player A is more than player B. So A is a better run getter.
- (ii) The coefficient of variation of run for player A is less than player B; hence player A is more consistent.
- (iii) The player A will get the prize.