



**IIT Madras**  
ONLINE DEGREE

# Statistics for Data Science -1

## Introduction and types of data

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# Learning objectives

1. What is statistics?
  - ▶ Descriptive statistics, inferential statistics.
  - ▶ Distinguish between a sample and a population.
2. Understand how data are collected.
  - ▶ Identify variables and cases (observations) in a data set
3. Types of data-
  - ▶ classify data as categorical(qualitative) or numerical(quantitative) data.
  - ▶ Understand cross-sectional versus time-series data.
  - ▶ Measurement scales
4. Creating data sets; Downloading and manipulating data sets; working on subsets of data.
5. Framing questions that can be answered from data.

## Introduction

- Basic definitions

- Population and sample

## Understanding data

## Classification of data

- Categorical and numerical

- Cross-sectional versus time-series data

- Scales of measurement

# Scales of measurement

- Data collection requires one of the following scales of measurement: nominal, ordinal, interval, or ratio.

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- ▶ **Nominal: name categories without implying order**

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  - ▶ In addition, the data can be ranked, or ordered, with respect to the service quality.

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- ▶ **Ordinal – name categories that can be ordered**

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▶ **Interval:**

numerical values that can be added/subtracted (no absolute zero)

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- ▶ Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit or degrees centigrade is an interval variable. No absolute zero.

	Celsius	Fahrenheit
Freezing point	0	32
Boiling point	100	212

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- ▶ **Ratio: numerical values that can be added, subtracted, multiplied or divided (makes ratio comparisons possible)**

## Summary

True zero exists-ratios possible

**Ratio Scale**

*Age, height, weight, marks etc.*

Numerical Data

No absolute zero.  
Difference exists

**Interval Scale**

*Temperature, GPA etc.*

Named + ordered categories

**Ordinal Scale**

*Ranking, rating etc.*

Categorical Data

Named categories

**Nominal Scale**

*Name, Blood group etc.*