Summary Statistics: Takeaways 🖻

by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020

Syntax

• Returning a count of rows in a table:

```
SELECT COUNT(Major)

FROM recent_grads
```

• Returning the minimum value of a table:

```
SELECT MIN(ShareWomen)
FROM recent_grads;
```

• Computing the sum of a column as an integer:

```
SELECT SUM(Total)
FROM recent_grads
```

• Computing the sum of a column as a float value:

```
FROM recent_grads
```

• Specifying a name for a column in the results:

```
SELECT COUNT(*) AS 'Total Majors' -- also works without AS
FROM recent grads
```

• Returning the unique values of a column:

```
SELECT DISTINCT Major_category
FROM recent_grads
```

• Performing an arithmetic operation on a table:

```
SELECT P75th - P25th quartile_spread

FROM recent_grads
```

Concepts

- Summary statistics are used to summarize a set of observations.
- Everything is considered a table in SQL. One advantage of this simplification is that it's a common and visual representation that makes SQL approachable for a much wider audience.
- Datasets and calculations that aren't well suited for a table representation must be converted to be used in a SQL database environment.
- Aggregate functions are applied over columns of values and return a single value.
- The **COUNT** clause can be used on any column while aggregate functions can only be used on numeric columns.
- SQL supports that standard arithmetic operators (+ , , * , /).
- Arithmetic between two floats returns a float.
- Arithmetic between a float and an integer returns a float.
- Arithmetic between two integers returns an integer.
- Most operators can be used with a mixture of constant values and columns.

Resources

- Aggregate Functions
- Summary Statistics
- NULL Handling in SQLite Versus Other Database Engines
- SQLite Math Functions



Takeaways by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020