

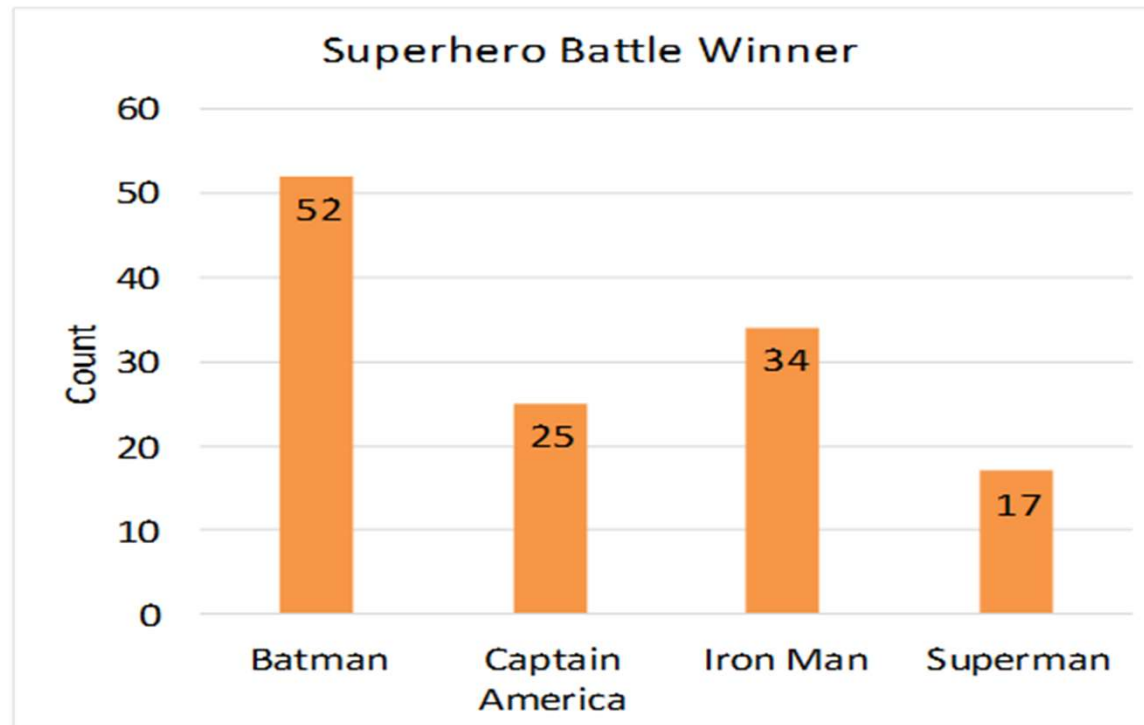
Describing Data

Introduction

- Descriptive Statistics allow to characterize data based on its properties.
- There are four major types of descriptive statistics:
 - Measures of Frequency
 - Measures of Central Tendency
 - Measures of Dispersion or Variation
 - Measures of Position

Measures of Frequency

- Count, Percent, Frequency
- Shows how often something occurs
- Use this when you want to show how often a response is given



Measures of Central Tendency

- Mean, Median, and Mode
- Locates the distribution by various points
- Use this when you want to show how an average or most commonly indicated response

Measures of Dispersion or Variation

- Describe how similar or varied the set of observed values are.
- Include the
 - range,
 - quartiles and the interquartile range,
 - variance and
 - standard deviation
- Can be measured for quantitative data.
- Use this when
 - You want to show how "spread out" the data are.
- It is helpful to know when your data are so spread out that it affects the mean.

Why do we measure spread?

- Summarizing the dataset can help us understand the data.
- The mode, median, and mean summarize the data into a single value. This is only part of the 'picture' that summarizes a dataset.
- Measures of spread summarize the data in a way that shows how scattered the values are and how much they differ from the mean value.

Variance and Standard Deviation

- Variance: The average of the squared differences from the mean.
- Standard Deviation: The square root of the variance and is used to measure distance from the mean.

Example

Measures of Dispersion / Spread

Firm 1

\$34,500
\$30,700
\$32,900
\$36,000
\$34,100
\$33,800
\$32,500

Mean = \$33,500

Median = \$33,800

Firm 2

\$35,800
\$25,500
\$31,600
\$41,700
\$35,300
\$33,800
\$30,800

Mean = \$33,500

Median = \$33,800

Mean/Median is same for both.
How to define that both datasets are different?

Example

Measures of Dispersion / Spread



Range

- Difference between Maximum and Minimum
- $\text{Range} = \text{Max Value} - \text{Min Values}$
- Range of salaries in firm 1
- $= 36000 - 30700 = 5300$
- Range of salaries in firm 2
- $= 41700 - 25500 = 16200$

