

Biostatistics Assignment 1

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The standard deviation is represented in the same units as the mean, however the variance is given in squared units; yet, for the purpose of analyzing a distribution, both can be used as long as you are clear about which one you are using. Standard deviation is the square root of the variance and is expressed in the same units as the data set. Variance can be expressed in squared units or as a percentage. You can calculate the variance by taking the difference between each point and the mean. Then square and average the results.

Sample Standard Deviation Formula $S = \sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 / n - 1}$

Sample Variance: $S^2 = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 / n - 1$