

Data Modeling with Linear Functions.

Employee Turnover The percentage of employees who cease their employment during a year is referred to as employee turnover, and it is a serious issue for businesses. The following table shows the cost, in millions of dollars, to Walmart for a given employee turnover percentage in a year.¹³

$E = \text{employee turnover}$	10	20	30	40
$C = \text{cost}$	250	400	550	700

percentages (\times)
millions (-1)

E	C	Change in E	Change in C	Rate of change in C
10	250			
20	400	$20 - 10 = 10$	$400 - 250 = 150$	$\frac{\text{change in } C}{\text{change in } E} = \frac{150}{10} = 15$
30	550	$30 - 20 = 10$	$550 - 400 = 150$	$150/10 = 15$
40	700	$40 - 30 = 10$	$700 - 550 = 150$	$150/10 = 15$
0	?			

Rate of change in a constant, always 15 ← the slope

⇒ C is a linear function of E

we can use a linear function to model the relation between C and E .

Let's write C as the function of E

$$C = 15 \cdot E + b$$

where b is the intercept.

The intercept is the value of C when $E = 0$

We know that when $E = 10$, $C = 250$

Plus $E = 10$ and $C = 250$ into

$$C = 15E + b$$

$$250 = 15 \cdot 10 + b$$

$$\Rightarrow 250 = 150 + b \Rightarrow b = 250 - 150 = 100$$

The linear model is

$$C = 15E + 100$$

Model

$E = \text{employee turnover}$	10	20	30	40
$C = \text{cost}$	250	400	550	700

percent

Data

millions

$$\begin{aligned} E = 20 \Rightarrow C &= 15 \cdot 20 + 100 \\ &= 300 + 100 = 400 \end{aligned}$$

If the turnover is $\underline{\underline{70\%}}$ what is the cost

$$\begin{aligned} C &= 15 \cdot 70 + 100 = 1050 + 100 \\ &= \underline{\underline{1150}} \end{aligned}$$

Tuition at American Private Universities The following table shows the average yearly tuition and required fees, in dollars, charged by four-year American private nonprofit universities in the school year ending in the given year.

Date	Average tuition
2012	\$27,870
2013	\$29,004
2014	\$30,138
2015	\$31,272
2016	\$32,406

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← Data

- (a) calculate the rate of changes in Average tuition
- (b) write a linear function to model the data
- (c) Use the linear model to estimate / calculate the tuition of 2024