

## 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.<sup>13</sup>

$E$ = employee turnover	10	20	30	40
$C$ = cost	250	400	550	700

percentage (%)

millions (-)

$E$	$C$	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	$30 - 20 = 10$	$550 - 400 = 150$	$\frac{150}{10} = 15$
40	700	$40 - 30 = 10$	$700 - 550 = 150$	$\frac{150}{10} = 15$
?	?			

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  $E = 10$ ,  $C = 250$

Plug  $E = 10$  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

$$C = 15E + 100 \quad \leftarrow \text{Model}$$

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

← percentage

← millions

← Data

$$E = 20 \Rightarrow C = 15 \cdot 20 + 100 \\ = 300 + 100 = 400$$

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

$$C = 15 \cdot 70 + 100 = 1050 + 100 \\ = \underline{1150}$$

**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

← Data

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