Andrew Gard - equitable.equations@gmail.com

Percentiles and Quantiles in R

Percentiles are an intuitive way of measuring relative position within a data set. The pth **percentile** of a set is a value that is greater than $p\%$ of the data.

Percentiles are an intuitive way of measuring relative position within a data set. The pth **percentile** of a set is a value that is greater than $p\%$ of the data.

The 50th percentile of a data set is the median, the 25th percentile is the first quartile, and the 75th percentile is the third quartile.

Percentiles are an intuitive way of measuring relative position within a data set. The pth **percentile** of a set is a value that is greater than $p\%$ of the data.

The 50th percentile of a data set is the median, the 25th percentile is the first quartile, and the 75th percentile is the third quartile.

Warning! Except in simple, clear-cut cases like these, there is no single universally-accepted way of computing percentiles. Different books (and professors) use different formulas.

Percentiles are an intuitive way of measuring relative position within a data set. The pth **percentile** of a set is a value that is greater than $p\%$ of the data.

The 50th percentile of a data set is the median, the 25th percentile is the first quartile, and the 75th percentile is the third quartile.

Warning! Except in simple, clear-cut cases like these, there is no single universally-accepted way of computing percentiles. Different books (and professors) use different formulas.

Quantiles are essentially the same as percentiles. Most authors write quantiles as decimals and percentiles as percentages (so $p = 100q$). Also, percentiles are always integers, while quantiles can potentially have many decimal places.