

02-09-25 Mean, Median, Mode

C&L Math Tutoring

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Measures of Central Tendency

Mean, median, and mode are all **measures of central tendency**. They each tell you something important about the data that you're analyzing.

Mean

The **mean**, also called the average, is calculated by [adding all terms together and then dividing by the total number of terms](#).

The mean would be a better measure of central tendency when the data is symmetrical.

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\text{sum of all terms}}{\text{number of terms}}$$

Median

The **median** is the [middle number in a set of terms when they are put in order](#). If there are 2 middle numbers (even number of terms), you would add them together and divide by 2.

The median would be a better measure of central tendency when the data is skewed left/right (not symmetrical).

Mode

The **mode** is the [number that appears the most in the set](#).

Example: Anna takes 3 tests. She gets 100%, 8%, and 55%. Find the mean, median, and mode of her scores.

Mean: $\frac{163}{3} \approx 54.33$

Median: 55%

Mode: n/a

