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**SECI 2143 / SCSI 2143**  
**PROBABILITY & STATISTICAL**  
**DATA ANALYSIS**

## **CHAPTER 1**

# **Introduction to Statistics**

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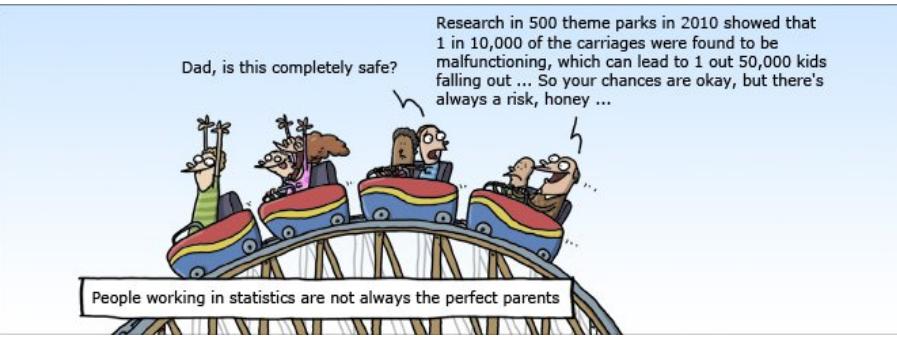
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## **Introduction to Statistics**

- Statistics?

Dad, is this completely safe?

Research in 500 theme parks in 2010 showed that 1 in 10,000 of the carriages were found to be malfunctioning, which can lead to 1 out 50,000 kids falling out ... So your chances are okay, but there's always a risk, honey ...



People working in statistics are not always the perfect parents

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# Introduction to Statistics

Number of fatal road accidents up in 2016, more than 7,000 lives lost

KUALA LUMPUR: In 2016, total of 7,152 people died in road accidents in Malaysia, an alarming jump from 6,706 deaths in the year before, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai announced today.

"Despite the number of campaigns and initiatives conducted by the government, the painful reality is that the accident rate keeps increasing every year."

"It's too late when tragic accidents like the bus crash in Pagoh, which claimed 14 lives, occur. There is no use accusing anyone and finger pointing then," he said at the launch of the Chinese New Year Road Safety campaign in Sunway Pyramid here.

He added that of that number, 62.7 per cent of the deaths involved motorcyclists in 2016.

"In 2016, 6,570 fatal road accidents involving were recorded while in 2015 there were 6,193 of such cases.

Liow said a total of 521,466 accidents were recorded in 2016, an increase from 489,606 in 2015.

A total of 80.6 per cent of the road accidents are caused by human error.

"I hope that those on the road this festive season do not speed to their destination (just) to arrive early and gamble their lives or that of their loved ones. It's okay to be late as long as you are safe," he advised.

The joint campaign involving the police and other transport authorities like the Road Transport Department will begin on Jan 21 and end on Feb 5.

He also said that there would be increased patrols by authorities at 102 road accident hotspots nationwide.

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# Introduction to Statistics

**MARRIAGE & DIVORCE MALAYSIA, 2018**

Department of Statistics Malaysia  
<https://www.dosm.gov.my>

NUMBER OF MARRIAGE  
MARRIAGE CRUDE RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Year	Number of Marriage	MARRIAGE CRUDE RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
2016	200,274	6.3
2017	190,532	5.9
2018	190,532	5.9

NUMBER OF DIVORCE  
DIVORCE CRUDE RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION

Year	Number of Divorce	DIVORCE CRUDE RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
2016	51,642	1.6
2017	49,965	1.6
2018	49,965	1.6

**THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF MARRIAGES AT AGE 25-29 YEARS, 2017**

**MORE DIVORCEES AT AGE 30-34 YEARS, 2017**

**GENERAL MARRIAGE RATE**

GROOM: 47.2  
PER 1,000 UNMARRIED MALES AGED 18 AND OVER

BRIDE: 44.0  
PER 1,000 UNMARRIED FEMALES AGED 18 AND OVER

**GENERAL DIVORCERATE**

MALE: 6.5  
PER 1,000 MARRIED MALES AGED 18 AND OVER

FEMALE: 7.0  
PER 1,000 MARRIED FEMALES AGED 18 AND OVER

**MEDIAN AGE, 2017**

MARRIAGE: 29  
AGE: 26

DIVORCE: 37  
AGE: 34

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# Introduction to Statistics

**facebook Community Update** 4. 27. 2016

**1.65 Billion** on Facebook each month    **1 Billion** on WhatsApp each month    **900 Million** on Messenger each month    **400 Million** on Instagram each month

**LIVE** Live Video Launched worldwide    **Connectivity** 25 million connected via Internet.org    **Artificial Intelligence** Access for the blind and visually impaired    **Oculus Rift** Shipped with 50+ games and apps

**Introduced Reactions**

Like Love Haha Wow Sad Angry

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# Introduction to Statistics

- Even though you may not have realized it, you probably have made some statistical statements in your everyday conversation or thinking.
- Statements like "I sleep for about eight hours per night on average" and "You are more likely to pass the exam if you start preparing earlier" are actually statistical in nature.

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## Introduction to Statistics

- We encounter data and conclusions based on data every day.
- Statistics is the scientific discipline that provides methods to help us make sense of data.
- Statistical methods are used in business, medicine, agriculture, social sciences, natural sciences, and applied sciences, such as engineering.
- The field of statistics teaches us how to make intelligent judgments and informed decisions in the presence of uncertainty and variation.



## Introduction to Statistics

- Statistics is the scientific application of mathematical principles to the collection, analysis, and presentation of numerical data.
- Statistics is a discipline which is concerned with:
  - designing experiments and other data collection,
  - summarizing information to aid understanding,
  - drawing conclusions from data, and
  - estimating the present or predicting the future.
- There are 2 main branches of statistics:
  - Descriptive
  - Inferential

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# Introduction to Statistics

```

graph TD
    Statistics[Statistics] --> Descriptive[Descriptive Statistics]
    Statistics --> Inferential[Inferential Statistics]
    
```

**Statistics**

**Descriptive Statistics**

Presenting, organizing and summarizing data

**Inferential Statistics**

Drawing conclusions about a population based on data observed in a sample

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# Introduction to Statistics

- **Descriptive statistics** are used to describe the basic features of the data gathered from an experimental study in various ways.
- The techniques are commonly classified as:
  - Graphical description in which we use graphs to summarize data.
  - Tabular description in which we use tables to summarize data.
  - Parametric description in which we estimate the values of certain parameters which we assume to complete the description of the set of data.

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# Descriptive Statistics

Graphical description

Example:  
 Graph  
 Bar chart  
 Pie chart



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# Descriptive Statistics

Tabular description

Example:  
 Frequency Table

Score	Frequency
0	2
1	5
2	8
3	6
4	4
5	3

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# Descriptive Statistics

## Parametric description

Mean	$\mu$
Median	$\mu$
Mode	$\mu$
Range	Infinity in both directions.
Standard Deviation	$\sigma$
Skewness	0
Kurtosis	3

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## Example

	A	B	C	D
1	Respondent #	Age	Gender	Favorite Ice Cream Flavor
2	1	36 m		Vanilla
3	2	22 f		Chocolate
4	3	61 m		Strawberry
5	4	88 m		Other
6	5	31 m		N/A
7	6	53 m		N/A
8	7	30 f		Chocolate
9	8	64 f		Chocolate
10	9	18 m		Vanilla
11	10	16 f		Vanilla
12	11	83 m		Strawberry
13	12	16 f		Strawberry
14	13	94 m		Strawberry
15	14	55 m		Vanilla
16	15	42 f		Chocolate
17	16	18 f		Vanilla
18	17	21 f		Vanilla

**Raw Data**

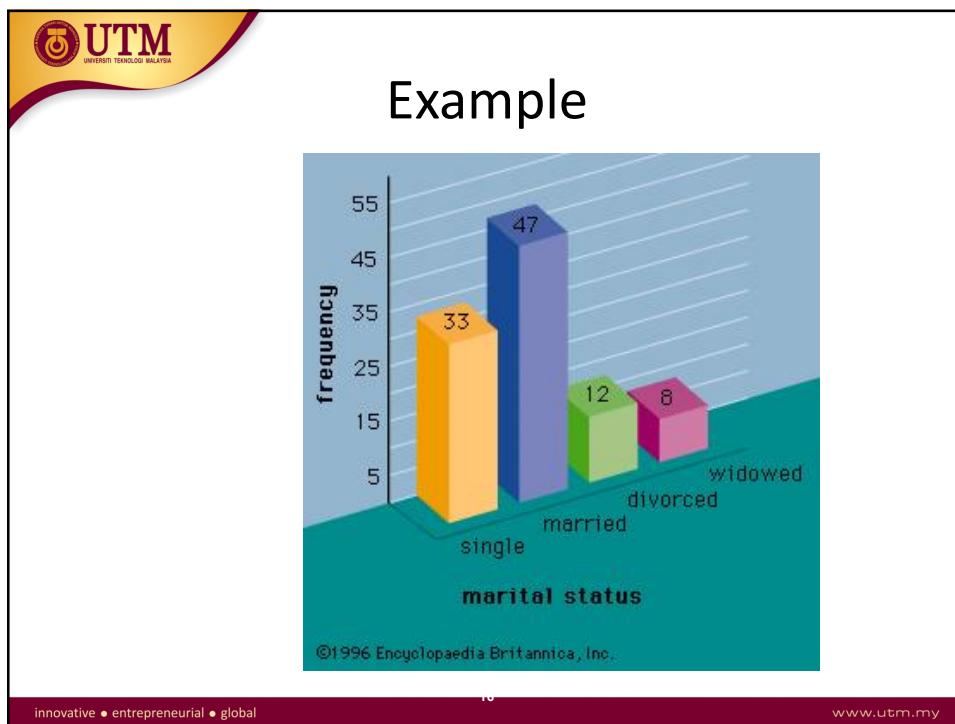
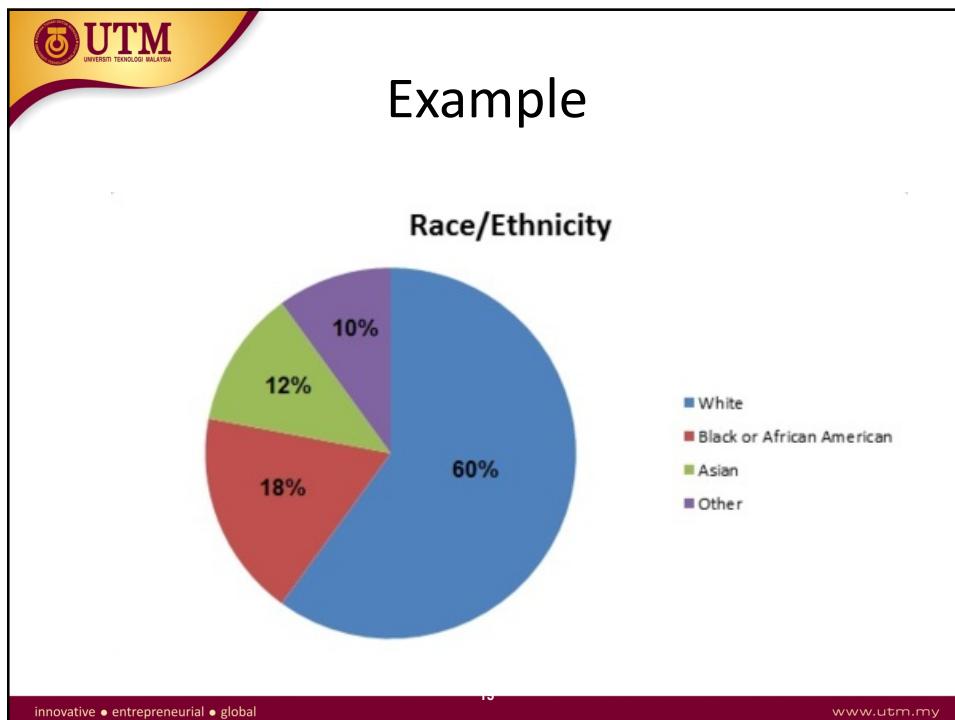
**Age**

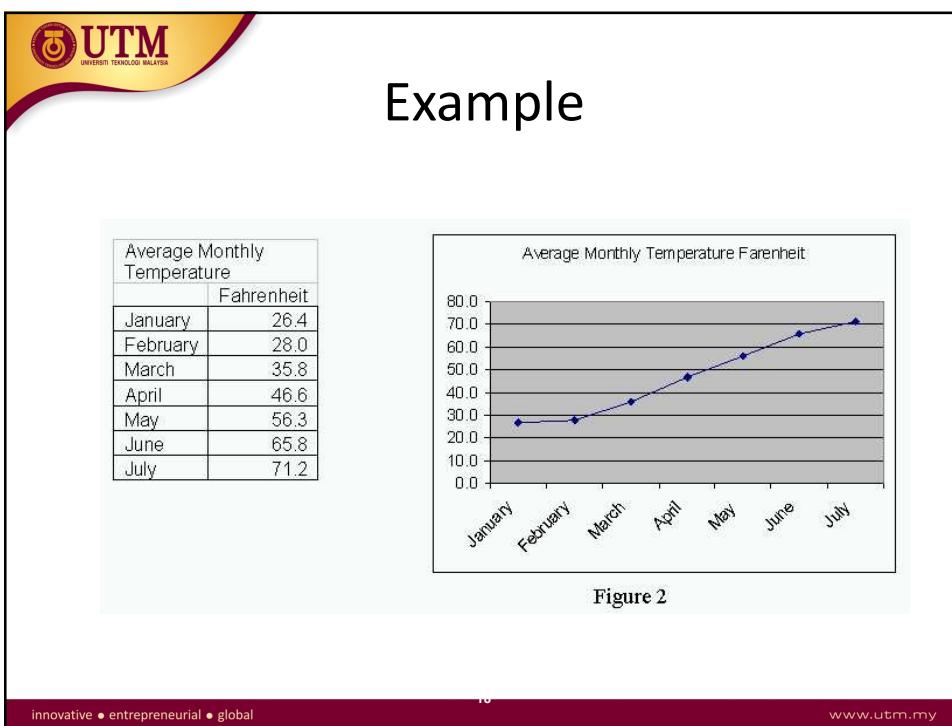
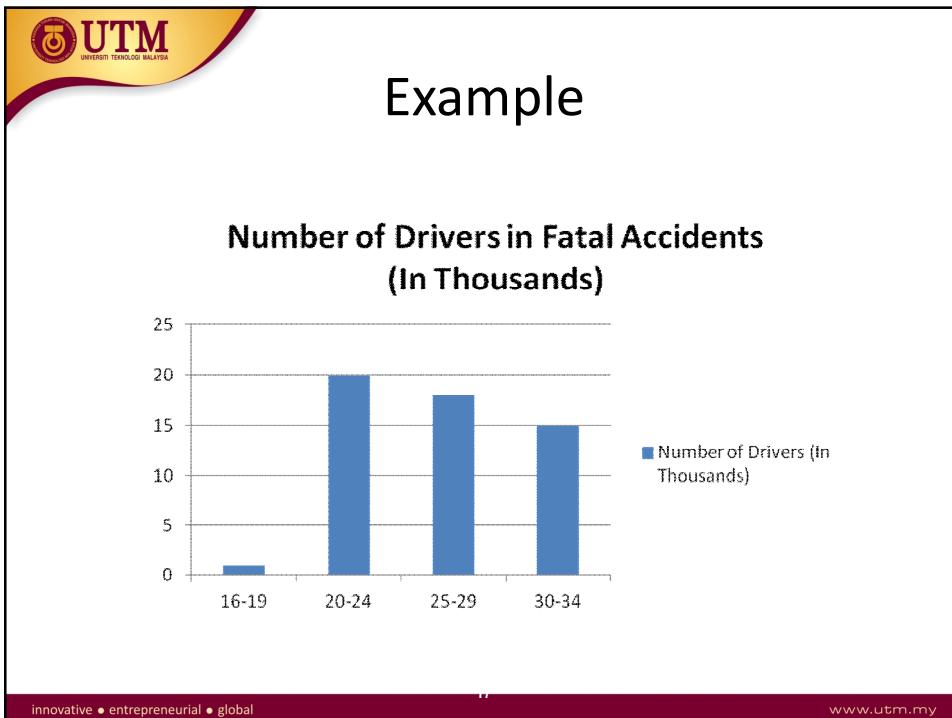
Mean	42.6
Standard Dev.	21.9

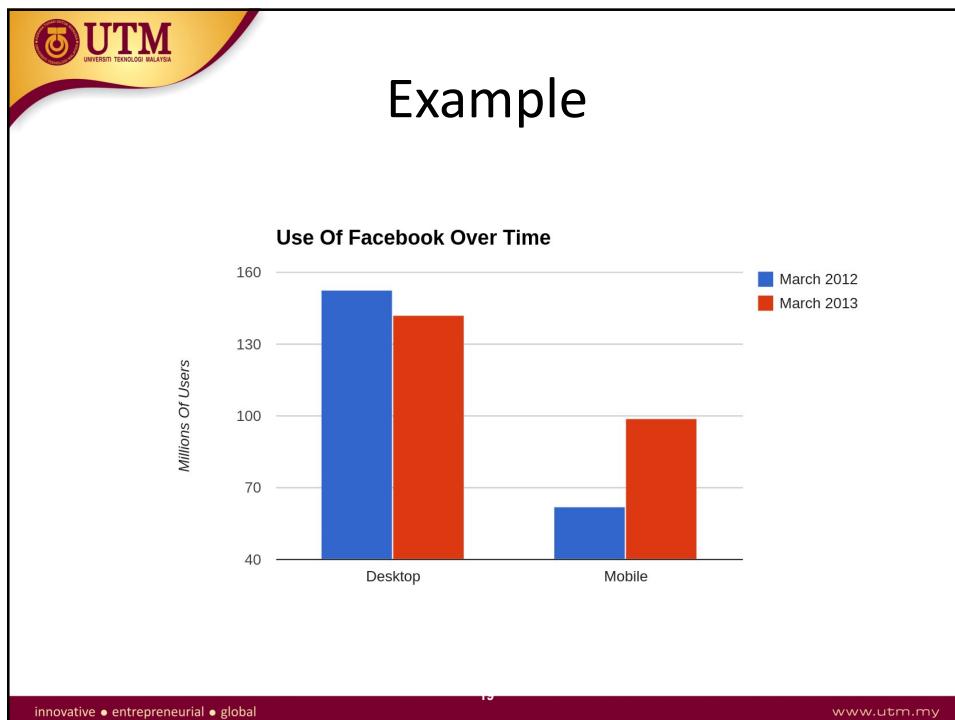
**Descriptive Statistics**

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# Example

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
5	Sample 1	Sample 2		Sample 1		Sample 2	
6	19	12					
7	41	27	Mean	30.46154	Mean	30.61538	
8	29	18	Standard Error	4.673459	Standard Error	5.447345	
9	18	23	Median	29	Median	27	
10	8	72	Mode	29	Mode	27	
11	29	27	Standard Deviation	16.8504	Standard Deviation	19.64068	
12	11	27	Sample Variance	283.9359	Sample Variance	385.7564	
13	59	53	Kurtosis	-1.15073	Kurtosis	0.062841	
14	41	3	Skewness	0.265601	Skewness	0.78698	
15	48	45	Range	51	Range	69	
16	53	53	Minimum	8	Minimum	3	
17	29	13	Maximum	59	Maximum	72	
18	11	25	Sum	396	Sum	398	
19			Count	13	Count	13	

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**Example**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>n = 357</b>			
	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Standard deviation</b>
Age (years)	24	71	40.35	8.829
Weight (kg)	50	130	71.43	12.211
Height (cm)	148	184	162.75	5.980
BMI ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^2$ )	17.93	52.07	26.9731	4.43736
Weight of the flap (g)	650	9200	1422.82	573.049
Surgery time (min)	55	240	135.30	41.267

BMI = body mass index; n = number of patients.

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**Example**

	<b>N</b>	<b>Mode</b>	<b>s.d.</b>	<b>Skewness</b>	<b>Kurtosis</b>
<b>Affect</b>	234	4.6	1.32	-0.45	0.17
<b>Cognitive Competence</b>	232	5.33	1.16	-0.19	-0.62
<b>Value</b>	234	4.88	1.12	-0.62	0.25
<b>Difficulty</b>	233	3.4	1.13	-0.13	-0.65
<b>Interest</b>	231	7	1.26	-1.03	1.09
<b>Effort</b>	235	7	0.98	-2.32	7.85

s.d. = standard deviation  
Higher value = more positive attitude

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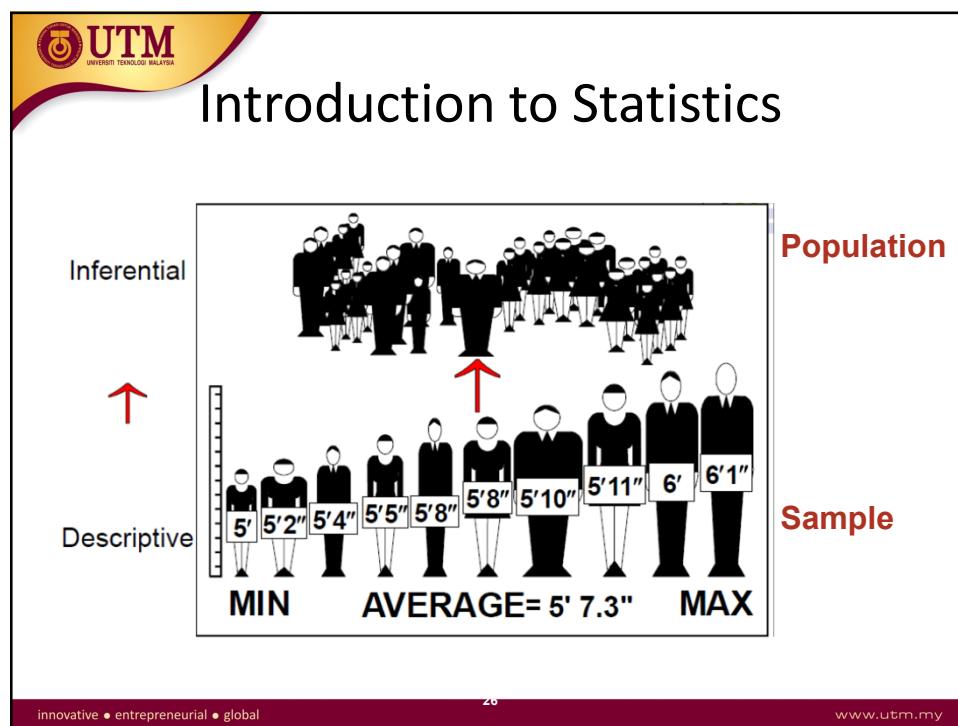
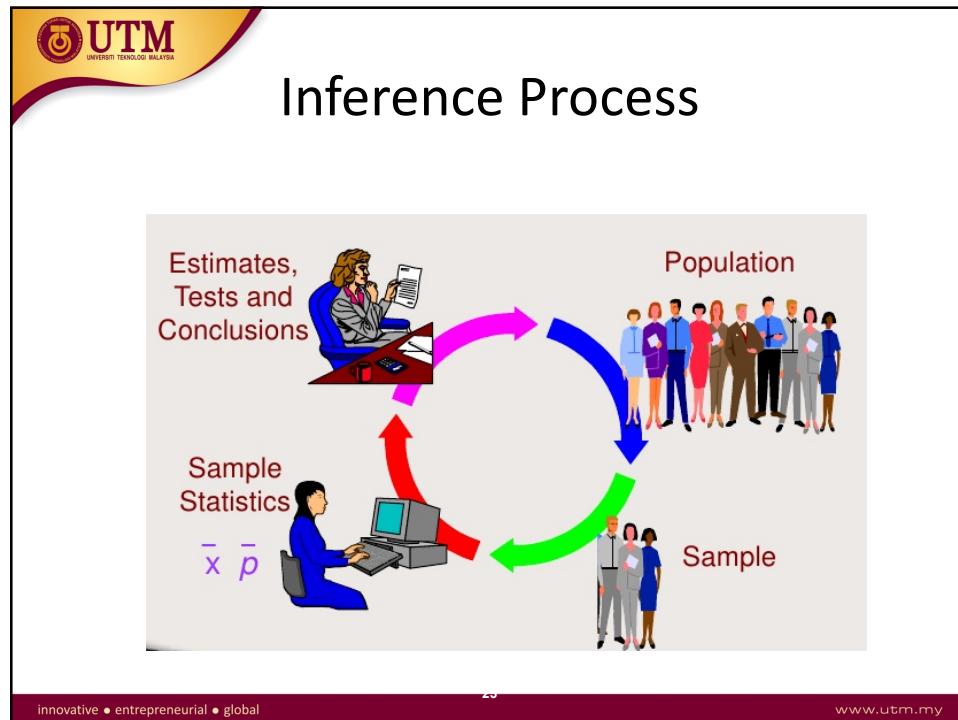
## Example

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev	Min	Max
Loans	0.204E + 07	0.234E + 07	0.000	0.178E + 08
Deposits	0.370E + 07	0.430E + 07	0.000	0.368E + 08
Physical capital	0.488E + 07	0.534E + 07	0.000	0.422E + 08

Source: Banking Supervision Department, Bank of Ghana, and the ARB Apex Bank.

## Introduction to Statistics

- **Inferential statistics** are used to draw inferences about a population from a sample.
- It includes:
  - point estimation
  - interval estimation
  - hypothesis testing (or significance testing)
  - prediction



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## Population & Sample

A cartoon illustration of a student with pink hair and a white vest over a grey skirt, holding a clipboard. A thought bubble above them says: "I can't ask everyone here. I think I'll need to get a sample." In the background, there are several lockers in various colors (red, yellow, blue, orange) lined up along a wall.

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## Population & Sample

- The entire collection of individuals or object about which information is desired is called the **population** of interest.
- A **sample** is a subset of the population, selected for study in some prescribed manner

A diagram showing a large grid of colored dots representing the population. Three smaller boxes labeled "Sample 1", "Sample 2", and "Sample 3" each contain a subset of these dots, connected by lines to the corresponding area in the population grid.

Population

Sample 1

Sample 2

Sample 3

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# Population & Sample

**Population (N)**

**Sample (n)**

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# Population & Sample

**Who do you want to generalize to?**

**The Theoretical Population**

**What population can you get access to?**

**The Study Population**

**How can you get access to them?**

**The Sampling Frame**

**Who Is In your study?**

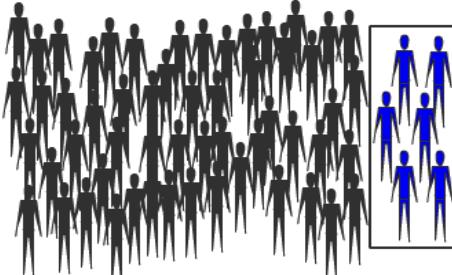
**The Sample**

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## Population & Sample

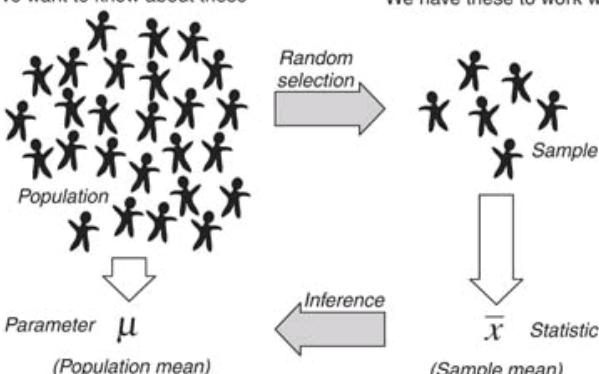


<b>Population</b> quantity (count) = $N$ mean = $\mu$ variance = $\sigma^2$ standard deviation = $\sigma$	<b>Sample</b> quantity (count) = $n$ mean = $\bar{x}$ variance = $s^2$ standard deviation = $s$
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## Population & Sample



We want to know about these  
**Population**

We have these to work with  
**Sample**

*Random selection*

*Inference*

Parameter  $\mu$   
(Population mean)

Statistic  $\bar{x}$   
(Sample mean)

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**Example**

The diagram illustrates the relationship between Variable, Statistic, and Parameter:

- Variable:** A pink sticky note labeled "response" is shown above a row of numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
- Statistic:** A group of 6 people labeled "sample" is shown. To its right, the text "Average = 3.75" is displayed.
- Parameter:** A large group of people labeled "population" is shown. To its right, the text "Average = 3.72" is displayed.

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**Example**

The diagram illustrates sampling from a population to estimate a parameter:

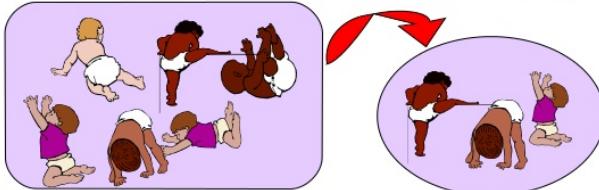
- Population:** A large light blue circle contains the text "Mean,  $\mu$ , is unknown". Inside it, a smaller dark blue circle contains the text "Sample".
- Random Sample:** A green arrow points from the Population circle to a smaller blue circle containing the text "Mean  $X = 50$ ".
- Result:** A cartoon character in a purple suit is shown with a speech bubble containing the text: "I am 95% confident that  $\mu$  is between 40 & 60."

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**Example**

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A new milk formulation designed to improve the psychomotor development of infants was tested on randomly selected infants. Based on the results, it was concluded that the new milk formulation is effective in improving the psychomotor development of infants.

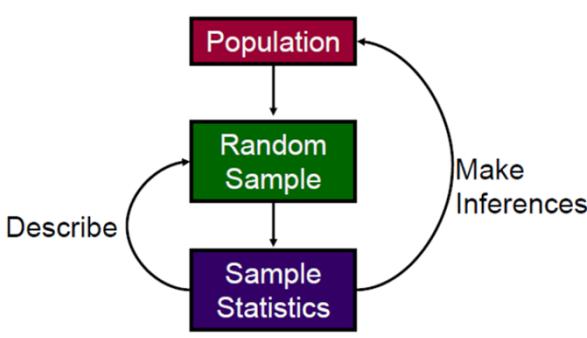


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**Data Analysis Process**



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## Data Analysis Process

- Statistics involves the **collection** and **analysis** of data.
- Both task are critical.
- Raw data without analysis are of little value, and even a sophisticated analysis cannot extract meaningful information from data that were not collected in a sensible way.
- The data analysis process can be viewed as a sequence of steps that lead from planning to data collection to informed conclusions based on the resulting data.



## Data Analysis Process

- 6 steps:
  - Understanding the nature of the problem
  - Deciding what to measure and how to measure it
  - Data collection
  - Data summarization and preliminary analysis
  - Formal data analysis
  - Interpretation of results

## Data Analysis Process

1. Understanding the nature of the problem
  - An understanding of the research problem
  - Know the goal of the research and what questions we hope to answer
  - Have a clear direction before gathering data to lessen the chance of being unable to answer the questions of interest using the data collected.

## Data Analysis Process

2. Deciding what to measure and how to measure it
  - In some cases, the choice is obvious, e.g. in a study of the relationship between the weight of a football player and position played, you would need to collect data on player weight and position.





## Data Analysis Process

- but in other cases the choice of information is not as straightforward, e.g. in a study of the relationship between preferred learning style and intelligence, how would you define learning style and measure it and what measure of intelligence would you use?
- It is important to carefully define the variables to be studied and to develop appropriate methods for determining their values.



## Data Analysis Process

### 3. Data collection

- Decide whether an existing data source is adequate or whether new data must be collected.
- If a decision is made to use existing data (secondary data), it is important to understand how the data were collected and for what purpose.
- If new data are to be collected (primary data), a careful plan must be developed.
- The type of analysis that is appropriate and subsequent conclusions that can be drawn depend on how the data are collected.



## Data Analysis Process

4. Data summarization and preliminary analysis
  - Summarizing the data graphically and numerically
  - This initial analysis provides insight into important characteristics of the data and can provide guidance in selecting appropriate methods for further analysis.



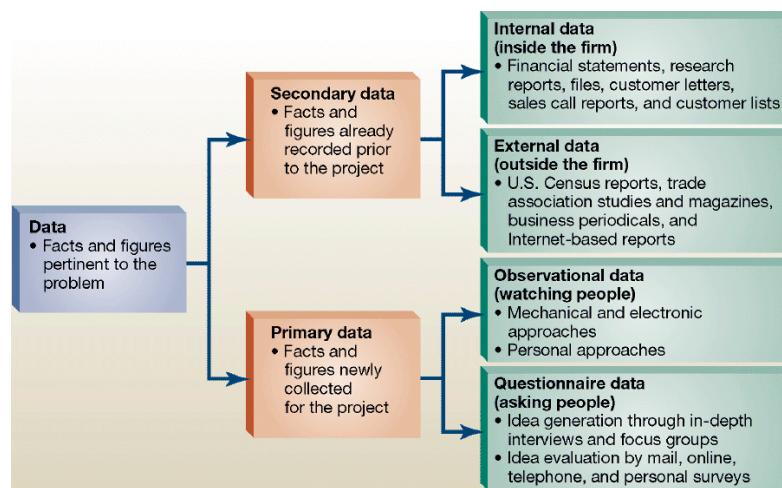
## Data Analysis Process

5. Formal data analysis
  - Select and apply the appropriate inferential statistical methods.
6. Interpretation of results
  - What conclusions can be drawn from the analysis?
  - How do the result of the analysis inform us about the stated research problem or question?
  - How can our results guide future research?

## Primary & Secondary Data

- **Secondary data** is data which has been collected by individuals or agencies for purposes other than those of our particular research study.
  - For example, if a government department has conducted a survey of, say, family food expenditures, then a food manufacturer might use this data in the organization's evaluations of the total potential market for a new product.
- **Primary data**, by contrast, are collected by the investigator conducting the research.

## Primary & Secondary Data



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## Data Sources

Primary data: Experiment

**Experiments**

Primary data: Survey (Questionnaire, Interview)

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## Data Sources

Secondary data: existing databases, record review

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## Qualitative & Quantitative Data

Qualitative Data	Quantitative Data
<p><b>Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Deals with descriptions.</li> <li>■ Data can be observed but not measured.</li> <li>■ Colors, textures, smells, tastes, appearance, beauty, etc.</li> <li>■ Qualitative → Quality</li> </ul>	<p><b>Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Deals with numbers.</li> <li>■ Data which can be measured.</li> <li>■ Length, height, area, volume, weight, speed, time, temperature, humidity, sound levels, cost, members, ages, etc.</li> <li>■ Quantitative → Quantity</li> </ul>

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## Qualitative & Quantitative Data

Example 1:

- *Oil Painting*



<p><b>Qualitative data:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• blue/green color, gold frame</li> <li>• smells old and musty</li> <li>• texture shows brush strokes of oil paint</li> <li>• peaceful scene of the country</li> <li>• masterful brush strokes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quantitative data:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• picture is 10" by 14"</li> <li>• with frame 14" by 18"</li> <li>• weighs 8.5 pounds</li> <li>• surface area of painting is 140 sq. in.</li> <li>• cost \$300</li> </ul>
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**Qualitative & Quantitative Data**

Example 2:

- **Latte**

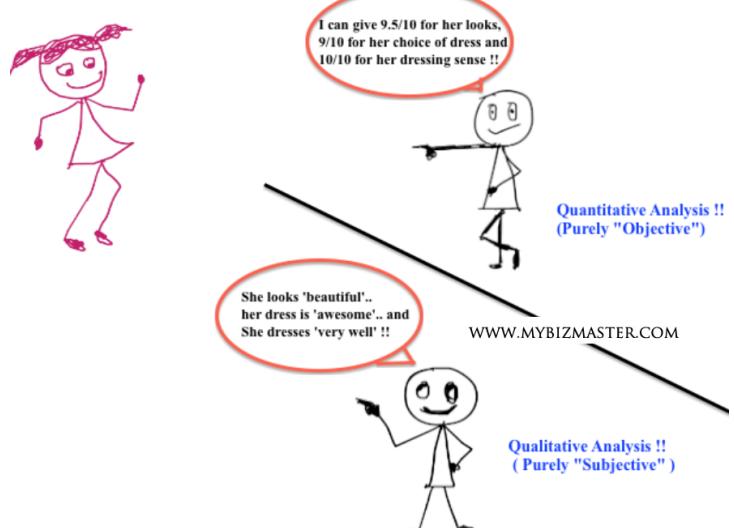


<b>Qualitative data:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• robust aroma</li> <li>• frothy appearance</li> <li>• strong taste</li> <li>• burgundy cup</li> </ul>	<b>Quantitative data:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12 ounces of latte</li> <li>• serving temperature 150° F.</li> <li>• serving cup 7 inches in height</li> <li>• cost \$4.95</li> </ul>
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**Qualitative & Quantitative Data**



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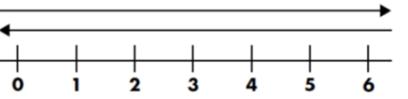
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## Discrete & Continuous Data

**Discrete** data can only take on certain individual values.



**Continuous** data can take on any value in a certain range.



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## Discrete & Continuous Data

**Example 1**

Number of pages in a book is a **discrete variable**.



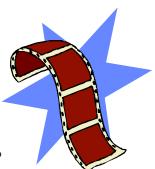
**Example 3**

Shoe size is a **Discrete variable**.  
E.g. 5, 5½, 6, 6½ etc. Not in between.



**Example 2**

Length of a film is a **continuous variable**.



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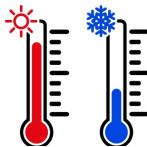
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## Discrete & Continuous Data

**Example 4**

Temperature is a **continuous variable**.



**Example 5**

Number of people in a gathering is a **discrete variable**.



**Example 6**

Time taken to run a race is a **continuous variable**.



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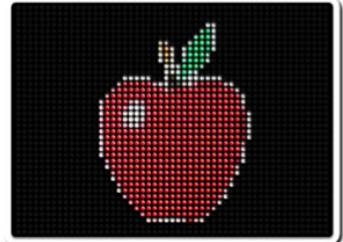
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## Discrete & Continuous Data

### Discrete vs. Continuous



**LITE BRITE**  
discrete



**ETCH-A-SKETCH**  
continuous

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## Discrete & Continuous Data

Group the following as either discrete or continuous data.

Volume of a cereal box  
Speed of a car  
Population of a town  
Length of a crocodile  
Number of matches in a box  
Temperature of oven  
Number of goals in a season  
Shirt collar size

Discrete?  
Continuous?

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## Discrete & Continuous Data

Discrete	Continuous
Population of a town	Volume of a cereal box
Number of matches in a box	Top speed of a car
Shirt collar size	Length of a crocodile
Number of goals in a season	Temperature of oven

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## Discrete & Continuous Data

- How about money? Is it a discrete or continuous data?



Discrete!!  
But why?

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## Levels of Measurement

- There are four levels of data measurement. Ranked from top to bottom in order of complexity and information content these are:
  - Nominal scale
  - Ordinal scale
  - Interval scale
  - Ratio scale

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## Levels of Measurement

- Each level of measurement is characterized by its properties.
  - Nominal measurement has just one property: CLASSIFICATION.
  - Ordinal measurement has two properties: CLASSIFICATION and ORDER.
  - Interval measurement has three properties: CLASSIFICATION, ORDER and EQUAL INTERVALS.
  - Ratio data has four properties: CLASSIFICATION, ORDER, EQUAL INTERVALS and TRUE ZERO.



## Levels of Measurement - Nominal Scales

- **Properties:** classification
- **Observations reflect:** differences in kind
- **Examples:** gender, ethnic background, major in college
- Nominal measurement is simply concerned with sorting observations into categories.
- Because the single property of nominal data is classification it tells us nothing about differences in degree or amount.

## Levels of Measurement

### - Nominal Scales

- Numbers assigned to categories (as identification codes) have no numeric value (we cannot add, subtract, divide or multiply nominal data) and any ordering of categories is arbitrary.
- This is the most primitive form of measurement. The presence vs. absence of something is a form of nominal measurement ("do you smoke?" YES, NO).
- Although it is considered a form of measurement the collection of nominal data is more easily thought of as a sorting method.

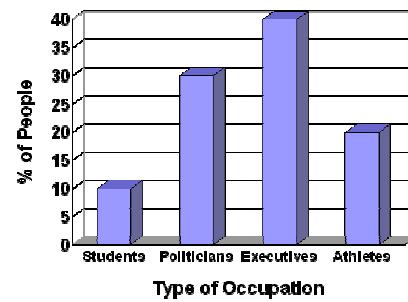
## Levels of Measurement

### - Nominal Scales

#### Example

Nominal Data

<b>Point</b>	airport 	town 	mine 	capital 
<b>Line</b>	river 	road 	boundary 	pipeline 
<b>Area</b>	orchard 	desert 	forest 	water 



**Survey on Why People Travel**

Reason	Percentage
Visit Friends or Relatives	33%
Leisure	30%
Work-related	22.5%
personal business	14.6%

**Students and Sports**

Sport	Number of Students
Tennis	368
Gymnastics	125
Basket ball	452
Base ball	380
Athletics	275
None	377

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**Levels of Measurement**  
- Nominal Scales

**What is your gender?**

M - Male  
 F - Female

**What is your hair color?**

1 - Brown  
 2 - Black  
 3 - Blonde  
 4 - Gray  
 5 - Other

**Where do you live?**

A - North of the equator  
 B - South of the equator  
 C - Neither: In the international space station

Sometimes numbers are used to designate category membership

Example:  
Country of Origin  
1 = United States      3 = Canada  
2 = Mexico              4 = Other

However, in this case, it is important to keep in mind that the numbers do not have intrinsic meaning

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## Levels of Measurement - Ordinal Scales

- **Properties:** classification, order  
**Observations reflect:** differences in degree  
**Examples:** Likert scale categories, rankings, academic letter grade, stages in development
- The distinctive property of ordinal measurement is order.
- On a typical Likert Scale “strongly agree” represents more agreement than “agree”. However, we do not know how much more.



## Levels of Measurement - Ordinal Scales

### Example: The Likert Scale

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
If the price of raw materials fell firms would reduce the price of their food products.	1	2	3	4	5
Without government regulation the firms would exploit the consumer.	1	2	3	4	5
Most food companies are so concerned about making profits they do not care about quality.	1	2	3	4	5
The food industry spends a great deal of money making sure that its manufacturing is hygienic.	1	2	3	4	5
Food companies should charge the same price for their products throughout the country	1	2	3	4	5

## Levels of Measurement - Ordinal Scales

- Similarly if Comedian A is ranked 1<sup>st</sup> for funniness, and Comedian B is ranked 4<sup>th</sup> we have no way of knowing how much funnier Comedian A is than Comedian B.
- We cannot assume that they are four times funnier.
- They may be more or less than four times funnier.
- But we do know that they are more funny than Comedian B, and more funny than the comedians ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places as well.
- We know about order but we have no information about the size of the interval between points.

## Levels of Measurement -Ordinal Scales

### Example

Ordinal Data				
Point	Airports	Oil well production	Populated places	
	✕ international ✕ national ✕ regional	● high ● medium ● low	● large ● medium ● small	
Line	Roads	Drainage	Boundaries	
	expressway major local	river stream creek	international provincial county	
Area	Soil quality	Cost of living	Industrial regions	
	good fair poor	high medium low	major minor	

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## Levels of Measurement - Ordinal Scales

**Example**

**An ordinal data example**

How often do you eat cheese for breakfast?

	Code
always	6
usually	5
often	4
sometimes	3
occasionally	2
rarely	1
never	0

"always" is clearly more frequent than "sometimes" but not necessarily twice as frequent, even though 6 = twice 3

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## Levels of Measurement - Ordinal Scales

**Example**

**Hottest**

**Hotter**

**Hot**

**The " Hot" Scale**

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## Levels of Measurement - Interval Scales

- **Properties:** classification, order, equal intervals  
**Observations reflect:** measurable differences in amount  
**Examples:** IQ scores, degrees of temperature,
- Essentially, interval data are ordinal, but they have an extra property - the ability to meaningfully add and subtract measurements.
- In interval-scaled data, the gaps between the numbers are comparable, unlike with ordinal data.
- Any interval has the same meaning regardless of its location on the scale. "X is five inches longer than Y" has meaning regardless of the values of X and Y.



## Levels of Measurement - Interval Scales

- However, ratios are meaningless on an interval scale because an interval scale has no true zero.
- Temperature scales are an example of this, so are decibel scales.
- Zero degrees Fahrenheit does not mean the total absence of temperature.
- Zero decibels does not mean there is no sound.



## Levels of Measurement - Interval Scales

- Furthermore, if it is 80 degrees outside today and it was only 40 degrees outside yesterday we cannot say that today is twice as hot as yesterday.
- Similarly a sound level of 80 dB is not twice as loud as a sound level of 40 dB.
- In short, if the data can be ordered and the arithmetic difference is meaningful, then the data are at least interval data.



## Levels of Measurement - Ratio Scales

- **Properties:** classification, order, equal intervals, true zero  
**Observations reflect:** measurable differences in total amount  
**Examples:** weight, income, family size, number of cows in a field
- Ratio data are the highest form of data measurement and the form we are most familiar with.
- For ratio data both differences and ratios are interpretable.
- Ratio data have a natural zero.



## Levels of Measurement - Ratio Scales

- Examples of ratio scale data are number of computers you own, weight, height, a bank balance, number of people watching a movie, goals scored by Brazil in the World Cup, etc.
- Ratio data look a lot like interval data.
- However, the zero point has a special meaning in ratio-scaled data: it indicates the absence of whatever property is being measured.



## Levels of Measurement - Ratio Scales

- Ratio data always have the flavor of counting: when you measure the amount of money that you have, you are counting up coins and bills.
- When you are measuring your height, you are counting the number of inches off the ground to the top of your head.
- Both ratio and interval data make use of a wide range of statistical analysis tools.

## Levels of Measurement

	NOMINAL	ORDINAL	INTERVAL	RATIO
Indicates Difference	X	X	X	X
Indicates Difference & Direction		X	X	X
Indicates Amount of Difference			X	X
Absolute Zero				X

OK to compute....	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
frequency distribution.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
median and percentiles.	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
add or subtract.	No	No	Yes	Yes
mean, standard deviation, standard error of the mean.	No	No	Yes	Yes
ratio, or coefficient of variation.	No	No	No	Yes

Level of Measurement	Properties	Examples	Descriptive statistics	Graphs
Nominal / Categorical	Discrete Arbitrary (no order)	Dichotomous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes / No</li> <li>• Gender</li> </ul> Types / Categories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• colour</li> <li>• shape</li> </ul>	Frequencies Percentage Mode	Bar Pie
Ordinal / Rank	Ordered categories Ranks	Ranking of favourites Academic grades	Frequencies Mode Median Percentiles	Bar Pie Stem & leaf
Interval	Equal distances between values Discrete (e.g., Likert scale) Metric (e.g., deg. F) Interval scales >5 can usually be treated as ratio	Discrete <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thoughts, behaviours, feelings, etc. on a Likert scale</li> </ul> Metric <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deg. C or F</li> </ul>	Frequencies (if discrete) Mode (if discrete) Median Mean SD Skewness Kurtosis	Bar (if discrete) Pie (if discrete) Stem & Leaf Boxplot Histogram (if metric)
Ratio	Continuous / Metric / Meaningful 0 allows ratio statements (e.g., A is twice as large as B)	Age Weight VO <sub>2</sub> max Deg. Kelvin	Mean SD Skewness Kurtosis	Histogram Boxplot Stem&Leaf (may need to round leafs)

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## Levels of Measurement

Statistic	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Mode	✓	✓	✓	If meaningful
Median	X	✓	✓	✓
Range, Min. Max	X	✓	✓	✓
Mean	X	X	If metric	✓
SD	X	X	If metric	✓

Graph	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Bar / Pie	✓	✓	If discrete	X
Stem & Leaf	X	✓	✓	✓
Boxplot	X	✓	✓	✓
Histogram	X	X	If metric	✓

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## Levels of Measurement

**Nominal** Attributes are only named; weakest

**Ordinal** Attributes can be ordered

**Interval** Distance is meaningful

**Ratio** Absolute zero

"You can have data without information, but you cannot have information without data." —Daniel K. Moran

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## Example

### Scales to classify different measurements

	Nominal	Ordinal	Interval	Ratio
Sex	x			
Hair colour	x			
Pulse				x
Temp. °C			x	
Team number	x			
Shoe size		x		

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## Exercise

Identify the following as nominal level, ordinal level, interval level, or ratio level data.

1. Flavours of frozen yogurt
2. Amount of money in savings accounts
3. Students classified by their reading ability: Above average, Below average, Normal
4. Letter grades on an English essay
5. Religions
6. Commuting times to work
7. Ages (in years) of art students
8. Ice cream flavour preference
9. Years of important historical events
10. Instructors classified as: Easy, Difficult or Impossible

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