

Glossary

Bar Graph : A series of columns or bars drawn proportional in length to the quantities they represent. They are drawn on a selected scale. They may be drawn either horizontally or vertically.

Central Tendency : The tendency of quantitative data to cluster around some value.

Choropleth Maps : Maps drawn on quantitative areal basis, calculated as average values per unit of area within specific administrative units, e.g. density of population and percentage of urban to total population. Distribution of a given phenomenon is shown by various shades of a colour or intensity.

Class Intervals : The difference between the lower and upper limits of any class of a frequency distribution is known as its class interval.

Correlation Co-efficient : A measure of the degree and direction of relationship between two variables.

Cumulative Frequency : The measurement of distribution of values in the different class intervals expressed as a percentage of the total frequencies either above or below specified value.

Dispersion : The degree of internal variations in the different values of a variable.

Flow Maps : Maps in which the “flow” or movement of people or commodities is represented by ribbon whose thickness is proportional to the quantity of goods or the number of people moving along different routes.

Histogram : A graphical representation of a frequency distribution, such as seasonal frequencies of rainfall.

Mean Deviation : A measure of dispersion derives from the average of deviations from some central value. Such deviations are taken absolutely, i.e., their signs are ignored. The central value is generally mean or median.

Median : It is the value which divides the number of observations in such a way that half the value are less than this value and half of them are more. If the values of a variable are arranged in either ascending or descending order, the median is the middle value.

Mode : The mode is that value of a variable which occurs maximum number of times.

Pie Diagram : A circular diagram in which a circle is divided into sectors for presenting data in percentage.

Standard Deviation : The most commonly used measure of dispersion. The standard deviation is the positive square root of the mean of the squares of deviations from the mean.

Tabulation : The process of putting raw data into a systematically arranged tabular form.

Variable : Any characteristic which varies. A quantitative variable is a characteristic which has different values; the differences of which are quantitatively measurable. Rainfall, for example, is a quantitative variable, because the differences in its different values at different places or at different times are quantitatively measurable. A qualitative variable on the other hand, is the characteristic; the different values of which cannot be measured quantitatively. Sex, for example, is a qualitative variable, it can be either male or female. A qualitative variable is also known as an attribute.