

## Measures of Center in a Distribution

6-A

The **mean** is what we most commonly call the average value. It is defined as follows:

$$\text{mean} = \frac{\text{sum of all values}}{\text{total number of values}}$$

The **median** is the middle value in the sorted data set (or halfway between the two middle values if the number of values is even).

The **mode** is the most common value (or group of values) in a distribution.

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## Middle Value for a Median

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6.72	3.46	3.60	6.44	26.70	
3.46	3.60	6.44	6.72	26.70	(sorted list)
					(odd number of values)
exact middle		↑	median is 6.44		

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## No Middle Value for a Median

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6.72	3.46	3.60	6.44	
3.46	3.60	6.44	6.72	(sorted list)
(even number of values)				
$\frac{3.60 + 6.44}{2}$		median is 5.02		

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## Mode Examples

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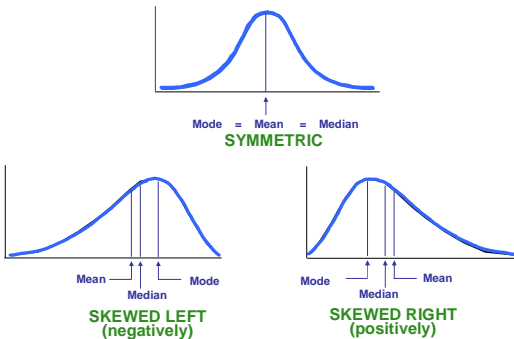
- a. 5 5 5 3 1 5 1 4 3 5 ✓ Mode is 5
- b. 1 2 2 2 3 4 5 6 6 6 7 9 ✓ Bimodal (2 and 6)
- c. 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 10 ✓ No Mode

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## Symmetric and Skewed Distributions

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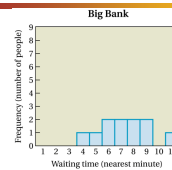


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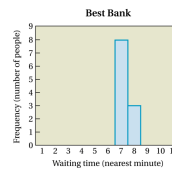
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## Why Variation Matters

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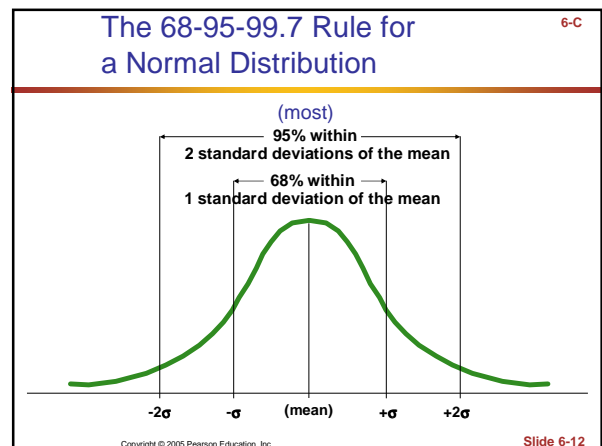
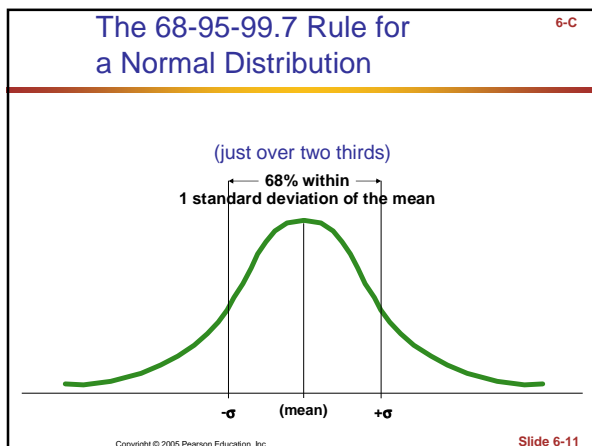
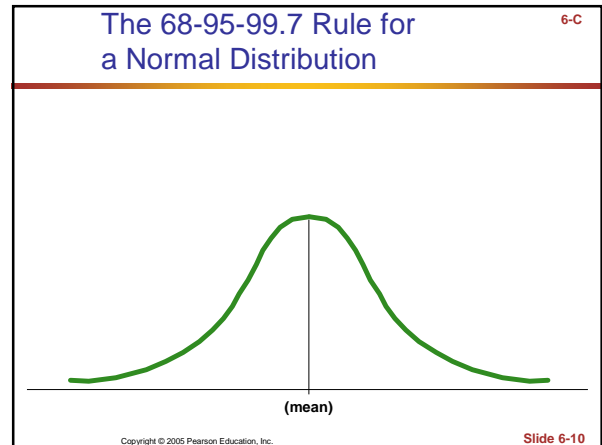
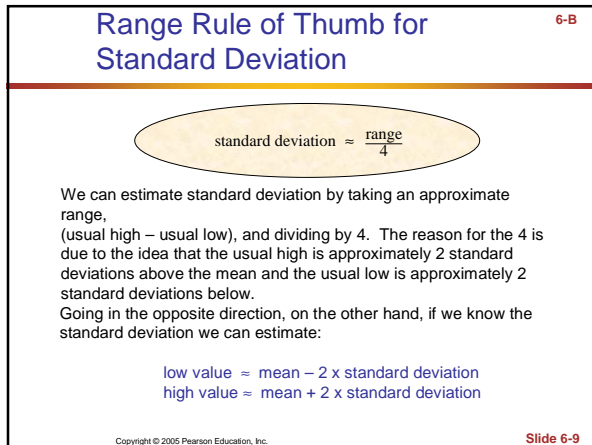
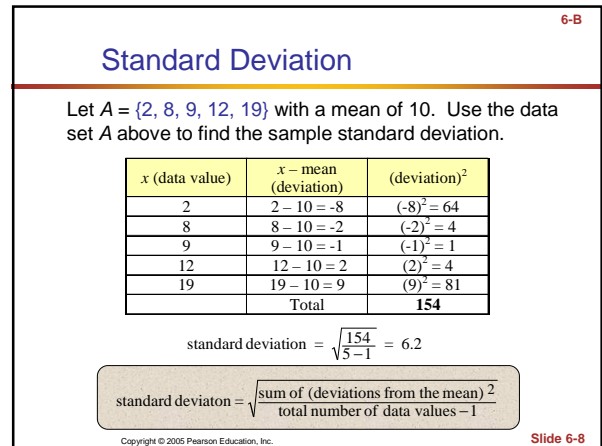
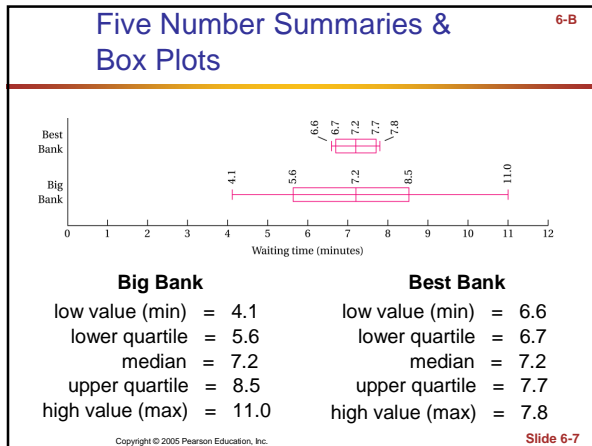
**Big Bank (three line wait times):**  
4.1 5.2 5.6 6.2 6.7 7.2  
7.7 7.7 8.5 9.3 11.0

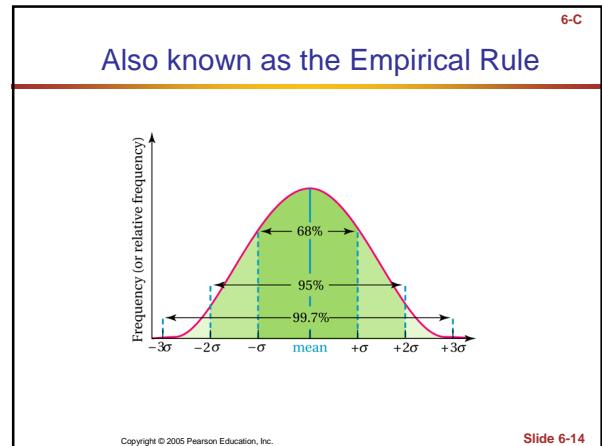
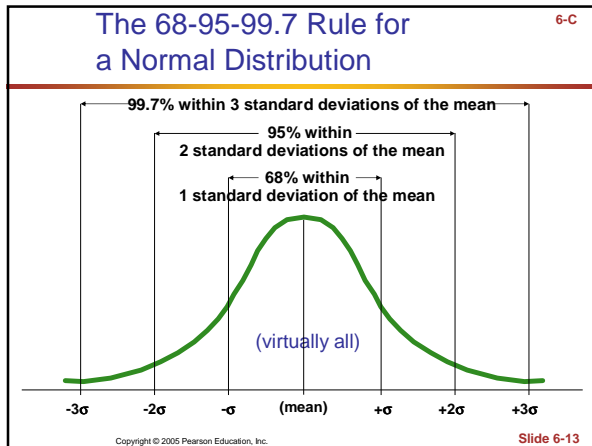


**Best Bank (one line wait times):**  
6.6 6.7 6.7 6.9 7.1 7.2  
7.3 7.4 7.7 7.8 7.8

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### Z-Score Formula

standard score =  $z = \frac{\text{data value} - \text{mean}}{\text{standard deviation}}$

Example:  
If the nationwide ACT mean were 21 with a standard deviation of 4.7, find the z-score for a 30.  
What does this mean?

$$z = \frac{30 - 21}{4.7} = 1.91$$

This means that an ACT score of 30 would be about 1.91 standard deviations above the mean of 21.

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### Standard Scores and Percentiles

TABLE 6.3 Standard Scores and Percentiles

Z-SCORE	PERCENTILE	Z-SCORE	PERCENTILE	Z-SCORE	PERCENTILE		
-3.5	0.02	-1.0	15.87	0.0	50.00	1.1	86.43
-3.0	0.13	-0.95	17.11	0.05	51.99	1.2	88.49
-2.9	0.19	-0.90	18.41	0.10	53.98	1.3	90.32
-2.8	0.26	-0.85	19.77	0.15	55.96	1.4	91.92
-2.7	0.35	-0.80	21.19	0.20	57.93	1.5	93.32
-2.6	0.47	-0.75	22.66	0.25	59.87	1.6	94.52
-2.5	0.62	-0.70	24.20	0.30	61.79	1.7	95.54
-2.4	0.82	-0.65	25.78	0.35	63.68	1.8	96.41
-2.3	1.07	-0.60	27.43	0.40	65.54	1.9	97.13
-2.2	1.39	-0.55	29.12	0.45	67.36	2.0	97.72
-2.1	1.79	-0.50	30.85	0.50	69.15	2.1	98.21
-2.0	2.28	-0.45	32.64	0.55	70.88	2.2	98.61
-1.9	2.87	-0.40	34.46	0.60	72.57	2.3	98.93
-1.8	3.59	-0.35	36.32	0.65	74.22	2.4	99.18
-1.7	4.46	-0.30	38.21	0.70	75.80	2.5	99.38
-1.6	5.48	-0.25	40.13	0.75	77.34	2.6	99.53
-1.5	6.68	-0.20	42.07	0.80	78.81	2.7	99.65
-1.4	8.08	-0.15	44.04	0.85	80.23	2.8	99.74
-1.3	9.68	-0.10	46.02	0.90	81.59	2.9	99.81
-1.2	11.51	-0.05	48.01	0.95	82.89	3.0	99.87
-1.1	13.57	0.0	50.00	1.0	84.13	3.5	99.98

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### Inferential Statistics Definitions

- A set of measurements or observations in a statistical study is said to be **statistically significant** if it is unlikely to have occurred by chance.
- 0.05 (1 out of 20) or 0.01 (1 out of 100) are two very common **levels of significance** that indicate the probability that an observed difference is simply due to chance.
- At the level of 95% confidence we can estimate the **margin of error** that a sample of size  $n$  is different from the actual population measurement (parameter) by calculating:
 
$$\text{margin of error} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$
- The **null hypothesis** claims a specific value for a population parameter null hypothesis: population parameter = claimed value
- The **alternative hypothesis** is the claim that is accepted if the null hypothesis is rejected.

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### Outcomes of a Hypothesis Test

- Rejecting the null hypothesis, in which case we have evidence that supports the alternative hypothesis.
- Not rejecting the null hypothesis, in which case we lack sufficient evidence to support the alternative hypothesis.

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