

Exercise.2

Measures of central tendency – mean median, mode, geometric mean, harmonic mean for raw data

Arithmetic mean or mean

Arithmetic mean or simply the mean of a variable is defined as the sum of the observations divided by the number of observations. If the variable x assumes n values $x_1, x_2 \dots x_n$ then the mean, \bar{x} , is given by

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n}{n}$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

This formula is for the ungrouped or raw data.

Example 1

Calculate the mean for 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

Solution

$$\bar{x} = \frac{2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 10}{5} = \frac{30}{5} = 6$$

Short-Cut method

Under this method an assumed or an arbitrary average (indicated by A) is used as the basis of calculation of deviations from individual values. The formula is

$$\bar{x} = A + \frac{\sum d}{n}$$

Where, A = the assumed mean or any value in x

d = the deviation of each value from the assumed mean

Example 2

A student's marks in 5 subjects are 75, 68, 80, 92, 56. Find his average mark.

Solution

X	d=x-A
75	7
68	0
80	12
92	24
56	-12
Total	31

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{x} &= A + \frac{\sum d}{n} \\ &= 68 + \frac{31}{5} \\ &= 68 + 6.2 \\ &= 74.2\end{aligned}$$

Median

The median is the middle most item that divides the group into two equal parts, one part comprising all values greater, and the other, all values less than median.

Ungrouped or Raw data

Arrange the given values in the ascending or decreasing order. If the number of values is odd, median is the middle value

If the number of values are even, median is the mean of middle two values.

By formula

When n is odd Median = Md = $\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)^{th}$ value

When n is even Average of $\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{n}{2}+1\right)^{th}$ value

Example 3

If the weights of sorghum ear heads are 45, 60, 48, 100, 65 gms. Calculate the median

Solution

Here $n = 5$

First arrange it in ascending order

45, 48, 60, 65, 100

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Median} &= \left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ value} \\ &= \left(\frac{5+1}{2}\right) = 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ value} = 60\end{aligned}$$

Example 4

If the sorghum ear- heads are 5, 48, 60, 65, 65, 100 gms. Calculate the median.

Solution

Here $n = 6$

$$\text{Median} = \text{Average of } \left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \text{ and } \left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right)^{\text{th}} \text{ value}$$

$$\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = \frac{6}{2} = 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ value} = 60 \text{ and } \left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right) = \frac{6}{2} + 1 = 4^{\text{th}} \text{ value} = 65$$

$$\text{Median} = \frac{60 + 65}{2} = 62.5 \text{ g}$$

Mode

The mode refers to that value in a distribution, which occur most frequently.

Computation of the mode

Ungrouped or Raw Data

For ungrouped data or a series of individual observations, mode is often found by mere inspection.

Example 5

Find the mode for the following seed weight

2, 7, 10, 15, 10, 17, 8, 10, 2 gms

Mode = 10

In some cases the mode may be absent while in some cases there may be more than one mode.

Example 6

1. 12, 10, 15, 24, 30 (no mode)

2. 7, 10, 15, 12, 7, 14, 24, 10, 7, 20, 10

the modes are 7 and 10

Geometric mean

The geometric mean of a series containing n observations is the n th root of the product of the values.

If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are observations then

$$G.M = \sqrt[n]{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n}$$

$$= (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^{1/n}$$

$$\text{Log GM} = \frac{1}{n} \log(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} (\log x_1 + \log x_2 + \dots + \log x_n)$$

$$= \frac{\sum \log x_i}{n}$$

$$GM = \text{Antilog } \frac{\sum \log x_i}{n}$$

For grouped data

$$GM = \text{Antilog } \left[\frac{\sum f \log x_i}{N} \right]$$

Example 7

If the weights of sorghum ear heads are 45, 60, 48, 100, 65 gms. Find the Geometric mean for the following data

Weight of ear head x (g)	Log x
45	1.653
60	1.778
48	1.681
100	2
65	1.813
Total	8.925

Solution

Here n = 5

$$GM = \text{Antilog } \frac{\sum \log x_i}{n}$$

$$= \text{Antilog } \frac{8.925}{5}$$

$$= \text{Antilog } 1.785$$

$$= 60.95$$

Harmonic mean (H.M)

Harmonic mean of a set of observations is defined as the reciprocal of the arithmetic average of the reciprocal of the given values. If x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are n observations,

$$H.M = \frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{x_i} \right)}$$

Example 8

From the given data calculate H.M 5, 10, 17, 24, 30

X	$\frac{1}{x}$
5	0.2000
10	0.1000
17	0.0588
24	0.0417
30	0.4338

$$H.M = \frac{5}{0.4338} = 11.526$$

Learning Exercise

The weight of 15 earheads of sorghum are 100, 102, 118, 124, 126, 98, 100, 100, 118, 95, 113, 115, 123, 121, 117. Find

- (i) Average of weight
- (ii) Median
- (iii) Mode
- (iv) Harmonic mean
- (v) Geometric mean