



GLOSSARY OF MODULE 2 TERMS

Chapter 6: Central Tendency

central tendency	trend for scores in a distribution to be concentrated near the middle of the distribution
mode	most frequently occurring score in a frequency distribution
bimodal	a distribution with two modes
multimodal	distribution with two or more modes
median	the score in the middle - at the 50th percentile
percentile	score at or below which a given percentage of the scores lie
mean	the sum of the scores divided by their number; the arithmetic average
deviations	differences of scores from a standard or reference value; usually refers to differences between a score and the mean
unbiased estimate	statistic that shows no systematic tendencies relative to the estimated parameter

Chapter 7: Dispersion & Variability

dispersion	spread of the scores around the mean
range	difference between the highest and lowest scores in a distribution
average deviation	average amount that each score in a distribution deviates from the distribution's mean
absolute value of a score	value of the score without regard to its sign
variance	average of the squared deviations of scores from the mean
standard deviation	square root of the variance
sum of squares	sum of the squared deviation of the scores from the mean
standard score	deviation of a raw score from the mean in standard deviation units; also known as a z score

z score deviation of a raw score from the mean in standard deviation units; also known as a standard score

Chapter 8: Probability

statistical hypotheses predictions about a population based on sample results

gambler's fallacy probability the mistaken belief that the probability of a particular event changes with a long string of the same event
the proportion of times an event would occur if the chances for occurrence were infinite

theoretical probability the way things are supposed to work according to probability theory

real-world probability probability based on experiential data

subjective probability probability based on an individual's experience

Bayesian statistics statistics that uses subjective probability as a starting point for assessing a subsequent probability

addition rule of probability for independent events, the probability of either one event or another is equal to the sum of the probabilities of the individual events

multiplication rule of probability the probability of two or more independent events occurring on separate occasions is the product of their individual probabilities

independent events events for which the occurrence of one event does not alter the probability of any other event

dependent events events for which the occurrence of one event alters the probability of any other event

conditional probability the probability of an event given that another event has already occurred

binomial distribution probability distribution based on events for which there are only two possible outcomes on each occurrence

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