



Interquartile Range

11.1 - Using Normal Distributions

Spread and Range

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- Always report a measure of **spread** along with a measure of center when describing a distribution numerically.
- The **range** of the data is the difference between the maximum and minimum values.

$$\text{Range} = \text{max} - \text{min}$$

- A disadvantage of the range is that a single extreme value can make it very large and, thus, not representative of the data overall.

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Spread: The Interquartile Range

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- The **interquartile range (IQR)** lets us ignore the extreme data values and concentrate on the middle of the data.
- To find the IQR, we first need to know what quartiles are ...

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Spread: The Interquartile Range (cont)

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- **Quartiles** divide the data into four equal sections.
 - The **lower quartile** is the median of the half of the data below the median. (Q1)
 - The **upper quartile** is the median of the half of the data above the median. (Q3)
- The difference between quartiles is the IQR, so

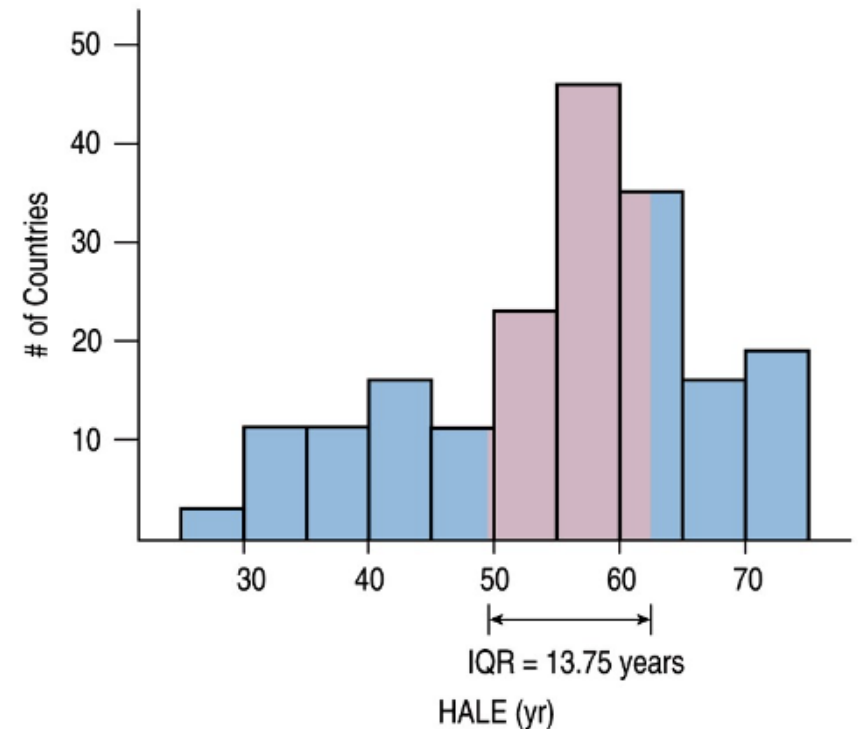
$$\text{IQR} = \text{upper quartile} - \text{lower quartile}$$

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Spread: The Interquartile Range (cont)

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- The lower and upper quartiles are the 25th and 75th **percentiles** of the data, so ...
- The IQR contains the middle 50% of the values of the distribution, as shown in the figure:



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The Five Number Summary

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- The **five-number summary** of the distribution reports its median, quartiles, and extremes (maximum and minimum).
- Example: The five-number summary for the ages at death for rock concert goers who died from being crushed is

Max	47 years
Q3	22
Median	19
Q1	17
Min	13

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Shape, Center, and Spread

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- When telling about a quantitative variable, always report the *shape* of its distribution, along with a *center* and a *spread*.
 - If the shape is skewed, report the median and IQR.
 - If the shape is symmetric, report the mean and standard deviation and possibly the median and IQR as well.


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Practice

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On Monday a class of students took a big test, and the highest score was 92. The next day a student who had been absent made up the test, scoring 100. Indicate whether adding that student's score to the rest of the data made each of these summary statistics increase, decrease, or stay about the same:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| a. mean | increase |
| b. median | same |
| c. range | increase |
| d. IQR | same |
| e. standard deviation | increase |



The Standard Deviation as a Ruler and the Normal Model

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Standard Deviation as a Ruler

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- The trick in comparing very different-looking values is to use standard deviations as our rulers.
- The standard deviation tells us how the whole collection of values varies, so it's a natural ruler for comparing an individual to a group.
- As the most common measure of variation, the standard deviation plays a crucial role in how we look at data.

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Standardizing with z-scores

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- We compare individual data values to their mean, relative to their standard deviation using the following formula:

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

- We call the resulting values **standardized values**, denoted as z . They can also be called **z-scores**.

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Standardizing with z-scores (cont)

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$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

- Standardized values have no units.
- z-scores measure the distance of each data value from the mean in standard deviations.
- A **negative z-score** tells us that the data value is **below the mean**, while a **positive z-score** tells us that the data value is **above the mean**.

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Benefits of Standardizing

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- Standardized values have been converted from their original units to the standard statistical unit of *standard deviations from the mean*.
- Thus, we can compare values that are measured on different scales, with different units, or from different populations.

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Shifting Data

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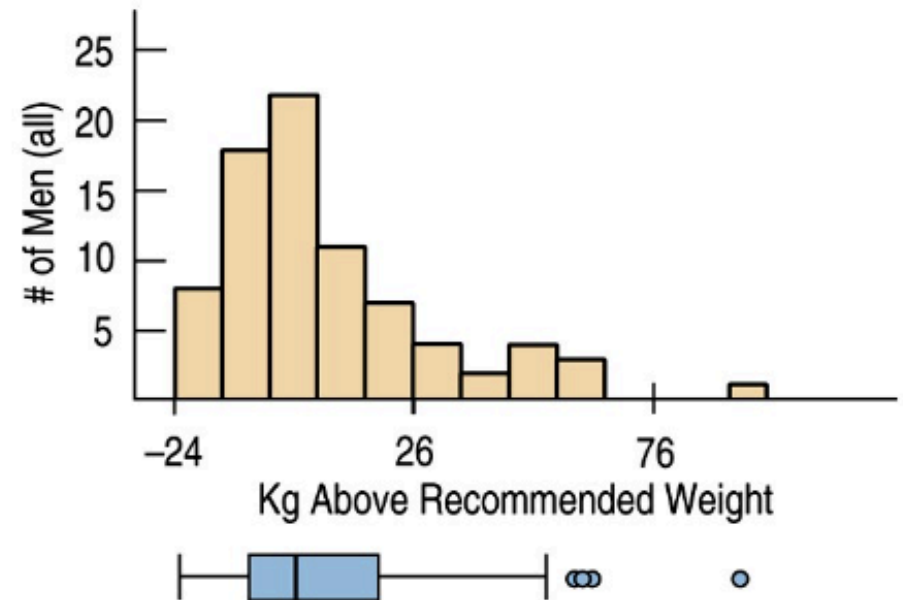
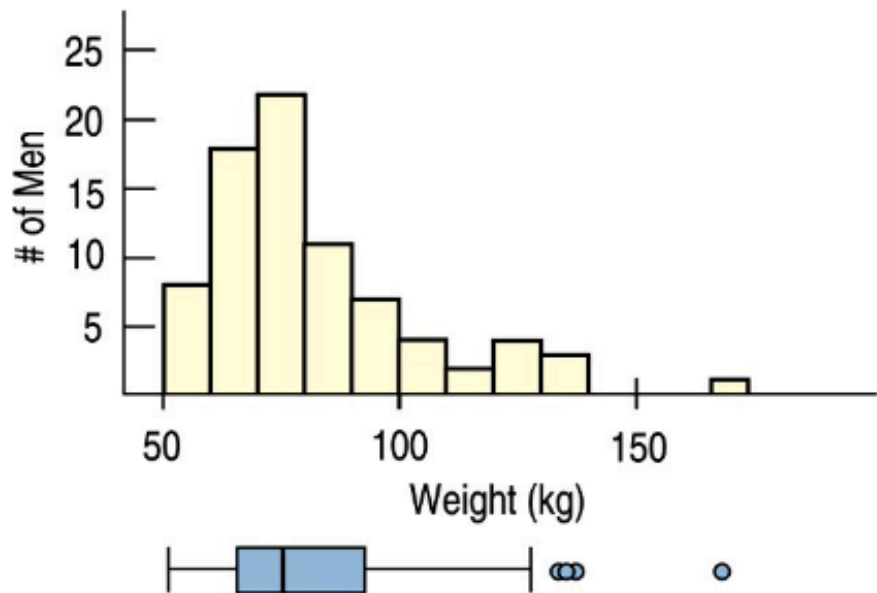
- Adding (or subtracting) a constant amount to each value just adds (or subtracts) the same constant to (from) the mean. This is true for the median and other measures of position too.
- In general, adding a constant to every data value adds the same constant to measures of center and percentiles, but leaves measures of spread unchanged.

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Shifting Data (cont)

- The following histograms show a **shift** from men's actual weights to kilograms above recommended weight:



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Back to z-scores

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- **Standardizing** data into z-scores **shifts** the data by subtracting the mean and **rescales** the values by dividing by their standard deviation.
 - Standardizing into z-scores does not change the **shape** of the distribution.
 - Standardizing into z-scores changes the **center** by making the mean 0.
 - Standardizing into z-scores changes the **spread** by making the standard deviation 1.

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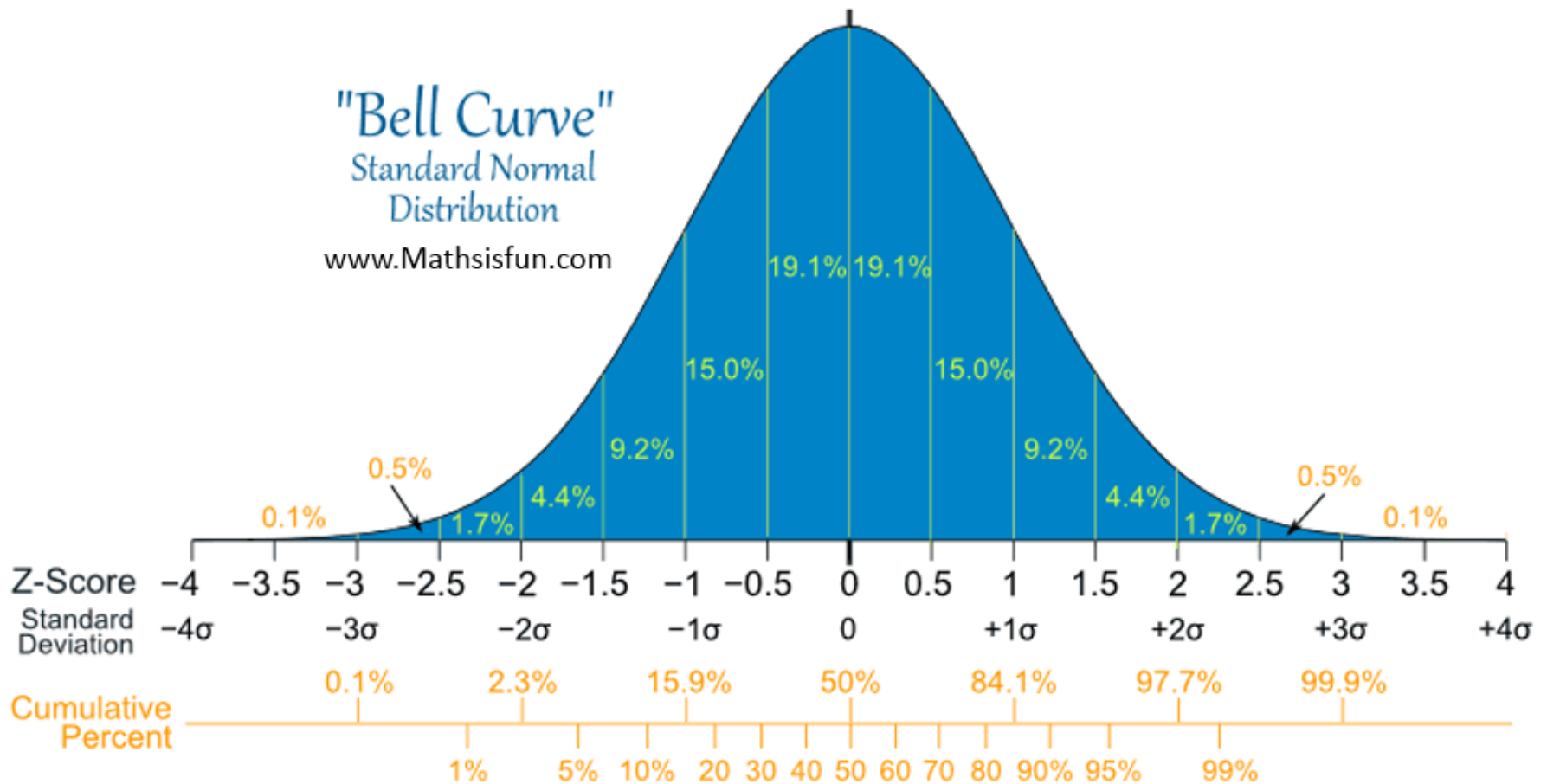
When is a z-score Big?

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- A z-score gives us an **indication of how unusual a value is** because it tells us how far it is from the mean.
- Remember that a **negative z-score** tells us that the data value is **below** the mean, while a **positive z-score** tells us that the data value is **above** the mean.
- The larger a z-score is (negative or positive) the more unusual it is.

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The 68-95-99.7 Rule

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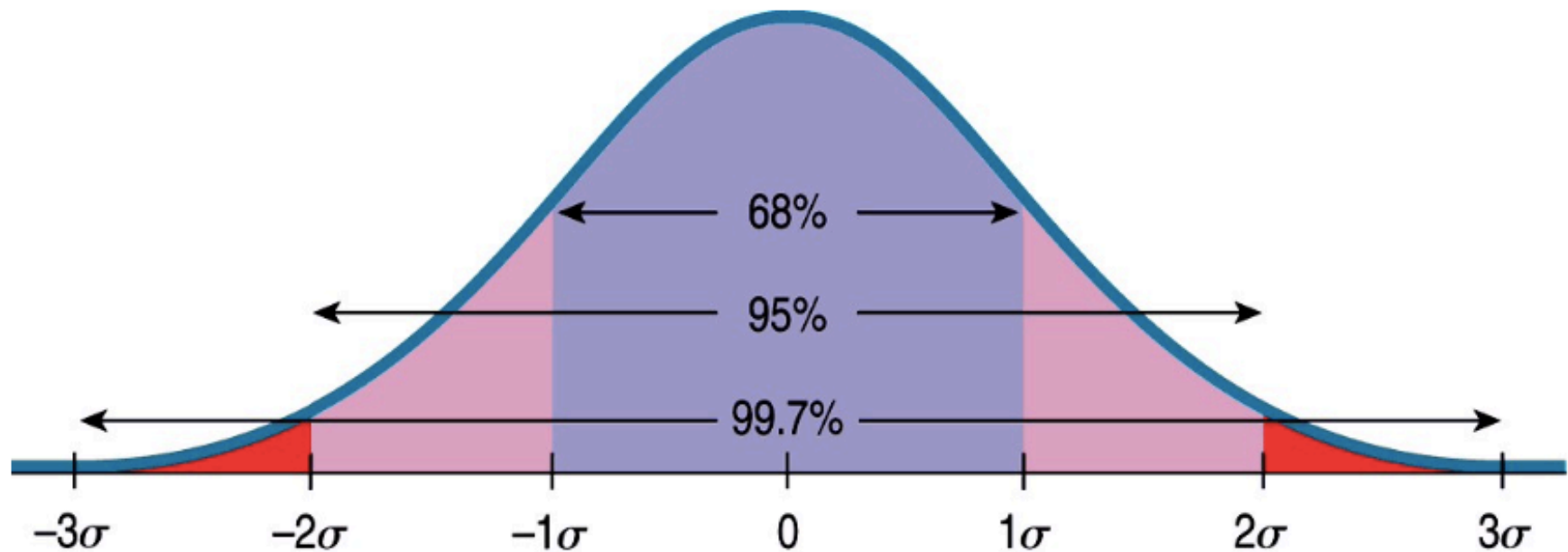
- Normal models give us an idea of how extreme a value is by telling us how likely it is to find one that far from the mean.
- We can find these numbers precisely, but until then we will use a simple rule that tells us a lot about the Normal model...

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The 68-95-99.7 Rule (cont)

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- The following shows what the 68-95-99.7 Rule tells us:



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When is a z-score Big? (cont)

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- There is a Normal model for every possible combination of mean and standard deviation.
 - We write $N(\mu, \sigma)$ to represent a Normal model with a mean of μ and a standard deviation of σ .
- Once we have standardized, we need only one model:
 - The $N(0,1)$ model is called the **standard Normal model** (or the **standard Normal distribution**).

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When is a z-score Big? (cont)

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- Summaries of data, like the sample mean and standard deviation, are written with Latin letters. Such summaries of data are called **statistics**.
- When we standardize Normal data, we still called the standardized value a **z-score**, and we write

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

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Practice

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Assuming normal find the following

1) Percent greater than 2.23 st dev

1.29%

2) Find z-score if area = 0.73 on right side of z

$Z = -0.61$

3) Find z-score if area = 0.61 on left side of z

$Z = 0.28$

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Practice

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Adult female Dalmatians weigh an average of 50 pounds with a standard deviation of 3.3 pounds. Adult female Boxers weigh an average of 57.5 pounds with a standard deviation of 1.7 pounds. One statistics teacher owns an underweight Dalmatian and an underweight Boxer. The Dalmatian weighs 45 pounds, and the Boxer weighs 52 pounds. Which dog is more underweight? Explain.

use z-scores

$$\text{Dalmatian: } z_D = \frac{45 - 50}{3.3} = -1.52$$

$$\text{Boxer: } z_B = \frac{52 - 57.5}{1.7} = -3.24$$

The Dalmatian is 1.52 standard deviations underweight, while the Boxer is 3.24 standard deviations underweight. So, the Boxer is more underweight.

