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## Construct a frequency distribution using 5 classes

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Classes that do not have values must be included (unless it is the first or last class that is deleted). Classes must be equal in width. The exception here is the first or last class. You can have a under ... Or... and above class. This is often used with ages. Find the largest and smallest values Calculate the range = Maximum - Minimum Select the number of classes you want. This is usually between 5 and 20. Find the width of the class by dividing the range by the number of classes and rounding up. There are two things to watch out for here. You need to round, not out. Normally 3.2 round to be 3, but in rounding for high, it becomes 4. If the range divided by the number of classes provides an integer value (no rest), you can add one to the number of classes or add one to the width of the class. Sometimes you are stuck in a number of classes because of the instructions. The Bluman text does not mention the case when there is no rest. Choose a suitable starting point less than or equal to the minimum value. You will be able to cover: the width of the class for the number of value classes. You need to cover an increased value relative to the range. Follow this rule and you'll be fine: the starting point plus the number of classes times the width of the class must be greater than the maximum value. Your starting point is the lower limit of the first class. Continue adding the width of the class to this lower bound to get the rest of the lower bounds. To find the upper bound of the first class, subtract one from the lower bound of the second class, then continue to add the width of the class to this limit to find the rest of the upper bounds. Find boundaries by subtracting 0.5 units from the lower bounds and adding 0.5 units from the upper bounds. The boundaries are also halfway between the upper limit of a and the lower bound of the next class. Depending on what you're trying to accomplish, you may not need to find boundaries. Tally the data, Find the frequencies. Find cumulative frequencies. Depending on what you're trying to accomplish, you may not need to find cumulative frequencies. If necessary, find the relative frequencies and/or cumulative frequencies. It is possible that the TI-82 calculator will find the frequencies for you. You will first have to find the width of the class and the limits of the class. Table of Contents &gt; (click to go to this section); See also: Frequency distribution table in Excel What is a frequency distribution table? Frequency tells you how often something happened. The frequency of an observation indicates the number of times observation occurs in the data. For example, in the following list of numbers, the frequency of the number 9 is 5 (because it occurs 5 times): 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 9, 8, 5, 1, 1, 9, 9, 0, 6, 9. Tables can show categorical variables (sometimes called qualitative variables) or quantitative variables (sometimes called numerical variables). You can think of categorical variables such as categories (such as eye color or dog food brand) and quantitative variables such as numbers. If you're not quite sure about the difference, see: Qualitative or quantitative? How to say it. The following table shows what methods of family planning adolescents used in Kweneng, western Botswana. The left column shows the categorical variable (Method) and the right column is the frequency : the number of teenagers using that particular method (image courtesy of KSU). Frequency distribution table showing categorical variables. Frequency distribution tables provide a snapshot of the data to help you find patterns. A quick look at the above frequency distribution table tells you that most teens don't use any birth control. Back to top How to create a frequency distribution table: Examples 1 Counting marks are often used to create a frequency distribution table. For example, let's say you survey a number of families and find out how many pets they own. The results are 3, 0, 1, 4, 4, 1, 2, 0, 2, 2, 0, 2, 0, 1, 3, 1, 2, 1, 1, 3. Look at that string of numbers flying your eye; a frequency distribution table will make data easier to understand. Steps To create the frequency distribution table, first write the categories in a column (number of pets); Next, number the numbers in each category (from the previous results). For example, the number zero is four times in the list, and then place four count marks ||||: Finally, count the count marks and write the frequency to the final column. The frequency is only the total. You have four count marks for 0, then enter 4 in the last column: Go back to Example 2 Watch the video or read the following steps: Accept statistics, statistics, cookies to watch this video. How to draw a frequency distribution table (slightly more complicated example) A frequency distribution table is a way to organize data so that it makes more sense. For example, let's say you have a list of IQ scores for a quality classroom in a particular elementary school. IQ scores are: 118, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 130, 130, 133, 136, 138, 141, 142, 149, 150, 154. That list doesn't tell you much about anything. You can draw a frequency distribution table, which will provide a better picture of the data than a simple list. How to draw a frequency distribution table: steps. Need help with a question at home? Check out our tutoring page! Part 1: Choosing Classes Step 1: Understand how many classes (categories) you need. There are no strict rules on how many classes to choose, but there are a couple of general guidelines: choose between 5 and 20 classes. For the list of IQs above, we chose 5 classes. Make sure you have some items in each category. For example, if you have 20 items, choose 5 classes (4 items per category), not 20 classes (which would give you only 1 item per category). Note: There is a more mathematical way to choose classes. The formula is  $\log(\text{observations}) / \log(2)$ . Round the response to the next integer. For example,  $\log_{17} \log_2 = 4.1$  will be rounded up to become 5. (Thanks to Ayman Masry for that suggestion.) Part 2: Sort data step 2: Subtract the minimum data value from the maximum data value. For example, our list of IQs above had a minimum value of 118 and a maximum value of 154, so:  $154 - 118 = 36$  Step 3: Divide the answer in step 2 by the number of classes you chose in step 1.  $36 / 5 = 7.2$  Step 4: Round the number from step 3 to an integer to get the width of the class. Rounded up, 7.2 becomes 8. Step 5: Note the lowest value for the first minimum data value: The lowest value is 118 Step 6: Add the class width from step 4 to step 5 to get the next lower class limit:  $118 + 8 = 126$  Step 7: Repeat step 6 for the other minimum data values (in other words, continue adding the width of the class to the minimum data values) until you create the number of classes chosen in step 1. We chose 5 classes, so our 5 minimum data values are: 118 126 ( $118 + 8$ ) 134 ( $126 + 8$ ) 142 ( $134 + 8$ ) 150 ( $142 + 8$ ) Step 8: Note the limits of the upper class. These are the highest values that can be in the category, so in most cases you can subtract 1 from the width of the class and add it to the minimum data. For example:  $118 + (8 - 1) = 125$   $118 - 125$   $126 - 133$   $134 - 141$   $142 - 149$   $150 - 157$  Step 10: Count the number of items in each class and place the total in the second column. Column 1: List of IQ scores are: 118, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 130, 130, 133, 136, 138, 141, 142, 149, 150, 154. Q1 Number 118-125 4 126-133 6 134-141 3 142-149 2 150-157 2 Here's how to draw a frequency distribution table, the easiest way! Do you like the explanation? Check out our statistics on how to book with hundreds of other solutions step by step, just like this one! Tip: If you're working with large numbers (such as hundreds or thousands), round step 4 to a large integer that's easy to find in classes, such as 100, 1000, or 10,000. Similarly with very small numbers, you might want to round to 0.1, 0.001 or a similar division. Back to Top References Gonick, L. (1993). The Cartoon Statistics Guide. HarperPerennial. -----! help with homework or test questions? With Chegg Study, you can get detailed solutions to your questions from an industry expert. Your first 30 minutes with a Chegg tutor are free! Comments? Need to publish a fix? 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