

Example 1
Mean, median, and mode

The number of aphids on tomato plants was counted.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| 6 | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| 6 | 4 | 6 | 5 |

Mean

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n}$$

$$\bar{X} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} = \frac{190}{40} = 4.75$$

Mean = 4.8 aphids

Median

Organize the data into an array.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 |

$$M = X_{\frac{(n+1)}{2}}$$

$$M = X_{\frac{(n+1)}{2}} = X_{\frac{(40+1)}{2}} = X_{20.5} = \frac{X_{20} + X_{21}}{2} = \frac{5+5}{2} = \frac{10}{2} = 5$$

Mode = 5 aphids

Mode

Construct a frequency table.

| Value | Frequency |
|-------|-----------|
| 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 16 |
| 5 | 13 |
| 6 | 8 |
| 7 | 1 |

The most frequently occurring value is 4 with 16 occurrences.

Mode = 4 aphids.