# Stat 170 – Introductory Statistics

## Lecture 1 – Introduction to Statistics

### Intro

Statistics is the learning from data. This involves collecting presenting, analysing and interpreting data.

### Objectives

The objective is to obtain information about a target population using a sample.

Target Population: The relevant subjects of interest.

Sample: Manageable group that represents the target population.

#### **Research Questions**

First find the target population and take a sample that represents the population. This sample is used to answer the research questions about the target population.

#### A Data Set

A data set is a set of variables that can be categorised as numerical or categorical. E.g.; Location, life expectancy, infant mortality rate, unemployment.

#### **Data Classification**

- 1. Categorical (Observed in groups):
  - a. Nominal There is no set order. E.g. Sex, Colour
  - b. Ordinal There is an order set. E.g. Age group, Size
- 2. Numerical (Observed as integers):
  - a. Discrete When you can count exact. E.g. Students in a class
  - b. Continuous Is always changing and can be rounded. E.g. Height, weights

## **Graphing Data**

## Displaying Data

- List of Charts/Graphs
  - Clustered Bar Chart [2 Variables (Categorical & Categorical)]
  - o Comparative Box Plot [2 Variables (Categorical & Numerical)]
  - Scatter Plots [2 Variables (Numerical & Numerical)]
  - o Bar Chart/Pie Chart [1 Variable (Categorical)]
  - Histograms [1 Variable (Numerical)]

Data	Categorical	Numerical	
Categorical	Clustered Bar Charts	Comparative Box Plot	Bar Chart/Pie Chart
Numerical	Comparative Box Plot	Scatter Plots	Histograms
	Bar Chart/Pie Chart	Histograms	

#### **Graphs Need**

- 1. A title
- 2. Clearly Labelled Axes
- 3. An Explanatory Comment
- 4. To be clear and uncluttered

## **Population Distributions**

## **Definitions**

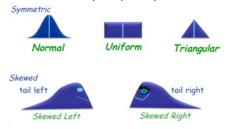
- Measure of centre: where the 'middle' of the data is
- Measure of spread: tells us how spread out the histogram is

### Distribution

Numerical Data: Centre, Spread and Shape of Histogram

The centre is a nice summary but does not bring all the answers to the data.

The shape of the distributions can be in many shapes: symmetric, skewed, bimodal or multimodal



A normal distribution is the shape of a bell curve.

## Sample Statistics and Population Parameters

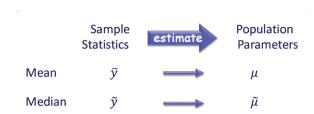
Using sample statistics, we can estimate population parameters

## Summarising Numerical Data

2 major variables to measure the centre is median and the mean.

The median: Is the measure if the direct centre of the set of data. Also, known as the middle value of the data set.

The mean: Is the arithmetic average of the data set



The spread of a data set expresses the inter quartile range (iqr) which is the difference between the upper and lower quartiles giving a rough estimate of the middle 50% of the data. However, the range is the difference from the largest outlier to the smallest outlier, however this can be misleading data due to random outliers.

#### Standard Deviation

The standard deviation is how much does the data deviate from the data from the mean. These numbers are called residuals.