

Five Number Summaries and Boxplots

The five parts of a five number summary are:

1. Minimum value
2. First Quartile (Q1)
3. Median value
4. Third Quartile (Q3)
5. Maximum value

*To be able to find the median and the first and third quartiles, the data must be in order from smallest to largest

To find the Median, find the middle number. Cross out one at a time, alternating from the beginning of the list of numbers with the end of the list. This is done in pairs. If one number is leftover, it is your median. If two numbers are leftover, find what is halfway between them to find the median.

To find the 1st quartile, take the first half of the data, and do the same process that is done for finding the median. To find the 3rd quartile, take the second half of the data and do the same process that is done for finding the median.

Using the Five Number Summary

The Interquartile Range (IQR) is $Q3 - Q1$

The upper and lower fences determine whether or not a data point is an outlier. If the data point is not between the upper and lower fence, the point is an outlier

$$\text{Lower Fence} = Q1 - 1.5(\text{IQR})$$

$$\text{Upper Fence} = Q3 - 1.5(\text{IQR})$$

Below is a table of the final exam scores from a class of 40 statistics students. Use the table to answer the following questions.

Statistics Final Exam Scores							
86	91	79	77	85	81	73	62
84	73	96	79	84	93	89	90

72	74	70	88	67	99	78	82
73	95	83	85	98	54	87	85
84	86	84	80	90	77	84	73

What is the five number summary for this set of data?

First put the data in order:

54,62,67,70,72,73,73,73,73,74,77,77,78,79,79,80,81,82,83,84,84,84,84,
85,85,85,86,86,87,88,89,90,90,91,93,95,96,98,99

In the above example, the first half of the data is in red and the second half in blue. The numbers in green are the middle of each half, thus helping us find the first and third quartiles. Using that, we have:

1. Minimum = 54
2. First Quartile = 75.5
3. Median = 84
4. Third Quartile = 87.5
5. Maximum = 99

Find the interquartile range for the exam data

$$Q3 = 87.5, Q1 = 75.5 \rightarrow IQR = 87.5 - 75.5 = 12$$

Find the upper and lower fences for the exam data, and determine if there are any outliers in the data set

$$\text{Lower Fence} = 75.5 - 1.5(12) = 57.5$$

$$\text{Upper Fence} = 87.5 + 1.5(12) = 105.5$$

There is one outlier \rightarrow the exam score of 54

Find the mean and the standard deviation of the exam data

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\text{Sum of all of the scores}}{40} = 81.75$$

$$\text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum x^2 - \frac{(\sum x)^2}{n}}{n}} = 9.43$$

Create a box and whisker plot of the exam data

