







Frequency Distributions

What is a Frequency Distribution?

- A frequency distribution is a list or a table ...
- containing class groupings (categories or ranges within which the data fall) ...
- and the corresponding frequencies with which data fall within each class or category

Why Use Frequency Distributions?

- A frequency distribution is a way to summarize data
- The distribution condenses the raw data into a more useful form...
- and allows for a quick visual interpretation of the data

Class Intervals and Class Boundaries

• Each class grouping has the same width

 Determine the width of each interval by
w = interval width = largest number - smallest number number of desired intervals

- Use at least 5 but no more than 15-20 intervals
- Intervals never overlap
- Round up the interval width to get desirable interval endpoints

Discrete Data					
Discrete data: pos	sible values are cou	intable			
Example: An advertiser asks 200	Number of days read	Frequency			
customers how many	0	44			
days per week they	1	24			
newspaper.	2	18			
	3	16			
	4	20			
	5	22			
	6	26			
	7	30			
	Total	200			



Relative Frequency Relative Frequency: What proportion is in each category?							
Nu	mber of days read	Frequency	Relative Frequency				
	0	44	.22 🗲	$\frac{44}{200} = .22$			
	1	24	.12	200 22% of the people in the sample			
	2	18	.09				
	3	16	.08				
	4	20	.10	read the			
	5	22	.11	newspaper 0 days			
	6	26	.13	per week			
	7	30	.15				
	Total	200	1.00				





	Frequence	cy E	Distribut	ion Exan	nple			
Data in ordered array:								
12, 13	3, 17, 21, 24, 24, 26,	27, 27,	30, 32, 35, 37, 3	8, 41, 43, 44, 46, 5	3, 58			
	Frequency Distribution							
	Class		Frequency	Relative Frequency				
	10 but under 20	3	.15					
	20 but under 30	6	.30					
	30 but under 40	5	.25					
	40 but under 50	4	.20					
	50 but under 60	2	.10					
	Total	20	1.00					
					-			







