

# Lecture 5: Chapter 4, Sections 3-4

## Quantitative Variables

### (Summaries, Begin Normal)

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- Mean vs. Median
- Standard Deviation
- Normally Shaped Distributions
- 68-95-99.7 Rule for Normal Distributions
- Normal Histogram Approximated by Curve
- Z-scores

# Looking Back: *Review*

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- **4 Stages of Statistics**
  - Data Production (discussed in Lectures 1-3)
  - Displaying and Summarizing
    - Single variables: 1 categorical, 1 quantitative
    - Relationships between 2 variables
  - Probability
  - Statistical Inference

# Ways to Measure Center and Spread

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- Five Number Summary (*already discussed*)
- Mean and Standard Deviation

# Definition

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- **Mean:** the arithmetic average of values. For  $n$  sampled values, the mean is called “x-bar”:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + \cdots + x_n}{n}$$

- *The mean of a population, to be discussed later, is denoted “ $\mu$ ” and called “mu”.*

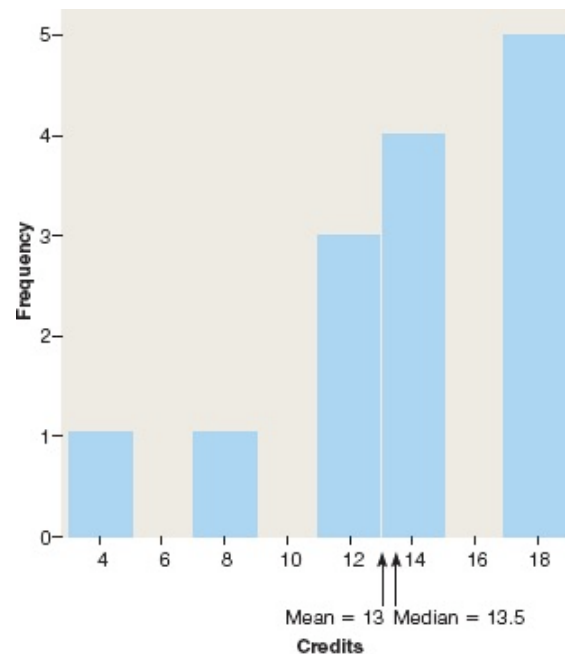
## Example: *Calculating the Mean*

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- **Background:** Credits taken by 14 “other” students:  
4 7 11 11 11 13 13 14 14 15 17 17 17 18
- **Question:** How do we find the mean number of credits?
- **Response:**

## Example: Mean vs. Median (*Skewed Left*)

- **Background:** Credits taken by 14 “other” students:  
4 7 11 11 11 13 13 14 14 15 17 17 17 18
- **Question:** Why is the mean (13) less than the median (13.5)?
- **Response:**



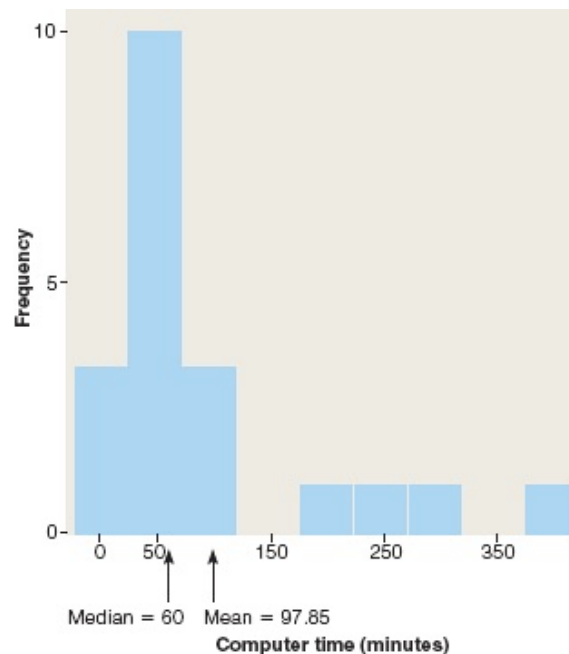
## Example: Mean vs. Median (*Skewed Right*)

□ **Background:** Output for students' computer times:

0	10	20	30	30	30	30	45	45	60	60	60	67	90	100	120	200	240	300	420
Variable				N		Mean		Median		TrMean		StDev		SE Mean					
computer				20		97.9		60.0		85.4		109.7		24.5					

□ **Question:** Why is the mean (97.9) more than the median (60)?

□ **Response:**



# Role of Shape in Mean vs. Median

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- **Symmetric:**

mean approximately **equals** median

- **Skewed left / low outliers:**

mean **less** than median

- **Skewed right / high outliers:**

mean **greater** than median



# Mean vs. Median as Summary of Center

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- **Pronounced skewness / outliers** →  
Report median.
- **Otherwise, in general** →  
Report mean (contains more information).

# Ways to Measure Center and Spread

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- Five Number Summary
- Mean and Standard Deviation

# Definition

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- **Standard deviation:** square root of “average” squared distance from mean  $\bar{x}$ . For  $n$  sampled values the standard deviation is

$$s = \sqrt{\frac{(x_1 - \bar{x})^2 + \dots + (x_n - \bar{x})^2}{n-1}}$$

***Looking Ahead:** Ultimately, squared deviation from a sample is used as estimate for squared deviation for the population. It does a better job as an estimate if we divide by  $n-1$  instead of  $n$ .*

*$s$  refers to sample,  
 $\sigma$  (sigma) refers to population*

# Interpreting Mean and Standard Deviation

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- **Mean:** typical value
- **Standard deviation:** typical distance of values from their mean

*(Having a feel for how standard deviation measures spread is much more important than being able to calculate it by hand.)*

## Example: *Guessing Standard Deviation*

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- **Background:** Household size in U.S. has mean approximately 2.5 people.
- **Question:** Which is the standard deviation?  
(a) 0.014 (b) 0.14 (c) 1.4 (d) 14.0
- **Response:**  
Sizes vary; they differ from \_\_\_\_\_ by about \_\_\_\_\_

## Example: *Standard Deviations from Mean*

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- **Background:** Household size in U.S. has mean 2.5 people, standard deviation 1.4.
- **Question:** About how many standard deviations above the mean is a household with 4 people?
- **Response:**
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

***Looking Ahead:** For performing inference, it will be useful to identify how many standard deviations a value is below or above the mean, a process known as “standardizing”.*

# Example: *Estimating Standard Deviation*

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- **Background:** Consider ages of students...
- **Question:** Guess the standard deviation of...
  1. Ages of all students in a high school (mean about 16)
  2. Ages of high school seniors (mean about 18)
  3. Ages of all students at a university (mean about 20.5)
- **Responses:**
  1. standard deviation \_\_\_\_\_
  2. standard deviation \_\_\_\_\_
  3. standard deviation \_\_\_\_\_

***Looking Back:** What distinguishes this style of question from an earlier one that asked us to choose the most reasonable standard deviation for household size? Which type of question is more challenging?*

## Example: *Calculating a Standard Deviation*

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□ **Background:** Hts (in inches) 64, 66, 67, 67, 68, 70 have mean 67.

□ **Question:** What is their standard deviation?

□ **Response:** Standard deviation  $s$  is  
sq. root of “average” squared deviation from mean:

mean=67

deviations=

squared deviations=

“average” sq. deviation=

$s$ =sq. root of “average” sq. deviation =

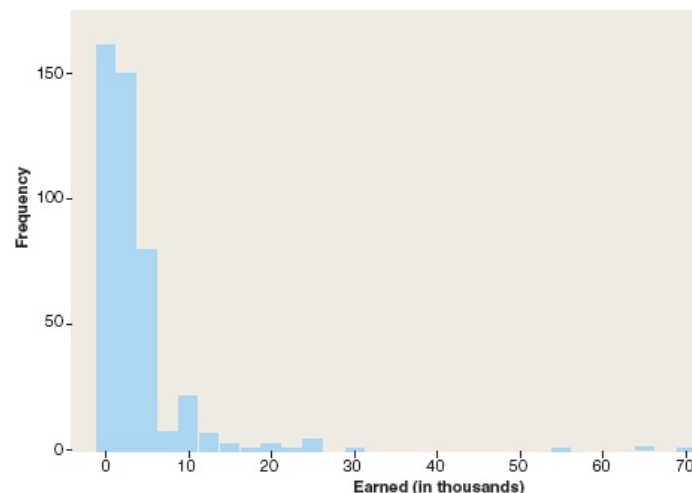
(This is the typical distance from the average height 67.)



# Example: *How Shape Affects Standard Deviation*

## □ **Background:** Output, histogram for student earnings:

Variable	N	Mean	Median	TrMean	StDev	SE Mean
Earned	446	3.776	2.000	2.823	6.503	0.308



In fact, most are within  
\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

(Better to report  
\_\_\_\_\_)

- **Question:** Should we say students averaged \$3776, and earnings differed from this by about \$6500? If not, do these values seem too high or too low?
- **Response:**

## Focus on Particular Shape: Normal

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- **Symmetric:** just as likely for a value to occur a certain distance below as above the mean.

*Note: if shape is normal, mean equals median*

- **Bell-shaped:** values closest to mean are most common; increasingly less common for values to occur farther from mean



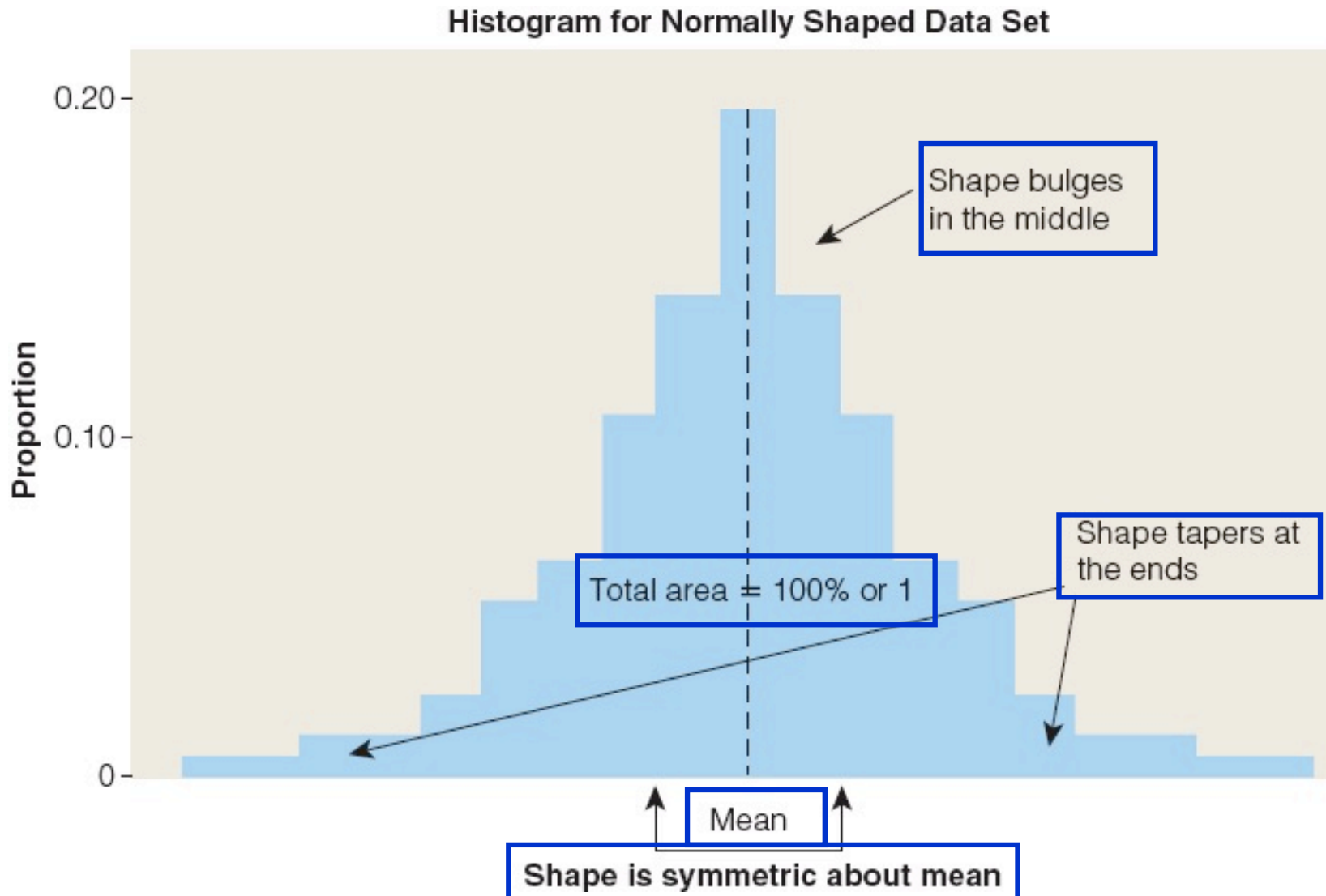
# Focus on Area of Histogram

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Can adjust vertical scale of any histogram so it shows percentage by areas instead of heights.

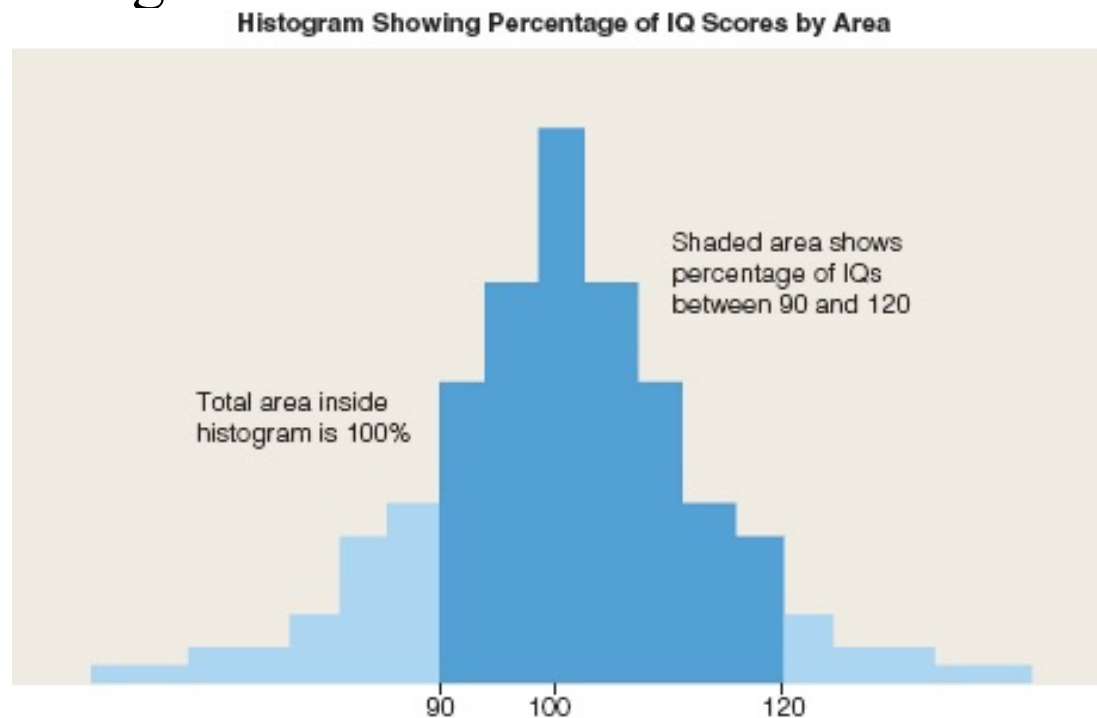
Then total area enclosed is 1 or 100%.

# Histogram of Normal Data



## Example: Percentages on a Normal Histogram

- **Background:** IQs are normal with a mean of 100, as shown in this histogram.



- **Question:** About what percentage are between 90 and 120?
- **Response:**

# What We Know About Normal Data

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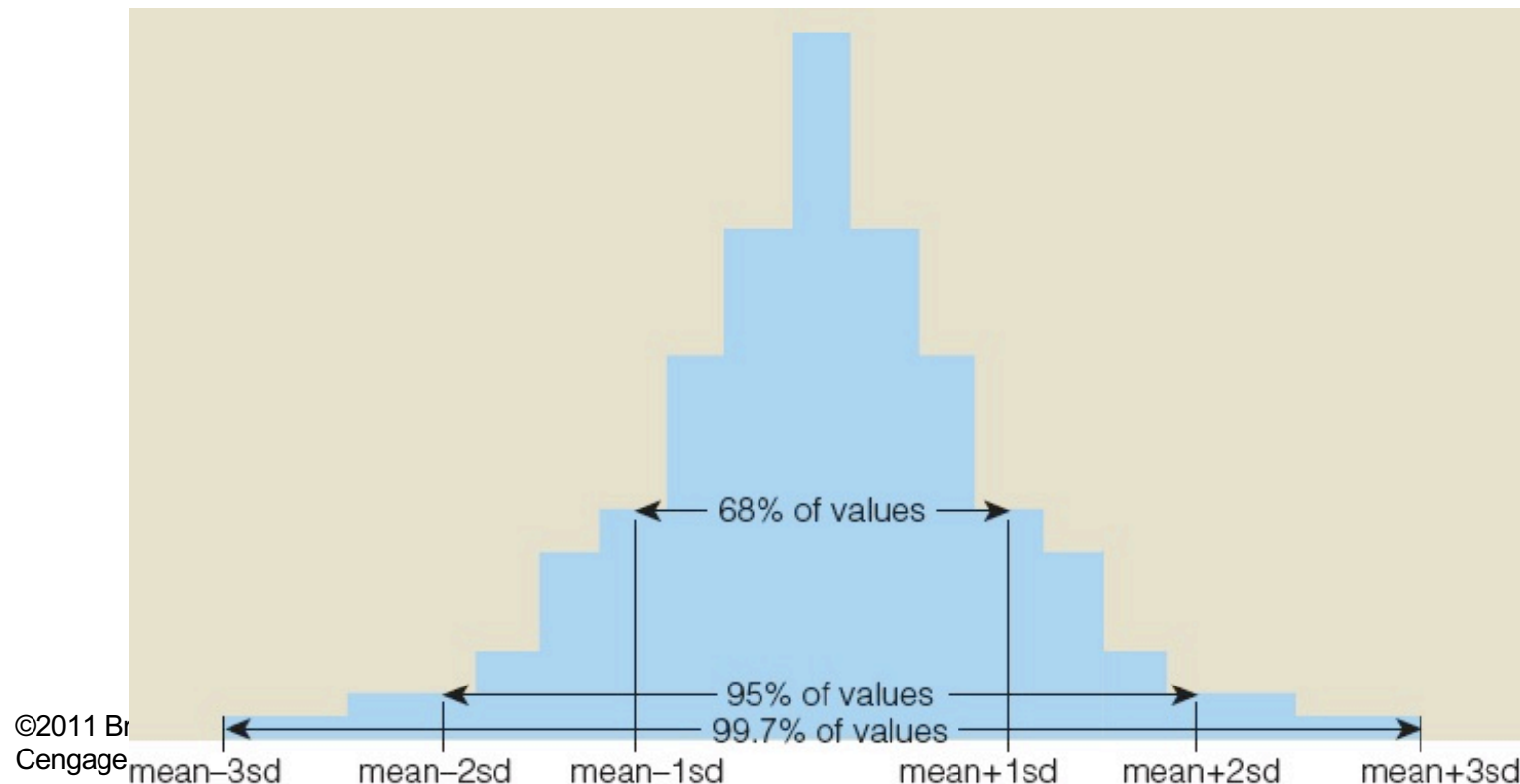
If we know a data set is **normal** (shape) with given **mean** (center) and **standard deviation** (spread), then it is known what percentage of values occur in *any* interval.

Following rule presents “tip of the iceberg”, gives general feel for data values:

# 68-95-99.7 Rule for Normal Data

Values of a **normal** data set have

- 68% within 1 standard deviation of mean
- 95% within 2 standard deviations of mean
- 99.7% within 3 standard deviations of mean



## 68-95-99.7 Rule for Normal Data

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If we denote mean  $\bar{x}$  and standard deviation  $s$  then values of a **normal** data set have

- 68% in  $(\bar{x} - 1s, \bar{x} + 1s)$

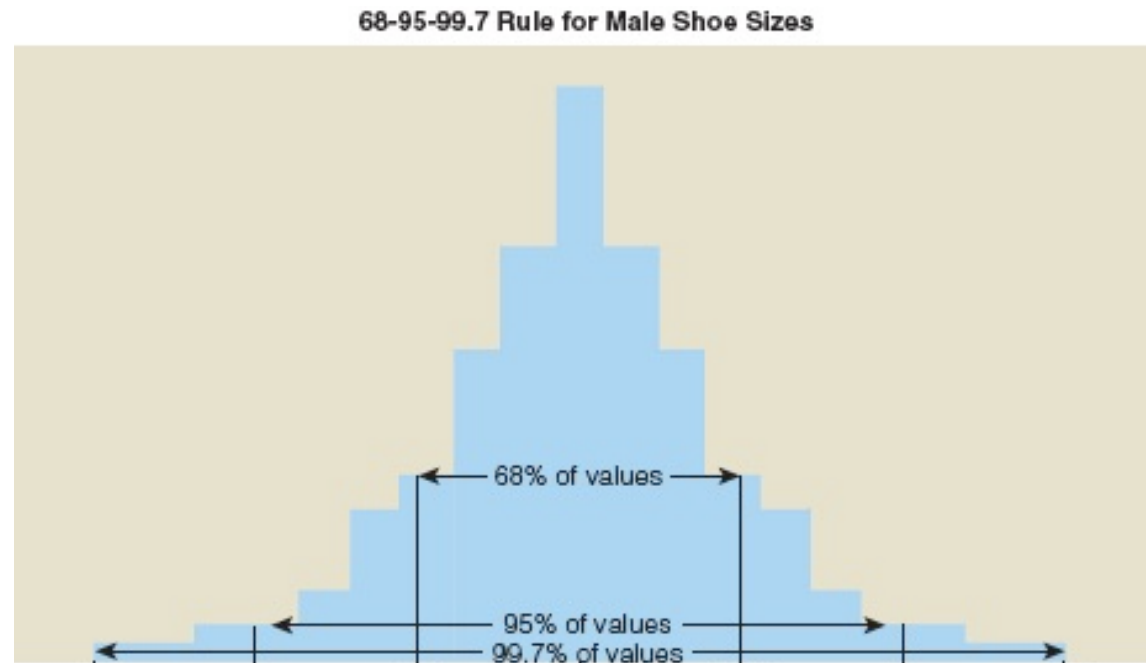
- 95% in  $(\bar{x} - 2s, \bar{x} + 2s)$

- 99.7% in  $(\bar{x} - 3s, \bar{x} + 3s)$



## Example: *Using Rule to Sketch Histogram*

- **Background:** Shoe sizes for 163 adult males normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5.
- **Question:** How would the histogram appear?
- **Response:**



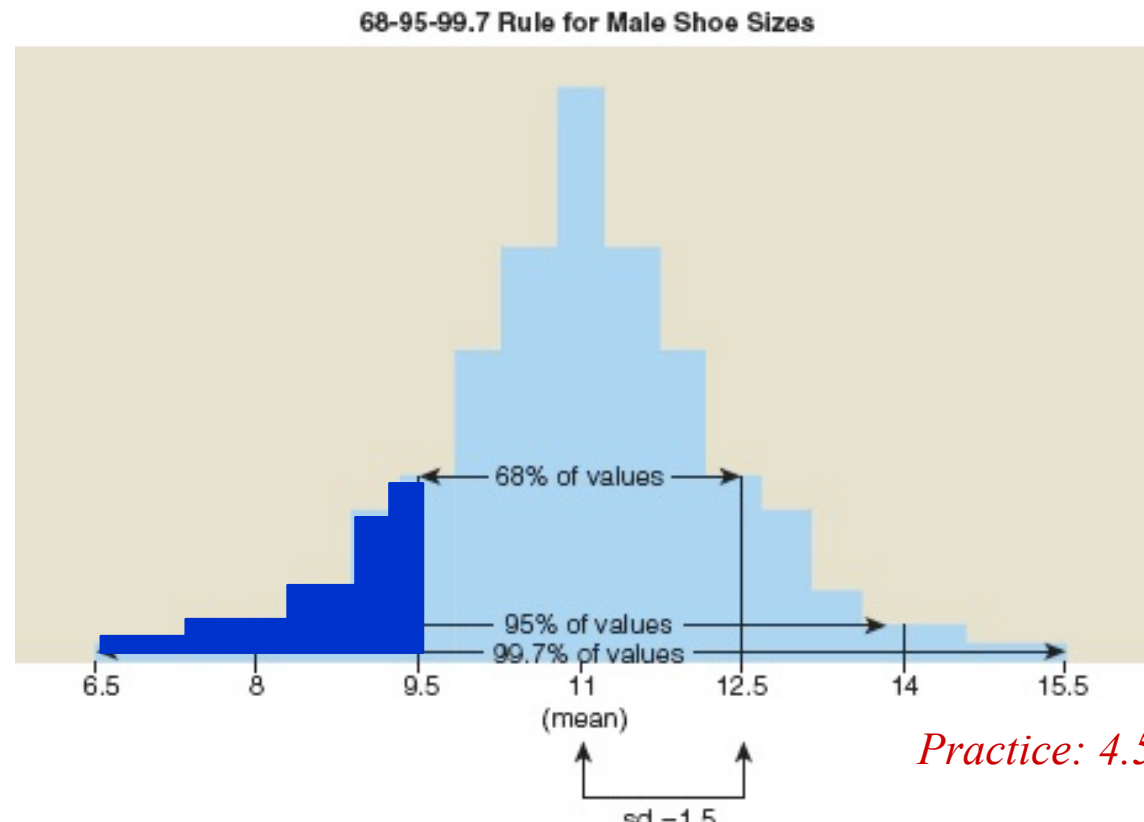
## Example: *Using Rule to Summarize*

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- **Background:** Shoe sizes for 163 adult males normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5.
- **Question:** What does the 68-95-99.5 Rule tell us about those shoe sizes?
- **Response:**
  - 68% in \_\_\_\_\_
  - 95% in \_\_\_\_\_
  - 99.7% in \_\_\_\_\_

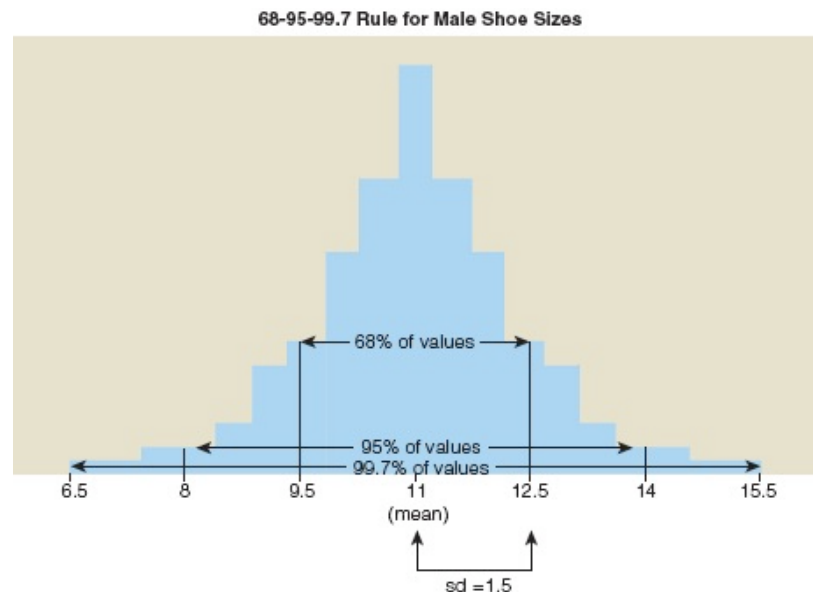
## Example: *Using Rule for Tail Percentages*

- **Background:** Shoe sizes for 163 adult males normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5.
- **Question:** What percentage are less than 9.5?
- **Response:**



## Example: *Using Rule for Tail Percentages*

- **Background:** Shoe sizes for 163 adult males normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5.
- **Question:** The bottom 2.5% are below what size?
- **Response:**



# From Histogram to Smooth Curve

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- **Start:** quantitative variable with infinite possible values over continuous range.

*(Such as foot lengths, not shoe sizes.)*

- Imagine infinitely large data set.

*(Infinitely many college males, not just a sample.)*

- Imagine values measured to utmost accuracy.

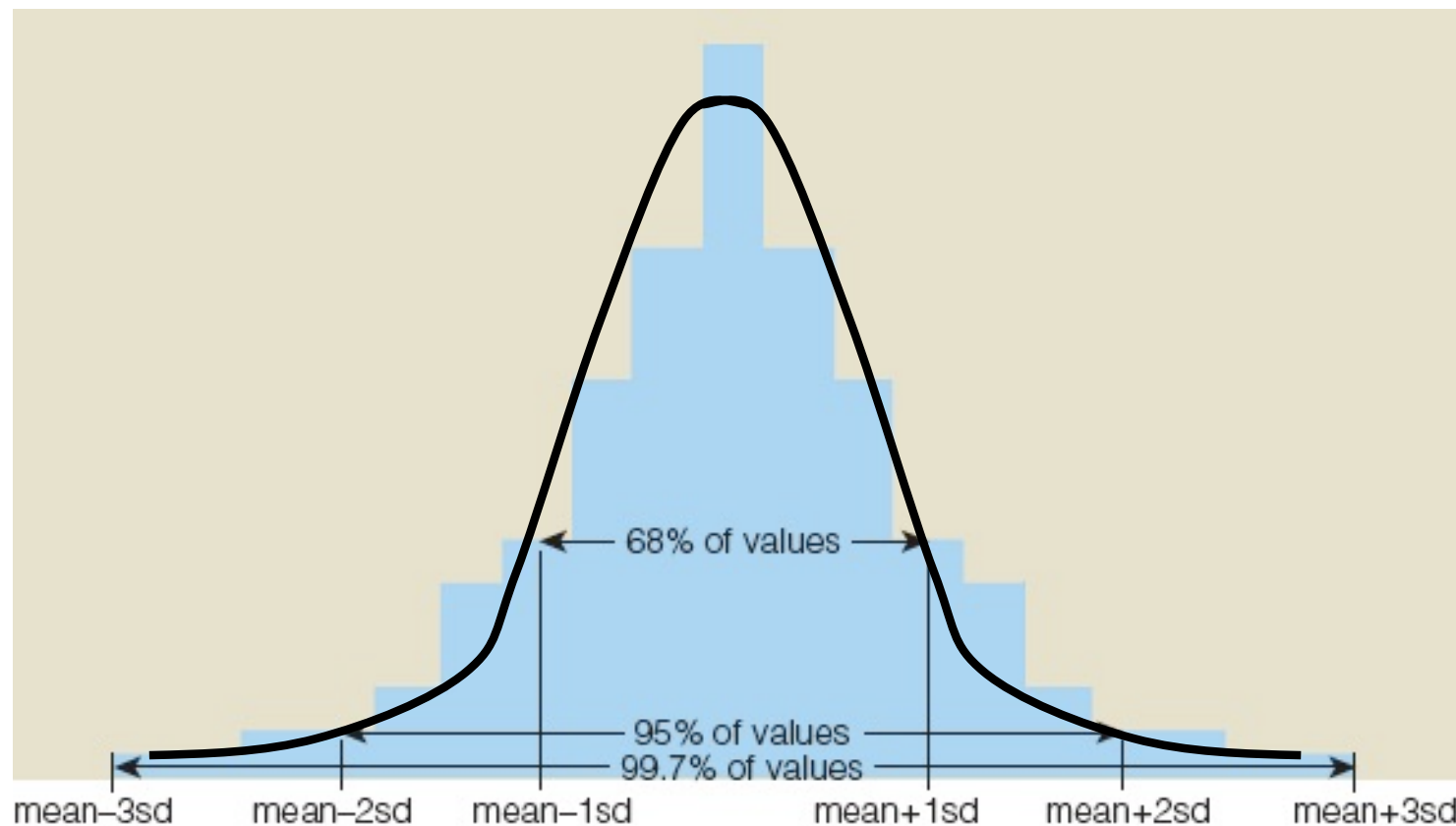
*(Record lengths like 9.7333..., not just to nearest inch.)*

- **Result:** histogram turns into smooth curve.

- If shape is normal, result is **normal curve**.

# From Histogram to Smooth Curve

- If shape is normal, result is **normal curve**.

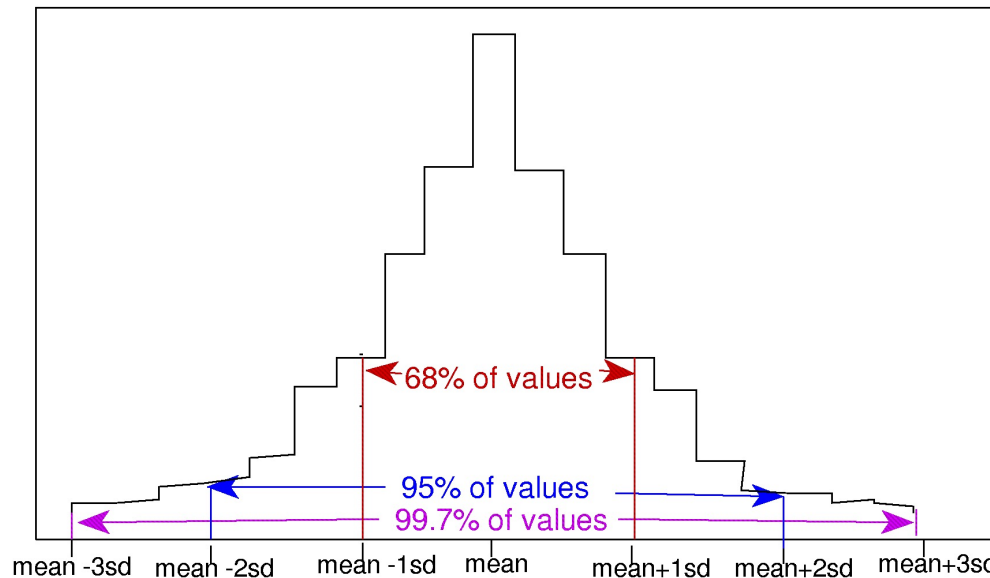


## 68-95-99.7 Rule (*Review*)

If we know the shape is **normal**, then values have

- 68% within 1 standard deviation of mean
- 95% within 2 standard deviations of mean
- 99.7% within 3 standard deviations of mean

68-95-99.7 Rule for Normal Distributions



*A Closer Look: around 2 sds above or below the mean may be considered unusual.*

# Quantitative Samples vs. Populations

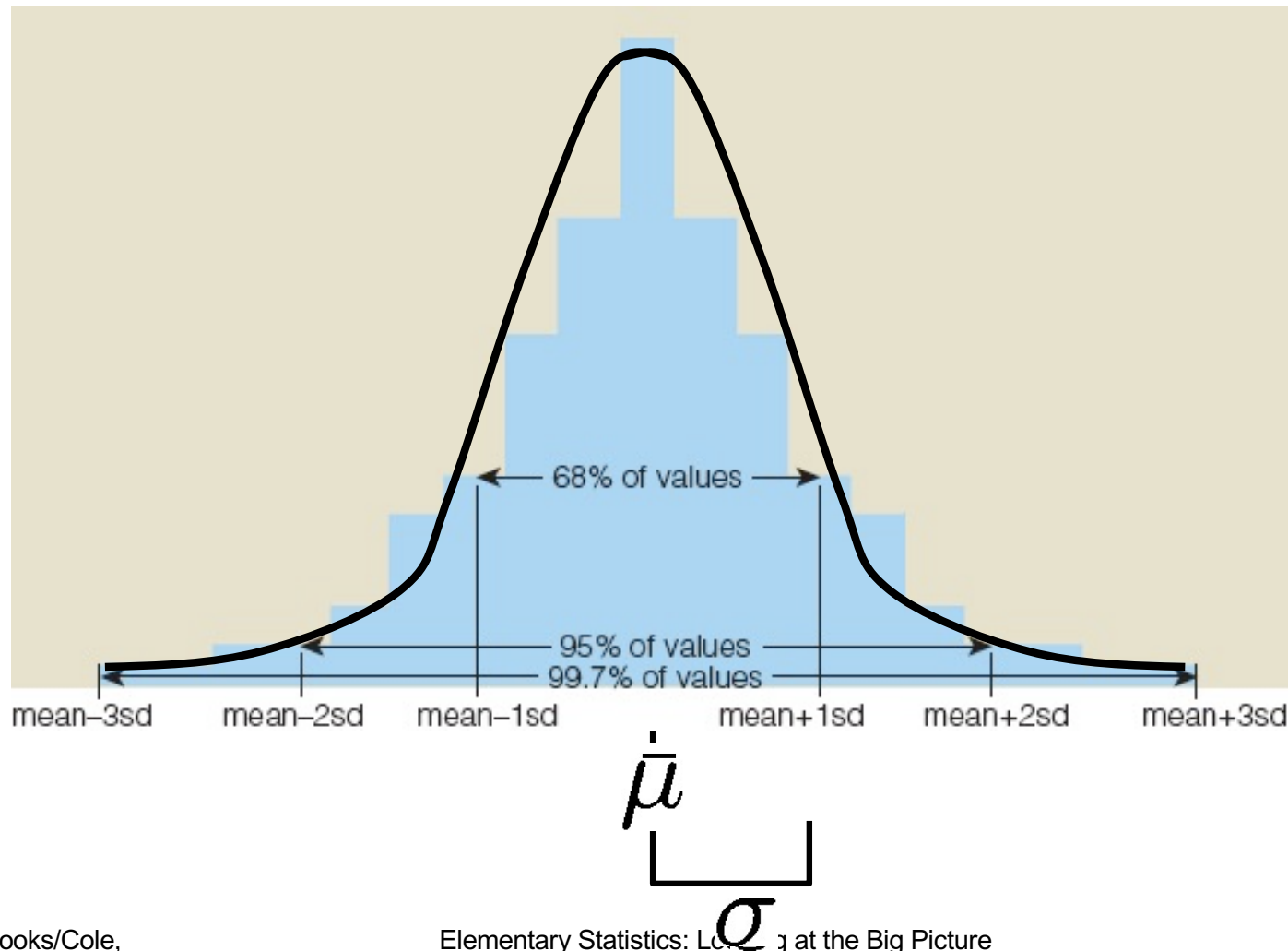
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- Summaries for **sample** of values
  - Mean  $\bar{x}$
  - Standard deviation  $S$
- Summaries for **population** of values
  - Mean  $\mu$  (called “mu”)
  - Standard deviation  $\sigma$  (called “sigma”)



# Notation: Mean and Standard Deviation

- Distinguish between sample and population



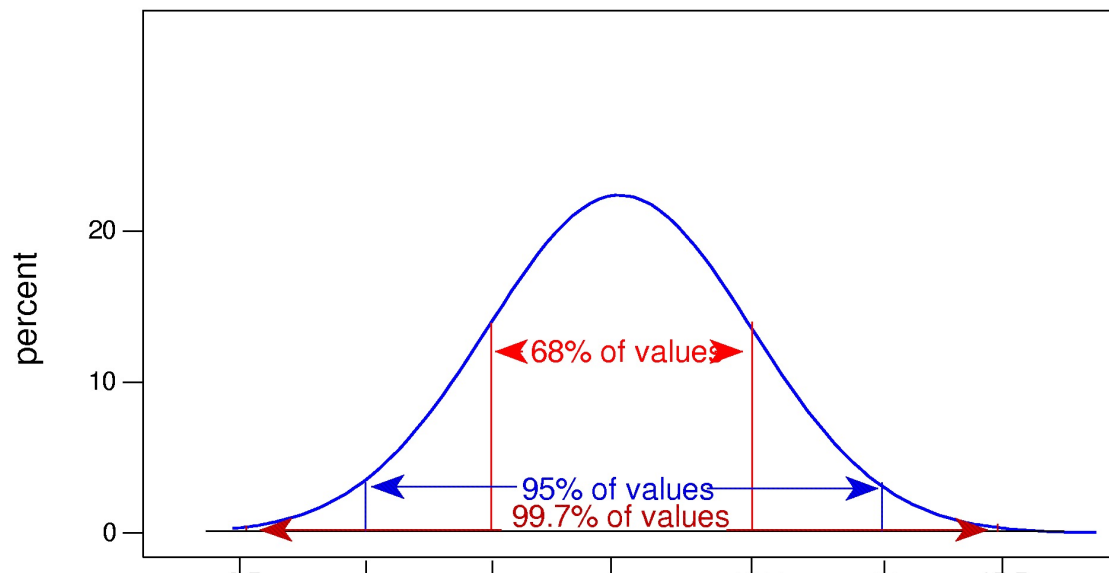
## Example: *Notation for Sample or Population*

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- **Background:** Adult male foot lengths are normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5. A sample of 9 male foot lengths had mean 11.2, standard deviation 1.7.
- **Questions:**
  - What notation applies to **sample**?
  - What notation applies to **population**?
- **Responses:**
  - If summarizing **sample**:
  - If summarizing **population**:

# Example: *Picturing a Normal Curve*

- **Background:** Adult male foot length normal with mean 11, standard deviation 1.5 (inches)
- **Question:** How can we display all such foot lengths?
- **Response:** Apply Rule to normal curve:  
Normal curve for all adult male foot lengths



## Example: *When Rule Does Not Apply*

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- **Background:** Ages of all undergrads at a university have mean 20.5, standard deviation 2.9 (years).
- **Question:** How could we display the ages?
- **Response:**



# Standardizing Normal Values

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We count distance from the mean, in standard deviations, through a process called **standardizing**.

## 68-95-99.7 Rule (*Review*)

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If we know the shape is **normal**, then values have

- 68% within 1 standard deviation of mean
- 95% within 2 standard deviations of mean
- 99.7% within 3 standard deviations of mean

Note: around 2 sds above or below mean may be considered “unusual”.

## Example: *Standardizing a Normal Value*

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- **Background:** Ages of mothers when giving birth is approximately normal with mean 27, standard deviation 6 (years).
- **Question:** Are these mothers unusually old to be giving birth? (a) Age 35 (b) Age 43
- **Response:**
  - (a) Age 35 is \_\_\_\_\_ sds above mean:  
Unusually old? \_\_\_\_\_
  - (b) Age 43 is \_\_\_\_\_ sds above mean:  
Unusually old? \_\_\_\_\_

# Definition

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- **z-score, or standardized value**, tells how many standard deviations below or above the mean the original value  $x$  is:

$$z = \frac{\text{value} - \text{mean}}{\text{standard deviation}}$$

- Notation:

- **Sample:**  $z = \frac{x - \bar{x}}{s}$

- **Population:**  $z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$

- **Unstandardizing z-scores:**

Original value  $x$  can be computed from z-score.

Take the mean and add  $z$  standard deviations:

$$x = \mu + z\sigma$$



# Lecture Summary

*(Quantitative Summaries, Begin Normal)*

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- **Mean:** typical value (average)
- **Mean vs. Median:** affected by shape
- **Standard Deviation:** typical distance from mean
- **Mean and Standard Deviation:** affected by outliers, skewness
- **Normal Distribution:** symmetric, bell-shape
- **68-95-99.7 Rule:** key values of normal dist.
- **Sketching Normal Histogram & Curve**
- **Notation:** sample vs. population
- **Standardizing:**  $z = (\text{value} - \text{mean}) / \text{sd}$