# Graphical Descriptive Statistics Part I: Depicting a single variable 

## Eco 2470: Economic Statistics <br> Fall, 2019. Chaoyi Chen <br> (Chapters 2-3)

## Interval Data

- Also known as quantitative or numeric data
- Numbers that have meaning
- Examples: age, years schooling, wage, GDP, foul shot percentage, exchange rate

Bank of Canada, 2011 Yearly Average Exchange Rates

| Country | Currency | value in Canadian Currency |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| China | renminbi | 0.1531 |
| Europe | Euro | 1.3767 |
| Japan | yen | 0.01242 |
| United States | dollar | 0.9890692 |

## Ordinal Data

- Numbers denote ordered categories
- Only the order matters
- E.g. Highest Degree Completed

1 (none), 2 (elementary), 3 (high school), 4 (university)

- E.g. Course Evaluations:

1 (poor), 2 (fair), 3 (good), 4 (very good), 5 (excellent)

## Comparing Interval \& Ordinal Data

ATP Rankings Tennis Rankings (Men's Singles), Aug 20, 2012

| Name | Rank | Points |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Roger Federer | 1 | 12,165 |
| Novak Djokovic | 2 | 11,270 |
| Rafael Nadal | 3 | 8,715 |
| Andy Murray | 4 | 7,290 |

## Nominal Data

- Also known as Categorical or Qualitative
- Numeric values just denote a name or category
- Have no mean as a number
- Examples:
- Sex: 0 (male), 1 (female)
- Region: 1 (Ontario), 2 (Quebec), 3 (PEI), ...
- Postal Code


## Frequency Definitions

- Frequency: Number of observations falling into a group or category
- Relative Frequency: Proportion of observations falling into a group or category
- Cumulative Relative Frequency: Proportion of observations falling into a group and all previous groups
- Applies only to ordered groups
- Applies to Ordinal, but not nominal data

Example: Health, malnutrition and obesity among married women in India

Sources:Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Sarah Salih's U. of Guelph MA paper. $\mathrm{BMI}=$ Body Mass Index $=$ weigh/(height ${ }^{2)}$

| Health <br> Category | Frequency | Relative Frequency | Cumulative <br> Relative <br> Frequency |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Underweight <br> (BMI<18.5) | 23,522 | 0.2896 <br> $(=23,522 / 103,288)$ | 0.2896 |
| Normal | 51,528 | 0.4589 <br> $(=51,528 / 103,288)$ | 0.7485 <br> $(=0.2896+0.4589$ |
| Overweight <br> (BMI>23) | 28,238 | 0.2515 <br> $(=28,238 / 103,288)$ | 1 <br> $(=0.7485+0.2515)$ |
| Total | 103,288 | 1 | N/A |

## Bar and Pie Charts

- Bar Chart: Uses bar heights to display frequencies for each group.
- Relative Frequency Bar Chart: Same, except that is displays relative frequencies
- Pie Chart: Uses the size of "pizza slices" to display relative frequencies
- Hint: Make your frequency/relative frequency table first. Then use it to make your charts.

Health Status of Married Women in India (con't)


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## Health Status of Married Women in India (con't)

| Health Category | Frequency | Relative <br> Frequency |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Underweight | 23,522 | 0.29 |
| Normal | 51,528 | 0.459 |
| Overweight | 28,238 | 0.252 |

Pie Chart (Relative Frequency)


## Histograms

- Nominal and Ordinal data: pre-defined groups
- Easy to calculate frequencies \& plot bar chart
- Interval Data: No predefined groups
- What to do?
- Solution: Define are own groups,
- Except that they are no longer called groups
- They are now called classes
- Then calculate frequencies and make a bar chart
- Except it is no longer called a bar chart
- It is called a histogram


## Example: US income distribution

 (from http://visualizingeconomics.com/)- Survey of 114,384 households by U.S. Census Bureau.
- Record 2006 household income in US dollars
- Interval data since this is a meaningful dollar quantity
- Make classes based on income intervals:

Class 1 (0-10k), class 2 (10k-20k), ...

- Calculate frequency for each class


## US income distribution (con't)

|  | Income | and less <br> Class | frequency <br> (no. of <br> nore than <br> households |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 0 | 10,000 | 9,401 |
| 2 | 10,000 | 20,000 | 14,447 |
| 3 | 20,000 | 30,000 | 13,642 |
| 4 | 30,000 | 40,000 | 12,388 |
| 5 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 11,028 |
| 6 | 50,000 | 60,000 | 9,352 |

Etc.

## Histogram (U.S. household income)

Excludes Income over 250K
frequency (no. of households)


## Cumulative Relative Frequency of Income

|  | Income <br> more <br> than | and less <br> than | frequency <br> (no. of <br> househol <br> ds) | Total no. <br> of <br> househol <br> ds | relative <br> frequency | cumulative <br> relative <br> frequence |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 0 | 10,000 | 9,401 | 112,364 | 0.0837 | $\mathbf{0 . 0 8 3 7}$ |
| 2 | 10,000 | 20,000 | 14,447 | 112,364 | 0.1286 | $\mathbf{0 . 2 1 2 2}$ |
| 3 | 20,000 | 30,000 | 13,642 | 112,364 | 0.1214 | $\mathbf{0 . 3 3 3 6}$ |
| 4 | 30,000 | 40,000 | 12,388 | 112,364 | 0.1102 | $\mathbf{0 . 4 4 3 9}$ |
| 5 | 40,000 | 50,000 | 11,028 | 112,364 | 0.0981 | $\mathbf{0 . 5 4 2 0}$ |
| 6 | 50,000 | 60,000 | 9,352 | 112,364 | 0.0832 | $\mathbf{0 . 6 2 5 3}$ |

Interpretation: Approximately 60 percent of households had income under 50,000.

## Ogive (Graph of cumulative relative frequency)

Ogive: cumulative relative frequency


## Interpreting the Ogive

Ogive: cumulative relative frequency


## How to select number and width of classes for histogram and ogive?

Approximate Number of Classes for Histograms

| Number of Observations | Number of Classes |
| :--- | :--- |
| Less than 50 | $5-7$ |
| $50-200$ | $7-9$ |
| $200-500$ | $9-10$ |
| $500-1,000$ | $10-11$ |
| $1,000-5,000$ | $11-13$ |
| $5,000-50,000$ | $13-17$ |
| More than 50,000 | $17-20$ |

Class Interval Width = Largest Observation - Smallest Observation Number of Classes

## Additional Slides From Publisher

We now turn to some additional slides from the textbook publisher on the following topics:

1. Shapes to look for in histograms
2. Time series and cross-section data
3. Plotting time series data

Unfortunately, copies of these slides cannot be provided due to legal restrictions from the publisher. Please take good notes.

