

Math 243 Sections 2.1.2-2.2.5 Descriptive Statistics for Numerical Variables

describing the data we have

A framework to describe quantitative data:

Describe the Shape, Center and Spread, and Unusual Features

goal - write a paragraph to summarize a data set

Shape – How is the data distributed? We need to see a picture to determine the shape.

There are four types of graphs for quantitative variables

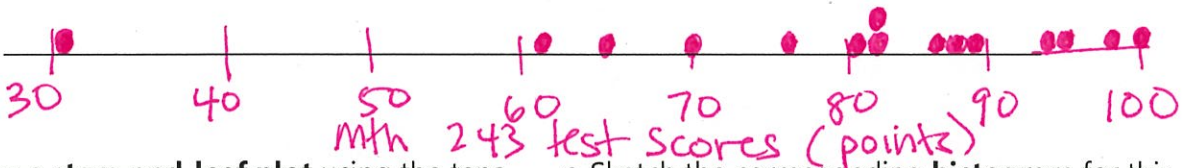
- Dot Plot
- Stem-and-leaf Plot
- Histogram
- Boxplot

Example 1: Here is a set of 15 exam scores for a fictional MTH 243 Statistics class at PCC.

31, 62, 65, 70, 76, 81, 82, 82, 87, 88, 89, 94, 95, 98, 100

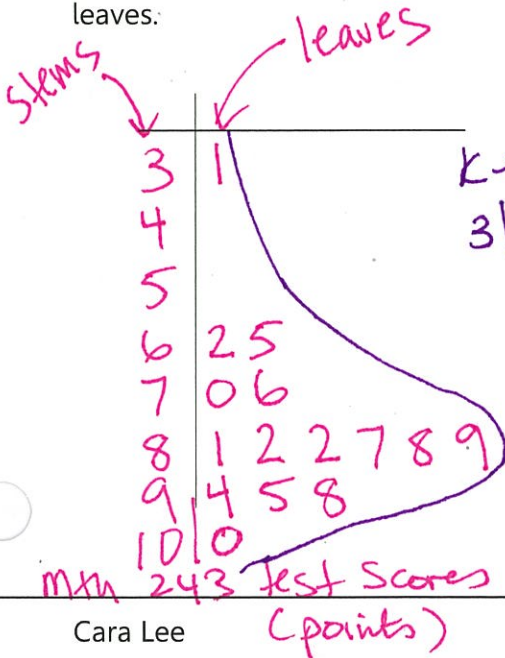
a. Draw a **dot plot** for this data.

Include titles and units for all graphs.

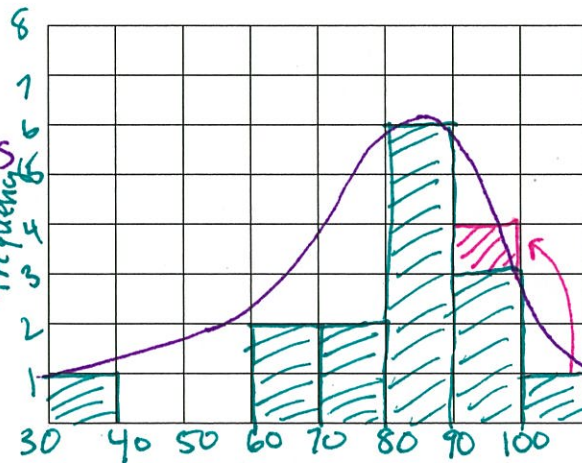


b. Draw a **stem-and-leaf plot** using the tens digits as the stem and the ones digits as the leaves.

c. Sketch the corresponding **histogram** for this data using a bin width of 10. Scale and label your graph appropriately.



*Key
3|1 means
31
or
3.1*

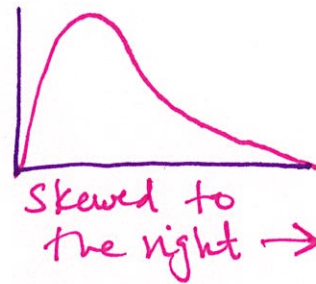
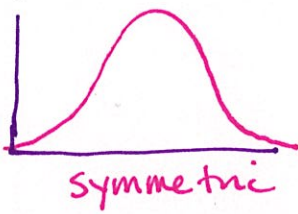


Geogebra won't go over the max value

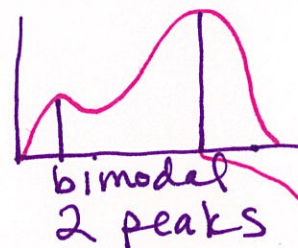
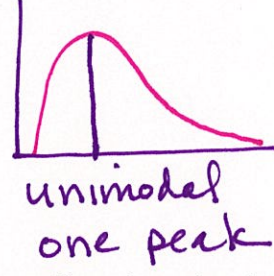
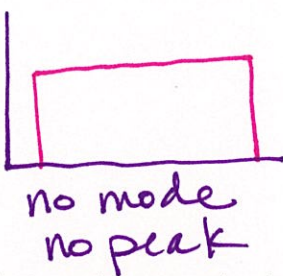
*Split stems p. 48
back-to-back p. 70.*

Describing Shape

- Symmetric, skewed left or skewed right

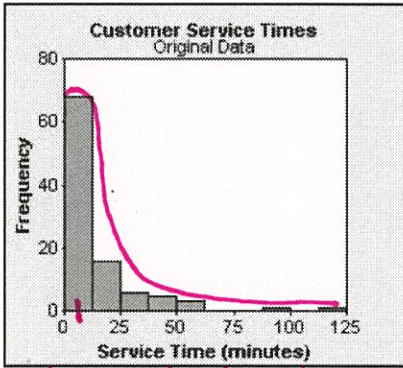


- Modes: no mode, unimodal, bimodal, multimodal

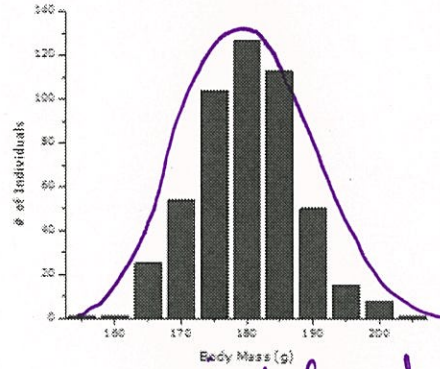


Example 2: In the examples below we'll explore the shape of various histograms. Is it symmetric? What is the shape of the histogram? Where are the modes (if it has any)?

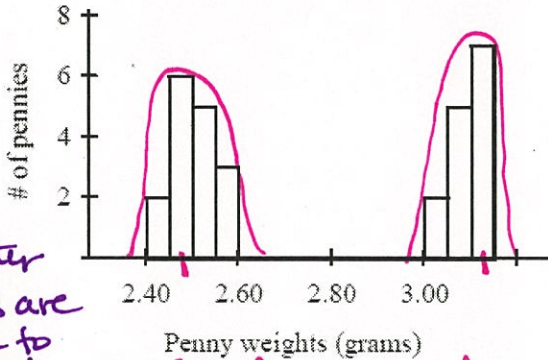
The mode is the center of the peak.



Skewed to the right and unimodal with the mode at 6.25 minutes.

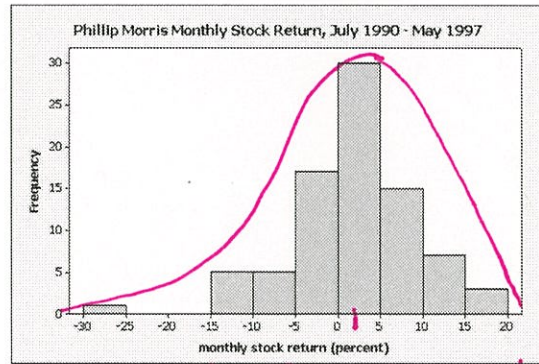


unimodal and approximately symmetric. The mode is 180 grams.



The lighter pennies are skewed to the right. The heavier pennies are skewed to the left.

Bimodal, with modes at 2.475 g and 3.175 g usually means that 2 populations have been grouped together - separate into 2 groups.



unimodal and slightly skewed to the left! The mode is 2.5%.

Center and Spread – These should always be reported together.

Center is the position or location of the data (The average or typical value).
Spread is how much variation is in the data or how spread out the data is.

There are two different sets of measures for center and spread:

For skewed distributions:	For symmetrical distributions:
Center: Median Spread: IQR (Interquartile Range)	Center: Mean, \bar{x} Spread: Standard Deviation, s

this packet

→ next packet

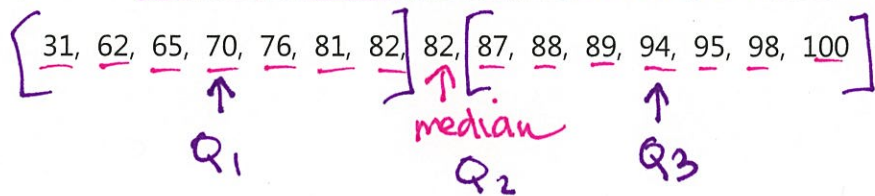
Median and IQR

Find the median and quartiles of the data. This divides the data into four equal sections.

even # of numbers

$81, 82, 82, 87, 88, 89$
 $\frac{82+87}{2} = 84.5$

Example 1 continued: Using the previous data set (repeated here), find the median and quartiles by hand. The data is already in order. If there is an odd number of values, do not include the median when finding the quartiles. If there is an even number of values, average the middle two.



The median (Q_2) is the middle value or 50th percentile. 50% of the data are below that value.

The first quartile (Q_1) is the 25th percentile. 25% of the data are below that value.

The third quartile (Q_3) is the 75th percentile. 75% of the data are below that value.

5-Number Summary:

Min	31 points
Q_1	70 points
Median (Q_2)	82 points
Q_3	94 points
Max	100 points

Interquartile Range or IQR (Spread):

The width of the middle 50% of the data

$IQR = Q_3 - Q_1$

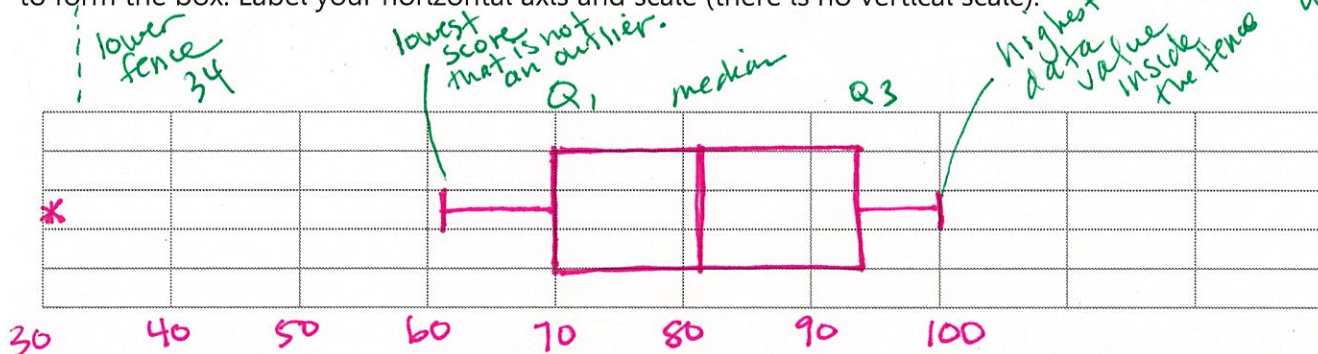
$94 - 70 = 24$ points

*The IQR is a better measure of spread than the range (max - min) because it is less sensitive to outliers. $100 - 31 = 69$ points

31, 70, 82, 94, 100 points

How to draw a Boxplot. Some books call this a modified boxplot because outliers are shown.

1. Draw the Box. Determine the scale and draw vertical lines at the Median, Q_1 and Q_3 . Connect these to form the box. Label your horizontal axis and scale (there is no vertical scale).



Test scores of math 243 students in points.

2. Calculate the Fences using $1.5 \cdot IQR$.

We use 1.5 times the Interquartile range on each side of the box to determine the fences. Any data values outside of the fences are considered outliers. The whiskers are drawn to the nearest data values inside each fence.

Upper Fence: $Q_3 + 1.5 \cdot IQR$ $94 + 1.5(24) = 130$ points

Lower Fence: $Q_1 - 1.5 \cdot IQR$ $70 - 1.5(24) = 34$ points

Draw in the fences lightly or below the graph. They are not technically part of the graph.

3. Draw the whiskers to the nearest data value inside each fence and make a short vertical bar. Label each value outside the fences (outliers) with a dot.

Activity 1. Use GeoGebra to calculate the 1-variable statistics.

View > Spreadsheet > Type in your data (or copy and paste)

Select your data > Click on the histogram for **One Variable Analysis** > Click Analyze

Use GeoGebra to draw a histogram and boxplot.

Use the dropdown menu to select **Histogram**. Change the options using the icon in the upper right corner

Select **Show 2nd Plot** and select **Boxplot**. Use the same scale for both plots so they match.

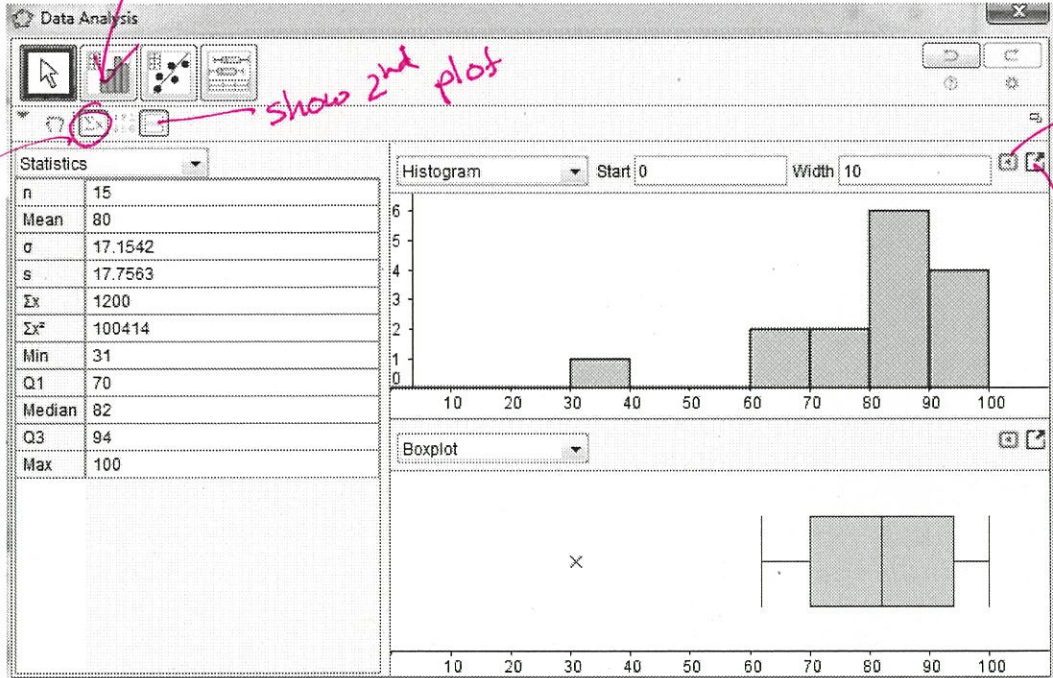
*GeoGebra.org
down loads
classic 5*

GeoGebra Results. Select **Copy to Clipboard** to insert a graph into a document.

1 - variable statistics

Shows stats

show 2nd plot



set classes manually

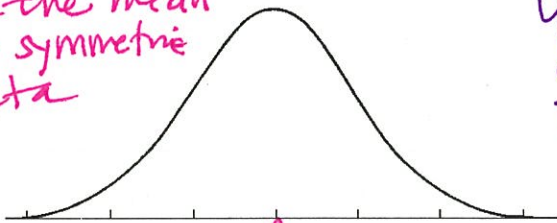
copy to clipboard

set X-min, X-max, X-scale

How do the mean, median and mode relate to the shape of the distribution? (2.6)

Symmetric Distributions

use the mean for symmetric data



*mean
median
mode*

Test for the shape

if the mean and median are close, then the distribution is approximately symmetric.

if the mean is below the median, the data are skewed to the left.

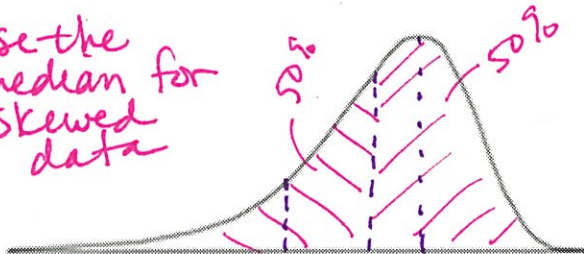
if the mean is higher than the median, the data are skewed to the right.

Skewed Distributions

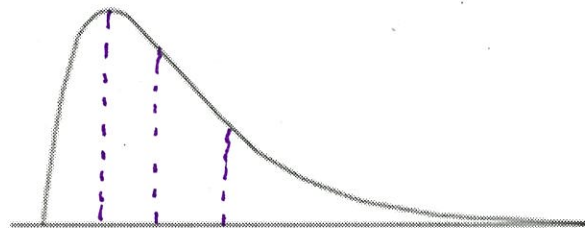
Skewed left

Skewed right

use the median for skewed data



*mean
median
mode*



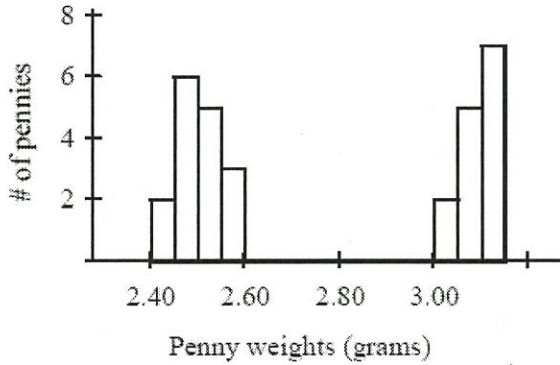
*mode
median
mean*

Unusual Features:

Mention anything unusual about the data or state that there aren't any unusual features.

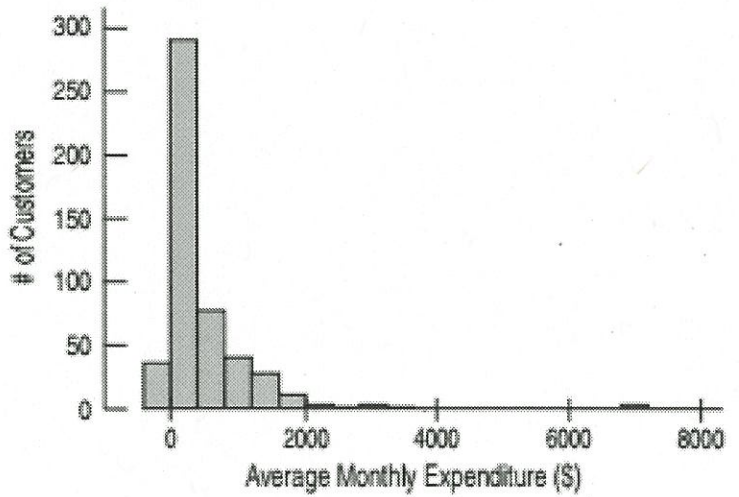
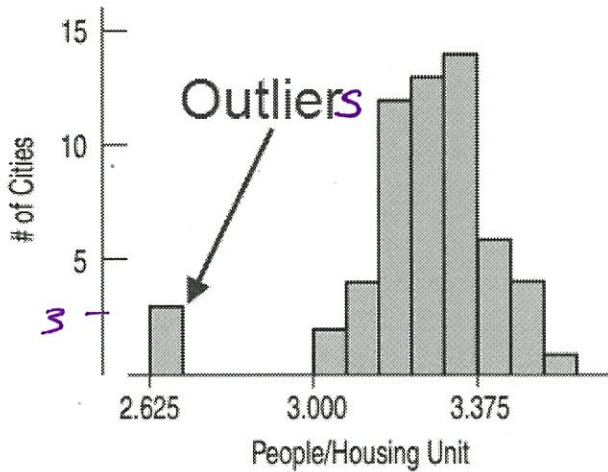
- Multiple modes (look for subpopulations)
- Gaps and Outliers

Multiple Modes:



Bimodal - split into 2 populations

Gaps and Outliers:



Should you toss out outliers?

No, look into those cases - identify which cases are outliers and why
If no unusual features, state that.

Include context

Example 1 Continued: Continuing with our test score data set, write a paragraph describing the distribution. Be sure to talk about the shape, center and spread, and any unusual features (or say that there are none).

The distribution of test scores is unimodal and skewed to the left. The median test score is 82 points and the IQR is 24 points. There was one score that was an outlier at 31 points.

(the mode is about 85 points)
(shape)

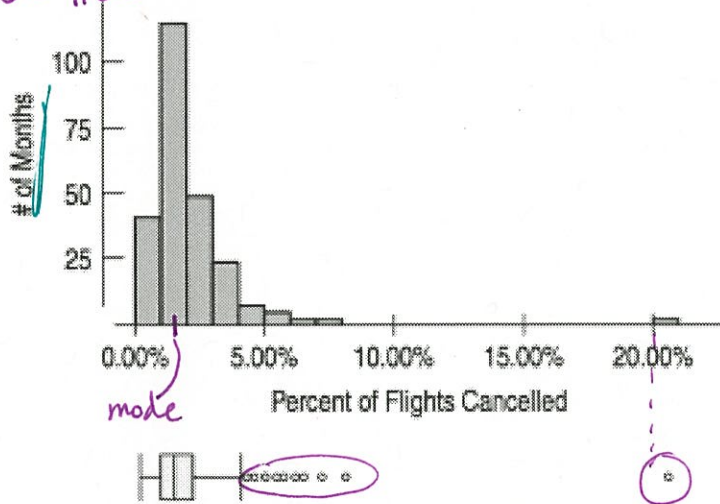
(center + spread)

(unusual features)

Practice: The US Bureau of Transportation Statistics reports data on airline flights. Let's look at data giving the percentage of flights cancelled each month between 1994 and 2013. Use a few sentences to describe how often flights are cancelled. Be sure to talk about the shape, center and spread, and any unusual features (or say that there are none).

$2.39 - 1.16 = 1.23\%$

Count	238
Max	20.24
Q3	2.39
Median	1.68
Q1	1.16
Min	0.38
IQR	1.23



The distribution of the percentage of flights canceled each month between 1994 and 2013 is unimodal and skewed to the right. The mode is about 1.5% of flights canceled in a month. The median is 1.68% of flights canceled, with an IQR of 1.23%. There was one month with over 20% of flights canceled and another grouping of outliers with about 4-9% of the flights canceled.

Complete Summary of Test Scores for a Math 243 Class

Summary Statistics

Mean: 80 points

Standard Deviation: 17.76 points

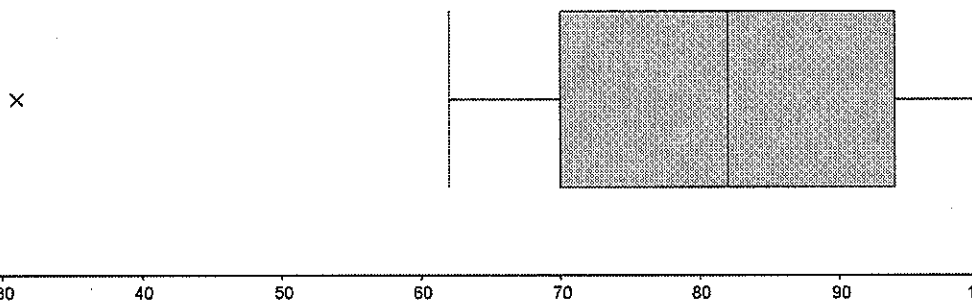
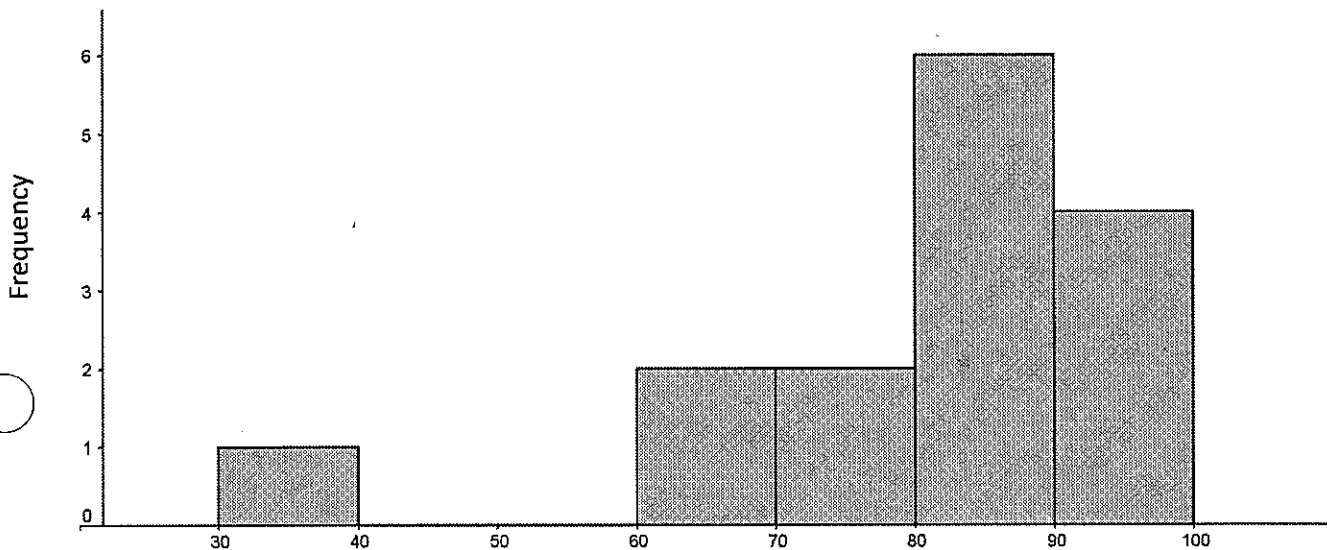
Min: 31 points

Q1: 70 points

Median: 82 points

Q3: 94 points

Max: 100 points



Test Scores for Math 243 Students (Points)

The distribution of test scores is unimodal and skewed to the left. The mode is between 80 and 90 points. The median is a score of 82 points and the width of the middle 50% is 24 points (interquartile range). There is one outlier score of 31 points to look into. The student may have gotten behind or had an extremely bad day.