

## 2.1: Introduction to Looking at Data (This is what too many numbers looks like)

I have scores on a 100-point final exam from one class provided by [OpenIntro.org](https://openintro.org) Can you look at them in Table 2.1.1 and quickly tell how the class did?

Table 2.1.1 - Final Exam Scores

79	83	66	81
83	72	89	88
57	74	78	69
82	73	81	77
94	71	78	79

Even if you could get a general idea of how these 20 students did on the final exam, this is not the best way to understand data sets. And just imagine if the class had 40 or 100 students in it!

When you deal with data, you may have so many numbers to you that you will be overwhelmed by them. That is why we need ways to describe the data in a more manageable fashion.

We'll start that in this chapter on charts, then describe whole sets of data in only a few important numbers in the following chapter.

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