

## CHAPTER OVERVIEW

### 2: Descriptive Statistics

Statistics naturally divides into two branches, descriptive statistics and inferential statistics. Our main interest is in inferential statistics to try to infer from the data what the population might think or to evaluate the probability that an observed difference between groups is a dependable one or one that might have happened by chance in this study. Nevertheless, the starting point for dealing with a collection of data is to organize, display, and summarize it effectively. These are the objectives of descriptive statistics, the topic of this chapter.

[2.1: Three Popular Data Displays](#)

[2.2: Measures of Central Location - Three Kinds of Averages](#)

[2.3: Measures of Variability](#)

[2.4: Relative Position of Data](#)

[2.5: The Empirical Rule and Chebyshev's Theorem](#)

[2.E: Descriptive Statistics \(Exercises\)](#)

---

This page titled [2: Descriptive Statistics](#) is shared under a [CC BY-NC-SA 3.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Anonymous](#) via [source content](#) that was edited to the style and standards of the LibreTexts platform.