



MATH225

Measures of Central Tendency

A **measure of central tendency** is a value that represents a typical, or central entry of a data set.

I. Mean (commonly referred to as the Average)

Data set is the sum of the data entries divided by the number of entries.

$$\text{Population Mean: } \mu = \frac{\sum x}{N} \quad \text{Sample Mean: } \bar{x} = \frac{\sum x}{n}$$

Example: Find the mean of: 10, 7, 15, 6, 24, 20, 1

$$\bar{x} = 11.86$$

Example: The heights (in inches) of the players on the 2009-2010 Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team are listed. What is the mean height?

Heights of Players							
74	78	81	87	81	80	77	80
85	78	80	83	75	81	73	

$$M = 79.5 \text{ inches}$$