

7.2

Variation

What Do You Already Know?

Tapping into your existing knowledge

1. How is the mean calculated?
2. How is the range calculated?
3. How can you find the “deviation from the mean” for a number in a variable in a data set?
4. Have you heard the term *standard deviation*? If so what does it mean to you?
5. Why do many measures of variation square the distances between the variable values and the mean of the variable?
6. Examining the scores of the students in the previous section, which student do you expect would have scores with a higher standard deviation?
7. What does it mean to be within a certain number of units of the mean?