Glossary: Arithmetic mean

Statistics Explained

The arithmetic mean , also known as arithmetic average , is the sum of all the values in a list of numerical values divided by the number of items in the list. For example, if we have the two values, eight and six, then their arithmetic average is: 8+6/2=7.

In common daily usage, the term 'average' usually refers to the arithmetic mean rather than to the other types of average, such as the geometric mean, harmonic mean, median or mode.

Related concepts

- Geometric mean
- Median
- Modus

Source

• OECD glossary of statistical terms