









6.3: Working with Normally Distributed Variables

<u>Recall</u>: The *z*-score of a data point is its distance from the mean, measured in standard deviations.

Standardizing the values of a normal distribution:

In a normal distribution with mean μ and standard deviation σ , where *x* is a data value, the *z*-score is

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}.$$

The area under a normal curve between x = a and x = b is the same as the area under the standard normal curve between the *z*-score for *a* and the *z*-score for *b*.



Properties of Normal Probability Distributions:

P(a ≤ x ≤ b) = area under the curve from *a* to *b*.
 P(-∞ ≤ x ≤ ∞) = 1 = total area under the curve.
 P(x = c) = 0.

Note: P(a ≤ x ≤ b) = P(a ≤ x < b) = P(a < x ≤ b) = P(a < x < b)</p>

Example 2: Dusty Dog Food Company ships dog food to its distributors in bags whose weights are normally distributed with a mean weight of 50 pounds and standard deviation 0.5 pound. If a bag of dog food is selected at random from a shipment, what is the probability that it weighs

- a) More than 51 pounds?
- b) Less than 49 pounds?
- c) Between 49 and 51 pounds?
- d) What is the percentage of dog food bags that weigh more than 51 pounds?

Example 3: The medical records of infants delivered at a certain hospital show that the infants' birth weights in pounds are normally distributed with a mean of 7.4 and a standard deviation of 1.2.

- a) What percentage of infants at this hospital weighed more than 9.2 pounds at birth?
- b) What percentage of infants at this hospital weighed less than 8 pounds at birth?
- c) What percentage of infants at this hospital weighed between 8 and 10 pounds at birth?

<u>Important</u>: The *z*-score is the number of standard deviations between the data point and the mean.

Example 4: A variable is normally distributed with mean 83 and standard deviation 24.

- a) Find and interpret the quartiles.
- b) Find and interpret the 98th percentile.
- c) Find and interpret the first and second deciles.
- d) Find the value that 72% of all possible values of the variable exceed.
- e) Find two values of the variable that divide the area into a middle area of 0.90 and two outside areas of 0.05 each.



Use
$$2 = 6.675$$
 to get Q3:
Find the X-value:
 $2=\frac{X-\mu}{0}$
Multiply by 0°: $20 = X-\mu$
Add μ : $20+\mu=X$
 $X = \mu+20 = 83+0.675(2A) = 99.2$
To find Q1, $X = \mu - 20 = 83 - 0.675(2A) = 666.8$
(c-ynmetg)
 6 Find 98th percential separate is the value
 $4\pi = 20.49$
 6 Find 98th percential separate is the value
 $4\pi = 20.49$
 6 6 the variable so that 98%
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Ex 46 cont'd:

$$Z \approx 2.055$$

 $N = \mu + 20^{-1}$
() [st decide: 10% are below, 90% are above, etc.
 2^{rd} decide: 20% are below, 80% are above, etc.
 $3.32 = 33 + 2.055(24) = [32.32]$ 98th percentile.
 $32.32 = 98$ th percentile.

Example 5: The GPA of the senior class of a certain high school is normally distributed with a mean of 2.7 and a standard deviation of 0.4 point. If a senior in the top 10% of his or her class is eligible for admission to any state university, what is the minimum GPA that a senior should have to ensure eligibility to a state university?