

Finding the mean of a large set of data

To avoid errors in addition we need another way to calculate the mean for a large set of data.

We use a frequency table.

Example

30 students took a test. Their scores are shown in the table. Find the mean of their scores.

Score	Frequency	Frequency \times Score
0	1	0
1	1	1
2	8	16
3	11	33
4	5	20
5	4	20
Totals:	30	90

$$\text{Mean} = \frac{\overset{39}{\cancel{90}}}{\underset{\cancel{30}}{30}} = \underline{\underline{3}}$$