

Jelly Beans

Many products have a weight printed on the packet. But how accurate are these figures?

You are provided with 10 packets of jelly beans (or similar). Weigh each of the packets to the nearest gramme.

These 10 packets are actually part of a sample of 100 packets
Here are the rest of the weights

77 78 76 75 76 76 79 77 74 76
 75 79 71 78 77 76 76 78 78 76
 77 76 74 77 75 77 75 77 73 76
 78 77 76 79 76 76 75 77 75 75
 76 78 76 75 73 75 76 77 74 75
 76 77 76 77 78 74 78 77 77 75
 78 76 75 76 74 77 75 74 75 74
 77 77 73 78 76 78 73 73 76 74
 74 78 74 76 73 75 76 72 74 76



Complete the tally chart and then enter the frequencies into the spreadsheet on the following page.

Jelly Beans

Weight in grammes x	Tally	Frequency f
71		
72		
73		
74		
75		
76		
77		
78		
79		
80		

x	f	x^2	$f x$	$f x^2$
71		5041		
72		5184		
73		5329		
74		5476		
75		5625		
76		5776		
77		5929		
78		6084		
79		6241		
80		6400		
totals		57085		

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Now carry out the following calculations and then answer the questions.

$$\Sigma fx^2 =$$

$$\Sigma fx =$$

$$\Sigma f =$$

$$\text{Mean, } \mu$$

$$\text{Variance, } \sigma^2 =$$

$$\text{SD, } \sigma =$$

Questions

The manufacturers claim that the mean is 76g. What is the mean of the sample of 100 packets? Is this claim reasonable?

The manufacturers say that since the mean weight is greater than the stated weight they are being more than fair to consumers.

Let's explore this and see if we agree

Assuming the distribution of weights approximates to the normal distribution, what is the probability that a packet weighs less than the stated weight of 75g?

Jelly Beans

Is this reasonable from a consumer point of view? Explain your answer.

The e symbol on the packet next to the weight indicates that the packet has been filled in compliance with a European directive (76/211/EEC if you are interested!)

This table (from the directive) allows us to work out what the tolerance is for these packets. The directive states that there must be less than a 2.5% chance of a packet being less than the labelled value minus the tolerance.

Table of tolerable negative errors	
Nominal quantity in g	Tolerable negative error
5–50	9%
50–100	4.5 g
100–200	4.5%
200–300	9 g
300–500	3%
500–1000	15 g
1000–10000	1.5%

So for our 75g packets the allowable tolerance is 4.5 g

Using our data, what is the probability that the packet will weigh less than 70.5 g?

Jelly Beans

Do the packets conform to the EEC directive? Explain your answer.

Sainsbury's decide to explore the possibility of reducing the average weight of their packets to save money. However they want the stated weight to remain at 75g and want the packets to just meet the EEC directive. What is the minimum mean weight that would achieve this? (assume that the standard deviation of the new sample is the same as the sample above)

You may find the following useful

If $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and $Z \sim (0, 1^2)$, then $z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$

$$\text{Variance} = \frac{\sum fx^2}{\sum f} - \left(\frac{\sum fx}{\sum f} \right)^2$$

Jelly Beans

THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION

The function tabulated below is $\Phi(z)$, defined as $\Phi(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^z e^{-\frac{1}{2}t^2} dt$.

z	$\Phi(z)$	z	$\Phi(z)$	z	$\Phi(z)$	z	$\Phi(z)$	z	$\Phi(z)$
0.00	0.5000	0.50	0.6915	1.00	0.8413	1.50	0.9332	2.00	0.9772
0.01	0.5040	0.51	0.6950	1.01	0.8438	1.51	0.9345	2.02	0.9783
0.02	0.5080	0.52	0.6985	1.02	0.8461	1.52	0.9357	2.04	0.9793
0.03	0.5120	0.53	0.7019	1.03	0.8485	1.53	0.9370	2.06	0.9803
0.04	0.5160	0.54	0.7054	1.04	0.8508	1.54	0.9382	2.08	0.9812
0.05	0.5199	0.55	0.7088	1.05	0.8531	1.55	0.9394	2.10	0.9821
0.06	0.5239	0.56	0.7123	1.06	0.8554	1.56	0.9406	2.12	0.9830
0.07	0.5279	0.57	0.7157	1.07	0.8577	1.57	0.9418	2.14	0.9838
0.08	0.5319	0.58	0.7190	1.08	0.8599	1.58	0.9429	2.16	0.9846
0.09	0.5359	0.59	0.7224	1.09	0.8621	1.59	0.9441	2.18	0.9854
0.10	0.5398	0.60	0.7257	1.10	0.8643	1.60	0.9452	2.20	0.9861
0.11	0.5438	0.61	0.7291	1.11	0.8665	1.61	0.9463	2.22	0.9868
0.12	0.5478	0.62	0.7324	1.12	0.8686	1.62	0.9474	2.24	0.9875
0.13	0.5517	0.63	0.7357	1.13	0.8708	1.63	0.9484	2.26	0.9881
0.14	0.5557	0.64	0.7389	1.14	0.8729	1.64	0.9495	2.28	0.9887
0.15	0.5596	0.65	0.7422	1.15	0.8749	1.65	0.9505	2.30	0.9893
0.16	0.5636	0.66	0.7454	1.16	0.8770	1.66	0.9515	2.32	0.9898
0.17	0.5675	0.67	0.7486	1.17	0.8790	1.67	0.9525	2.34	0.9904
0.18	0.5714	0.68	0.7517	1.18	0.8810	1.68	0.9535	2.36	0.9909
0.19	0.5753	0.69	0.7549	1.19	0.8830	1.69	0.9545	2.38	0.9913
0.20	0.5793	0.70	0.7580	1.20	0.8849	1.70	0.9554	2.40	0.9918
0.21	0.5832	0.71	0.7611	1.21	0.8869	1.71	0.9564	2.42	0.9922
0.22	0.5871	0.72	0.7642	1.22	0.8888	1.72	0.9573	2.44	0.9927
0.23	0.5910	0.73	0.7673	1.23	0.8907	1.73	0.9582	2.46	0.9931
0.24	0.5948	0.74	0.7704	1.24	0.8925	1.74	0.9591	2.48	0.9934
0.25	0.5987	0.75	0.7734	1.25	0.8944	1.75	0.9599	2.50	0.9938
0.26	0.6026	0.76	0.7764	1.26	0.8962	1.76	0.9608	2.55	0.9946
0.27	0.6064	0.77	0.7794	1.27	0.8980	1.77	0.9616	2.60	0.9953
0.28	0.6103	0.78	0.7823	1.28	0.8997	1.78	0.9625	2.65	0.9960
0.29	0.6141	0.79	0.7852	1.29	0.9015	1.79	0.9633	2.70	0.9965
0.30	0.6179	0.80	0.7881	1.30	0.9032	1.80	0.9641	2.75	0.9970
0.31	0.6217	0.81	0.7910	1.31	0.9049	1.81	0.9649	2.80	0.9974
0.32	0.6255	0.82	0.7939	1.32	0.9066	1.82	0.9656	2.85	0.9978
0.33	0.6293	0.83	0.7967	1.33	0.9082	1.83	0.9664	2.90	0.9981
0.34	0.6331	0.84	0.7995	1.34	0.9099	1.84	0.9671	2.95	0.9984
0.35	0.6368	0.85	0.8023	1.35	0.9115	1.85	0.9678	3.00	0.9987
0.36	0.6406	0.86	0.8051	1.36	0.9131	1.86	0.9686	3.05	0.9989
0.37	0.6443	0.87	0.8078	1.37	0.9147	1.87	0.9693	3.10	0.9990
0.38	0.6480	0.88	0.8106	1.38	0.9162	1.88	0.9699	3.15	0.9992
0.39	0.6517	0.89	0.8133	1.39	0.9177	1.89	0.9706	3.20	0.9993
0.40	0.6554	0.90	0.8159	1.40	0.9192	1.90	0.9713	3.25	0.9994
0.41	0.6591	0.91	0.8186	1.41	0.9207	1.91	0.9719	3.30	0.9995
0.42	0.6628	0.92	0.8212	1.42	0.9222	1.92	0.9726	3.35	0.9996
0.43	0.6664	0.93	0.8238	1.43	0.9236	1.93	0.9732	3.40	0.9997
0.44	0.6700	0.94	0.8264	1.44	0.9251	1.94	0.9738	3.50	0.9998
0.45	0.6736	0.95	0.8289	1.45	0.9265	1.95	0.9744	3.60	0.9998
0.46	0.6772	0.96	0.8315	1.46	0.9279	1.96	0.9750	3.70	0.9999
0.47	0.6808	0.97	0.8340	1.47	0.9292	1.97	0.9756	3.80	0.9999
0.48	0.6844	0.98	0.8365	1.48	0.9306	1.98	0.9761	3.90	1.0000
0.49	0.6879	0.99	0.8389	1.49	0.9319	1.99	0.9767	4.00	1.0000
0.50	0.6915	1.00	0.8413	1.50	0.9332	2.00	0.9772		

PERCENTAGE POINTS OF THE NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

The values z in the table are those which a random variable $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ exceeds with probability p ; that is, $P(Z > z) = 1 - \Phi(z) = p$.

p	z	p	z
0.5000	0.0000	0.0500	1.6449
0.4000	0.2533	0.0250	1.9600
0.3000	0.5244	0.0100	2.3263
0.2000	0.8416	0.0050	2.5758
0.1500	1.0364	0.0010	3.0902
0.1000	1.2816	0.0005	3.2905