

MATC9 Ch04.4 Key Concepts 1 Mean of a Data Set Worked Example

Example: Flavio took a survey to find the hourly rates paid to his classmates at their part-time jobs. The results are shown. Find the mean of these data.

Rate(\$/h)		
8	9	8
12	11	20
10	8	9
8	9	8

Solution: Add all of the rates, and then divide by the number of students surveyed.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Mean rate} &= \frac{8+12+10+8+9+11+8+9+8+20+9+8}{12} \\ &= \$10/\text{h}\end{aligned}$$

Practice:

1. Indira made several practice cross-country flights while working towards a pilot's licence, and noted the price of aviation fuel at each airport that she visited. The results are shown. Find the mean of these data.

Cost(\$/L)		
1.87	1.86	1.86
1.89	1.88	2.25
1.85	1.87	1.88
1.87	1.86	1.86

2. Lars took a survey to find how far each of his classmates lived from the school, rounded to the nearest kilometre. The results are shown. Find the mean of these data.

Distance(km)		
2	3	3
2	3	6
6	5	2
3	1	12

Answers: 1. \$1.90/L. 2. 4 km.