

# **accuracy**

The degree of closeness of a measurement  
to its true measure.

# area

The number of square units that cover a figure completely without overlapping.

# **bias**

The difference between what the responses of a sample are and what the actual responses from the entire population would be.

# box-and-whisker plot

A data display that shows the extremes, the median, and the lower and upper quartiles in a simple and clear diagram.

# cluster

In a data display, a group of data points that are close to each other.

# convenience sample

In statistics, a sample that is easy to survey.  
A convenience sample allows results to be obtained quickly.

# correlation

A relationship between two sets of data in a scatter plot.

# double bar graph

A graph in which two data sets are compared by means of pairs of rectangular bars drawn next to each other.

# double line graph

A graph that is used to compare two data sets by means of two broken lines.

# frequency table

A way of summarizing data that shows how often data occur in each interval.

**gap**

In a data display, a region where there are no data points.

# histogram

A graph in which bars are used to display how frequently data occur within equal intervals.

# interval

A measure of space between two or more numbers.

**leaf**

The group of digits after the first digit  
(or stem) in a stem-and-leaf plot.

# line of best fit

A line used to show the trend in a scatter plot.

# line plot

A diagram that organizes data using a number line.

**lower extreme**

The least value in a box-and-whisker plot.

# lower quartile

The median of the lower half of a data set  
in a box-and-whisker plot.

# measures of central tendency

Single numbers that represent the center of a set of numerical data. These include the mean, median, and mode.

# **metric system**

A system of measurement in which the basic units of length, mass, and capacity are the meter, gram, and liter.

# outlier

A number or numbers whose values are much less or much greater than the other numbers in the data set.

# perimeter

The distance around a figure.

# **pictograph**

A graph that uses pictures or symbols to represent data.

# population

In statistics, all the individuals that fit a given description.

# precision

A term used to refer to the accuracy of a measurement.  
A smaller unit produces a more precise measurement  
than a larger unit.

# random sample

In statistics, a sample in which every individual in the population has the same chance of being included.

# **representative sample**

A sample for which the results from the sample can be considered the same as the results from the entire population.

# sample

In statistics, a smaller group used to gather data about a population.

# scale

The ratio of the size in a drawing or model to the actual size of an object.

# scatter plot

A collection of data that shows the correlation or relationship between two sets of data.

# **statistics**

A numerical value that characterizes the sample or population from which it was derived.

**stem**

The first digit in a stem-and-leaf plot.

# stem-and-leaf plot

A frequency distribution that arranges data in order of place value.  
The last digit of each number makes up the leaves.  
The digits to the left of the leaves are the stems.

**upper extreme**

The greatest value in a whisker in a box-and-whisker plot.

# upper quartile

The median of the upper half of a data set in a box-and-whisker plot.