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EDG 500

Video 3 Histogram

1. The video opens by describing a study of lightning strikes in Colorado. What variable does the first histogram display?

The variable that the first histogram displays is when most lightning storms strike.

2. In this lightning histogram, what does the horizontal scale represent? What does the vertical scale represent?

The horizontal scale represents the time of day the first flash occurred. The vertical scale represents the percentage of days it occurred.

3. Was the overall shape of this histogram symmetric, skewed, or neither?

The overall shape of this histogram is roughly symmetrical around the tallest bar. There is no skew.

4. Why were a few values in the second lightning histogram called outliers?

A few values in the second lightning histogram were called outliers because they stand out from the overall pattern of the distribution.

5. When you choose the classes for a histogram, what property must the classes have if the histogram is to be correct?

A property that must be kept in mind when creating a histogram is the class size. It must have enough bars to be informative, but not too many where people can get lost in the details.

6. What happens to a histogram if you use too many classes? What happens if you use too few?

If you use too many classes the histogram becomes less informative, there are too many bars and it is hard to focus on the details. If you use too few, it is not very informative, and making conclusions from it will not be very relevant.