

**arithmetic mean (average)**

The sum of a series of observations divided by the number of observations.

Symbol:  $\bar{x}$ . It can be calculated by the formula:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum x_i}{n}$$

Note:

All summations are taken from 1 to  $n$ . Note that the arithmetic mean is an unbiased estimate of the population mean, i.e.  $\mu$  is the limiting value for  $\bar{x}$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

1994, 66, 599