LESSON Proportional Relationships

Challenge: Percentile Rank

Just as there are three quartiles (the lower quartile, the median, and the upper quartile) that divide a data set into four equal groups, there are 99 percentiles that divide a data set into 100 groups.

The definition of a percentile is:

percentile of score
$$x = \frac{\text{number of scores less than or equal to score}}{\text{total number of scores}} \cdot 100$$

The frequency table at the right shows the test scores for 28 students.

Find the percentile corresponding to 80.

percentile of
$$80 = \frac{\text{number of scores less than or equal to } 80}{\text{total number of scores}} \cdot 100$$

$$=\frac{14}{28}\times 100=0.5\times 100=50$$

So, 80 is the 50th percentile.

| Score | Frequency |
|-------|-----------|
| 100 | 1 |
| 95 | 2 |
| 90 | 5 |
| 85 | 6 |
| 80 | 7 |
| 75 | 3 |
| 70 | 2 |
| 65 | 2 |

Use the frequency table to find the percentile corresponding to each score. Round your answer to the nearest whole number.

1.90

2, 70

3, 100

4. 75

5. 95

6.85

Use the test scores listed below to find the percentile corresponding to each score. Round your answer to the nearest whole number. (Hint: Make a frequency table of the scores.)

84, 77, 77, 77, 92, 77, 84, 84, 95, 84, 68, 92, 84, 100, 77, 77, 84, 92, 77, 92, 92, 95, 77, 68, 84, 100, 92, 84, 95, 92

7. 100

8.95

9.92

10.84

11. 77

12, 68