

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. μ is the limiting value for \bar{x} , as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Source:

PAC, 1994, 66, 595 (*Nomenclature for the presentation of results of chemical analysis (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 599