

Normal Distribution

Suppose you took a box of toothpicks, held them above a spot marked on a desk, then emptied them out all at once aiming for that spot.

What do you think might happen to the toothpicks? They'll land! Well if we looked closer, we might notice that most of the toothpicks stayed pretty close to where I dropped them. The further I got from the drop point, the fewer the toothpicks in any direction.

Most of the men would be around the same height, and there would be fewer and fewer men that are either real tall or real short. In other words, the farther away from the middle height, the fewer the number of people.