How to Calculate the Average of Comma-Separated Numbers in Excel

Authored by

stats writer

February 19, 2026

To calculate the average of a list of numbers separated by commas in Excel, you can use the AVERAGE function. This function takes the values in a range of cells and calculates the arithmetic mean, or average, of those values. Simply select the range of cells containing the numbers, and then enter the AVERAGE function in a cell where you want the result to appear. This will provide you with the average of the numbers in the selected range, separated by commas.

Excel: Calculate Average of Numbers Separated by Commas

You can use the following formula to calculate the average value of numbers in a cell in Excel that are separated by commas:

```
=IFERROR(AVERAGE(--
MID(SUBSTITUTE(","&A2,",",REPT("
",LEN(A2))),ROW(INDIRECT("1:"&LEN(A2)-
LEN(SUBSTITUTE(A2,",",""))+1))*LEN(A2),LEN(A2))),A2)
```

This particular formula calculates the average of the comma-separated values in cell A2.

For example, if cell A2 contains 1,2,3 then this formula would return 2 since this is the average of these values:

Average: (1+2+3) / 3 = 2

The following example shows how to use this formula in practice.

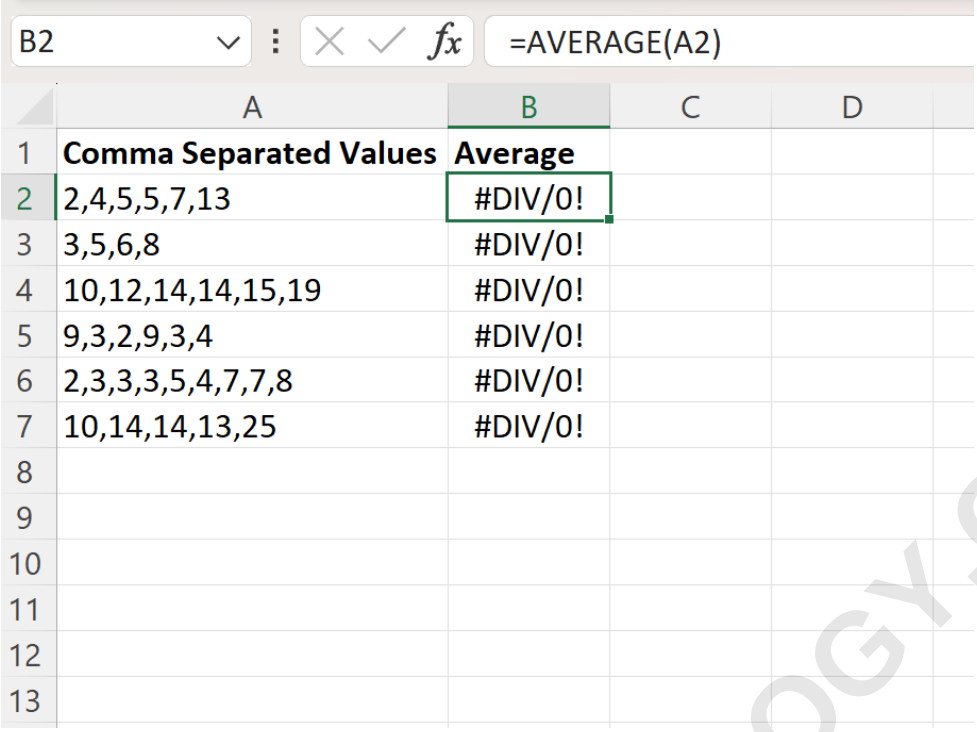
Example: Calculate Average of Numbers Separated by Commas in Excel

Suppose we have the following column of comma-separated values in Excel:

	A	B	C	D
1	**Comma Separated Values**			
2	2,4,5,5,7,13			
3	3,5,6,8			
4	10,12,14,14,15,19			
5	9,3,2,9,3,4			
6	2,3,3,3,5,4,7,7,8			
7	10,14,14,13,25			
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

Suppose we would like to calculate the average value in each cell in column A.

If we simply tried to use the AVERAGE() function, we would receive a #DIV/0! error in each cell because this function cannot handle comma-separated values:

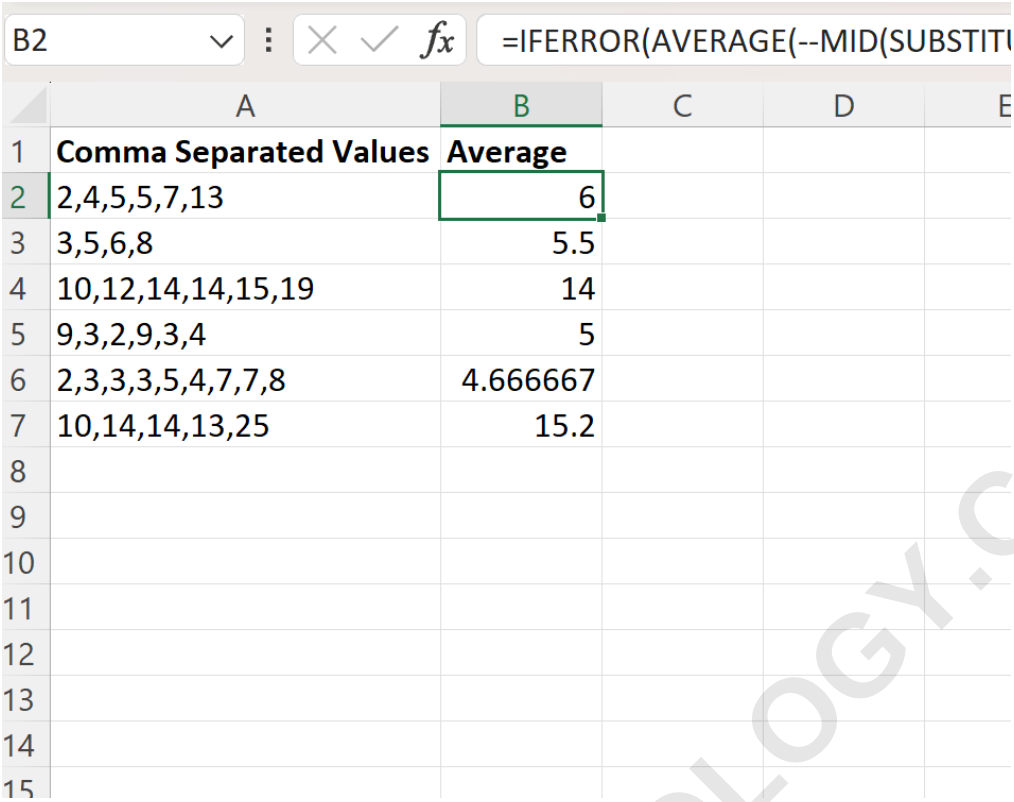


	A	B	C	D
1	**Comma Separated Values**	**Average**		
2	2,4,5,5,7,13	#DIV/0!		
3	3,5,6,8	#DIV/0!		
4	10,12,14,14,15,19	#DIV/0!		
5	9,3,2,9,3,4	#DIV/0!		
6	2,3,3,3,5,4,7,7,8	#DIV/0!		
7	10,14,14,13,25	#DIV/0!		
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				

Instead, we must type the following formula into cell B2:

=IFERROR(AVERAGE(--MID(SUBSTITUTE(","&A2,",",REPT(" ",LEN(A2))),ROW(INDIRECT("1:"&LEN(A2)-LEN(SUBSTITUTE(A2,",",""))+1))*LEN(A2),LEN(A2))),A2)

We can then click and drag this formula down to each remaining cell in column B:



Column B now displays the average of each list of comma-separated values in column A.

The average of 2,4,5,5,7,13 is 6.
The average of 3,5,6,8 is 5.5.
The average of 10,12,14,14,15,19 is 14.

And so on.

The following tutorials explain how to perform other common operations in Excel: