

# How can I use the summary() function in R? Can you provide some examples?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The `summary()` function in R is a powerful tool that provides a concise overview of a dataset or statistical model. It can be used to quickly understand the distribution, central tendency, and spread of data, as well as identify any outliers or missing values. To use the `summary()` function, simply pass the desired dataset or model as the argument. This function is particularly useful for exploring and summarizing large datasets, as it can efficiently display key information such as mean, median, and quartiles. Additionally, it can provide a summary of regression models, including coefficients, p-values, and R-squared values. Some examples of using the `summary()` function in R include summarizing a data frame to see the mean and standard deviation of numerical variables, and summarizing a linear regression model to identify significant predictors. Overall, the `summary()` function is a valuable tool for quickly understanding and analyzing data in R.

## Use summary() Function in R (With Examples)

The `summary()` function in R can be used to quickly summarize the values in a vector, data frame, regression model, or ANOVA model in R.

This syntax uses the following basic syntax:

```
summary(data)
```

The following examples show how to use this function in practice.

**Example 1: Using `summary()` with Vector**

The following code shows how to use the `summary()` function to summarize the values in a vector:

```
#define vector
```

```
x <- c(3, 4, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 13, 15, 19, 21)
```

```
#summarize values in vector
```

```
summary(x)
```

```
Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
```

```
3.00 5.00 9.00 10.23 13.00 21.00
```

The `summary()` function automatically calculates the following summary statistics for the vector:

**Min:** The minimum value  
**1st Qu:** The value of the 1st quartile (25th percentile)  
**Median:** The median value  
**3rd Qu:** The value of the 3rd quartile (75th percentile)  
**Max:** The maximum value

Note that if there are any missing values (NA) in the vector, the `summary()` function will automatically exclude them when calculating the summary statistics:

```
#define vector
```

```
x <- c(3, 4, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 13, 15, 19, 21, NA, NA)
```

```
#summarize values in vector
```

## summary(x)

**Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max. NA's**  
**3.00 5.00 9.00 10.23 13.00 21.00 2**

Example 2: Using summary() with Data Frame

The following code shows how to use the summary() function to summarize every column in a data frame:

```
#define data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(team=c('A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E'),  
points=c(99, 90, 86, 88, 95),  
assists=c(33, 28, 31, 39, 34),  
rebounds=c(30, 28, 24, 24, 28))
```

```
#summarize every column in data frame
```

```
summary(df)
```

```
team points assists rebounds
```

```
Length:5 Min. :86.0 Min. :28 Min. :24.0
```

```
Class :character 1st Qu.:88.0 1st Qu.:31 1st Qu.:24.0
```

```
Mode :character Median :90.0 Median :33 Median :28.0
```

```
Mean :91.6 Mean :33 Mean :26.8
```

```
3rd Qu.:95.0 3rd Qu.:34 3rd Qu.:28.0
```

```
Max. :99.0 Max. :39 Max. :30.0
```

### Example 3: Using summary() with Specific Data Frame Columns

The following code shows how to use the summary() function to summarize specific columns in a data frame:

```
#define data frame
```

```
df <- data.frame(team=c('A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E'),  
points=c(99, 90, 86, 88, 95),  
assists=c(33, 28, 31, 39, 34),  
rebounds=c(30, 28, 24, 24, 28))
```

```
#summarize every column in data frame  
summary(df)
```

```
points rebounds
```

```
Min. :86.0 Min. :24.0
```

```
1st Qu.:88.0 1st Qu.:24.0
```

```
Median :90.0 Median :28.0
```

```
Mean :91.6 Mean :26.8
```

```
3rd Qu.:95.0 3rd Qu.:28.0
```

```
Max. :99.0 Max. :30.0
```

### Example 4: Using summary() with Regression Model

The following code shows how to use the summary() function to summarize the results of a linear regression

**model:**

**#define data**

```
df <- data.frame(y=c(99, 90, 86, 88, 95, 99, 91),
x=c(33, 28, 31, 39, 34, 35, 36))
```

**#fit linear regression model**

```
model <- lm(y~x, data=df)
```

**#summarize model fit**

```
summary(model)
```

**Call:**

```
lm(formula = y ~ x, data = df)
```

**Residuals:**

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
```

```
6.515 -1.879 -6.242 -5.212 2.394 6.273 -1.848
```

**Coefficients:**

```
Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
```

```
(Intercept) 88.4848 22.1050 4.003 0.0103 *
```

```
x 0.1212 0.6526 0.186 0.8599
```

```
---
```

```
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

**Residual standard error: 5.668 on 5 degrees of freedom**  
**Multiple R-squared: 0.006853, Adjusted R-squared: -0.1918**  
**F-statistic: 0.0345 on 1 and 5 DF, p-value: 0.8599**

#### Example 5: Using summary() with ANOVA Model

The following code shows how to use the summary() function to summarize the results of an ANOVA model in R:

```
#make this example reproducible  
set.seed(0)  
  
#create data frame  
data <- data.frame(program = rep(c("A", "B", "C"), each  
= 30),  
weight_loss = c(runif(30, 0, 3),  
runif(30, 0, 5),  
runif(30, 1, 7)))  
  
#fit ANOVA model  
model <- aov(weight_loss ~ program, data = data)  
  
#summarize model fit
```

## summary(model)

```
Df Sum Sq Mean Sq F value Pr(>F)
program 2 98.93 49.46 30.83 7.55e-11 ***
Residuals 87 139.57 1.60
```

---

```
Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
```

The following tutorials offer more information on calculating summary statistics in R: