

# How do I calculate deciles in SAS with an example?

Authored by  
**stats writer**

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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Calculating deciles in SAS involves dividing a dataset into 10 equal parts, with each part representing 10% of the total data. This can be achieved by using the PROC UNIVARIATE or PROC RANK procedures in SAS. An example of calculating deciles in SAS would be to use the PROC UNIVARIATE procedure to find the deciles of a dataset containing sales data for a company. This would provide insight into the distribution of sales and identify the sales values at the 10th, 20th, 30th, and so on, up to the 100th percentile. This information can be useful in making business decisions, such as identifying top and bottom performing products or regions.

## Calculate Deciles in SAS (With Example)

**In statistics, deciles are numbers that split a dataset into ten groups of equal frequency.**

**The first decile is the point where 10% of all data values lie below it.**

**The second decile is the point where 20% of all data values lie below it, and so forth.**

**You can use the following basic syntax to calculate the deciles for a dataset in SAS:**

```
/*calculate decile values for variable called var1*/  
proc univariate data=original_data;  
var var1;  
output out=decile_data;  
pctlpts = 10 to 100 by 10 pctlpre = D_;  
run;
```

**Note:** The `pctlpts` statement specifies which deciles to calculate and the `pctlpre` statement specifies the prefix to use for the deciles in the output.

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

### Example: How to Calculate Deciles in SAS

Suppose we have the following dataset in SAS that contains two variables:

```
/*create dataset*/  
data original_data;  
input team $ points;  
datalines;  
A 12  
A 15  
A 16  
A 21  
A 22  
A 25  
A 29  
A 31  
B 16
```

**B 22**

**B 25**

**B 29**

**B 30**

**B 31**

**B 33**

**B 38**

;

**run;**

**/\*view dataset\*/**

**proc printdata=original\_data;**

Obs	team	points
1	A	12
2	A	15
3	A	16
4	A	21
5	A	22
6	A	25
7	A	29
8	A	31
9	B	16
10	B	22
11	B	25
12	B	29
13	B	30
14	B	31
15	B	33
16	B	38

The following code shows how to calculate the deciles for the points variable in the dataset

```
/*calculate decile values for points*/  
proc univariate data=original_data;  
var points;  
output out=decile_data  
pctlpts = 10 to 100 by 10 pctlpre = D_;  
run;  
  
/*view deciles for points*/  
proc print data=decile_data;
```

Obs	D_10	D_20	D_30	D_40	D_50	D_60	D_70	D_80	D_90	D_100
1	15	16	21	22	25	29	30	31	33	38

Here's how to interpret the output:

The value of the first decile is 15. The value of the second decile is 16. The value of the third decile is 21. The value of the fourth decile is 22.

And so on.

**The following tutorials explain how to perform other common tasks in SAS:**

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