Mean of a frequency distribution

Class	Frequency
0-19	8
20-39	9
40-59	9
60-79	17
80-99	16

Question: Use the given frequency distribution to approximate the mean:

First, find the class midpoint for each class by adding the class 's limits and dividing the result by two, as follows:

Class 0-19: $Xm = \frac{0+19}{2} = 9.5$ Class 20-39: $Xm = \frac{20+39}{2} = 29.5$

Notice that if we add the class width, 20, to the first class midpoint we obtain the next class midpoint. These are the results:

Class	Xm	Frequency
0-19	9.5	8
20-39	29.5	9
40-59	49.5	9
60-79	69.5	17
80-99	89.5	16

Having the midpoints calculated, if you are using the formula for the mean of a frequency distribution,

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum Xm \cdot f}{\sum f}$$
 where f stands for frequency.

Omitting the column of classes which is no longer needed, our calculations are:

Xm	Frequency	Xm · f
9.5	8	76
29.5	9	265.5
49.5	9	445.5
69.5	17	1181.5
89.5	16	1432

 $\sum Xm \cdot f = 76 + 265.5 + 445.5 + 1181.5 + 1432 = 3400.5$ And $\sum f = 8 + 9 + 9 + 17 + 16 = 59$

Substituting into the formula:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\sum Xm \cdot f}{\sum f} = \frac{3400.5}{59} \approx 57.6$$

Which is the answer.

On graphing Calculators, use STAT mode:

Enter *Xm* values on *L*1 and Frequencies on *L*2:

<i>L</i> 1	L2
9.5	8
29.5	9
49.5	9
69.5	17
89.5	16

On Casio **9750GII** looks like this:



[On the screenshot only four values are visible; but all five have been input.]

Then press F2, for CALC:



Then, F6 in order to Setup the lists:



We are working with 1VAR (One Variable); therefore, do not pay attention to 2VAR. Now, in 1VAR this time we need 1VAR Freq to be List2, since the frequencies have been included on List2. So, using the arrow keys navigate to 1VAR Freq and press F2 for LIST,

1Var XList :List1	
2 Select List No.	┍
2 List[1~26]:	
	-
USB POWER GRAPHIC	
Trace Zoom V-Window Sketch G-Solv G	нт
F1 F2 F3 F4 F5 F	6)

Enter a 2, meaning List2:

10	Jar XList :List1	
2	Select List No.	
Źί	List[1~26]: 2	
	1 080	

Press EXE. This is what we need:



Press EXE again, obtaining:

SUB	List	4	List	2	List	э	L:St 4
	9 29 90	•5		: 9			
ų	69	5		11			
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10	AR (21	AR		WER	GRAPHIC	5	890

Now, Press F1 for 1Var descriptive statistics:



The mean, $\bar{x} = 57.6355932$, to one decimal place is ≈ 57.6

TI-84 Plus C	Silver Edition
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On the **TI84** update L1 & L2:

<i>L</i> 1	L2
9.5	8
29.5	9
49.5	9
69.5	17
89.5	16

Like this:

		1.0		
L1	L2	L3	L4	LS
9.5	8			
29.5	9			
49.5	9			
69.5	17			
89.5	16			

L2(1)=8

Then, press STAT

EDIT CALC TESTS 1Edit... 2:SortA(3:SortD(4:ClrList 5:SetUpEditor

Now, use the arrow keys and move over CALC:

EDIT CHEC TESTS 1-Var Stats 2:2-Var Stats 3:Med-Med 4:LinRe9(ax+b) 5:QuadRe9 6:CubicRe9 7:QuartRe9 8:LinRe9(a+bx) 94LnRe9

Since we are doing 1VAR Statistics, press enter:



Again, using the arrow keys, select FreqList and press 2^{ND} and key number 2: Now List2 appears as FreqList.



Use the arrow keys again, select Calculate and press enter. It yields:

1-Var Stats
x=57.63559322
Σx=3400.5
Σx ² =240884.75
Sx=27.82175881
σx=27.58497357
n=59
minX=9.5
↓Q1=29.5

The mean, $\bar{x} = 57.63559322$, to one decimal place is ≈ 57.6