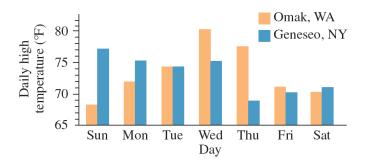
Exercise 86

Temperature Variation The bar graph shows the daily high temperatures for Omak, Washington, and Geneseo, New York, during a certain week in June. Let T_O represent the temperature in Omak and T_G the temperature in Geneseo. Calculate $T_O - T_G$ and $|T_O - T_G|$ for each day shown. Which of these two values gives more information?



Solution

On Sunday, $T_O=68$ °F and $T_G=77$ °F. Therefore, $T_O-T_G=-9$ °F and $|T_O-T_G|=9$ °F.

On Monday, $T_O = 72$ °F and $T_G = 75$ °F. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = -3$ °F and $|T_O - T_G| = 3$ °F.

On Tuesday, $T_O = 74$ °F and $T_G = 74$ °F. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = 0$ °F and $|T_O - T_G| = 0$ °F.

On Wednesday, $T_O = 80$ °F and $T_G = 75$ °F. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = 5$ °F and $|T_O - T_G| = 5$ °F.

On Thursday, $T_O = 78^{\circ}\text{F}$ and $T_G = 69^{\circ}\text{F}$. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = 9^{\circ}\text{F}$ and $|T_O - T_G| = 9^{\circ}\text{F}$.

On Friday, $T_O = 71$ °F and $T_G = 70$ °F. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = 1$ °F and $|T_O - T_G| = 1$ °F.

On Saturday, $T_O = 70$ °F and $T_G = 71$ °F. Therefore, $T_O - T_G = -1$ °F and $|T_O - T_G| = 1$ °F.

 $T_O - T_G$ gives more information because we can tell which city has the higher temperature based on whether the difference is negative or positive.