

Chapter 13 / **Example 12**

# Using the normal distribution

The weights of cauliflowers purchased by a supermarket from their suppliers are distributed normally with mean 821 g and standard deviation 40 g.

Cauliflowers weighing less than 750 g are classified as small.

- Predict the number of cauliflowers classified as small in a sample of 400 cauliflowers.
- The heaviest 8% of cauliflowers are classified as oversized and re-packaged. Find the range of weights of cauliflowers classified as oversized.

$W \sim N(821, 40^2)$  find  $P(W \leq 750)$ .

Press **2nd** **vars** (**[distr]**) 2:normalcdf(.

Set the Lower bound as -1E99, the Upper Bound to 750,  $\mu$  to 821 and  $\sigma$  to 40.

-1E99 means  $-1 \times 10^{99}$  - a very small number. To enter E, press **2nd** **,** **[EE]**[format]

Navigate to Paste and press **enter**.

```
normalcdf
lower: -1E99
upper: 750
μ: 821
σ: 40
Paste
```

Press **enter**.

$P(W \leq 750) = 0.0380$ .

```
normalcdf(-1E99,750,821,40)
.0379488948
```

The expected number of cauliflowers is

$400 \times P(W \leq 750) = 15.2$ .

15 cauliflowers are predicted to be classified as small.

```
normalcdf(-1E99,750,821,40)
.0379488948
Ans*400
15.17955793
```

To use the inverse normal function, find  $1 - P(W < w) = 0.08$ , that is  $P(W < w) = 1 - 0.08 = 0.92$ .

Press **2nd** **vars** (**[distr]**) 3:invNorm(.

Enter the Area 0.92.

Set  $\mu$  to 821 and  $\sigma$  to 40.

Navigate to Paste and press **enter**.

```
invNorm
area: 0.92
μ: 821
σ: 40
Paste
```

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Press **enter**.

$w = 877.2$ .

Cauliflowers weighing at least 877 g will be classified as oversized.

```
normalcdf(-1E99,750,821,4)
.0379488948
Ans*400
15.17955793
invNorm(0.92,821,40)
877.2028624
```