



The slope of the secant line is the average rate of change of y with respect to x over the interval $[x_1, x_2]$, and is equal to:

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{x_2 - x_1}$$