

The regression parameters or coefficients  $b_0$  and  $b_1$  are unknown but you can estimate them using the *method of least squares*. In this method, you obtain the regression line that best fits the data. With the aid of calculus, you do this by obtaining and minimizing the sum of the squared deviations between the actual  $Y_i$  and its expected value, given by

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 X_i)^2 .$$

