

Chapter 4: Findings

Introduction

Checklist:

Begin with an introduction that restates the problem and purpose sentences verbatim and organizes the chapter.

Concisely describe significant trends or key themes in the data and information (no more than three sentences). Concisely describe the key results of implementing your research design (no more than three sentences).

Organize the entire chapter around the research questions/hypotheses.

Trustworthiness (or Validity) of the Data

Checklist:

Provide a summary/remind the reader of how you addressed each of these issues in Chapter 3.

Results

Checklist:

Briefly discuss the overall study. Organize the presentation of the results by the research questions/hypotheses.

Objectively report the analysis results without discussion, interpretation, or speculation.

Provide an overview of the demographic information collected. It can be presented in a table. Ensure no potentially identifying information is reported.

Research Question 1/Hypothesis

Checklist:

Report all the results (without discussion) salient to the research question/hypothesis. Identify common themes or patterns.

Use tables and/or figures to report the results as appropriate.

For quantitative studies, report any additional descriptive information as appropriate. Identify the assumptions of the statistical test and explain how the extent to which the data met these assumptions was tested. Report any violations and describe how they were managed as appropriate. Make decisions based on the results of the statistical analysis. Include relevant test statistics, p values, and effect sizes following APA requirements.

For qualitative studies, describe the steps taken to analyze the data to explain how the themes and categories were generated. Include thick descriptions of the participants' experiences. Provide a comprehensive and coherent reconstruction of the information obtained from all the participants.

For mixed methods studies, include all of the above.

Evaluation of the Findings

Checklist:

Interpret the results in light of the existing research and theoretical or conceptual framework (as discussed in Chapters 1 and 2). Briefly indicate how the results were consistent/inconsistent with existing research and theory.

Organize this discussion by research question/hypothesis.

Do not present conclusions beyond what can be interpreted directly from the results.

Devote approximately one to two pages to this section.

Summary

Checklist:

Summarize the key points presented in the chapter.