



Figure 15-1 Selecting the Appropriate Procedure

sizes might seem to be relatively small. Although many people refuse to believe it, a nationwide survey of only 1200 voters can provide good results if the sampling is carefully planned and executed.

Throughout this text we have emphasized the *interpretation* of results. Computers and calculators are quite good at providing results, but such results require careful interpretation. We should know that a result is not automatically valid simply because it was computer-generated. Computers don't think, and they are quite capable of providing results that are quite ridiculous when considered in the context of the real world. We should always apply the most important and indispensable tool in all of statistics: *common sense!*