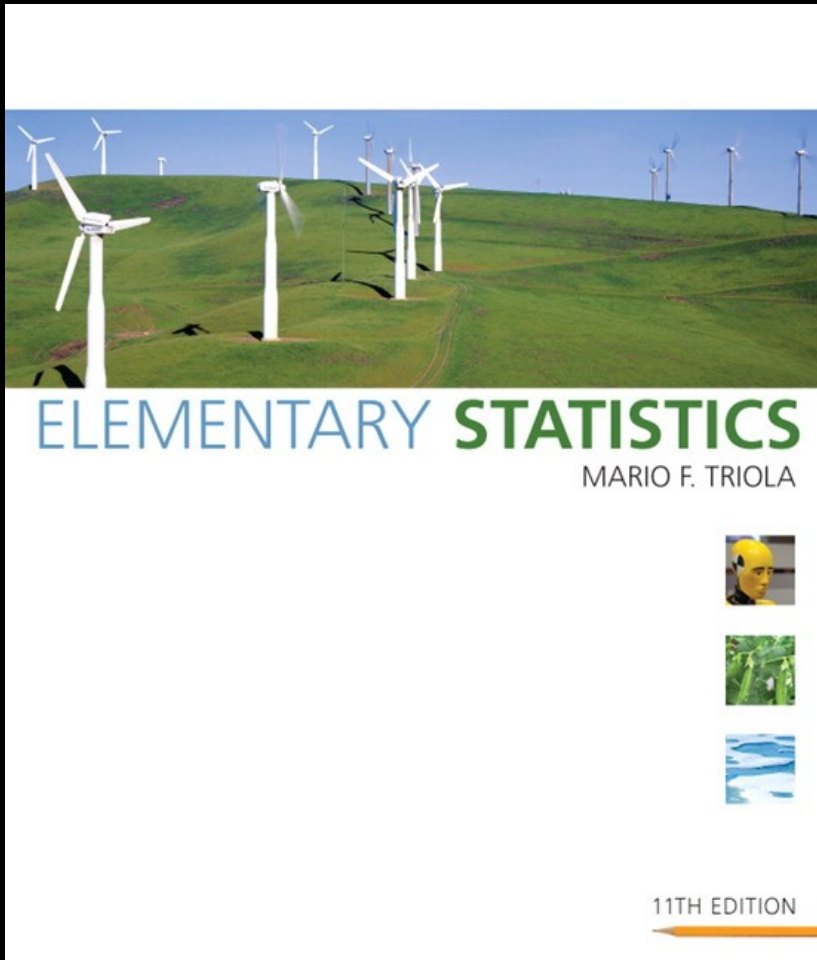


Lecture Slides



Elementary Statistics Eleventh Edition

and the Triola Statistics Series

by Mario F. Triola

PEARSON

Chapter 1

Introduction to Statistics

1-1 Review and Preview

1-2 Statistical Thinking

1-3 Types of Data

1-4 Critical Thinking

1-5 Collecting Sample Data



Section 1-1

Review and Preview

Preview

Polls, studies, surveys and other data collecting tools collect data from a small part of a larger group so that we can learn something about the larger group. This is a common and important goal of statistics: Learn about a large group by examining data from some of its members.

Preview

In this context, the terms sample and population have special meaning. Formal definitions for these and other basic terms will be given here.

In this section we will look at some of the ways to describe data.

Data



Data

collections of observations (such as measurements, genders, survey responses)

Statistics

❖ Statistics

is the science of planning studies and experiments, obtaining data, and then organizing, summarizing, presenting, analyzing, interpreting, and drawing conclusions based on the data

Population

❖ Population

the complete collection of all individuals (scores, people, measurements, and so on) to be studied; the collection is complete in the sense that it includes *all* of the individuals to be studied

Census versus Sample

❖ **Census**

Collection of data from *every* member of a population

❖ **Sample**

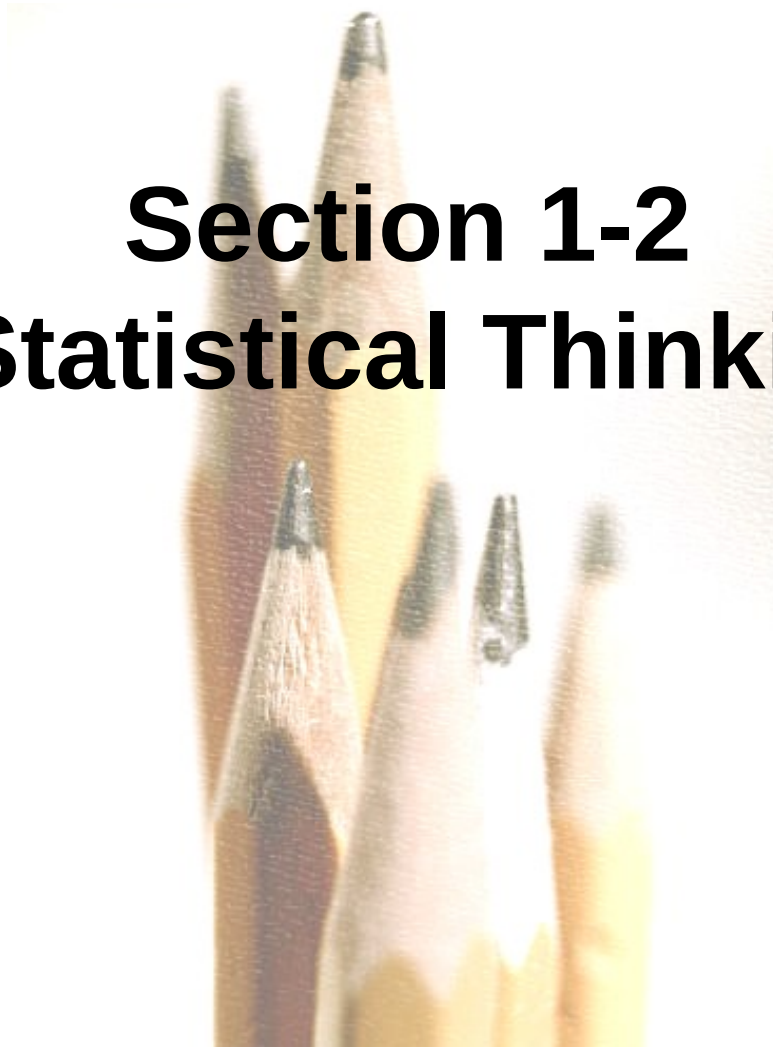
***Subcollection* of members selected from a population**

Chapter Key Concepts

- ❖ **Sample data must be collected in an appropriate way, such as through a process of *random* selection.**
- ❖ **If sample data are not collected in an appropriate way, the data may be so completely useless that no amount of statistical torturing can salvage them.**

Section 1-2

Statistical Thinking



Key Concept

This section introduces basic principles of statistical thinking used throughout this book. Whether conducting statistical analysis of data that we have collected, or analyzing a statistical analysis done by someone else, we should not rely on blind acceptance of mathematical calculation. We should consider these factors:

Key Concept (continued)

- ❖ **Context of the data**
- ❖ **Source of the data**
- ❖ **Sampling method**
- ❖ **Conclusions**
- ❖ **Practical implications**

Context

- ❖ **What do the values represent?**
- ❖ **Where did the data come from?**
- ❖ **Why were they collected?**
- ❖ **An understanding of the context will directly affect the statistical procedure used.**

Source of data

- ❖ **Is the source objective?**
- ❖ **Is the source biased?**
- ❖ **Is there some incentive to distort or spin results to support some self-serving position?**
- ❖ **Is there something to gain or lose by distorting results?**
- ❖ **Be vigilant and skeptical of studies from sources that may be biased.**

Sampling Method

- ❖ **Does the method chosen greatly influence the validity of the conclusion?**
- ❖ **Voluntary response (or self-selected) samples often have bias (those with special interest are more likely to participate). These samples' results are not necessarily valid.**
- ❖ **Other methods are more likely to produce good results.**

Conclusions

- ❖ **Make statements that are clear to those without an understanding of statistics and its terminology.**
- ❖ **Avoid making statements not justified by the statistical analysis.**

Practical Implications

- ❖ **State practical implications of the results.**
- ❖ **There may exist some *statistical significance* yet there may be NO *practical significance*.**
- ❖ **Common sense might suggest that the finding does not make enough of a difference to justify its use or to be practical.**

Statistical Significance

- ❖ Consider the likelihood of getting the results by chance.
- ❖ If results could easily occur by chance, then they are *not statistically significant*.
- ❖ If the likelihood of getting the results is so small, then the results are *statistically significant*.



Section 1-3

Types of Data

Key Concept

The subject of statistics is largely about using sample data to make inferences (or generalizations) about an entire population. It is essential to know and understand the definitions that follow.

Parameter



Parameter

a numerical measurement
describing some characteristic of a
population.

population



parameter

Statistic



Statistic

a numerical measurement describing some characteristic of a **sample**.

sample



statistic

Quantitative Data

❖ Quantitative (or numerical) data

consists of *numbers* representing counts or measurements.

Example: The weights of supermodels

Example: The ages of respondents

Categorical Data

❖ Categorical (or qualitative or attribute) data

consists of names or labels (representing categories)

Example: The genders (male/female) of professional athletes

Example: Shirt numbers on professional athletes uniforms - substitutes for names.

Working with Quantitative Data

Quantitative data can further be described by distinguishing between **discrete** and **continuous** types.

Discrete Data

❖ **Discrete data**
result when the number of possible values is either a finite number or a 'countable' number (i.e. the number of possible values is **0, 1, 2, 3, . . .**)

Example: The number of eggs that a hen lays

Continuous Data

- ❖ **Continuous (numerical) data**
result from infinitely many possible values that correspond to some continuous scale that covers a range of values without gaps, interruptions, or jumps

Example: The amount of milk that a cow produces; e.g. 2.343115 gallons per day

Levels of Measurement

Another way to classify data is to use levels of measurement. Four of these levels are discussed in the following slides.

Nominal Level

❖ Nominal level of measurement

characterized by data that consist of names, labels, or categories only, and the data cannot be arranged in an ordering scheme (such as low to high)

Example: Survey responses **yes, no, undecided**

Ordinal Level

❖ Ordinal level of measurement

involves data that can be arranged in some order, but differences between data values either cannot be determined or are meaningless

Example: Course grades A, B, C, D, or F

Interval Level

❖ Interval level of measurement

like the ordinal level, with the additional property that the difference between any two data values is meaningful, however, there is no **natural** zero starting point (where **none** of the quantity is present)

Example: Years 1000, 2000, 1776, and 1492

Ratio Level

❖ Ratio level of measurement

the interval level with the additional property that there is also a natural zero starting point (where zero indicates that **none** of the quantity is present); for values at this level, differences and ratios are meaningful

Example: Prices of college textbooks (\$0 represents no cost, a \$100 book costs twice as much as a \$50 book)

Summary - Levels of Measurement

- ❖ **Nominal** - categories only
- ❖ **Ordinal** - categories with some order
- ❖ **Interval** - differences but no natural starting point
- ❖ **Ratio** - differences and a natural starting point

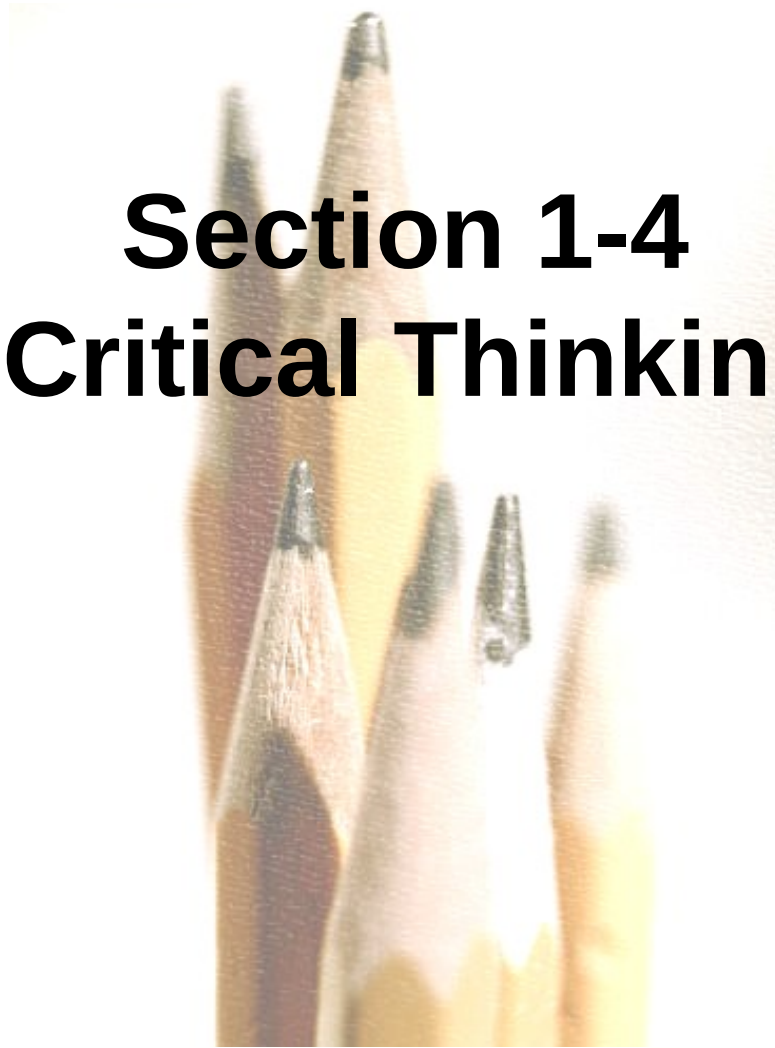
Recap

In this section we have looked at:

- ❖ **Basic definitions and terms describing data**
- ❖ **Parameters versus statistics**
- ❖ **Types of data (quantitative and qualitative)**
- ❖ **Levels of measurement**

Section 1-4

Critical Thinking



Key Concepts

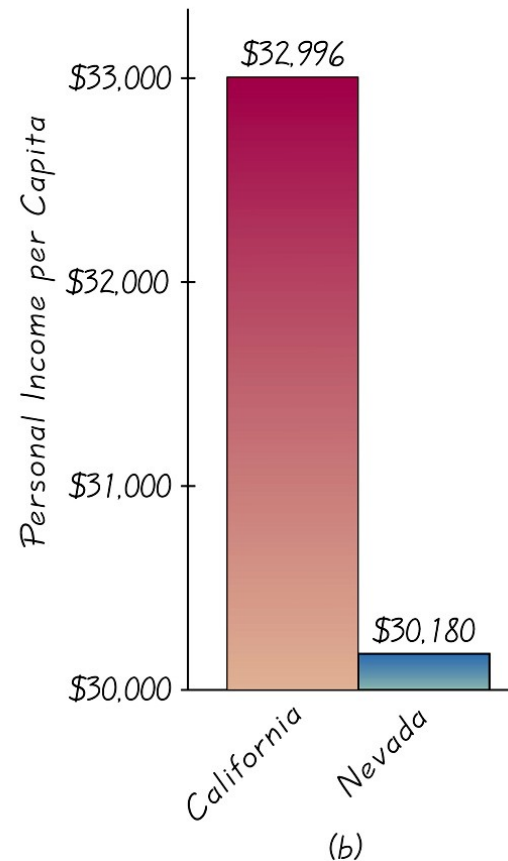
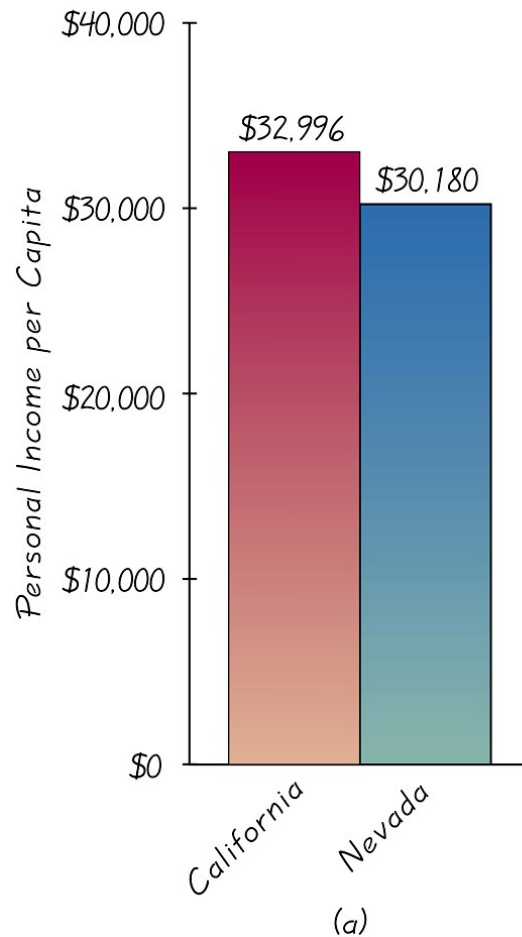
- ❖ Success in the introductory statistics course typically requires more **common sense** than mathematical expertise.
- ❖ Improve skills in interpreting information based on data.
- ❖ This section is designed to illustrate how common sense is used when we think critically about data and statistics.
- ❖ Think carefully about the context, source, method, conclusions and practical implications.

Misuses of Statistics

- 1. Evil intent on the part of dishonest people.**
- 2. Unintentional errors on the part of people who don't know any better.**

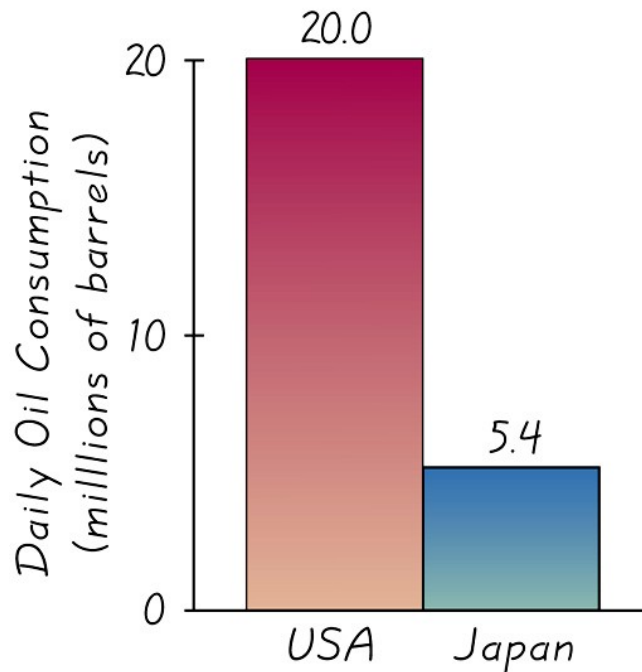
We should learn to distinguish between statistical conclusions that are likely to be valid and those that are seriously flawed.

Graphs

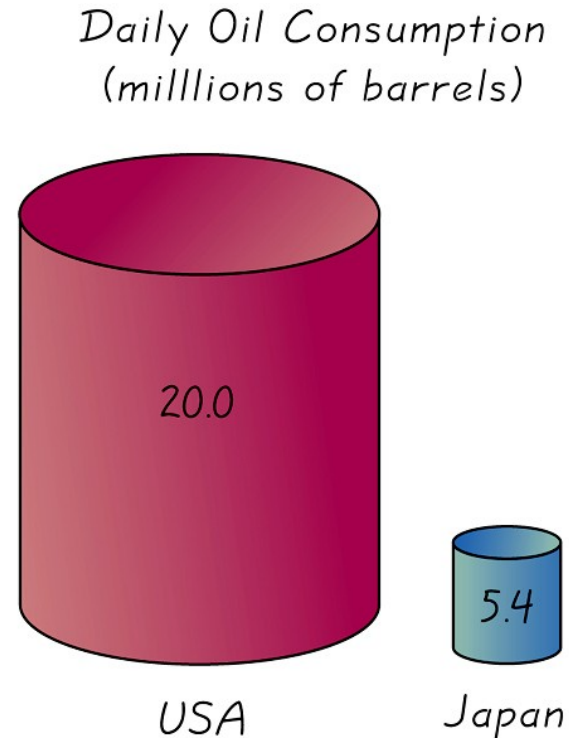


To correctly interpret a graph, you must analyze the **numerical** information given in the graph, so as not to be misled by the graph's shape. **READ** labels and units on the axes!

Pictographs



(a)



(b)

Part (b) is designed to exaggerate the difference by increasing each dimension in proportion to the actual amounts of oil consumption.

Bad Samples

❖ Voluntary response sample (or self-selected sample)

one in which the respondents themselves decide whether to be included

In this case, valid conclusions can be made only about the specific group of people who agree to participate and not about the population.

Correlation and Causality

- ❖ **Concluding that one variable *causes* the other variable when in fact the variables are linked**

Two variables may seemed linked, smoking and pulse rate, this relationship is called correlation. Cannot conclude the one causes the other.

Correlation does not imply causality.

Small Samples

Conclusions should not be based on samples that are far too small.

Example: Basing a school suspension rate on a sample of only **three students**

Percentages

Misleading or unclear percentages are sometimes used. For example, if you take 100% of a quantity, **you take it all. If you have improved 100%, then are you perfect?! 110% of an effort does not make sense.**

Loaded Questions

If survey questions are not worded carefully, the results of a study can be misleading. Survey questions can be “loaded” or intentionally worded to elicit a desired response.

Too little money is being spent on “welfare” versus too little money is being spent on “assistance to the poor.” Results: 19% versus 63%

Order of Questions

Questions are unintentionally loaded by such factors as the order of the items being considered.

Would you say traffic contributes more or less to air pollution than industry?

Results: traffic - 45%; industry - 27%

When order reversed.

Results: industry - 57%; traffic - 24%

Nonresponse

Occurs when someone either refuses to respond to a survey question or is unavailable.

People who refuse to talk to pollsters have a view of the world around them that is markedly different than those who will let poll-takers into their homes.

Missing Data

Can dramatically affect results.

Subjects may drop out for reasons unrelated to the study.

People with low incomes are less likely to report their incomes.

US Census suffers from missing people (tend to be homeless or low income).

Self-Interest Study

Some parties with interest to promote will sponsor studies.

Be wary of a survey in which the sponsor can enjoy monetary gain from the results.

When assessing validity of a study, always consider whether the sponsor might influence the results.

Precise Numbers

Because as a figure is precise, many people incorrectly assume that it is also *accurate*.

A precise number can be an estimate, and it should be referred to that way.

Deliberate Distortion

Some studies or surveys are distorted on purpose. The distortion can occur within the context of the data, the source of the data, the sampling method, or the conclusions.

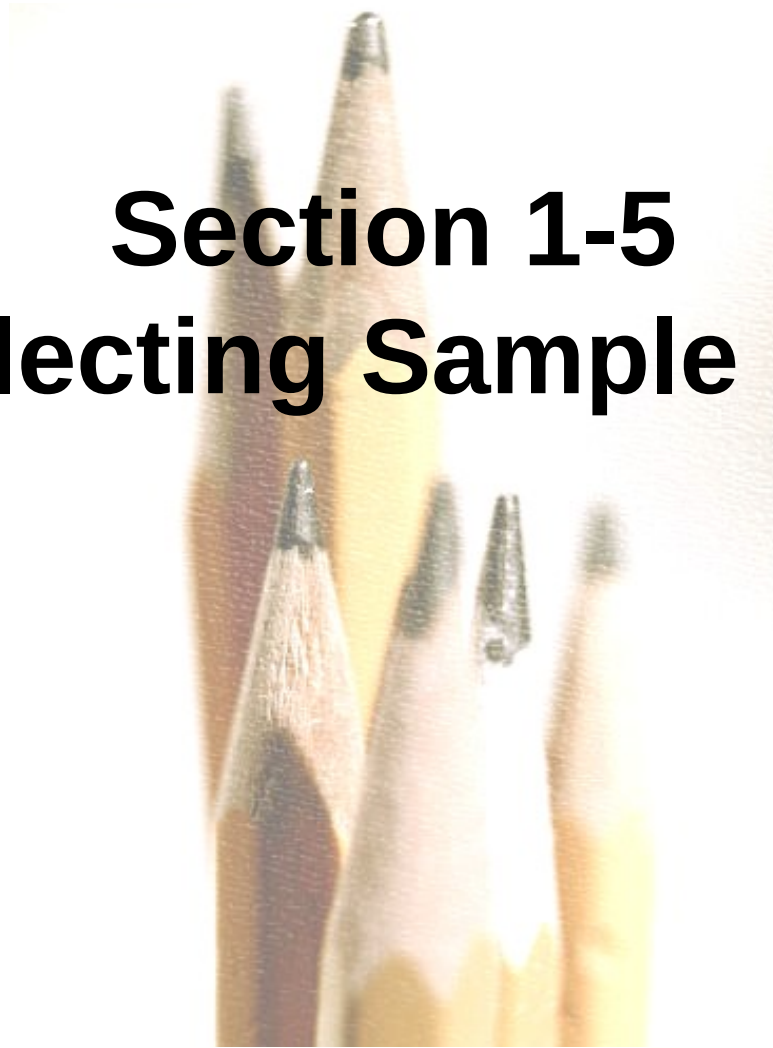
Recap

In this section we have:

- ❖ **Reviewed misuses of statistics**
- ❖ **Illustrated how common sense can play a big role in interpreting data and statistics**

Section 1-5

Collecting Sample Data



Key Concept

- ❖ If sample data are not collected in an appropriate way, the data may be so completely useless that no amount of statistical torturing can salvage them.
- ❖ Method used to collect sample data influences the quality of the statistical analysis.
- ❖ Of particular importance is *simple random sample*.

Basics of Collecting Data

Statistical methods are driven by the data that we collect. We typically obtain data from two distinct sources: *observational studies* and *experiment*.

Observational Study

❖ Observational study

observing and measuring specific
characteristics without attempting to
modify the subjects being studied

Experiment

❖ Experiment

apply some **treatment** and then observe its effects on the subjects; (subjects in experiments are called **experimental units**)

Simple Random Sample

❖ Simple Random Sample

of n subjects selected in such a way that every possible **sample of the same size n** has the same chance of being chosen

Random & Probability Samples

❖ Random Sample

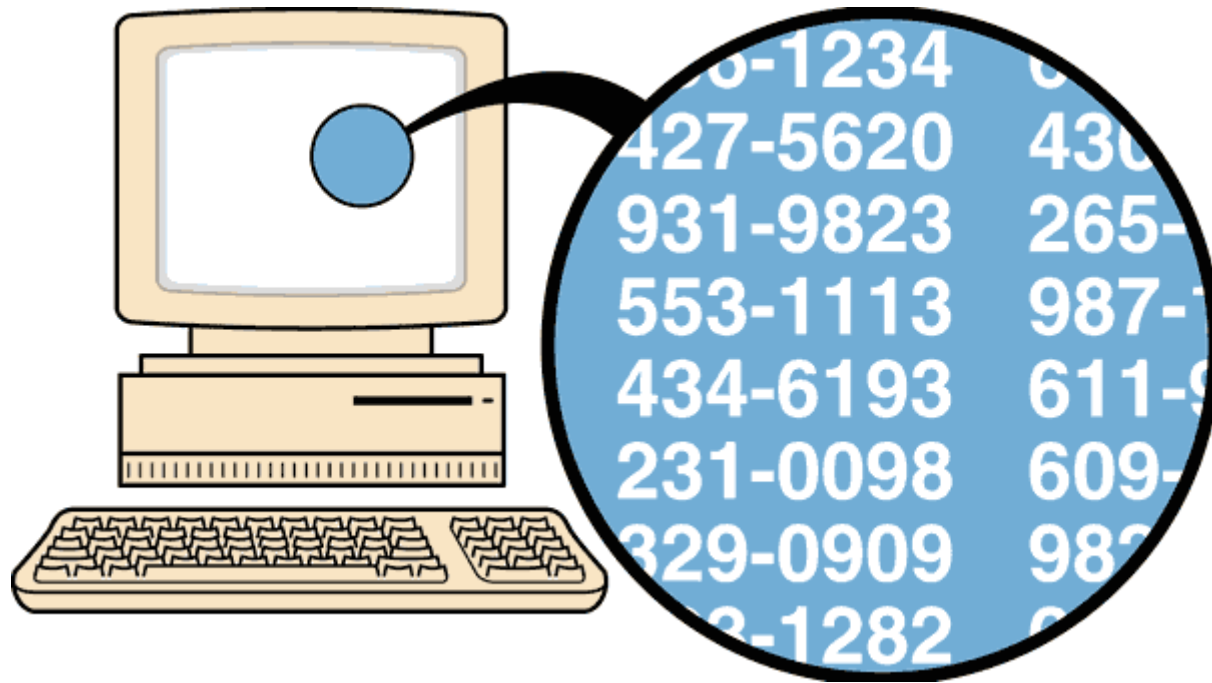
members from the population are selected in such a way that each **individual member** in the population has an equal chance of being selected

❖ Probability Sample

selecting members from a population in such a way that each member of the population has a known (but not necessarily the same) chance of being selected

Random Sampling

selection so that each individual member has an **equal chance** of being selected



Systematic Sampling

Select some starting point and then select every k th element in the population



Convenience Sampling

use results that are easy to get



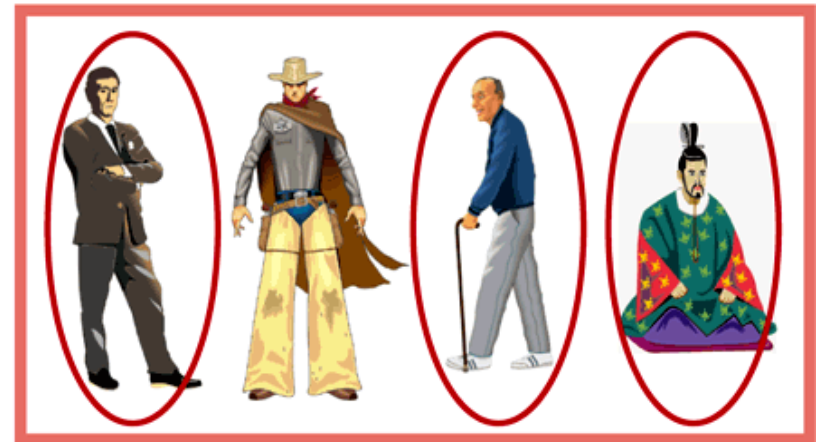
Stratified Sampling

subdivide the population into at least two different subgroups that share the same characteristics, then draw a sample from each subgroup (or stratum)

Women

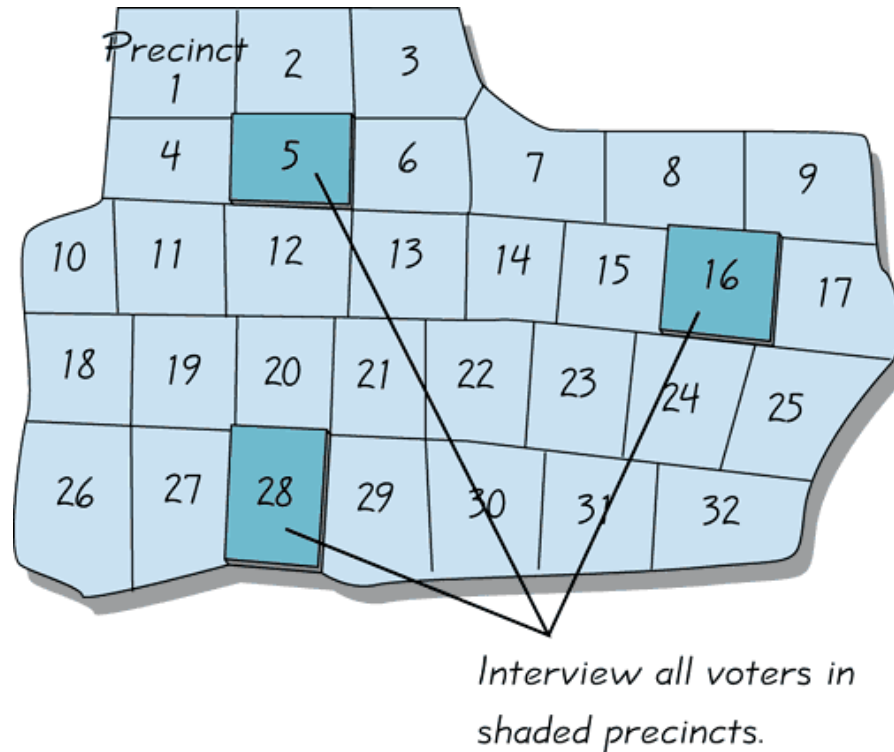


Men



Cluster Sampling

divide the population area into sections
(or clusters); randomly select some of those clusters;
choose **all** members from selected clusters



Multistage Sampling

Collect data by using some combination of the basic sampling methods

In a multistage sample design, pollsters select a sample in different stages, and each stage might use different methods of sampling

Methods of Sampling - Summary

- ❖ **Random**
- ❖ **Systematic**
- ❖ **Convenience**
- ❖ **Stratified**
- ❖ **Cluster**
- ❖ **Multistage**

Beyond the Basics of Collecting Data

Different types of observational studies and experiment design

Types of Studies

❖ Cross sectional study

data are observed, measured, and collected at one point in time

❖ Retrospective (or case control) study

data are collected from the past by going back in time (examine records, interviews, ...)

❖ Prospective (or longitudinal or cohort) study

data are collected in the future from groups sharing common factors (called **cohorts**)

Randomization

❖ Randomization

is used when subjects are assigned to different groups through a process of random selection. The logic is to use chance as a way to create two groups that are similar.

Replication



Replication

is the repetition of an experiment on more than one subject. Samples should be large enough so that the erratic behavior that is characteristic of very small samples will not disguise the true effects of different treatments. It is used effectively when there are enough subjects to recognize the differences from different treatments.

Use a sample size that is large enough to let us see the true nature of any effects, and obtain the sample using an appropriate method, such as one based on *randomness*.

Blinding

❖ Blinding

is a technique in which the subject doesn't know whether he or she is receiving a treatment or a placebo. Blinding allows us to determine whether the treatment effect is significantly different from a **placebo effect**, which occurs when an untreated subject reports improvement in symptoms.

Double Blind

❖ Double-Blind

Blinding occurs at two levels:

- (1) The subject doesn't know whether he or she is receiving the treatment or a placebo**
- (2) The experimenter does not know whether he or she is administering the treatment or placebo**

Confounding



Confounding

occurs in an experiment when the experimenter is not able to distinguish between the effects of different factors.

Try to plan the experiment so that confounding does not occur.

Controlling Effects of Variables

- ❖ **Completely Randomized Experimental Design**
assign subjects to different treatment groups through a process of **random selection**
- ❖ **Randomized Block Design**
a **block** is a group of subjects that are similar, but blocks differ in ways that might affect the outcome of the experiment
- ❖ **Rigorously Controlled Design**
carefully assign subjects to different treatment groups, so that those given each treatment are similar in ways that are important to the experiment
- ❖ **Matched Pairs Design**
compare exactly two treatment groups using subjects matched in pairs that are somehow related or have similar characteristics

Summary

Three very important considerations in the design of experiments are the following:

- 1. Use *randomization* to assign subjects to different groups**
- 2. Use replication by repeating the experiment on enough subjects so that effects of treatment or other factors can be clearly seen.**
- 3. *Control the effects of variables* by using such techniques as blinding and a completely randomized experimental design**

Errors

No matter how well you plan and execute the sample collection process, there is likely to be some error in the results.

❖ **Sampling error**

the difference between a sample result and the true population result; such an error results from chance sample fluctuations

❖ **Nonsampling error**

sample data incorrectly collected, recorded, or analyzed (such as by selecting a biased sample, using a defective instrument, or copying the data incorrectly)

Recap

In this section we have looked at:

- ❖ **Types of studies and experiments**
- ❖ **Controlling the effects of variables**
- ❖ **Randomization**
- ❖ **Types of sampling**
- ❖ **Sampling errors**