

Data Collection

Essential information

- Population*** - this is the variable (e.g. age, height, weight, etc.) that you are investigating
- Sampling*** - a number of members taken from a population; you take a sample from the population to estimate a particular characteristic of the population
- Random sample*** - here every member of the population has an equal chance of being in the sample
- Systematic sample*** - here the population is numbered, e.g. $1 \rightarrow 100$, and you take, for example, every 10th number (e.g. 1, 11, . . . , 91) to give a sample of, in this instance, size 10
- Stratified sample*** - here the population has distinct groups; you need to ensure that all groups are fairly represented in the sample
- Distance chart*** - a matrix of values which shows distances between specified places
- Questionnaire*** - should be straightforward with no biased questions