

Sampling in Quantitative Studies



Population

• The aggregate of cases in which a researcher is interested.

Sampling

• Selection of a portion of the population (a sample) to represent the entire population.

Element

• Basic population unit about which information is collected.

Objective



After previewing, the student should be able to do the following:

- 1. Define population, sample, and sampling.
- 2. Identify the purpose of sampling.
- 3. Identify the eligibility criteria for sample selection.
- 4. Begin to critique a sampling.

Sampling Steps in Quantitative Studies



Identify the population

Specify the eligibility criteria

Specify the sampling plan

(sampling method & sample size)

Recruit the sample





Establish population characteristics

Determine participation in study

Maximize construct validity

- Inclusion
- Exclusion



Basic Sampling Concepts in Quantitative Studies



Representative sample

 A sample whose key characteristics closely approximate those of the population

Sampling bias

• The systematic over- or under-representation of segments of the population on key variables