

Section 9.3 Using Samples & Populations to Collect Data



To estimate the number of salmon in a river, biologist use a strategy called **mark** and **recapture**. At one place in the river, biologist capture some fish. Each fish is marked with a tag, then released into the river. At a different place in the river, biologist recapture fish. They track the numbers of marked and unmarked fish caught. They can then estimate the salmon population.

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These moose were fitted with a GPS Radio Collar in Northern Ontario. The GPS collars give accurate locational data, and can be programmed to collect data over 24 hours throughout the year. The collars store data and the data can be downloaded onto a laptop computer via a modem connection. This particular study was undertaken to learn the effects of different types of logging on moose condition, home range and habitat use.

Do you think they put collars on all moose?

When Collecting Data...



Population - is the group about which you are getting information

Census - is conducted when data is collected from each member of the population

Ex) Suppose you test brake systems in cars that are made in a factory for defects, then ALL the cars made in that particular factory are the population. If you test each car's brakes, then you conducted a census.

Can we think of problems associated with Census?

- cost
- time consuming
- difficult to complete



When do we conduct a census?

- when an issue is important or population is small

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Sample - *Is when a small portion of the population is used to collect data*

One draws conclusions about the population based on data collected from a sample



Testing a sample of water from a well



When the sample chosen is **REPRESENTATIVE** of the population, the data collection provides **VALID CONCLUSIONS**

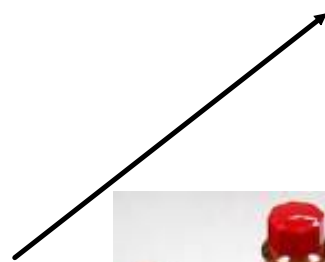
Ex) Testing the breaks on 20 out of 100 car's made each day for defected breaks is a sample. If those car's tested represent the typical quality of the car's breaks made in the factory, the conclusion of the data collection will be valid.

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**Sample -
a portion
of the
population**

Sample -



A sample represents the population.



There is an advertisement...
(making hot sauce.. advance to 3:58)

Sampling (i.e. selecting a sub-set of a whole population) is often done for reasons of

cost (it's less expensive to sample 1,000 television viewers than 100 million TV viewers) and *practicality* (e.g. performing a crash test on every automobile produced is impractical).



Topic:

*Favorite TV show of
grade 9 MVHS students*



Population? Who do you want to ask?

Census:

Sample:

Example 1) **Explaining Why Data Are Collected from Populations**

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In each case explain why populations is surveyed instead of a sample

a) To determine the average number of siblings of his classmates, Carlos surveyed each person in the class.



Solution:

- Surveying the entire population produces EXACT results (Not estimates)
- Would not take long
- Does not cost him anything

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"A baby brother? — I'm not ready to make a *commitment* like that!"

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b) Every 5 years, Statistics Canada conducts a census. One question in the survey is used to determine the ages of the people in each household



Solution:

A census was completed because of the importance of the question. The government requires data about the ages of Canadians so that it can budget for services such as day-care centres, schools, and senior citizens' homes.

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Example 2) **Reasoning Why & When Samples Should Be Used**

The student council is planning a school dance. To attract more grade 9 students to the dance, the council decided to collect data about the preferred music of the grade 9 students. The council members set up in the hallway to collect data. By the end of the day it had surveyed 73% of the grade 9 students.



a) Why do you think the data were collected from a sample instead of the entire population?

Solution



- There was probably not enough time available to survey all grade 9 students
- It would take a lot of time and effort to find all grade 9, especially with absences.



b) Will the opinions of the sample reflect those of the population? Explain

Solution



Since the majority of students, 73%, were asked, it is likely that their opinions will reflect those of the entire population.

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Example 3)

Identifying & Critiquing the Use of Samples



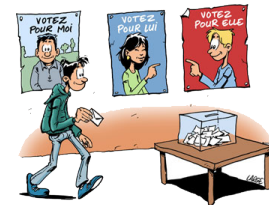
Identify if the data was collected from a sample or a population. Explain if you think the conclusion would be valid.



a) A province considers banning cell phones in all of its schools. To determine the opinions of students on this issue, you poll each student in your school.

Sample: The population is all students of all schools in the province. By asking only the students in your school, your results are based on a sample. If the students in your school do not represent typical students in the province, the conclusion will NOT be valid. For example, if all students in your school own cell phones, your conclusion would probably be not to ban cell phones. However, not every student in the province owns a cell phone. So, your results would not be representative of the population.

b) To determine which politician is expected to win the municipal election, every person over 18 and who is eligible to vote in the election is polled.



Population: All possible voters are polled

c) To determine the average lifetime of a type of light bulb, 150 light bulbs were selected randomly from production line and tested.

Sample: Since not all bulbs were tested, the results are based on a sample

-It would not make sense for the whole population to be tested, since all bulbs would be destroyed in the process. There would be no light bulbs left to sell.

- Since a large number of bulbs were tested, the results will likely give a good estimate of the lifetime of a light bulb. So the conclusion about the lifetime of a light bulb is likely valid.



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Methods of Collecting Data...

There are many methods used to collect or obtain data

for statistical analysis. Three of the most popular methods are:

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- **Direct Observation**
- **Experiments** , and
- **Surveys.**



Homework

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9.3

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Questions :

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