

bias

in statistics, unwanted influence that stops a sample from being representative of a population

categorical data

data represented as a category rather than as a number

census

the collection of information about every member of a population

class centre

the centre of a class interval

class interval

in statistics, when there are many data sources, they may be grouped together in this way

continuous data	numerical (or quantitative) data that can be measured on a smooth scale of values e.g. the heights of people
discrete data	numerical (or quantitative) data that can be counted and whose values are separate and distinct, such as the number of people in families
dot plot	a graph that uses dots to show frequencies of data scores
frequency histogram	a graph in which the height of each column represents the frequency of a single score or group of scores
frequency polygon	a line graph formed by joining the midpoints of the tops of the columns of a frequency histogram

nominal data

categorical data that cannot be ordered e.g. the colour of eyes

ordinal data

categorical data that can be ordered e.g. the sizes of coffee cups, small, medium and large

population

all the items under investigation

quantitative data

data that involves numbers

random sample

a sample for which every member of a population has an equal chance at selection

sample	a group of items selected from a population
scale	the ratio of image length to object length for a map or drawing
sector graph	a graph representing the parts of a whole population using a circle divided into proportionately sized sectors; otherwise known as a pie graph
stem-and-leaf plot	a number graph that lists all of the data scores in groups, often in groups of ten
stratified sample	a sample consisting of a percentage of items from each strata or layer of a population

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systematic sample

a sample chosen by  
using a set pattern e.g.  
every 10th person from  
a list

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unambiguous

not open to more  
than one  
interpretation

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