Selecting participants

Selecting who will participate in your study is a very important step in the research process.

Participants: people who take part in investigation

Sample: a group of people who take part in the investigation and it represent the target population

Sampling Methods

Representative sample-representatives or participants typical of the population

Random sampling - selecting participants on some random basis (picking names from a hat; the best way)

Systematic sampling - modified version of random sampling **(quasi-random;** e.g., every hundredth name from the population list)

Stratified sampling - participants are chosen according to certain

characteristic (gender, religion)

Quota sampling - participants are selected proportionally

Opportunity sampling - selecting participants only on the basis of their opportunity

Population Sample

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