ERRATA

Program Evaluation Theory and Practice: A Comprehensive Guide, Second Edition

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There is an error in the "Extending Your Thinking: Populations and Samples" feature on page 396: On lines 3-4 of that feature, "(refer to Box 11.2 for definitions of these terms)" should read "(refer to Box 11.1 for definitions of these terms)."

In addition, Box 11.2 (over) is missing from the text.

Box 11.2. Probability-Based Sampling Strategies

Strategy	*Definition/example*	*Requirements*
Simple random sampling	Every member of the population has an equal and independent chance of being selected.	You must have an accurate and complete list of members of the population.
Random digit dialing	Use in telephone surveys; computer generates a random list of phone numbers.	You need telephone exchanges for the desired geographic area; solves the problem of out-of-date directories or unlisted numbers.
Systematic sampling	Take every *n*th name off a list. Suppose you have 1,000 names on the list and you need a 10% sample. You pick a random number between 1 and 10, start there, and then take every 10th name on the list.	You need a full list of the population; however, you need to be cognizant of any particular order that the list is in and of the impact this might have on any systematic bias.
Stratified sampling	If there are different groups (strata) that you want to be sure to include, then you can divide the population into subgroups first and then randomly sample from the subgroups.	Strategy allows for obtaining representation from smaller subgroups; you must decide whether you will sample proportionally or disproportionately to the groups' representation in the population.[1]
Cluster sampling	Use with naturally occurring groups (e.g., classrooms, school districts, city blocks). Units are randomly selected from full list of possible sites. Then you can collect data from the members in the randomly selected unit.	Need a full list of classrooms, school districts, or blocks. Useful when site visits are needed and money can be saved by collecting data at a limited number of sites. At the analysis stage, the mean for each cluster replaces individual means, resulting in less precision in measuring effects.
Multistage sampling	Use a combination of sampling strategies over the course of the study (e.g., start with cluster sampling, then use simple random sampling within clusters).	Statistical analysis can be complicated with multistage sampling; clusters may need to include as many as 30–50 units for statistical analysis purposes.

Source: Based on Mertens (2010, pp. 317–319).

[1]"Proportional representation" means that individuals are sampled based on the same fraction that they represent in the population. This results in different sample sizes for each stratum. But it might yield sample sizes too small for analysis when a subgroup is very small in the population. "Disproportional representation" is used when the sizes of the subgroups differ significantly in the population. A different fraction of each subgroup is selected (e.g., 50% of a small group, 10% of a large group). When disproportional representation is used, weights need to be used in analysis. Most computer programs will calculate the necessary weights to use in calculations.