

Critical Analysis

Types of Statistics

Descriptive Statistics

Statistics that used to summarize or describe the characteristics of known data.

Inferential Statistics

Known data that is treated as a sample and used to draw conclusions about a larger population.

Components of a Critical Analysis

When conducting a critical analysis, it is important to consider the following factors.

Sample

- Was an _____ sample used?
- Was the sample _____ enough, and diverse enough, to be used for _____ statistics?
- Was the sample randomly selected?

Author

- _____ conducted the study?
- Were they _____ to conduct the study?
- Who were they _____ by?
- Does the author have a _____ in the _____ of the study?

Source

- Is the data from a _____ or _____ source?
- Have the sources been _____?
- Are the sources _____?

Relevance

- _____ was the study done?
- Is the sample _____ of the _____?
- Is the study making _____ beyond the _____ of the study?

Bias

- Do the _____ show any bias?
- If _____ statistics are used, is it appropriate to do so?
 - sufficient sample size?
 - strong correlation?
 - outliers?
 - influential points?
 - third variable?
 - extrapolation appropriate?
 - appropriate type of regression used?