

SECTION 2.3

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES

Sampling and Experimentation

Chapter

2

AP STATISTICS

HW 2A

Overview of Methods of Data Collection

There are **four methods of data collection** with which you should be familiar: census, sample survey, experiment, and observational study.

A **census** is a study that observes, or **attempts to observe, every individual in a population.** The **population** is the collection of all individuals under consideration in the study.

A **sample survey** is a study that **collects information from a sample of a population** in order to determine one or more characteristics of the population. A **sample** is a selected subset of a population from which data are gathered.

An **experiment** is a **study where the researcher deliberately influences individuals by imposing conditions** and **determining the individuals' responses to those conditions.**

An **observational study** attempts to **determine relationships between variables, but the researcher imposes no conditions like an experiment.** Surveys are a form of observational study.