

# Exploring Data and Visual Displays



# Definitions

- ❖ **Statistics**: Branch of math dealing with the collection, organization, analysis, and interpretation of information called data
- ❖ **Variable**: A characteristic of a person or thing which can be classified, counted, ordered, or measured.
- ❖ **Population**: Set of all individuals or objects you want to study
- ❖ **Sample**: If cannot collect data from the entire population, you study a part of it. This is called a sample.



# Definitions

- ❖ **Survey**: An interview or questionnaire used to gather facts or opinions
- ❖ **Census**: A survey of the entire population of the US that occurs every 10 years.
- ❖ **Random sample**: A method so that every member of the population has an equal chance of being chosen



When trying to make sense of data, you want to ask yourself several questions:

- ❖ What is being presented?
- ❖ Are the data trustworthy? Does it come from a reliable source?
- ❖ What conclusions can you draw from the data?