Analyzing Quantitative Data: A Few Important Terms*

- **Case**: individual record (e.g., 1 participant, 1 day, 1 activity)
- **Demographics**: descriptive characteristics (e.g., gender)
- **Disaggregate**: to separate or group information (e.g., to look at data for males separately from females) – conducting crosstabs is a strategy for disaggregating data.
- **Partition**(v): another term that means disaggregate.
- **Unit of Analysis**: the major entity of the analysis – i.e., the what or the whom is being studied (e.g., participants, groups, activities)
- **Variable**: something that changes (e.g., number of hours of attendance)

***common usage**

Analyzing Quantitative Data

Important Things to Look at or Summarize

What to Do	What That Means	Example Questions You Could Answer
Calculate Frequencies	*Count how many there are of something.* *Count how often something (e.g., a response) occurs.*	How many participants were in each group? What were the demographics of participants?
		How many answered "Yes" to Question 2?
Calculate Total and/or Valid Percentages	*Frequency/total *100*	What proportion of participants met intensity targets? What proportion of all those who answered question 2, said "Yes."

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What to Do	What That Means	Example Questions You Could Answer
Determine Central Tendencies	*Calculate the **average (mean)**, or identify the **median** (middle) or **mode** (most common value).* *Avg. =* *Sum of Values* *Total Number of Values* *Total # of hours* *Total # of people with hours*	What is the average number of hours participants attend? What is the most common numbers of days attended in a week? (mode)

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What to do	What That Means	Example Questions You Could Answer
Determine Distributions	*Determine the minimum value, the maximum, and/or how the data are grouped* *(e.g, high, medium, or low values, quartiles, percentiles, etc.).*	What was the least amount of attendance for the group? What was the most? How many participants fall into low, medium, and high intensity groups?
Cross-Tabulations (pivot tables are crosstabs)	*Relationship between 2 or more variables (also called contingency analyses, can include significance tests such as chi-square analyses)*	Are there relationships between participant characteristics and outcome changes?