

Essays park



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Researchers use stratified random sampling to obtain a sample population that best represents the entire population being studied. Its advantages include minimizing sample selection bias (a type of bias caused by choosing non-random data from statistical analysis) and it ensures each subgroup within the population receives proper representation within the sample. The disadvantages of stratified sampling include that several conditions must be met for it to be used properly. Researchers must identify every member of a population being studied and classify each of them into one, subpopulation. Finding an exhaustive and definitive list of an entire population is the first challenge. The other challenge is accurately sorting each member of the population into a single stratum.

This example is fairly simple; undergraduate, graduate, male and female are clearly defined groups. In other situations, however it is far more difficult. Imagine bringing defining characteristics such as race, ethnicity or religion into play. The sorting process becomes more difficult, rendering stratified random sampling an ineffective method.