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Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

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Q7(a)

What is sampling in the context of social research? Discuss different forms of sampling with their relative advantages and disadvantages

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Sociology GS 1 · 20 marks · Research Methods and Analysis

Research Methods and Analysis: Qualitative and quantitative methods; Techniques of data collection; Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-1/2025/what-is-sampling-in-the-context-of-social-research-discuss-different-forms-of-sampling-with-their-relative-advantages-and-disadvantages/>

Known chance of selection

The defining feature of probability sampling that underwrites confidence intervals.

Design effect

The extra uncertainty from cluster sampling because units in a cluster resemble one another.

Snowball sampling

Network recruitment used for hidden or stigmatised populations, biased toward visible nodes.

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