**Data or statistics ?**

**When to  use ...**

**Data? Use data to analyse**hundreds or thousands of observations in order to support or refute your hypothesis.

According to Statistics Canada, **data** can be viewed as "the **raw material** from which information is obtained" or "facts or figures from which conclusions can be drawn." (Information adapted from [Statistics: Power from Data!](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/edu/power-pouvoir/ch1/definitions/5214853-eng.htm))

Data example:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| RecID | Wght\_per | Agegr10 | Chh014c |
| 101 | 220.8967 | 3 | 2 |
| 102 | 276.2045 | 5 | 0 |
| 104 | 235.3051 | 6 | 1 |
| 105 | 550.7448 | 4 | 3 |
| 106 | 78.0918 | 2 | 0 |
| 107 | 482.7007 | 7 | 0 |
| 108 | 124.9574 | 3 | 1 |

**Statistics? Use statistics as background or supporting information and to add weight to your research.**

Statistics are a presentation-ready form of data. Statistics represent a method of presenting numerical data. They are obtained through mathematical operations on numerical data. Statistics are usually **presented in form of tables, charts**, graphs etc. (Information adapted from [Statistics: Power from Data!](http://www.statcan.gc.ca/edu/power-pouvoir/ch1/definitions/5214853-eng.htm))

Statistics example:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **totals** | Quebec | Ontario |
| **Population**  | 7,546,130 | 12,160,285 |
| **male** | 3,687,695 | 5,930,700 |
| **female** | 3,858,440 | 6,229,580 |
| **male, aged 0-4** | 191,565 | 343,475  |
| **female, aged 0-4** | 183,710 | 327,290 |
| **mother tongue,French**  | 5,877,660 | 488,815 |

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Statistics Canada. 2007. Ontario, Quebec (tables). 2006 Community Profiles. 2006 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE. Ottawa. Released March 13, 2007. <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census06/data/profiles/community/Index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 22, 2008).

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