

Primary or Secondary Data

Data Collection Methods

Primary

Is data you collect yourself

E.G. • Surveys

- Questionnaires
- Investigations
- Experiments

- ✓ The collection method is known
- ✓ The accuracy is known
- ✓ The questions can be tailored to the investigation

- ✗ Time consuming
- ✗ Expensive

Secondary

Is data that has already been collected by someone else and you use

E.G. • Databases

- Published Statistics
- Newspapers
- Internet Sources

- ✓ Cheap
- ✓ Quicker than Primary
- ✓ Can be more accurate if from a reliable source

- ✗ May be out of date
- ✗ May have mistakes x May not answer the investigation properly

For each of the following scenarios, decide if this is an example of primary or secondary data

Looking on the internet for how many people live in one house

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking your teacher for the year 7 test results

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking people in your form for their favourite colour

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Looking in the newspaper for last week's football results

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Standing on the end out your road counting the cars

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking a friend to fill in a questionnaire

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking a friend to ask their friend to fill in a questionnaire

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Checking the football scores on Sky Sports News

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Reading the results of the 2011 census online

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Last year's football results

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

This week's football results so far

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Writing down the football results at a match

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

For each of the following scenarios, decide if primary or secondary data would be most appropriate

Collecting data on the number of goals scored over the last 10 years by a particular goal scorer

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

The number of teachers working in every secondary school in the UK

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

The amount of time year 11s at your school spend on social media

☐ Primary

☐ Secondary

Solutions

Looking on the internet for how many people live in one house

☐ Primary

☒ Secondary

Asking your teacher for the year 7 test results

☐ Primary

☒ Secondary

Asking people in your form for their favourite colour

☒ Primary

☐ Secondary

Looking in the newspaper for last week's football results

☐ Primary

☒ Secondary

Standing on the end of your road counting the cars

☒ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking a friend to fill in a questionnaire

☒ Primary

☐ Secondary

Asking a friend to ask their friend to fill in a questionnaire

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☒ Secondary

Checking the football scores on Sky Sports News

☐ Primary

☒ Secondary

Reading the results of the 2011 census online

☐ Primary

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Last year's football results

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