Unit 2 Key Terms

Cohort Study - A study in which some specific group is studied over time, although data may be collected from different members in each set of observations.

Cross-Sectional Study - A study based on observations that represent a single point in time. Compare to a longitudinal study.

External Validity - Whether a relationship observed in a specific population, at a specific time, and in a specific place would also be observed in other populations, at other times, and in other places. External validity is concerned with generalizability from a relationship observed in one setting to the same relationship in other settings. Replication enhances external validity.

Internal Validity – Whether observed associations between two (or more) variables are due to causal associations or are due to the effects of some other variable. Internal validity may be threatened by an inability to control experimental conditions (see also validity threats).