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# Training Course on Household Surveys Part I

A Presentation to DCP Research Assistants, Students and other Participants  
Nairobi  
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# Presentation Outline

- Introduction to household surveys
- Purpose and objectives of household surveys
- Types of surveys
- Survey Techniques
- Summary
- References
- Project Team
- Questions





## What is a Household Survey?

“.....process of **collecting and analyzing data** to help us understand the **general situation and specific characteristics** of individual household or all households in the population (UNESCO 2019)”



**Whose knowledge counts? Learning from local forest resource users**



# What is a Household Survey?

“Pinsonneault and Kraemer (1993:77)...research strategy to study.....

- Relationships
- Characteristics



Livestock herding  
**Vs**



Settlements



Infrastructure



Production



Academic performance

## What is a Household Survey?

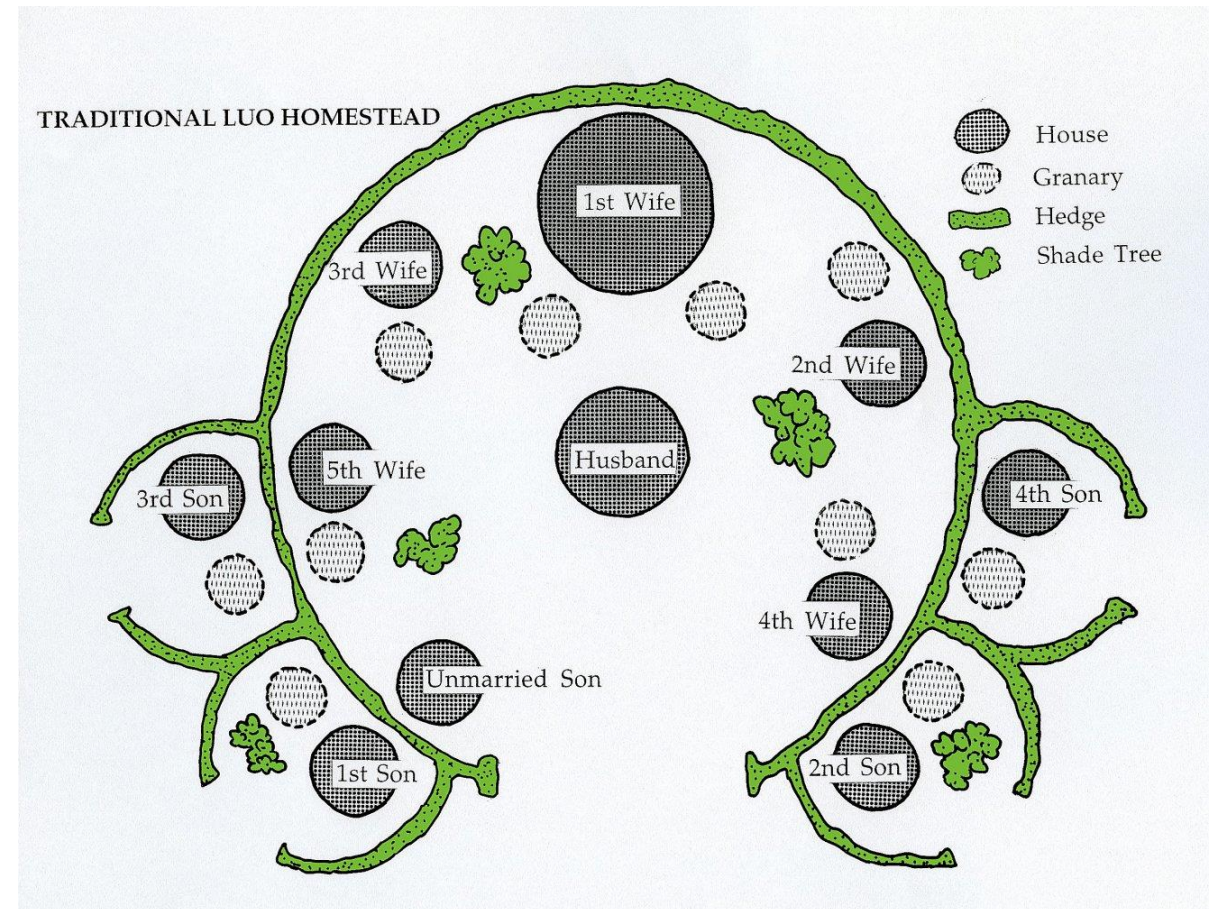
“to answer questions that have been raised, to solve problems that have been posed or observed, to assess needs and set goals, to determine whether or not specific objectives have been met, to establish baselines against which future comparisons can be made, to analyze trends across time, and generally, to describe what exists, in what amount, and in what context.” (Isaac & Michael, 1997, p. 136)



## What Constitutes a Household?

*“A person or group of persons related or not, residing in the same homestead or compound but not necessarily in the same dwelling unit, have same cooking arrangement, and are answerable to the same household head (GoK 2009) ”.*

*“a basic residential unit in which **economic production, consumption, inheritance, child rearing and shelter** are organized and carried out (UNESCO 2019) ”.*

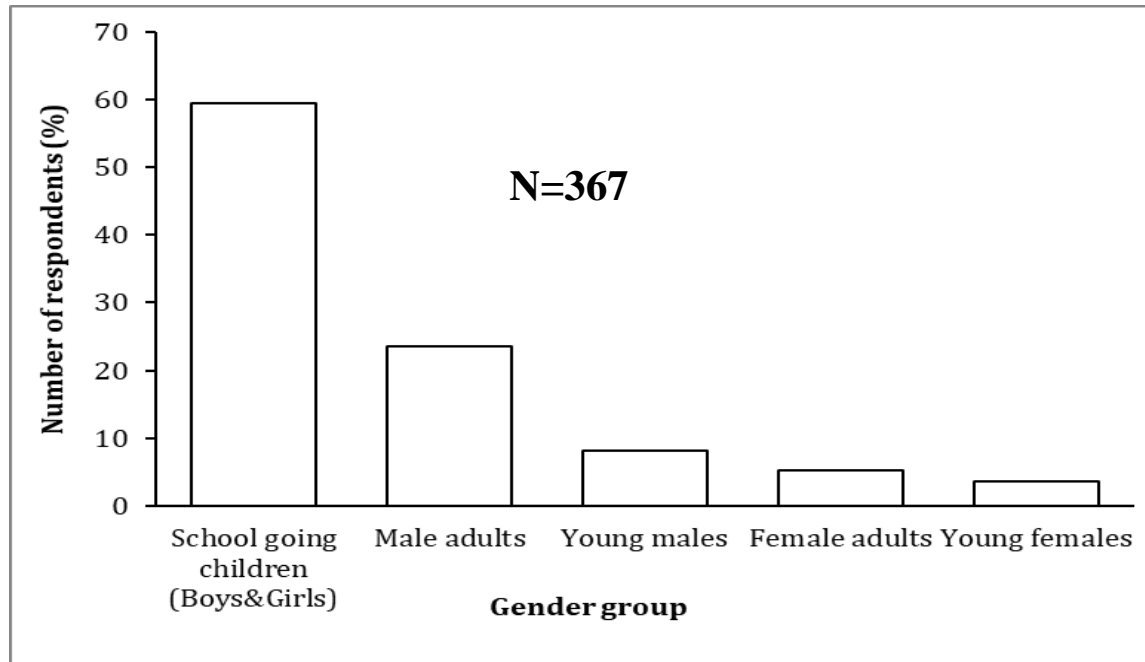


# Purposes and Objectives of Household Surveys

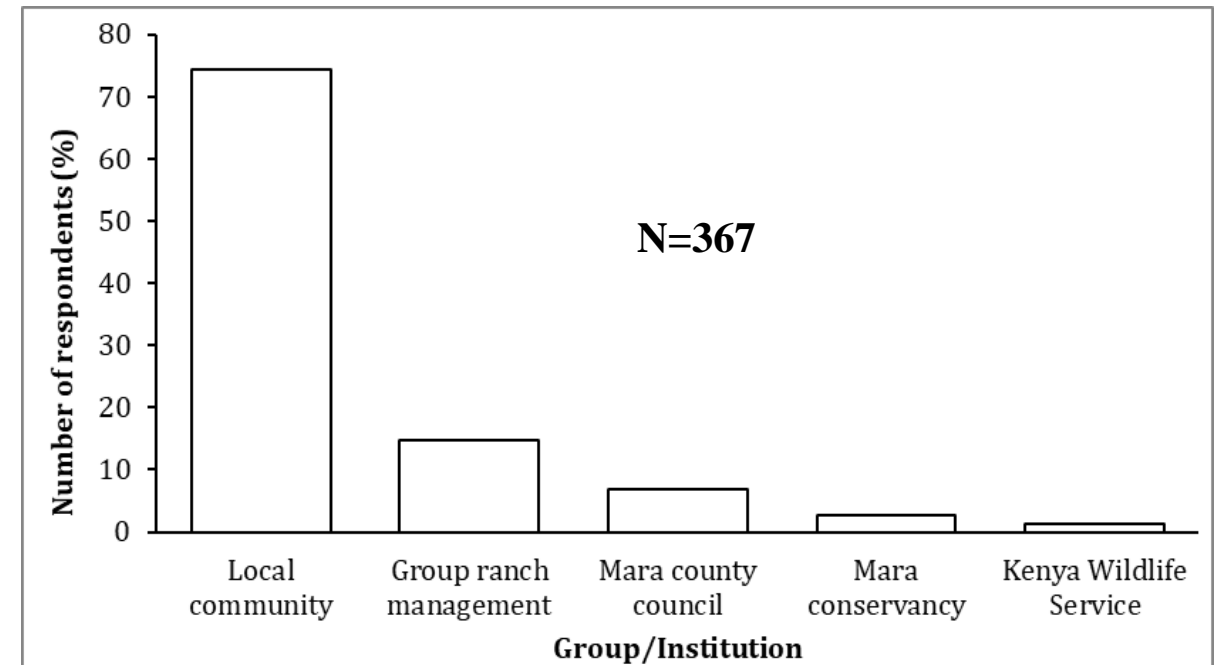
- To provide information
  - to describe a situation: descriptive surveys
  - to explain a situation: analytical surveys
- To identify and solve a problem
- To measure the change
- To study attitudes, behavior and habits
- To examine the cause-effect relationship.
- To study the characteristics
- To formulate a hypothesis
- To test a hypothesis
- Decision making

## Assessing Differential Impacts of Human Elephant Conflict in Trans Mara District

“I sought respondents’ views of the community groups that were most and least affected by HEC in TM. The results showed that HEC impacts were differentiated and concerned males, females and young members of the community” .....Similarly, 74.3% (n=273) of respondents felt that the local community was the greatest loser in the human-elephant interactions, while 1.4% (n=5) identified the Kenya Wildlife Service as the least loser (Nyumba 2018:116-117)”



**Gender group perceived as most affected by HEC in TM**



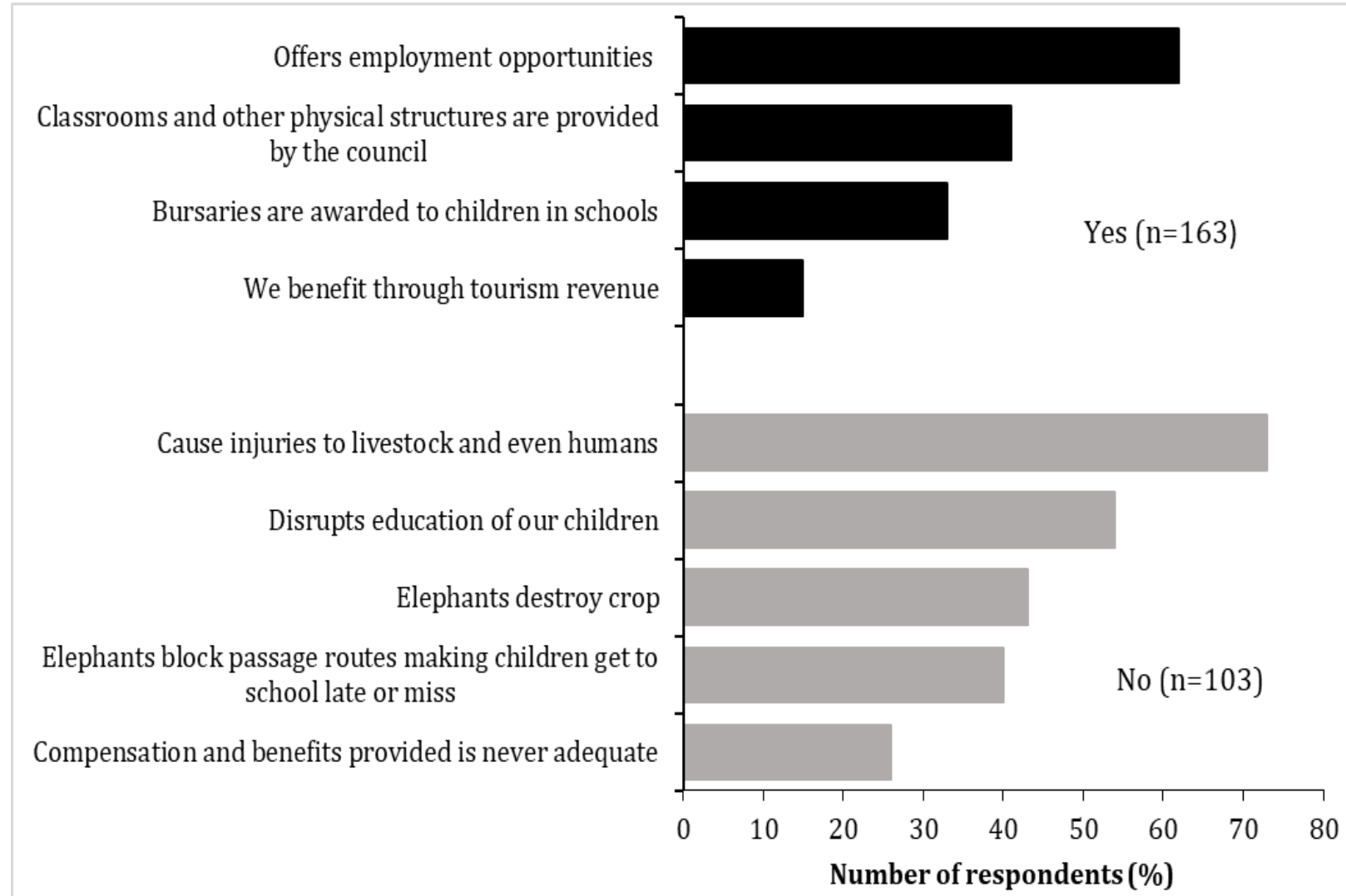
**Losers in human-elephant interactions in TM**



# Types of Surveys: Descriptive Surveys

“...attempts to picture or document current conditions/issues by gathering people's perceptions, opinions, attitudes, and beliefs about the condition/issue (McIntyre 1999:75)”.

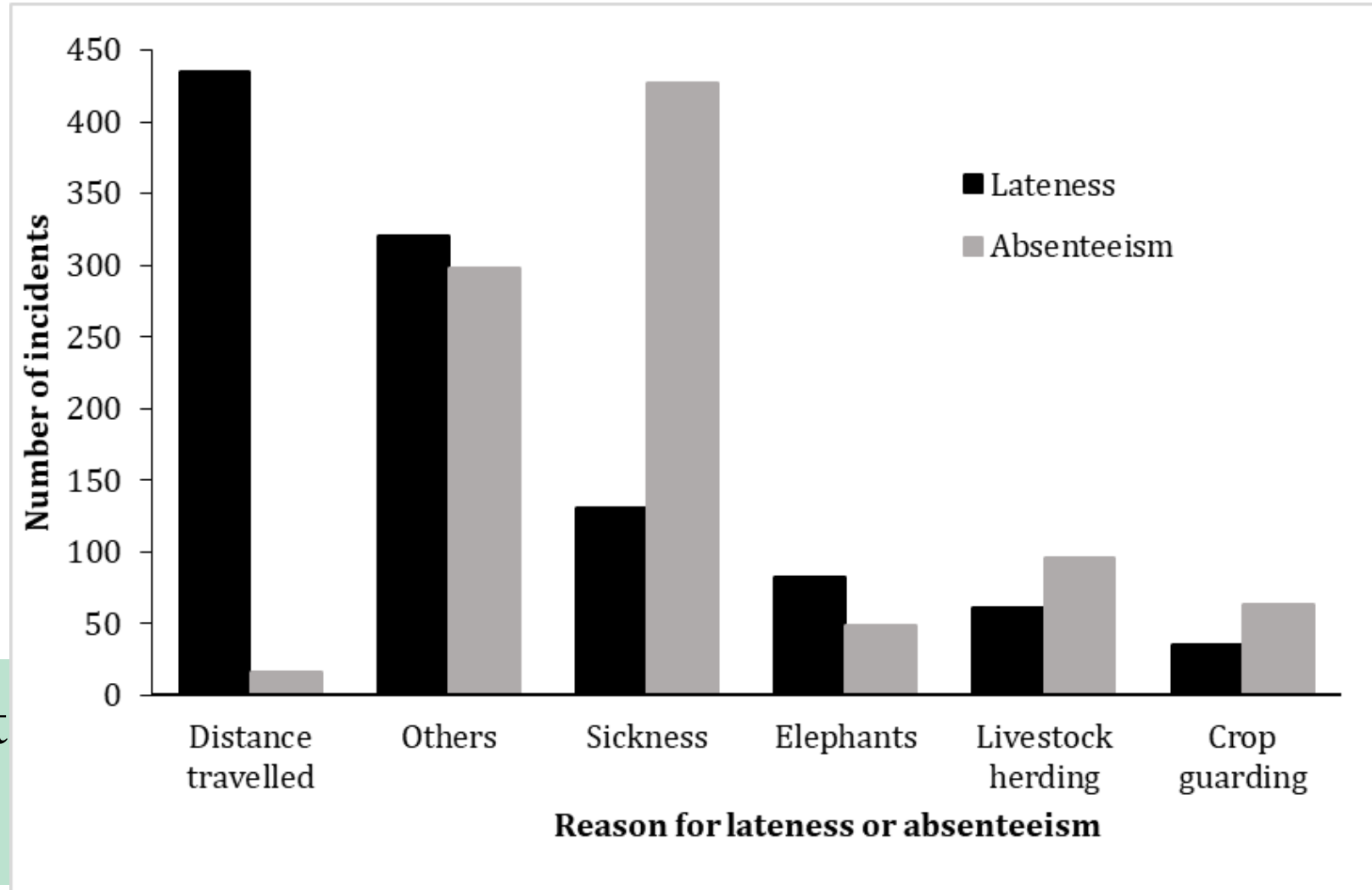
Example: What are some of the benefits and costs linked to elephants in this area (Nyumba 2018:236-237)?



# Types of Surveys: Analytical Surveys

“.....attempts to describe and explain WHY certain situations exist. Here we examine two, or more variable to test our research hypothesis (Kraemer 1991)”

Example: What factors affect school attendance in TM?  
(Nyumba 2018:226-227)?



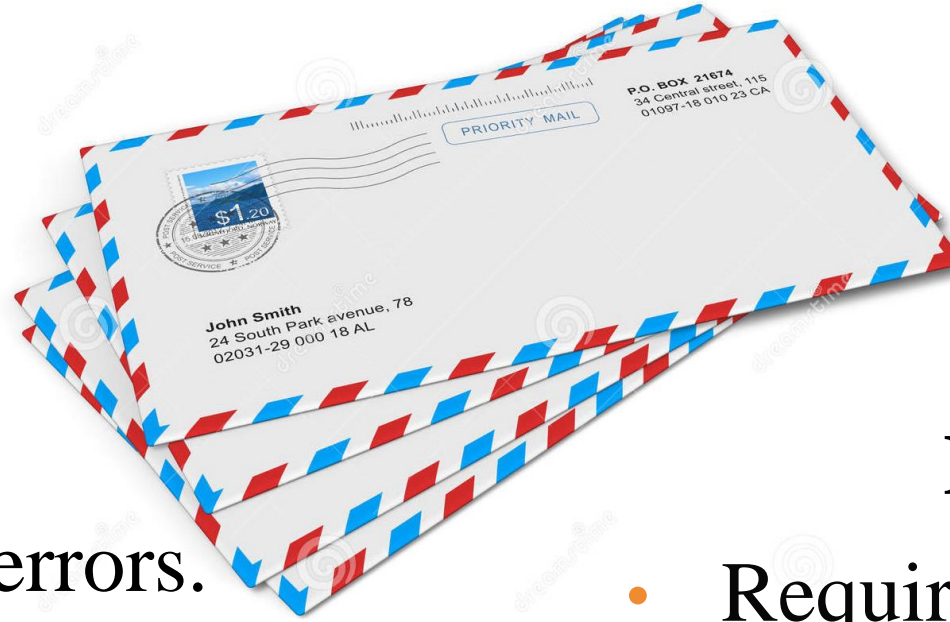


# Survey Techniques: The Mailed Questionnaire

.....involves sending a cover letter and a questionnaire to a specific respondent.

## Advantages

- Low cost.
- Reduction in biasing errors.
- Greater anonymity.
- Accessibility.
- Less time and trained staff.



## Disadvantages

- Requires simple questions
  - No probing opportunity
- No control over WHO fills?
  - Low response rate

# Survey Techniques: Personal Interviews

Interviewing is a form of questioning characterized by the fact that it employs verbal questioning.

Together with the questionnaire, interviews make up the survey method, which is one of the most popular technique of data collection.



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# Survey Techniques: Personal Interviews

## Advantages

- Flexibility in questioning.
- Control over the interview situation.
- High response rate.
- Collection of supplement data.



## Disadvantages

- Higher cost.
- Interviewer bias.
- Respondent's hesitation on sensitive topics.
- Greater staff requirement.



# Survey Techniques: Telephone Interviews

Telephone interview demonstrates the same structural characteristics as standard interviewing technique, except that it is conducted by telephone.



## Advantages

- Moderate cost.
- Less time consumption.
- Higher response rate.
- Quality .....(Supervision , Recording)

## Disadvantages

- Hesitation to discuss sensitive topics.
- The “Broken-Off ”interviews.
- No supplement information.



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# Questions?

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