

Summary of Designs

POORLY DESIGNED EXPERIMENTS WITH INADEQUATE CONTROL GROUPS OR FAILURE TO RANDOMLY ASSIGN SUBJECTS TO CONDITIONS

- ***One-shot case study:***
No comparison (control) group.
- ***One-group pretest-posttest design:***
Internal validity problems of history, maturation, testing, instrument decay, statistical regression, and mortality.
- ***Nonequivalent control group design:***
Internal validity problems of selection differences and mortality.

TRUE EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNS WITH EXPERIMENTAL AND CONTROL GROUPS, AND RANDOM ASSIGNMENT TO CONDITIONS

- ***Posttest-only design:***
Cannot assess change scores on dependent variable; cannot assess mortality. These are usually not problems, however.
- ***Pretest-posttest design:***
Can assess mortality and change scores. Pretest may sensitize subjects to hypothesis, however.