

→ Primary and Secondary data

Primary source of collecting data offers you 'Primary data' and secondary source offers you 'Secondary data'. Let us clarify the difference. Primary data are those which are collected for the first time and are, thus, original character, whereas Secondary data are those which have already been collected by some other person and which have passed through the statistical machine at least once.

Primary Data : →

Data collected by the investigator for his own purpose, for the first time, from beginning to end, are called primary data. These are collected from the source of origin. In the words of Wessel "Data originally collected in the process of investigation are known as 'primary data'". Primary data are original. The concerned investigator is the first person who collects these

information. The Primary data are therefore, a first-hand information.

Secondary Data: →

In the words of M. M.

Blair, "Secondary data are those which are already in existence, and which have been collected, for ~~some~~ some other purpose than the answering of the question in hand."

According to Wessel, "Data collected by other persons are called secondary data." These data are therefore, called second hand data. Obviously, since these data have already been collected by somebody else, these are available in the form of published or unpublished reports. For example, data relating to Indian Railway which are annually published by the Railway Board, would be secondary data for any researcher.

Thank you.