



Chapter 3



From Results to Interpretation to Recommendations



From Results to Interpretation to Recommendations

- Interpret the results of your data analyses to answer the evaluation questions.
- Then, examine the implications of these results to generate recommendations.
- This process may require you to make complex judgments from competing results within your context.
- Involving stakeholders at this stage may be helpful, even when disagreements arise.

Interpretation of Results: Guiding Questions

- Is the sample representative?
- Is the sample large enough to act on the results?
- Were the analyses appropriate?
- Do the results justify the conclusions?
- Are there alternative explanations for the results?
- Are the results considered in their context?

Interpretation of Results: Analysis Method

- Develop a data analysis plan for one of your evaluation questions. Work with a partner to complete the data analysis plan.

Evaluation Question	Sample	Data	Collection Method	Time Frame	Analysis Method	Interpretation
<i>What evaluation question are you seeking to answer?</i>	<i>What type of sampling will you use? What will the sample size be for each group?</i>	<i>What data will you use to address this question (for example, assessment scores, survey responses, focus group data)?</i>	<i>How will you collect the data (for example, existing database query, online survey, in-person focus groups)?</i>	<i>When and how frequently will you collect the data?</i>	<i>How will you summarize the data so that the data are usable?</i>	<i>How will you reach a conclusion regarding your evaluation question?</i>
To what extent do students complete homework with better than 80 percent accuracy?	Convenience sampling of all participating and non-participating AMMP! students.	Data on homework completion and accuracy for students who did and did not participate in AMMP!.	Request gradebook data related to students' math homework for students who did and did not participate in AMMP!.	Collect homework data quarterly throughout the school year.	Compare homework completion and accuracy rates of AMMP! students to nonparticipating students, using ordinary least squares regression.	Participation in AMMP! was associated with greater homework completion rates as well as improved accuracy.
What barriers exist that prevent students from completing homework?	Purposive sampling of teachers, parents, and students. Two total focus groups for students, parents, and teachers (six in total). Approximately eight for each focus group.	Focus group transcripts from teachers, parents, and students about barriers to homework completion.	Collect focus group data from teachers, parents, and students, using audio recorders and notes.	Collect focus group data during the middle of the school year and again at the end.	Code focus group transcripts for themes related to barriers to homework completion at the middle and end of the school year.	Midyear focus group participants indicated that students did not feel engaged in math content. Tutors spent more time on motivation instructional support.

Making Recommendations Based on PARSEC

- Use the PARSEC framework to develop recommendations:
 - **Pertinent:** They relate back to the evaluation questions.
 - **Actionable:** They can be implemented.
 - **Reasonable:** They make use of available resources.
 - **Specific:** They are clear and well defined.
 - **Evaluative:** They account for the values of stakeholders and lead to a judgment of some sort.
 - **Complete:** They address the key areas described by the evaluation questions.

Making Recommendations Based on PARSEC: AMMP! Example (Part 1)

- **Finding:** Several students were unable to complete homework because they didn't have computers at home to access online assignments.
- **Recommendation:** Allow students to check out laptops to use at home overnight.

Making Recommendations Based on PARSEC: AMMP! Example (Part 2)

- Is the recommendation:
 - Pertinent?
 - Actionable?
 - Reasonable?
 - Specific?
 - Evaluative?



Chapter 3 Complete

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Recommended next: Module 8 – Dissemination Approaches



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