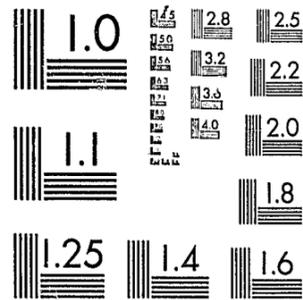


National Criminal Justice Reference Service



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U.S. Department of Justice
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration

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Criminal Justice Planning and Management Series

Glossary

NCJRS

SEP 24 1981

ACQUISITION

PREFACE

This glossary is designed both to serve as a common point of reference for terminology used in the Criminal Justice Planning and Management Series courses and to enhance communication among practitioners on the job. It was compiled by Carolyn A. Thieme-Busch at the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration using input from the developers of the planning, analysis, program development, evaluation, and program management courses; Criminal Justice Training Center staff and instructors; and several LEAA offices.

Office of Criminal Justice Programs
June, 1981

FORMAT

The format used here was devised in an attempt to accommodate variations in philosophy and approach that are reflected in the use and definition of terminology. Please note that in some instances, the common, interdisciplinary definition (1.) has been omitted because the term is frequently used in everyday language. In other instances, the criminal justice system and course-related definition (2.) has been omitted because it is the same as the interdisciplinary definition.

KEY

All underlined words used in a definition are listed elsewhere in this glossary. In the instances where they are underlined, their use corresponds to the glossary definition. For instance, in the definition of ASSESSMENT on page 2, the underlined words "evaluation, monitoring, and self-assessment" are all defined in this glossary. Their use in the definition of ASSESSMENT corresponds to the definitions provided in this glossary.

1. Common interdisciplinary or broad definition.
2. Definition within the context of the criminal justice system and Criminal Justice Planning and Management Series courses.
3. Related terms defined in this glossary, but not mentioned in the above definitions.

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DEFINITIONS

ACCOUNTABILITY

1. The obligation of the person to whom authority has been delegated to use that authority to carry out the intended responsibilities.

ACTIVITIES

2. The operations and processes of a project; how project inputs are put to use; what people do in the context of the project.
3. OUTCOMES, RESULTS

ADMINISTRATION

2. The organization, management, and operations of the criminal justice system, its components and agencies.
3. ENVIRONMENT, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

ANALYSIS

1. A process of hypothesis formulation, data specification, data collection, data manipulation, and extraction of information.
2. In the analysis course: a systematic, sequential process comprised of problem formulation, data collection, the interpretation of data, and the presentation of information for the purpose of influencing decision-making. In evaluation: the examination of data, most often by quantitative methods, to discover the nature of the data and the relationships among variables so as to allow for judgments on the program or project.

ANALYSIS PLAN

1. A written document or oral presentation which systematically outlines or describes a sequence of events and procedures for conducting an analysis.

ASCRIBED POWER

1. Power based on the position one holds.
3. ACHIEVED POWER

ASSESSMENT

1. Any of a broad range of activities conducted for the purpose of defining what is happening, and its importance and value. It includes evaluation, monitoring, and self-assessment, as well as judgments on programs and projects not based on systematic data collection.
3. FORMATIVE EVALUATION, IMPACT ASSESSMENT, INTENSIVE EVALUATION, PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT, PROCESS EVALUATION, PROGRAM REVIEW, PROJECT REVIEW, SUMMATIVE EVALUATION.

ASSUMPTION

1. A given; a supposition upon which an hypothesis is formulated; also, a technical assumption refers to the distributional, scalar, and other properties of data which influence the choice of appropriate statistical techniques.

ATTRIBUTION

2. The act of ascribing some result, event, behavior, or outcome to a program, project, or its components.

AUTHORITY

1. The power to influence thought, opinion, or behavior.
2. The legitimate ability to carry out responsibilities.
3. ACCOUNTABILITY, DELEGATION

CAPABILITY

2. The expected level of output, at a planned level of productivity, with a specified amount of resources, in a given time period.
3. CAPACITY

CAPACITY

2. The potential output of a system or of a system component when productivity is maximized within a specified level of resources and a given time period.
3. CAPABILITY

CLEARANCE RATE

2. The ratio of crimes "solved" by the arrest of probable offenders, to crimes reported.
3. RATE, RATE DETERMINANTS, SYSTEM RATES

COMPARISON GROUP

1. Any non-treatment group similar to the treatment group but not randomly formed, nor necessarily identical with respect to all control variables.
3. CONTROL GROUP, SAMPLE, SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

COMPONENT

2. An agency or process which is a part of the criminal justice system, e.g., "the courts" and "arrest" are components of the criminal justice system; a condition or event that defines or is associated with a particular problem.

CONCEPT

2. A distinguishable component found or expressed within a concern.
3. PROBLEM SPECIFICATION

CONCERN

2. A vague or frequently unspecified hunch or attitude about aspects of crime and the criminal justice system.
3. PROBLEM, PROBLEM SPECIFICATION

CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

1. The range of values within which a population parameter is expected to lie, given a certain level of confidence.
3. CONFIDENCE LEVEL

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

1. The probability that a confidence interval includes the population parameter; the probability that an observed difference is not due to chance variation.
3. LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE, STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINGENCY PLANNING

1. Designing plans to provide program or project continuity to goal achievement in the event of the occurrence of unlikely events.
3. PLANNING

CONTROL GROUP

1. A non-treatment group which is randomly formed or formed in such a way (e.g., by matching) so that it may be equivalent to the treatment group with respect to all control variables.
3. SAMPLE, SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

CORRELATION

1. A type of statistical analysis used in relationship studies. Such studies investigate the extent to which two or more variables vary systematically in a population.

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

1. The application of any of several techniques, mostly quantitative, for comparing, among alternative projects and plans, total estimated dollar cost to the total estimated dollar value of the benefits which will be derived.
3. COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

COST-EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

1. The application of any one of several techniques, mostly quantitative, for comparing, among alternative projects and plans, the total estimated dollar cost to the estimated change in level of performance in one or more areas. In this type of analysis, effectiveness measures are usually non-monetary.
3. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

CRIME-SPECIFIC

2. A term used to differentiate from crime in general. For example, a burglary program would be crime-specific, whereas a community crime prevention program would not.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUB-SYSTEM

2. A component of the criminal justice system that consists of a collection of interdependent agencies that perform a complex sequence of activities. The four major components are police, prosecution, courts, and corrections. The outputs of one component may be the inputs of another.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

1. All agencies and processes, both official and unofficial, which deal primarily with crime and criminals.
2. The set of interrelated agencies that performs a series of complex operations, in sequence, in response to criminal acts. It is composed of all criminal justice sub-systems.

CRITICAL PATH METHOD (CPM)

1. A technique by which the shortest or least expensive path through a PERT chart can be found. The necessary events which fall in sequence along the critical path become important milestones for a program or project.

DATA

1. Measures of activities, events, behaviors, outcomes, opinions, etc. Data may be in quantitative or qualitative form and may range from counts of people or events, to statements of opinion.
3. DATA ELEMENTS, INFORMATION

DATA COLLECTION PLAN

1. A list of variables, measures, data sources, data collection procedures, costs, and timetables.

DATA ELEMENTS

1. The specific, usually quantitative, counts, scores, events, etc., which are combined and summarized to produce data.
3. MEASUREMENT

DECISION PACKAGE

2. A set of informative materials to be presented to decision-makers at a decision point, reflecting work done by a program developer to date.

DECISION POINT

2. A critical point where a decision regarding policy, programming, or the processing of individuals is made.

DECISION POINT PERCENTAGE

2. A percentage obtained by dividing the number of cases assigned to an alternative at a decision point by the total number of cases which have arrived at that point. For example, if the choices for a sentencing court are prison and probation, 1000 cases are to be sentenced, and the choice is probation for 800 and prison for 200, then the decision point percentage for probation is 80% (800/1000 x 100) and the decision point percentage for prison is 20% (200/1000 x 100).
3. DECISION POINT, SYSTEM RATES

DECISION TREE

1. A network representation of sequences of actions and their consequences. Each possible decision and each of its consequences is shown by a different path through the tree. A disposition tree is a type of decision tree.

DELEGATION

1. The act of empowering another to act in one's place.
2. The act by which a manager assigns responsibilities and authority to a subordinate or by which team members allocate responsibilities and authority within their groups.
3. ACCOUNTABILITY

DELPHI TECHNIQUE

1. A procedure for focusing several experts' opinions about a topic by obtaining the opinions of each, presenting all opinions obtained to each participant without identifying the source, obtaining a second round of opinions (supposedly influenced by the first), and repeating the process until consensus is reached.

DEPENDENT VARIABLE

1. A characteristic or event variable which is hypothesized to change as a result of changes in another variable.
3. INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

EFFECTIVENESS

2. A performance measure that indicates the extent to which standards, goals, objectives, and estimates are achieved.
3. EFFICIENCY, PERFORMANCE, PRODUCTIVITY

EFFICIENCY

2. A type of performance measure indicated by the ratio of output to workload.
3. EFFECTIVENESS, PERFORMANCE, PRODUCTIVITY

ELEMENT

2. A specific activity or set of activities intended to carry out a particular strategy. It may be a project or a set of projects carrying out the same function.
3. PROBLEM

ENVIRONMENT

2. External influences on the criminal justice system; crime and community characteristics that affect and are affected by the criminal justice system.
3. ADMINISTRATION, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

EVALUABILITY

1. Project conditions which allow for collection, analysis, and report of relevant data for the assessment of achievement of all levels of objectives within the time frame needed by decision-makers.

EVALUATION

1. A process for making judgements about selected activities, populations, events, policies, or other factors relevant to management decisions, by systematically comparing them to criteria that have been specified in either qualitative or quantitative terms.
2. "...the administration and conduct of studies and analyses to determine the impact and value of a project or program in accomplishing the statutory objectives of the Title." (Crime Control Act of 1976)
3. FORMATIVE EVALUATION, IMPACT ASSESSMENT, INTENSIVE EVALUATION, MONITORING, PROCESS EVALUATION, SUMMATIVE EVALUATION.

EVALUATION DESIGN

1. The conceptual framework, method of assessment, measurements, and analyses to be used in determining the efficiency, effectiveness, or value of the component, service, program, project, or policy being studied.
3. EVALUABILITY, RESEARCH DESIGN

EVALUATION METHOD

1. A general description of the approach that can be taken to examine specified, probable cause-effect relationships of a project. An evaluation method is not the same as a statistical technique used to analyze evaluative data.

FEEDBACK

1. Information concerning the performance or result of an action, which can be used to affect a subsequent performance of the same action.

FIRST CATEGORY CONTROLS

2. Those controls and guidelines such as legislation, mission statements, goals, and objectives that set the boundaries of an organization's or program's activities.
3. SECOND CATEGORY CONTROLS

FLOWCHART

1. A graphic representation in which symbols are used to represent operations, data, decision points, direction of movements, etc.

FORECASTING

1. Projecting or estimating some future event or condition. Forecasting identifies the most probable course or range of possibilities.
3. PROJECTION

FORMATIVE EVALUATION

1. A type of assessment, focusing on activities and results, which aids in the development of a program or project.
3. ASSESSMENT, PROCESS EVALUATION, SUMMATIVE EVALUATION

GOAL

1. A desired future state; plans expressed as results to be achieved, usually general and not time-limited.
3. MISSION, NORMATIVE GOAL, OBJECTIVE, STRATEGIC GOAL

HYPOTHESIS

1. A specific statement about assumed relationships between specified concepts, variables, or measures. Hypotheses are often restated as the relationship between program or project activities and objectives.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. A type of evaluation that focuses on determining whether or not program or project interventions are related to subsequent outcomes or changes in the problem addressed and that seeks to determine whether or not the changes can be attributed to the program or project interventions.
3. INTENSIVE EVALUATION, SUMMATIVE EVALUATION

INDEPENDENT VARIABLE

1. A characteristic, trait, attribute, or event, the alteration of which may produce changes in another characteristic, trait, attribute, or event.
3. DEPENDENT VARIABLE, VARIABLE

INFERENCE

1. The act of passing from statistical sample data to generalizations about the population, usually with calculated confidence levels; the act of passing from one proposition, statement, or judgment considered as true, to another whose truth is believed to follow logically from that of the former.

INFERENCE STATISTICS

1. Statistical techniques applied to data collected from a sample for the purpose of making inferences about the population from which the sample was drawn. Inferential statistics typically require high standards of data reliability and validity.

INFORMATION

1. The product of data obtained and analyzed: evidence for or against hypotheses; evidence regarding the achievement of objectives, for use in making decisions about programs and projects.
3. ANALYSIS

INPUT PERCENTAGE

2. A system rate obtained by dividing the number of cases at some decision point in the criminal justice system by the total number of cases which have entered the system. For example, if 10,000 cases enter the system, and 600 are placed on probation, the input percentage would be 6% (600/10,000 x 100). This percentage is also a rate of use; probation is used for 6% of the cases entering the system.
3. DECISION POINT PERCENTAGE

INPUTS

2. All the resources needed for a project to work; the "people and things" of a project; data elements needed to generate the output of analysis.
3. ACTIVITIES, OUTCOMES, RESULTS

INTENSIVE EVALUATION

1. The systematic measurement of project inputs, activities, results, and outcomes in an attempt to determine causal relationships between them.
3. EVALUATION, IMPACT ASSESSMENT

INTERVENING VARIABLE

1. An event, entity, characteristic, process, or variable which intervenes and connects the independent variable with the dependent variable, and becomes, in effect, responsible for variations in the dependent variable.

INTERVENTION

1. A set of specifically, and clearly defined activities designed to produce a specific, positive change in a specific problem area.

KEY EVENTS

2. Those inputs, activities, results, and outcomes that have been identified through the method of rationales as being crucial to the success of the program or project.
3. KEY EVENTS ANALYSIS

KEY EVENTS ANALYSIS

2. A tool for examining key events to determine the elements of which they are composed; can be utilized as the basis upon which the evaluation design is constructed.

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. The probability (such as .05 or .01) that an observed difference or correlation between two or more variables is due to chance variation.
3. CONFIDENCE LEVEL, STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

MANDATE

1. A legislative or administrative edict.

MBO (MANAGEMENT BY OBJECTIVES)

1. An approach to management whereby broad goals are defined, specific objectives for a limited time period are set, and movement toward the objectives is periodically appraised. It is a rational, coordinative, and resource-oriented process.

MEASURE

2. An observable qualitative or quantitative indicator used for description or comparison, such as a frequency count or an indicator of citizen fear of crime.
3. DATA, DATA ELEMENTS, MEASUREMENT

MEASUREMENT

1. The systematic collection of observations that serve as indications or representations of specific activities, behaviors, events, effects, or relationships, usually by means of quantitative techniques. Measurement techniques range from simple counting to complex statistical procedures used to indicate relationships.
3. DATA, DATA ELEMENTS, MEASURE

MEASUREMENT ACCURACY

2. The degree to which variations in validity and reliability cause error in measurement.

METHOD OF RATIONALES

2. A tool or format that specifically outlines program or project inputs and activities, the results expected from those inputs and activities, and the outcomes to be generated by the inputs, activities, and results. The method of rationales is intended to disclose the logic that links each item or event through to the outcome.
3. KEY EVENTS, KEY EVENTS ANALYSIS

MISSION

1. The general purpose of an organization; its reason for existing.
3. GOAL, OBJECTIVE

MONITORING

1. A type of evaluation which, through continuous review, attempts to establish whether or not inputs are sufficient to produce intended activities and whether or not the activities actually occurring are those which are intended.
3. FORMATIVE EVALUATION, PROCESS EVALUATION

NETWORKING

2. A graphic tool that shows the logical, sequential order of activities.
3. SCHEDULING

NOMINAL GROUP TECHNIQUE

1. A structured group process, following a prescribed sequence of steps to reach decisions. It is most useful for decision-making situations involving complex issues and the judgments and opinions of several individuals.

NORMATIVE GOAL

2. The highest level of goals; the ultimate future state desired; tells what should be done to eliminate or significantly impact on a problem.
3. STRATEGIC GOAL

NORMATIVE PLANNING

1. Designing plans, at the policy-making level, that are oriented toward what should be done and why it should be done. It is responsive to broad, long-term goals and basic community values, and serves to define and orient agency missions. Also called "policy planning."
3. OPERATIONAL PLANNING, PLANNING, STRATEGIC PLANNING

OBJECTIVE

1. A specific condition to be attained by a specific set of activities, stated in time-limited and measurable terms.
3. GOAL, MISSION

OPERATIONAL PLANNING

1. Designing plans to specify what will be done, by whom, when, and with what resources, and the details of program and project schedules, personnel, budgets, etc.
3. NORMATIVE PLANNING, PLANNING, STRATEGIC PLANNING

OUTCOMES

2. Planned or unplanned changes in the problem conditions addressed that result from program or project interventions.
3. ACTIVITIES, INPUTS, RESULTS

OUTPUT

2. The number of workload units that have been processed or produced at the end of a specified time period.
3. GOAL, INPUT, PERFORMANCE, STANDARD, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

PARAMETER

1. A quantity (such as a mean) that describes a statistical population or relationship. Also, frequently used to describe the variables to be included in a study or analysis.

PERFORMANCE

1. The execution of policy, the conduct of operations, and the accomplishment of tasks.
3. GOAL, EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY, INPUT, OUTPUT, PRODUCTIVITY, STANDARD, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

1. Systematic program and project assessments, including self-assessment, monitoring, and evaluation.

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

1. A specific, measurable standard, to be attained during the conduct of a project activity, that is necessary to achieve a project objective.
3. OBJECTIVE

PERT (PROGRAM EVALUATION AND REVIEW TECHNIQUE)

1. Defines a program or project in terms of a network of interdependent events, typically shown on a flowchart.
3. CRITICAL PATH METHOD

PLANNING

1. The orderly, systematic, and continuing process of bringing anticipations of the future to bear on current decision-making.

POLICY

1. A definitive course of action or thought which is selected from among alternative goals and strategies in light of given conditions, to guide and determine present and future decisions.

PRE-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

1. A way of organizing and conducting evaluations without using comparison groups or control groups.
3. QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN, TRUE EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

PRESUMED CAUSES

2. Those conditions and events that are thought to come before, and lead to, expressed concerns and related events and effects.
3. PRIMARY EFFECTS, PROBLEM, SECONDARY EFFECTS, SYSTEM RESPONSE

PRIMARY DATA

2. Data which must be collected for a particular analysis effort. It is generally not currently available in easily usable form but can be obtained by conducting surveys and polls or from records and reports.
3. SECONDARY DATA

PRIMARY EFFECTS

2. Those conditions and events that directly result from the presumed causes of a problem.
3. PRESUMED CAUSES, SECONDARY EFFECTS, SYSTEM RESPONSE

PROBABILITY

1. A mathematical estimate, ranging from zero (0.00) to one (1.00), of the likelihood that an observed relationship is true and not due to chance, or that a predicted event will occur.
3. CONFIDENCE LEVEL, LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE, STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

PROBLEM

2. Any present or future condition or situation which is unacceptable or which offers an opportunity for new achievement and is theoretically susceptible to planned intervention.

PROBLEM SPECIFICATION

1. The identification of concerns; elaboration of concepts, variables, and measures; and postulating of hypotheses.
2. ANALYSIS, PROBLEM

PROBLEM STATEMENT

1. A written document or oral presentation which comprehensively describes the nature, magnitude, seriousness, rate of change, persons affected, and spatial and temporal aspects of a problem using qualitative and quantitative information. It identifies the nature, extent, and effect of system response; makes projections based on historical inference; and, rigorously attempts to establish the causes of the problem.
3. PROBLEM SPECIFICATION

PROCESS EVALUATION

1. A type of evaluation that focuses on the relationships among project inputs, activities, and results, and is used to improve the effectiveness of on-going projects.
3. FORMATIVE EVALUATION, MONITORING

PRODUCTIVITY

2. The amount of work that can be produced or processed with specified resources within a given period of time.
3. EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY, PERFORMANCE, PERFORMANCE MEASURE, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

PROGRAM

1. A set of related efforts, under a common, general authority, that is designed to address a particular problem. A program may consist of one or many projects.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

2. A process of identifying, selecting, and designing one or more systems-oriented strategies made up of complementary projects and activities, in order to produce goal-directed changes in specific criminal justice problem areas.

PROGRAM REVIEW

2. The gathering and assessment of monitoring information at a particular point in time. Program reviews are intended to identify design and implementation issues and to provide information useful for management restructuring, compliance, and development of similar programs.
3. PROJECT REVIEW

PROJECT

1. A planned intervention at one or more sites, which is under the direction of a specific manager and that operationalizes a set of closely related activities. A single project may constitute a program, or it may be only one part of a program.

PROJECTION

1. An estimate of some future condition based on a study of past and current conditions and trends. Such estimates may be either quantitatively or qualitatively derived and stated.
3. FORECASTING

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

1. A specific condition anticipated to occur as a result of a planned intervention through the application of project resources and activities to a problem.
3. OBJECTIVE, PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

PROJECT REVIEW

2. Individual project assessments at a particular point in time.
3. PROGRAM REVIEW

QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

1. A way of organizing and conducting evaluations in which comparisons are based on similar, but not randomly formed groups.
3. COMPARISON GROUP, PRE-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN, SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE, TRUE EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

RATE

1. An analytical tool which permits measurement against common denominators and allows for relevant comparisons.
3. CLEARANCE RATE, DECISION POINT PERCENTAGE, INPUT PERCENTAGE, RATE DETERMINANTS, SYSTEM RATES

RATE DETERMINANTS

2. Those variables which impact upon or influence the system rates.

REGRESSION ANALYSIS

1. A statistical technique used to study the quantitative relationship between two or more variables in order to determine whether or not the dependent variable can be reliably estimated from the known value(s) of the independent variable(s) and, when feasible, to make estimates based on that relationship.

REGRESSION TOWARD THE MEAN

1. The fact that when a high degree of variability exists over time, and any extreme value of a variable is selected, the next value is likely to be closer to the mean.

RELIABILITY

1. The probability that a given measure or measurement procedure will give consistently similar results (data) over time, in the absence of real change in what is being studied.
3. VALIDITY

RESEARCH DESIGN

1. The component of an analysis, evaluation, or research plan that specifies variables, parameters, measures, and analysis procedures designed to answer the questions to which the study is addressed.
2. The component of the evaluation framework that specifies who receives treatment, when treatment is given, who is observed, and when observations are made.
3. ANALYSIS PLAN, EVALUATION DESIGN

RESOURCES

2. Means available to process workload through the criminal justice system or its components.
3. INPUT, SYSTEM OPERATIONS, WORK

RESULTS

2. The effect of project inputs and activities on operational performance.
3. OUTCOMES

SAMPLE

1. A limited number of cases, persons, groups, organizations, areas, or other units selected from a larger population.
3. SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

SAMPLING ERROR

1. Errors in obtained data due to chance variation. This should not be confused with "sampling bias," which is an inadequate representation of the population.

SCHEDULING

2. Adding timelines or completion dates to a networking diagram.

SECONDARY DATA

2. Data which have already been collected in conjunction with other analyses and are currently in easily usable form.
3. PRIMARY DATA

SECONDARY EFFECTS

2. Those conditions and events that result directly from the primary-effects and indirectly, from the presumed causes of a problem.
3. SECONDARY EFFECTS

SECOND CATEGORY CONTROLS

2. Those controls used by managers, such as reports, budgets, and performance appraisals, to measure how much work has been done and how close the organization has come to reaching the boundaries established during planning and organizing.
3. FIRST CATEGORY CONTROLS

SELF-ASSESSMENT

2. Systematic collection and analysis of data by project staff, leading to a qualitative or quantitative conclusion.
3. ASSESSMENT

SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE

1. An unbiased sample in which each individual unit in the population has an equal chance of being selected. Each selection is independent of every other selection.
3. STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

STANDARD

1. An established criterion against which qualitative judgements can be made.
3. CAPABILITY, CAPACITY, GOAL, INPUT, OUTPUT, PERFORMANCE, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE

1. At a given confidence level (such as 95%) or level of significance (such as .05), means that a statistic, indicating a difference or correlation between two or more variables obtained from sample data, is indicative of the actual population parameter.

STRATEGIC GOAL

2. A more specific goal than the normative goal; represents concrete ideas about what can be done to alleviate components of a particular problem.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

1. Planning that is concerned with the identification of alternative approaches to problems, formulation of programs and contingency plans, and the development of guidelines for tactical and operational planners. Focuses on what can be done and how it can be done.
3. NORMATIVE PLANNING

STRATEGY

2. A general approach to the accomplishment of a particular set of conditions or results implied or specified in a strategic goal; an approach to accomplishing a strategic goal.
3. PROBLEM

STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE

1. A sample in which the population is first divided into strata based on characteristics that are believed to be relevant to the study. A simple random sample is then drawn from each stratum.
3. SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

SUMMATIVE EVALUATION

1. An evaluation approach in which an assessment of the worth or utility of a program or project is sought after it has been in operation for a period of time and is no longer subject to developmental changes.
3. FORMATIVE EVALUATION, IMPACT ASSESSMENT

SYSTEM OPERATIONS

1. The activities of a regularly interacting group of agencies forming a united whole and with a common goal.
3. ADMINISTRATION, ENVIRONMENT, GOAL, INPUT, OUTPUT, PERFORMANCE, STANDARD

SYSTEM RATES

2. Statements, in mathematical form, expressing the efficiency or effectiveness of the criminal justice system at its various levels of functioning. These data are normally presented as input percentages or decision point percentages.
3. RATE

SYSTEM RESPONSE

2. Those conditions and events in the criminal justice system or some other, relevant system that have an effect on or are affected by the problem's presumed causes, primary effects, and secondary effects.

SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

1. A sample obtained by selecting every n^{th} unit from a list of all units in the population. The size of the interval between units ("n") is the number of units on the list divided by the desired sample size. The initial case to be included in the sample is selected randomly.
3. SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE

TRUE EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

1. A subset of evaluation designs in which the assignment of groups to treatment is systematic (i.e., some type of random sampling or randomization is used).
3. CONTROL GROUP, PRE-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN, QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN, SIMPLE RANDOM SAMPLE, STRATIFIED RANDOM SAMPLE, SYSTEMATIC SAMPLE

VALIDITY

1. The degree to which a result or measure actually reflects what it purports to measure. Validity as defined here concerns measurement (data) or instrument validity and should not be confused with validity threats or with reliability.

VALIDITY THREAT

1. An alternative explanation, other than project activities, for an observed effect.

VARIABLE

1. A characteristic, trait, attribute, or event having more than one possible value.
3. PARAMETER

WORK

2. The processing of persons or things through the criminal justice system or its components within a specific time period.
3. GOAL, INPUT, OUTPUT, PERFORMANCE, RESOURCES, STANDARD, SYSTEM OPERATIONS, WORKLOAD

WORKLOAD

2. The units of work to be processed per unit of resource in a given amount of time.
3. GOAL, INPUT, OUTPUT, PERFORMANCE, STANDARD, SYSTEM OPERATIONS

END