



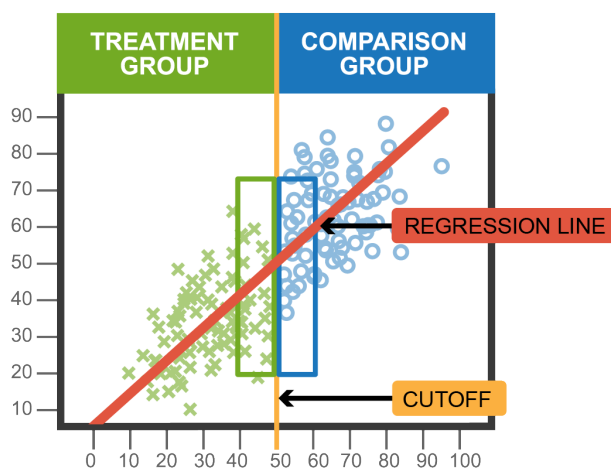
Group Evaluation Comparison Chart

How participants are chosen for treatment and comparison groups.



Randomized Controlled Trials

Participants are randomly assigned to participate (the treatment group) or not to participate (the comparison group) in a program.



Regression Discontinuity Design

Participation in a program is determined by a cutoff point (like a student test score or income level). The participants closest to the cutoff point—above and below—are included in the study.

TREATMENT SCHOOL	PRETEST SCORE	COMPARISON SCHOOL	PRETEST SCORE
1	70	1	70
2	95	2	92
3	77	3	81
4	84	4	87
5	74	5	70
AVERAGE	80	AVERAGE	80

Matched Comparison Design

Program participants receive program services. A different group of participants, who are as similar as possible on important characteristics, is chosen as the comparison group.