A simple process estimates a projection of the current holdings to help answer questions such as:

- How much shelf space is currently occupied by monographs?
- By serials?
- How much is empty?
- How much space would be available if serials were relocated or withdrawn?

DEFINITION
Systematic Random Sampling occurs when the researcher selects every nth unit.


DATA COLLECTION
A shelf from every fifth section was selected as the sampling unit. Then a form was created to capture the following data: length of the shelf, number of inches occupied by monographs, inches occupied by serials, and inches of unoccupied space.

The data collected was recorded in an Excel spreadsheet.

ANALYSIS
The calculations were displayed to represent the relationship between call number class and block.

CALCULATION
The sample data was used to calculate estimates of the percent of shelving occupied by monographs, inches occupied by serials, and inches of unoccupied space.

In order to prepare for the reallocation of library space, two members of the University Library Access Services team used systematic random sampling to measure existing—and anticipated—free shelf space. This data will be used to inform decision-making about shifting and/or withdrawal of library materials in preparation for the renovation of additional library spaces.

Making Room for Innovation: Using Systematic Random Sampling to Quickly and Efficiently Obtain Shelf Occupancy Data

Paul Moffett, John P. Cooper, & William H. Weare, Jr. | University Library | Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

OVERVIEW
In order to prepare for the reallocation of library space, two members of the University Library Access Services team used systematic random sampling to measure existing—and anticipated—free shelf space. This data will be used to inform decision-making about shifting and/or withdrawal of library materials in preparation for the renovation of additional library spaces.

DEFINITION
Systematic Random Sampling occurs when the researcher selects every nth unit.


FLOOR PLANS
The main print collection at University Library is housed on two floors. The close-up map shows the relationship between call number sections and block layouts.

THIRD FLOOR

FOURTH FLOOR

CLOSE-UP

BOOKSTACKS

NEW SPACES

RENOVATION

Learning Spaces III

Arts & Humanities Institute

Dewey Den

INFORMATIONAL PROFESSIONALS

DATA SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CALL NUMBER</th>
<th>SHLF TOTAL</th>
<th>MONO</th>
<th>SERIAL</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>724</td>
<td>25,812</td>
<td>8,461</td>
<td>16,240</td>
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<td>2513</td>
<td>90,216</td>
<td>34,555</td>
<td>16,801</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>5,292</td>
<td>1,507</td>
<td>3,785</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>59,892</td>
<td>16,238</td>
<td>10,509</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>1117</td>
<td>38,826</td>
<td>14,595</td>
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<td>22,638</td>
<td>8,322</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>1425</td>
<td>49,164</td>
<td>15,599</td>
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<td>28,980</td>
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<td>7,428</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

% EMPTY  % SERIAL  % BOOK
A           33%  63%  4%
B           38%  19%  43%
C           28%  0%  72%
D           27%  18%  55%
E           38%  20%  42%
F           37%  17%  47%
G           32%  21%  48%
H           38%  21%  42%
J           31%  19%  50%
K           32%  28%  40%
L           42%  16%  41%
M           27%  11%  62%
N           41%  26%  33%