

## CHAPTER 10

### Existing Data Analysis: Using Data from Secondhand Sources

#### **Learning Objectives**

1. Give examples of the range and potential uses of existing data.
2. Explain the variations in existing data analysis, distinguishing among the analysis of existing statistics, content analysis, and comparative historical analysis.
3. Describe the steps in analyzing existing statistics and apply them to a research topic.
4. Describe the steps in content analysis and apply them to a research topic.
5. Describe the steps in historical comparative analysis and apply them to a research topic.
6. Evaluate existing data analysis as a general approach to social research, identifying its strengths and limitations.