

EXPERIMENTAL

VERSUS

NON- EXPERIMENTAL

COMPARING THE 2 TYPES OF RESEARCH DESIGNS

EXPERIMENTAL

NON-EXPERIMENTAL

Independent variable(s) are manipulated in the study

Independent variable(s) are measured as they naturally occur

Describes or analyzes observed effects on other variable(s)

Describes or analyzes relationships between variables

Examines cause and effect relationships

Used in correlational, cross sectional, and observational research

Includes control groups or comparisons between groups

No control group or comparisons between groups