

What is REDCap?¹

REDCap is mainly a tool for data collection. Two most common ways of data collection with REDCap is **surveys** (when invited respondents enter the data) and **databases** (when researcher enter the data). The latter one is common in experimental studies, phone interviews, and paper-based survey studies.

Types of REDCap projects

Traditional project. The traditional or classic project meets the needs of a wide range of data collection strategies. This is the simplest type of project, yet it can collect hundreds or even thousands of data points. Using multiple data collection instruments is common. All data entry happens within the project, while users are logged in. For this reason, the instruments may also be called data entry forms. Examples of traditional projects include entering experimental data, data extraction for systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Operations project. REDCap is suitable for collecting administrative and educational data, workflow and quality improvement, and registries and book keeping. Any data collection tool can be used in any project.

- -line text box (for text and numbers)
- - large text box for lots of text
- - dropdown menu with options
- - radio buttons with options
- - checkboxes to allow selection of more than one option
- - upload a document
- - perform real-time calculations
- - select query statement to populate dropdown choices
- - text displayed with no data entry and optional image/file attachment
- - visual analogue scale; coded as 0-100
- - radio button with yes and no options; coded as 1, Yes|0, No
- - radio buttons with true and false options; coded as 1, True|0,False

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