

Latency Recording (i.e. Time to Respond) - Description, Procedures, & Example

If you are interested in measuring the time that it takes for the person to respond, you can measure just that by using the Latency Recording (Time to Respond) method. However, in order to do so, you need to make sure that the behavior that you are looking at has a clear beginning so that you can tell exactly when the behavior starts. To measure how long it takes to respond you will need some timing instrument such as a wall clock, wristwatch, or stopwatch.

Examples of behaviors where you might want to measure latency include how long it takes to go sit at one's desk, how long it takes to take out materials, how long it takes to begin writing, ...

Procedures

- * Write down the behavior that you will be looking for and its definition
- * Make sure that you have your timing instrument available prior to beginning your observation
- * Each time that you are looking for or expecting the behavior to occur write down the date and time
 - Write down the time when the instruction to do the behavior is given
 - Write down the time when the behavior starts
 - Calculate the length of time (i.e. latency) that it took for the behavior to begin and write it in minutes and/or seconds (**This is what you graph**)

Example

Behavior: Time it takes to start working

Behavior Definition: Time it takes for the student to begin writing on assignment paper after instruction to start working on assignment is given to the whole class.

Date	Time	Enter time when instruction is given	Enter time when behavior starts	Length of time for the behavior to start
11/5	8:30 - 9:30 AM	8:46 AM	8:52 AM	6 minutes
11/5	1:30 - 2:30 PM	1:46 PM	1:48 PM	2 Minutes
11/6	8:30 - 9:30 AM	8:32 AM	8:35 AM	3 minutes
11/6	1:30 - 2:30 PM	1:41 PM	1:46 PM	5 Minutes
11/7	8:30 - 9:30 AM	8:55 AM	9:02 AM	7 minutes
11/7	1:30 - 2:30 PM	1:45 PM	1:46 PM	1 Minute
11/8	8:30 - 9:30 AM	8:44 AM	8:49 AM	5 minutes
11/8	1:30 - 2:30 PM	1:40 PM	1:43 PM	3 Minutes
11/9	8:30 - 9:30 AM	8:37 AM	8:41 AM	4 minutes
11/9	1:30 - 2:30 PM	1:43 PM	1:46 PM	3 Minutes