Introduction to Data

A collection of numerical figures providing some specific type of information is called data.

For example: The marks secured by 10 students of Class VII in a certain mathematics test are 23,17,5,11,31,40,19,28,35 and 40.

These marks constitute the data related to the marks obtained by the students of Class VII in a certain mathematics test.

Data are of two types (i) primary data (ii) secondary data

Primary Data: The data collected by an investigator or by his/her representative with a definite objective in his/her mind is called primary data.

Secondary Data: The data collected by someone other than the investigator is known as secondary data. The main sources of secondary data are:

I.   Data published by research organisation.
II. Data published by international organisation.
III. Data published by central or state governments.