4. METHODS ►The methods section must include sufficient information to enable others to repeat your work. It should also list the analytical methods used. ►Methods must be clearly related to your research question and objectives. Explain how you collected the data and how it relates to a research question that you stated in the introduction. ►Most scientific projects start off with a plan that changes during the course of research. Report what you actually did – not what you planned to do. 5. RESULTS ►This section should summarize all the relevant data collected and present the results of any analyses that were conducted. ►Figures and tables should be clear and relevant. Legends should be accurate and provide sufficient information for correct interpretation of the figures. ►Often (but not always) figures are used to convey ideas, whereas tables are used to convey data. Keep your figures and tables simple. ►When describing your data, it is generally better to report standard deviation (SD) instead of standard error (SE). Do not report the coefficient of variation (CV), since it adds no new information to the SD. ►Do not discuss your data here. Discussion and interpretation of results should take place in the next section of your paper. ►If you are certain that you used the appropriate statistical treatment for your data, but your analyses do not show the significant differences that you were hoping to find – be frank about this and do not manipulate your data to get a “better” result. ►Your results need not necessarily always agree with what other people have found. Unexpected results are often the most interesting. The most important thing is to always be honest about your data.