

TABLE 8.7

Distinguishing Characteristics for Hypothesis Testing and Effect Size

	Hypothesis (Significance) Testing	Effect Size (Cohen's d)
Value being measured?	p value	d
What type of distribution is the test based upon?	Sampling distribution	Population distribution
What does the test measure?	The probability of obtaining a measured sample mean	The size of a measured effect in the population
What can be inferred from the test?	Whether an effect exists in a population	The size of an effect from small to large
Can this test stand alone in research reports?	Yes, the test statistic can be reported without an effect size	No, effect size is almost always reported with a test statistic