

For multiple choice questions circle the best answer. For other questions provide the information requested. Each problem is worth 10 points except where stated otherwise. **Open book and notes.**

- A sampling distribution is the probability distribution for which one of the following:
  - A sample
  - A sample statistic**
  - A population
  - A population parameter
- Which of the following statements best describes the relationship between a parameter and a statistic?
  - A parameter has a sampling distribution with the statistic as its mean.
  - A parameter has a sampling distribution that can be used to determine what values the statistic is likely to have in repeated samples.
  - A parameter is used to estimate a statistic.
  - A statistic is used to estimate a parameter.**
- Which of the following is the most common example of a situation for which the main parameter of interest is a population proportion?
  - A binomial experiment**
  - A normal experiment
  - A randomized experiment
  - An observational study

*Scenario for Questions 4 to 6:* Based on the 2000 Census, 52% ( $p = .52$ ) of the California population aged 15 years old or older are married. Suppose  $n = 1000$  persons are to be sampled from this population and the sample proportion of married persons ( $\hat{p}$ ) is to be calculated.

- (5 points)** What is the mean of the sampling distribution of  $\hat{p}$ ?  
*The mean is  $p = .52$ .*
- (5 points)** What is the standard deviation of the sampling distribution of  $\hat{p}$ ?

$$\text{The standard deviation is } s.d.(\hat{p}) = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{(.52)(.48)}{1000}} = .0158$$

- Draw a picture of the sampling distribution of  $\hat{p}$ . Identify the mean and the values that have the middle 68% of the distribution between them.

*The picture should be a normal distribution with the mean at .52. The values with 68% between them are  $.52 - .0158$  and  $.52 + .0158$ , or  $.5042$  to  $.5358$ .*

7. In a random sample of  $n = 100$  students at a university, 85 said they owned their own computer. Use this information to find an approximate 95% confidence interval (*not* a conservative one) for the true proportion of students at the university who own their own computers. Show all of your work.

*The confidence interval is Sample estimate  $\pm$  Multiplier  $\times$  Standard error*

$$\text{Sample estimate} = \hat{p} = .85; \text{Multiplier} = 2.0, \text{Standard error} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{(.85)(.15)}{100}} = .0357$$

*The confidence interval is thus  $.85 \pm (2.0)(.0357)$  or  $.85 \pm .0714$  or .7786 to .9214.*

8. Which statement is *not* true about confidence intervals?
- A confidence interval is an interval of values computed from sample data that is likely to include the true population value.
  - An approximate formula for a 95% confidence interval is sample estimate  $\pm$  margin of error.
  - A confidence interval between 20% and 40% means that the population proportion lies between 20% and 40%.**
  - A 99% confidence interval procedure has a higher probability of producing intervals that will include the population parameter than a 95% confidence interval procedure.
9. Which statement is *not* true about the 95% confidence level?
- Confidence intervals computed by using the same procedure will include the true population value for 95% of all possible random samples taken from the population.
  - The procedure that is used to determine the confidence interval will provide an interval that includes the population parameter with probability of 0.95.
  - The probability that the true value of the population parameter falls between the bounds of an already computed confidence interval is roughly 95%.**
  - If we consider all possible randomly selected samples of the same size from a population, the 95% is the percentage of those samples for which the confidence interval includes the population parameter.

*Scenario for Questions 10 and 11:* In a random sample of 50 men, 40% said they preferred to walk up stairs rather than take the elevator. In a random sample of 40 women, 50% said they preferred the stairs. The difference between the two sample proportions (men – women) is to be calculated.

10. Which of the following choices correctly denotes the difference between the two sample proportions that is desired?
- $p_1 - p_2 = 0.10$
  - $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2 = 0.10$
  - $p_1 - p_2 = -0.10$
  - $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2 = -0.10$  **<-Correct answer**
11. The standard error of  $\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2$  in this situation is .1051. Create an approximate 95% confidence interval for the appropriate parameter, and use it to answer the question: Although the sample proportions differ, is it feasible that equal proportions of men and women in the population prefer to walk up the stairs?

*The confidence interval is Sample estimate  $\pm$  Multiplier  $\times$  Standard error*

$$\hat{p}_1 - \hat{p}_2 \pm 2.0 (.1051)$$

$$-0.10 \pm .2102$$

$$-0.3102 \text{ to } +0.1102$$

*It is quite feasible that the population proportions are equal, in which case the population difference would be 0, which is well within the confidence interval of feasible values.*