

Sampling Distributions

Objectives

- 1 Obtain a sampling distribution of sample means
- 2 Determine the mean and standard error of a sampling distribution
- 3 Understand the Central Limit Theorem
- 4 Determine the mean and standard error for sampling distribution of proportions
- 5 Determine the mean and standard error for sampling distribution of variances

Sampling Distributions

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For instance, let's say we have the following population prices of laptops: \$1000, \$1200, \$1600, and \$2000.

We can take a simple random sample of, say 2 computers, and create a frequency distribution of each sample.

Note: We will sample with replacement. Differences in sampling with and without replacement become negligent as sample sizes increase.

Example 1

Obtain a sampling distribution, taking 2 at a time, of the laptop prices \$1000, \$1200, \$1600, and \$2000. Then find the mean of each sample.

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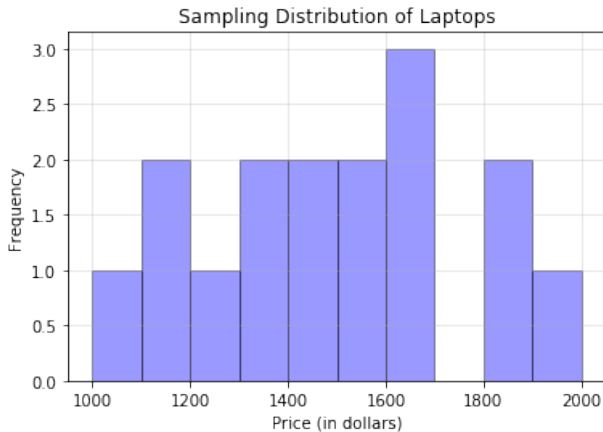
Sample	Sample Mean	Sample	Sample Mean
1000, 1000	1000	1600, 1000	1300
1000, 1200	1100	1600, 1200	1400
1000, 1600	1300	1600, 1600	1600
1000, 2000	1500	1600, 2000	1800
1200, 1000	1100	2000, 1000	1500
1200, 1200	1200	2000, 1200	1600
1200, 1600	1400	2000, 1600	1800
1200, 2000	1600	2000, 2000	2000

Example 2

Create a histogram of the sample means from Example 1.

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Example 3

Determine the mean and standard deviation of the sample means.

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Std. Dev \approx \$271.57

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Larger Population and Sample Sizes

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$$\sigma \approx \frac{\sigma_{\bar{x}}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

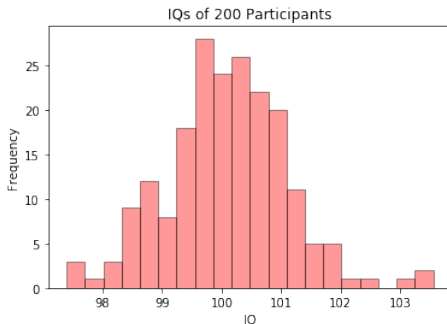
where $\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ is called the **standard error of the mean**.

Example 4

IQ scores are normally distributed with a mean of 100 and standard deviation of 16. A sample of 200 participants had their IQs measured.

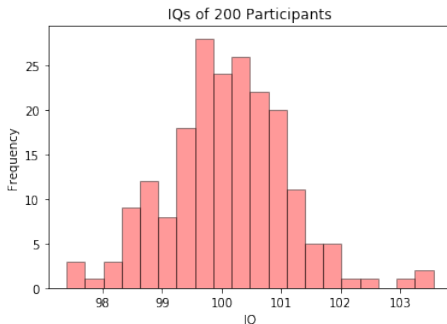
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What are the approximate mean and standard error of the sample?

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$$\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{16}{\sqrt{200}}$$
$$\approx 1.13$$

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Sample Means of Any Distribution

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It turns out that the distributions of sample means for any population will be normal as our sample sizes increase.

Central Limit Theorem

As the sample size increases, the distribution of sample means becomes normal with a mean of \bar{x} and standard deviation $\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ (the standard error).

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(a) What is the probability that an individual has an IQ greater than 102?

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$$P(x > 102) \approx 0.4503$$

There is about a 45.03% chance that an individual has an IQ greater than 102.

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(b) What is the probability that in a sample of 50 people, the mean IQ is greater than 102?

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Example 5

(b) What is the probability that in a sample of 50 people, the mean IQ is greater than 102?

The standard error of the mean is $\frac{16}{\sqrt{50}}$.

$$P(\bar{x} > 102) \approx 0.1884$$

There is about an 18.84% chance the mean IQ of a sample of 50 people is greater than 102.

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(c) What is the probability that in a sample of 1000 people, the mean IQ is greater than 102?

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(c) What is the probability that in a sample of 1000 people, the mean IQ is greater than 102?

The standard error of the mean is $\frac{16}{\sqrt{1000}}$.

$$P(\bar{x} > 102) \approx 0.0000386$$

There is about a 0.00386% chance that the mean IQ of a sample of 1000 people is greater than 102.

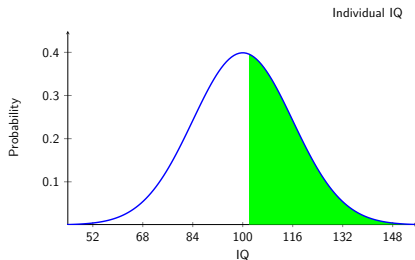
Reflections on Example 5

By increasing the sample size, we decreased the probability. This is due to the original standard deviation now being divided by a larger number (which will decrease its overall value).

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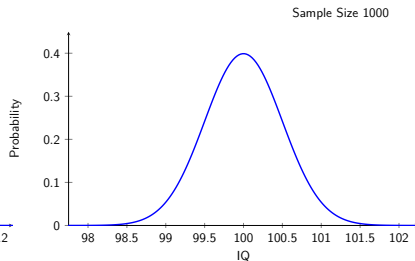
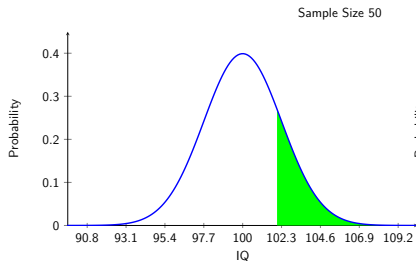
By increasing the sample size, we decreased the probability. This is due to the original standard deviation now being divided by a larger number (which will decrease its overall value).

Or, to put it another way, you are now examining a greater variety of people, so you should expect to have subjects in your samples that have IQs below 102.



The area of the shaded region is about 0.4503

Reflections on Example 5



The area of the first shaded region is about 0.1884. The (barely noticeable) shaded area of the second region is about 0.0000386.

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