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MATH 1281-01 Statistical Inference – AY2025-T3

PART I

a) Defining the Population:

The population in this survey consists of all **families in the Dominican Republic**. This represents the entire group we're trying to learn about through our sample.

b) Population Parameter:

The population parameter estimated in this survey is the **proportion of families in the Dominican Republic that cannot afford a \$300** unexpected expense without tapping into loans.

c) Point Estimate:

The point estimate for this parameter is the proportion of families in the sample that reported they couldn't afford the expense without taking loans. This is calculated as:

$p^{\wedge} = \text{Number of families that cannot afford the expense} / \text{Total number of families in the sample}$

$$p^{\wedge} = 232 / 675 \approx 0.3437$$

So, the point estimate is approximately **0.3437, or 34.37%**.

d) Statistics to Measure Uncertainty:

The statistic used to measure the uncertainty of the point estimate is the standard error (SE) of the sample proportion. It's calculated as:

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

$$SE = \sqrt{.3437} * (1 - .3437) \div 675 = \mathbf{0.0183}$$



e) **Recomputing with True Population Value:**

If the true population value is found to be 40% ($P = 0.4$), we would recompute the standard error using this value:

$$SE = \sqrt{.4} * (1 - .4) \div 675 \approx \mathbf{0.0189}$$

The difference is small (1.83% vs 1.89%) because both proportions are relatively close to each other, and the sample size is large.

PART II

Confidence Interval for the Fraction of Viewers:

To construct a 95% confidence interval for the fraction of viewers who made a visit because of a coupon, we'll use the formula for the confidence interval of a proportion:

$$p^{\wedge} \pm Z \times SE$$

$$p^{\wedge} = 124 / 504 \approx .246$$

$$SE = \sqrt{(\hat{p} (1 - \hat{p}) / n)}$$

$$SE = \sqrt{.246 * (1 - .246) / 504} \approx 0.019185$$

Then, we construct the confidence interval:

$$0.246 \pm 1.96 \times 0.019185$$

This results in:

$$0.246 \pm 0.0386$$

So, the 95% confidence interval is approximately:

$$[0.2084, 0.2836]$$

This means that we are 95% confident that the true fraction of all viewers who made a visit because of a coupon lies between 20.84% and 28.36%.
