

**1. Problem:**

A population has unknown  $\mu$  but a known  $\sigma = 5.2$ . A sample of size 96 has a mean  $\bar{x} = 118.14$ . Determine the 80% confidence interval of the population mean.

**Solution:** We are given the sample size, sample mean, population standard deviation, and confidence level.

$$n = 96$$

$$\bar{x} = 118.14$$

$$\sigma = 5.2$$

$$\gamma = 0.8$$

Determine the critical  $z$  value,  $z^*$ , such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.8$ . Remember,  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.8+1}{2} = 0.9$

$$z^* = 1.28$$

Use the formula for bounds (mean,  $\sigma$  known).

$$LB = \bar{x} - z^* \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 118.14 - 1.28 \times \frac{5.2}{\sqrt{96}} \\ &= 117.46 \end{aligned}$$

$$UB = \bar{x} + z^* \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 118.14 + 1.28 \times \frac{5.2}{\sqrt{96}} \\ &= 118.82 \end{aligned}$$

We are 80% confident that the population mean is between 117.46 and 118.82.

$$CI = (117.46, 118.82)$$

**2. Problem:**

A population has unknown  $\mu$  but a known  $\sigma = 2.14$ . A sample of size 128 has a mean  $\bar{x} = 145.83$ . Determine the 99% confidence interval of the population mean.

**Solution:** We are given the sample size, sample mean, population standard deviation, and confidence level.

$$n = 128$$

$$\bar{x} = 145.83$$

$$\sigma = 2.14$$

$$\gamma = 0.99$$

Determine the critical  $z$  value,  $z^*$ , such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.99$ . Remember,  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.99+1}{2} = 0.995$

$$z^* = 2.58$$

Use the formula for bounds (mean,  $\sigma$  known).

$$LB = \bar{x} - z^* \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 145.83 - 2.58 \times \frac{2.14}{\sqrt{128}} \\ &= 145.34 \end{aligned}$$

$$UB = \bar{x} + z^* \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 145.83 + 2.58 \times \frac{2.14}{\sqrt{128}} \\ &= 146.32 \end{aligned}$$

We are 99% confident that the population mean is between 145.34 and 146.32.

$$CI = (145.34, 146.32)$$

**3. Problem:**

A population has unknown  $\mu$  and unknown  $\sigma$ . A sample of size 61 has a mean  $\bar{x} = 136.07$  and a standard deviation  $s = 2.53$ . Determine the 99.5% confidence interval of the population mean.

**Solution:** We are given the sample size, sample mean, sample standard deviation, and confidence level.

$$n = 61$$

$$\bar{x} = 136.07$$

$$s = 2.53$$

$$\gamma = 0.995$$

Find the degrees of freedom.

$$df = n - 1$$

$$= 61 - 1$$

$$= 60$$

Determine the critical  $t$  value,  $t^*$ , such that  $P(|T| < t^*) = 0.995$  and  $df = 60$ .

$$t^* = 2.91$$

Use the formula for bounds (mean,  $\sigma$  unknown).

$$LB = \bar{x} - t^* \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$= 136.07 - 2.91 \times \frac{2.53}{\sqrt{61}}$$

$$= 135.13$$

$$UB = \bar{x} + t^* \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$= 136.07 + 2.91 \times \frac{2.53}{\sqrt{61}}$$

$$= 137.01$$

We are 99.5% confident that the population mean is between 135.13 and 137.01.

$$CI = (135.13, 137.01)$$

**4. Problem:**

As an ornithologist, you wish to determine the average body mass of *Hylocichla mustelina*. You randomly sample 26 adults of *Hylocichla mustelina*, resulting in a sample mean of 56.81 grams and a sample standard deviation of 6.41 grams. Determine a 98% confidence interval of the true population mean.

**Solution:** We are given the sample size, sample mean, sample standard deviation, and confidence level.

$$n = 26$$

$$\bar{x} = 56.81$$

$$s = 6.41$$

$$\gamma = 0.98$$

Find the degrees of freedom.

$$df = n - 1$$

$$= 26 - 1$$

$$= 25$$

Determine the critical  $t$  value,  $t^*$ , such that  $P(|T| < t^*) = 0.98$  and  $df = 25$ .

$$t^* = 2.49$$

Use the formula for bounds (mean,  $\sigma$  unknown).

$$LB = \bar{x} - t^* \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$= 56.81 - 2.49 \times \frac{6.41}{\sqrt{26}}$$

$$= 53.7$$

$$UB = \bar{x} + t^* \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$= 56.81 + 2.49 \times \frac{6.41}{\sqrt{26}}$$

$$= 59.9$$

We are 98% confident that the population mean is between 53.7 and 59.9.

$$CI = (53.7, 59.9)$$



**5. Problem:**

A population has unknown  $\mu$  but a known  $\sigma = 9.1$ . You want to determine a 70% confidence interval of the population mean with a margin of error of approximately 3. How large of a sample is needed?

**Solution:** We are given the population standard deviation, confidence level, and margin of error.

$$\sigma = 9.1$$

$$\gamma = 0.7$$

$$ME = 3$$

Determine the critical  $z$  value,  $z^*$ , such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.7$ . Remember,  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.7+1}{2} = 0.85$

$$z^* = 1.04$$

Use the formula for sample size.

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \left( \frac{z^* \sigma}{ME} \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{(1.04)(9.1)}{3} \right)^2 \\ &= 9.9519218 \end{aligned}$$

Round up.

$$n = 10$$

Really, you should round up, retaining only about 2 significant figures.

$$n = 10$$

**6. Problem:**

A population has unknown  $\mu$  but a known  $\sigma = 48$ . You want to determine a 96% confidence interval of the population mean with a margin of error of approximately 10. How large of a sample is needed?

**Solution:** We are given the population standard deviation, confidence level, and margin of error.

$$\sigma = 48$$

$$\gamma = 0.96$$

$$ME = 10$$

Determine the critical  $z$  value,  $z^*$ , such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.96$ . Remember,  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.96+1}{2} = 0.98$

$$z^* = 2.05$$

Use the formula for sample size.

$$\begin{aligned} n &= \left( \frac{z^* \sigma}{ME} \right)^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{(2.05)(48)}{10} \right)^2 \\ &= 96.8256 \end{aligned}$$

Round up.

$$n = 97$$

Really, you should round up, retaining only about 2 significant figures.

$$n = 97$$

**7. Problem:**

A random sample of size 6800 was found to have a sample proportion of 20% (because there were 1360 successes). Determine a 83% confidence interval of the population proportion.

- (a) Find the lower bound of the confidence interval.
- (b) Find the upper bound of the confidence interval.

**Solution:** Identify the givens.

$$n = 6800$$

$$\hat{p} = 0.2$$

$$\gamma = 0.83$$

Determine  $z^*$  such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.83$ . It is helpful to know that  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.83+1}{2} = 0.915$ . (Use the z-table to find  $z^*$ .)

$$z^* = 1.37$$

Use the formula (proportion) for the bounds.

$$\begin{aligned} LB &= \hat{p} - z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}} & UB &= \hat{p} + z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}} \\ &= 0.2 - 1.37 \sqrt{\frac{(0.2)(0.8)}{6800}} & &= 0.2 + 1.37 \sqrt{\frac{(0.2)(0.8)}{6800}} \\ &= 0.193 & &= 0.207 \end{aligned}$$

Determine the interval.

$$CI = (0.193, 0.207)$$

We are 83% confident that the true population proportion is between 19.3% and 20.7%.

(a) The lower bound = 0.193, which can also be expressed as 19.3%.

(b) The upper bound = 0.207, which can also be expressed as 20.7%.

**8. Problem:**

A random sample of size 950 was found to have a sample proportion of 58.95% (because there were 560 successes). Determine a 83% confidence interval of the population proportion.

- (a) Find the lower bound of the confidence interval.
- (b) Find the upper bound of the confidence interval.

**Solution:** Identify the givens.

$$n = 950$$

$$\hat{p} = 0.5895$$

$$\gamma = 0.83$$

Determine  $z^*$  such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.83$ . It is helpful to know that  $\ell = \frac{\gamma+1}{2} = \frac{0.83+1}{2} = 0.915$ . (Use the z-table to find  $z^*$ .)

$$z^* = 1.37$$

Use the formula (proportion) for the bounds.

$$LB = \hat{p} - z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}}$$

$$UB = \hat{p} + z^* \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}}$$

$$= 0.5895 - 1.37 \sqrt{\frac{(0.5895)(0.4105)}{950}}$$

$$= 0.5895 + 1.37 \sqrt{\frac{(0.5895)(0.4105)}{950}}$$

$$= 0.568$$

$$= 0.611$$

Determine the interval.

$$CI = (0.568, 0.611)$$

We are 83% confident that the true population proportion is between 56.8% and 61.1%.

(a) The lower bound = 0.568, which can also be expressed as 56.8%.

(b) The upper bound = 0.611, which can also be expressed as 61.1%.



**9. Problem:**

If you suspect that  $\hat{p}$  will be near 0.91, how large of a sample is needed to guarantee a margin of error less than 0.02 when building a 95% confidence interval?

**Solution:** We are given the confidence level and the margin of error.

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= 0.95 \\ ME &= 0.02\end{aligned}$$

Determine  $z^*$  such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.95$ . It is helpful to get the percentile of  $z^*$  by using  $\ell = \frac{1+\gamma}{2} = \frac{1+0.95}{2} = 0.975$ . This lets you find  $z^*$  such that  $P(Z < z^*) = 0.975$ .

$$z^* = 1.96$$

Use the appropriate formula.

$$\begin{aligned}n &= \hat{p}(1 - \hat{p}) \left( \frac{z^*}{ME} \right)^2 \\ &= (0.91)(0.09) \left( \frac{1.96}{0.02} \right)^2 \\ &= 786.5676\end{aligned}$$

When determining a necessary sample size, always round up (ceiling).

$$n = 787$$

**10. Problem:**

Your boss wants to know what proportion of a very large population is angry. You already know the proportion approximately 0.36. But, your boss wants to guarantee that the margin of error of a 90% confidence interval will be less than 0.01 (which is 1 percentage points). How large of a sample is needed? Please round up, using only 2 significant digits.

**Solution:** We are given the confidence level and the margin of error.

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= 0.9 \\ ME &= 0.01\end{aligned}$$

Determine  $z^*$  such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.9$ . It is helpful to get the percentile of  $z^*$  by using  $\ell = \frac{1+\gamma}{2} = \frac{1+0.9}{2} = 0.95$ . This lets you find  $z^*$  such that  $P(Z < z^*) = 0.95$ .

$$z^* = 1.64$$

Use the appropriate formula.

$$\begin{aligned}n &= \hat{p}(1 - \hat{p}) \left( \frac{z^*}{ME} \right)^2 \\ &= (0.36)(0.64) \left( \frac{1.64}{0.01} \right)^2 \\ &= 6196.8384\end{aligned}$$

When determining a necessary sample size, always round up (ceiling).

$$n = 6197$$

**11. Problem:**

Your boss wants to know what proportion of a very large population is angry. She also wants to guarantee that the margin of error of a 99% confidence interval will be less than 0.07 (which is 7 percentage points). How large of a sample is needed? Please round up, using only 2 significant digits.

**Solution:** We are given the confidence level and the margin of error.

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= 0.99 \\ ME &= 0.07\end{aligned}$$

Determine  $z^*$  such that  $P(|Z| < z^*) = 0.99$ . It is helpful to get the percentile of  $z^*$  by using  $\ell = \frac{1+\gamma}{2} = \frac{1+0.99}{2} = 0.995$ . This lets you find  $z^*$  such that  $P(Z < z^*) = 0.995$ .

$$z^* = 2.58$$

Use the appropriate formula. We have no knowledge of  $\hat{p}$ , so we are conservative by using  $\hat{p} = 0.5$ .

$$n = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{z^*}{ME} \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{2.58}{0.07} \right)^2$$

$$= 339.6122449$$

When determining a necessary sample size, always round up (ceiling).

$$n = 340$$