Evan Krause
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Prof. Michael Nelson
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1. The population mean does not have an effect on the width of confidence intervals in a normally distributed population. The population mean is just the measure of center and does not define the bounds of the CI.

2. The population standard deviation does have an effect on the width of confidence intervals. The standard deviation, along with the critical value and population/sample size define the bounds of the interval.

3. The population size does have an effect on the width of the confidence interval because the sample size is drawn from it.

4. The sample size does have an effect on the width of the confidence interval because it determines the boundaries of the interval. The bounds are defined by the mean +/- the product of the critical value (or alpha level) multiplied by the standard deviation divided by the root of the sample size

5. Assume that you're watching a garden plot of a certain size and trying to find out how likely it is that you find an amount of a certain bug within the area of the plot. You create a 95% CI for the likelihood of finding that many bugs in your sampled area. That means that if you look for that many bugs within that area (infinitely) many times, then 95% of the times that you look, you would be likely to find what you're looking for.