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Question 1

A survey of 350 randomly selected Irish households shows that only 62% have a broadband connection. Infer a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of all Irish households that have broadband connection.

Answer:

Given,

No of people surveyed (N) = 350

62% People with broadband connection (p) = 0.62

38% People without broadband connection (q) = 0.38

Two steps for finding confidence interval

Step 1: Standard Error

$$S_{\text{error}} = \sqrt{pq/n}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.62 * 0.38/350}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.2356/350}$$

$$0.0259$$

Hence Standard error = 0.0259

Step 2: Confidence Interval at 95%

$$= p \pm (\text{Standard Error} * 1.96)$$

1.96 in this case as $0.95/2 = 0.4750$ i.e. 1.96 from the normal distribution table

$$= 0.62 \pm (0.0259 * 1.96)$$

$$= 0.62 \pm 0.05076$$

$$= 62\% \pm 5.08\%$$

Question 2

At a vehicle testing centre, 30 out of 200 randomly selected vehicles are found to have defective tyres. Infer a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of all vehicles presenting for testing that have defective tyres.

Answer:

30 out of 200 randomly selected vehicles are found to have defective tyres

i.e. $30/200 * 100$

$= 15\%$

So 85% are not to found with defective tyres

$N = 200$

$p = 15\% \quad (0.15)$

$q = 85\% \quad (0.85)$

Two steps for finding confidence interval

Step 1: Standard Error

$S_{\text{error}} = \sqrt{pq/n}$

$= \sqrt{0.15 * 0.85/200}$

$= 0.025$

Hence Standard error = 0.025

Step 2: Confidence Interval at 95%

$= p \pm (\text{Standard Error} * 1.96)$

1.96 in this case as $0.95/2 = 0.4750$ i.e. 1.96 from the normal distribution table

$= 0.15 \pm (0.025 * 1.96)$

$= 0.15 \pm 0.049$

$= 15\% \pm 4.9\%$

Question 3

A survey of mortgage holders at the current time shows that 14% are in arrears with their mortgage repayments. Out of the 300 people surveyed, 48% report that they are currently able to manage, while some in the sample also report that although they are not in arrears, they fear for the future. Infer a 99% confidence interval for the proportion of all mortgage holders who are currently in arrears with their mortgage repayments.

Answer:

We need to infer 99% confidence interval for the proportion of all mortgage holders who are currently in arrears with mortgage repayment. According to question 14% are in arrears with mortgage repayments.

14% are in arrears (p) = 0.14

86% are not in arrears currently (q) = 0.86

No of people surveyed (N) = 300

Two steps for finding confidence interval

Step 1: Standard Error

$$S_{\text{error}} = \sqrt{pq/n}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.14 * 0.86/300}$$
$$= 0.020$$

Hence Standard error = 0.020

Step 2: Confidence Interval at 99%

$$= p \pm (\text{Standard Error} * 2.58)$$

2.58 in this case as $0.99/2 = 0.495$ i.e. 2.58 from the normal distribution table

$$= 0.14 \pm (0.02 * 2.58)$$

$$= 0.14 \pm 0.516$$

$$= 14\% \pm 5.16\%$$

Question 4

In a low-temperature performance test (CCA test) of 190 vehicle batteries, an average current reading of 160A is observed, with a standard deviation of 14A. Infer a 95% confidence interval for the current output of a battery selected at random.

Answer:

Total no batteries tested (N) = 190

Average Current Reading (Mean) = 160A

Standard Deviation (S) = 14A

Two steps for confidence interval

Step 1: Standard Error

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Standard Error} &= S/\sqrt{N} \\ &= 14/\sqrt{190} \\ &= 1.0159\text{A}\end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Confidence Interval @ 95%

$$= \text{Mean} \pm (\text{Standard Error} * 1.96)$$

1.96 in this case as $0.95/2 = 0.4750$ i.e. 1.96 from the normal distribution table

$$\begin{aligned}&= 160 \pm (1.0159 * 1.96) \\ &= 160 \pm 1.99\end{aligned}$$

Question 5

A television programme is watched by 35% of a representative test audience consisting of 350 people. Infer a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of all viewers who watched the programme.

Answer:

Total No of audience (N) = 350

35 % watch the programme (p) = 0.35

65% don't watch the programme (q) = 0.65

Two steps for finding confidence interval

Step 1: Standard Error

$$S_{\text{error}} = \sqrt{pq/n}$$

$$= \sqrt{0.35 * 0.65/350}$$
$$= 0.0254$$

Hence Standard error = 0.0254

Step 2: Confidence Interval at 95%

$$= p \pm (\text{Standard Error} * 1.96)$$

1.96 in this case as $0.95/2 = 0.4750$ i.e. 1.96 from the normal distribution table

$$= 0.35 \pm (0.0254 * 1.96)$$

$$= 0.35 \pm 0.0499$$

$$= 35\% \pm 5\%$$