

1. Let X = the number of large bags of popcorn sold by a local movie theater in a day. Suppose that X is normally distributed with a mean of 230 bags and a standard deviation of 29 bags.

- (a) Describe the distribution of \bar{X} , the **average** number of large bags of popcorn sold in a random sample of 7 days, by identifying the **mean** $\mu_{\bar{X}}$ and the **standard error** $\sigma_{\bar{X}}$.

$$\mu_{\bar{X}} = \mu_X = 230 \text{ large popcorn bags}$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{X}} = \frac{29}{\sqrt{7}} = 10.96 \text{ large popcorn bags}$$

- (b) Can we use the normal distribution to find probabilities for \bar{X} ? How do you know?

Yes. Because the population X is normally distributed, we can conclude that \bar{X} is approximately normally distributed.

- (c) What is the probability that, on a **single** day, the theater will sell more than 250 popcorn bags?

$$z = \frac{250-230}{29} = 0.69$$

$$P(X > 250) = P(Z > 0.69) = 1 - P(Z < 0.69) = 1 - 0.7549 = 0.2451$$

- (d) If seven days are randomly selected, what is the probability that the **average** number of popcorn bags sold per day will be greater than 250?

$$z = \frac{250-230}{10.96} = 1.82$$

$$P(\bar{X} > 250) = P(Z > 1.82) = 1 - P(Z < 1.82) = 1 - 0.9656 = 0.0344$$

2. Leslie has been tasked with putting together a report for Ron regarding the use of a park in Pawnee. Previous data show that 72% of the residents in Pawnee visited the park in the last month.

- (a) Describe the distribution of \hat{p} , the **proportion** of residents in a random sample of 150 who visit the park in a month, by identifying the **mean** $\mu_{\hat{p}}$ and **standard error** $\sigma_{\hat{p}}$. Round standard error to four decimal places.

$$\mu_{\hat{p}} = p = 0.72$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{0.72(0.28)}{150}} = 0.0367$$

- (b) Is the distribution of \hat{p} approximately normally distributed? How can you tell?

$$np(1-p) = 150(0.72)(0.28) = 30.24 \geq 10 \Rightarrow \hat{p} \text{ is approximately normally distributed.}$$

- (c) What is the probability that more than 99 individuals in a random sample of 150 residents have visited the park in the last month?

$$\hat{p} = \frac{99}{150} = 0.66$$

$$z = \frac{0.66-0.72}{0.0367} = -1.63$$

$$P(\hat{p} > 0.66) = P(Z > -1.63) = 1 - P(Z < -1.63) = 1 - 0.0516 = 0.9484$$

3. Given that a continuous random variable X is normally distributed with a mean of 40 and a standard deviation of 13, calculate the probability that a sample of size 49 has a mean of...

(a) Greater than 37

$$z = \frac{37-40}{13/\sqrt{49}} = -1.62$$

$$P(\bar{X} > 37) = P(Z > -1.62) = 1 - 0.0526 = 0.9474$$

(b) At least 42.5

$$z = \frac{42.5-40}{13/\sqrt{49}} = 1.35$$

$$P(\bar{X} \geq 42.5) = P(Z \geq 1.35) = 1 - 0.9115 = 0.0885$$

(c) Between 39 and 43

$$\text{Lower } z = \frac{39-40}{13/\sqrt{49}} = -0.54, \text{ Upper } z = \frac{43-40}{13/\sqrt{49}} = 1.62$$

$$P(39 < \bar{X} < 43) = P(-0.54 < Z < 1.62) = 0.9474 - 0.2946 = 0.6528$$

(d) No more than 35

$$z = \frac{35-40}{13/\sqrt{49}} = -2.69$$

$$P(\bar{X} \leq 35) = P(Z < -2.69) = 0.0036$$

4. All Clear Windows makes windows for use in homes and commercial buildings. The standards for glass thickness call for the glass to average 0.375 inches with a standard deviation of 0.050 inches. Let \bar{X} represent the mean thickness of 50 randomly selected windows.

(a) Describe the center, spread, and shape of the distribution of \bar{X} .

Center: $\mu_{\bar{X}} = \mu_X = 0.375$ in.

Spread: $\sigma_{\bar{X}} = \frac{0.050}{\sqrt{50}} = 0.007$ in.

Shape: Because $n = 50 \geq 30$, \bar{X} follows an approx. normal distribution by the Central Limit Theorem.

- (b) Suppose a random sample of $n = 50$ windows yields a mean thickness of 0.392 inches. What is the likelihood of observing a sample with a mean thickness at least as thick as ours?

$$z = \frac{0.392-0.375}{0.050/\sqrt{50}} = 2.40$$

$$P(\bar{X} > 0.392) = P(Z > 2.40) = 1 - 0.9918 = 0.0082$$

5. A nationwide survey analyzing trends in popular media found that 81% of U.S. college students prefer British baking shows over American baking shows. You are interested to see if this result holds at your university, which has a student population of about 30,000. You take a random sample of 140 students on campus and find that 125 of them prefer watching British baking shows.

- (a) Can you use the normal distribution to find probabilities for the sample proportion \hat{p} of students at your university who prefer British baking shows? Check the appropriate condition to justify your answer.

Yes. Because $np(1 - p) = 140(0.81)(1 - 0.81) = 21.546 \geq 10$, \hat{p} follows an approximately normal distribution.

- (b) Find the probability of obtaining a sample where \hat{p} is at least as great as your sample.

$$\hat{p} = \frac{125}{140} \approx 0.89$$

$$z = \frac{0.89 - 0.81}{\sqrt{\frac{0.81(0.19)}{140}}} = 2.41$$

$$P(\hat{p} > 0.89) = P(Z > 2.41) = 1 - 0.9920 = 0.0080$$

- (c) Does your result cause you to suspect that the national result is an over- or an underestimate for your university? Explain your reasoning.

The probability of obtaining a sample of 140 where 89% or more prefer British baking shows is small (less than 1%), meaning that this is a rare event. This may cause us to suspect that the national result underestimates the true proportion at our university.