

## 7.1 Sampling Distributions

### Learning Objectives:

1. Distinguish between a parameter and a statistic.
2. Use the sampling distribution of a statistic to evaluate a claim about a parameter.
3. Distinguish among the distribution of a population, the distribution of a sample, and the sampling distribution of a statistic.
4. Determine whether or not a statistic is an unbiased estimator of a population parameter.
5. Describe the relationship between sample size and the variability of a statistic.

**Vocabulary:** parameter, statistic, sampling distribution, population distribution, distribution of a sample data, unbiased estimator, biased estimator, variability of a statistic

*Read 424–425*

What is a parameter? What is a statistic? How is one related to the other?

**Alternate Example:** Identify the population, the parameter, the sample, and the statistic:

(a) A pediatrician wants to know the 75th percentile for the distribution of heights of 10-year-old boys, so she takes a sample of 50 patients and calculates  $Q_3 = 56$  inches.

**population:**

**parameter:**

**sample:**

**statistic:**

(b) A Pew Research Center Poll asked 1102 12- to 17-year-olds in the United States if they have a cell phone. Of the respondents, 71% said “Yes.”

**population:**

**parameter:**

**sample:**

**statistic:**

**ACTIVITY:** Reece’s Pieces

*Read 425–428*

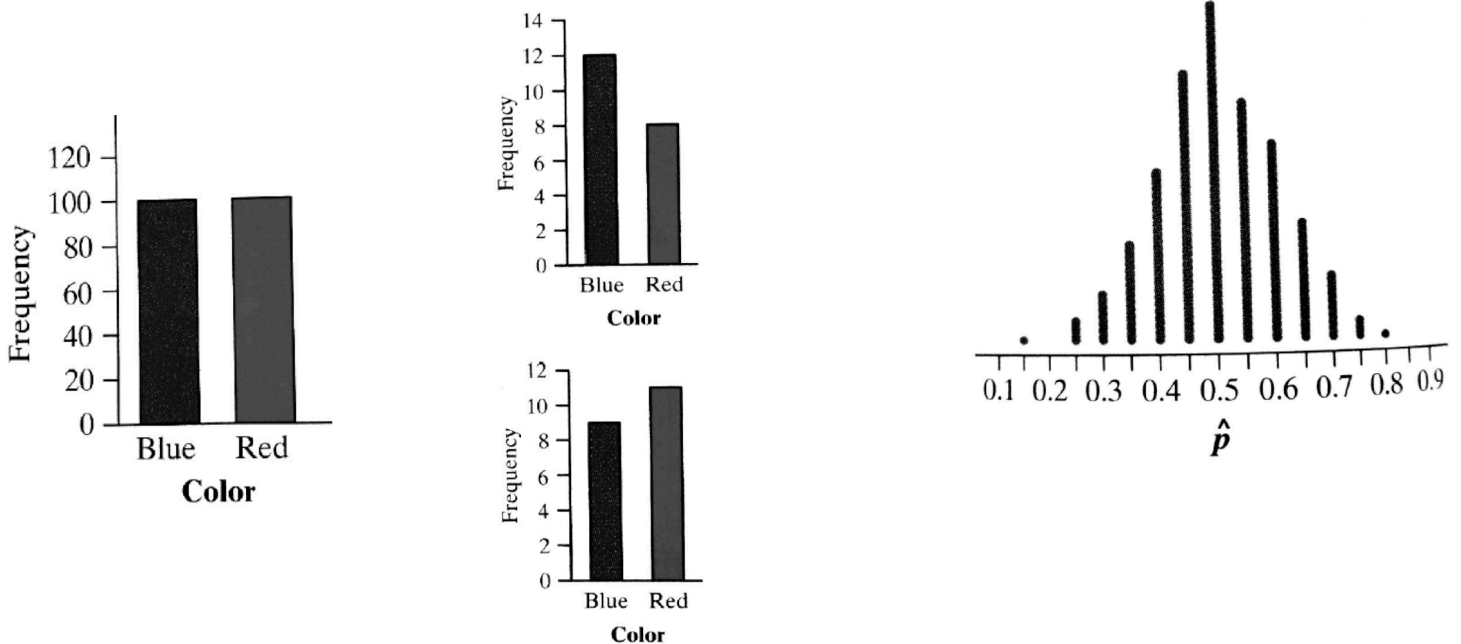
What is sampling variability? Why do we care?

What is a sampling distribution? Why do we care?

A father has four sons with heights of 68, 71, 72, and 75 inches. Determine the sampling distribution of the sample mean height  $\bar{x}$  for samples of size  $n = 2$

What is the difference between the **distribution of the population**, the **distribution of the sample**, and the **sampling distribution** of a sample statistic?

**Page 428 Poker Chip Example:** Bag with 200 poker chips (100 red & 100 blue), each student takes a SRS of 20 chips and records the proportion of RED chips.



*AP Exam Tip:* Terminology matters. Don't say "sample distribution" when you mean sampling distribution. You will lose credit on free response questions for missing statistical terms.

Also, be careful with ambiguous statements like "when the sample size increases, the variability decreases" – variability in WHICH distribution??? Be very specific & clear.

Read 429–435

A statistic used to estimate a population parameter is an \_\_\_\_\_, but only if the mean of its sampling distribution is equal to the value of the parameter being estimated.

A statistic that is consistently higher or lower than the population parameter is a \_\_\_\_\_.

**ACTIVITY**

Population is a bag of 50 different numbers, each student should take at least 25 SRS of size 4.

1. Find the average and range, and record the statistics.

Sample #	$\bar{x}$	range
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		

Sample #	$\bar{x}$	range
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

2. Create a dotplot of the sample means.

3. Create a dotplot of the sample ranges.

4. Use 1-VarStat to find the average sample mean and the average sample range.

5. Teacher will disclose: Population mean \_\_\_\_\_ & population range \_\_\_\_\_

6. Based on your approximate sampling distribution of  $\bar{x}$  and the sample range, which statistic appears to be an unbiased estimator? Which appears to be a biased estimator?

How can you reduce the variability of a statistic?

What effect does the size of the population have on the variability of a statistic?

What is the difference between accuracy and precision? How does this relate to bias and variability?