

# What is Audit Sampling?

## Worksheet

Audit sampling means selecting and testing a representative subset of items from a population so the results can be projected, with a known level of risk, to the population as a whole.

$$\text{Sample Rate} = \frac{\text{Sample Size}}{\text{Population Size}}$$

## Questions

1. What does audit sampling allow an auditor to do?

- A) Test 100% of every transaction
- B) Draw a conclusion about a population by testing part of it
- C) Avoid assessing risk
- D) Replace substantive procedures entirely

2. BV = \$1,800,000, RF = 3.0, TM = \$90,000. What is the sample size?

- A) 20
- B) 60
- C) 600
- D) 6

3. Which sampling method quantifies sampling risk mathematically?

- A) Haphazard sampling
- B) Non-statistical sampling
- C) Statistical sampling
- D) Judgmental sampling

4. If tolerable misstatement decreases, what happens to the required sample size (all else equal)?

- A) It decreases
- B) It increases
- C) It stays the same
- D) It becomes zero

5. A population of accounts receivable has a book value of \$3,000,000. Using a reliability factor of 3.0 and tolerable misstatement of \$150,000, what is the sample size?

6. An auditor tests 80 sampled invoices and finds 2 errors, totaling \$4,000 in overstatement. The sample covered \$400,000 of the \$2,000,000 population. What is the projected misstatement?

7. Tolerable misstatement is \$80,000 and the reliability factor is 3.0 for a \$2,400,000 population. Find the required sample size.

8. Define: What is audit sampling?

9. Define: What is sampling risk?

10. Define: What is monetary unit sampling (MUS)?

## Answer Key

1. B) Draw a conclusion about a population by testing part of it - Sampling lets the auditor test a subset and project the results to the population.
2. B)  $60 - n = (1,800,000 \cdot 3.0) / 90,000 = 5,400,000 / 90,000 = 60$ .
3. C) Statistical sampling - Statistical sampling uses probability theory to measure and control sampling risk.
4. B) It increases - Sample size is inversely related to tolerable misstatement - less tolerance for error requires more testing.
5.  $n = (BV \cdot RF) / TM$   $n = (\$3,000,000 \cdot 3.0) / \$150,000 = \$9,000,000 / \$150,000 = 60$  items
6. Sample proportion =  $\$400,000 / \$2,000,000 = 0.20$  (20% of population) Projected misstatement = Sample misstatement / Sample proportion =  $\$4,000 / 0.20 = \$20,000$
7.  $n = (BV \cdot RF) / TM$   $n = (\$2,400,000 \cdot 3.0) / \$80,000 = \$7,200,000 / \$80,000 = 90$  items
8. Testing less than 100% of a population and projecting the results to draw a conclusion about the whole population.
9. The risk that the auditor's conclusion based on a sample differs from the conclusion if the entire population were tested.
10. A statistical technique where every individual dollar is a sampling unit, making larger balances more likely to be selected.

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