

Sampling Guidelines – Joint Commission

Population	Sample Size
≤ 30	Entire Population
31 – 100	30
101 – 500	50
≥ 501	70

Definition

Population: The total size of the group from which samples are to be drawn. For example, if studying C-Section rates for a single month, the population would be the total number of mothers delivering that month.

Your score is determined by the percentage of compliance. 90-100% = a score of 2, 80-89% = score of 1 and less than 80% of the sample size in compliance the score is 0.

Step 1: Determine the period of time being covered by the sampling (i.e., one week, one month, one quarter, etc.)

Step 2: Identify the number in the population for that period of time (i.e., # admissions per week, month, quarter, etc.)

Step 3: Select your sample size based upon that population from the list above.

Example 1:

Step 1: Period of time being covered: 1 month
Step 2: Number of admissions per month: ~ 290
Step 3: Sample Size: 50 Cases

Example 2:

Step 1: Period of time being covered: 1 week
Step 2: Number of admissions per week: 72
Step 3: Sample Size: 30 cases

Note that a single monthly sample would be 50 cases, while weekly sampling would result in 120 cases (4 x 30) being sampled.