

HOMEWORK: Extending Knowledge of Confidence Intervals and Sampling Error to a Real-World Example

Read the article in the link below and answer the questions that follow:

<https://newsroom.haas.berkeley.edu/research/election-polls-are-95-confident-but-only-60-accurate-berkeley-haas-study-finds/>

1. The article states that although polls report a 95% confidence interval, analysis shows that the poll's result only captures the outcome 60% of the time. Is this because the accuracy has decreased since 2008? Why or why not?
2. Kotak feels that to be 95% confident, polls need to double what measure? What will that do to the width of the confidence interval?
3. To gauge poll confidence, Kotak and Moore wanted to determine whether the share of the vote was contained within the margin of error the poll reported. They then gave an example of what was meant by this. Give a similar example of your own.
4. The article said that the confidence level only considers "sampling error". From what you have learned so far, is sampling error bias?
5. What does the article say will increase the sampling error?
6. What types of errors are not included in sampling error according to the article?
7. Can you consider these other types of error as bias?

Counts, Laura. "Election Polls Are 95% Confident but Only 60% Accurate, Berkeley Haas Study Finds." *Haas News | Berkeley Haas*, 26 Oct. 2020, newsroom.haas.berkeley.edu/research/election-polls-are-95-confident-but-only-60-accurate-berkeley-haas-study-finds/.