

Figure 8.12. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustrations

Figures 8.12a, 8.12b and 8.12c on the following pages 8.67, 8.69 and 8.71, together with the tabulated sample descriptions on pages 8.60, 8.62 and 8.64 facing each Figure, illustrate characteristics of equiprobable selecting (EPS); *i.e.*, a selecting process that makes equally probable [with probability $1/\binom{N}{n}$] all samples of size n selected *without* replacement from a respondent population of size N .

- When $N = 500$ and $n = 25$ (as in this Figure 8.12), the number of possible samples is $\binom{500}{25} \approx 10^{42}$.

The following matters are relevant to using this Figure 8.12.

- the numbers along the tops of the three upper diagrams on pages 8.67, 8.69 and 8.71 are respondent population *element numbers*, which are provided to facilitate identifying the particular population elements selected for each sample;
- because of space constraints on each page, the actual elements in the sample are shown *diagrammatically* only for the *first* sample;
- the 16 horizontal lines (or ‘bars’) given under each population diagram represent the sample average (the central caret or ‘hat’) plus and minus one sample standard deviation (the ‘bar’) for each sample obtained from the population by EPS;
- the lowest diagram on each page shows 16 ‘blocks’ representing the 16 sample averages; below the diagram is shown the average plus and minus one standard deviation for the 16 sample averages;
- on the three overleaf sides (pages 8.66, 8.68 and 8.70) which face Figures 8.12a, 8.12b and 8.12c, the 25 element numbers for each sample were taken from a table of equiprobable digits and then arranged in ascending order.

(continued overleaf)

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[The diagrams which follow illustrate statistically useful properties (under repetition) of sampling carried out by *equiprobable* selecting:

- the sample average varies from sample to sample but its value is (usually) reasonably close to the population average;
- the sample standard deviation varies from sample to sample but its value is (usually) reasonably close to the population standard deviation;
- the distribution shape of the sample responses varies from sample to sample but is (usually) reasonably like that of the population responses;
- sample averages vary less than the population responses;
- the ‘centre’ of the distribution of sample averages is the population average (over the set of *all* possible samples);
- sample averages tend to approximately a normal distribution regardless of the (shape of the) distribution of population responses.

Figures 8.12e and 8.12f on pages 8.73 and 8.74 show histograms of sample averages and sample standard deviations for all possible samples of all possible sizes selected from a population of size 10 elements with integer response variate values of 1, ..., 10.

- Under EPS, these histograms are the *distributions* of these two sample attributes.

These histograms come from Figure 6.1 of these STAT 220 Course Materials, where there is background and discussion of them.]

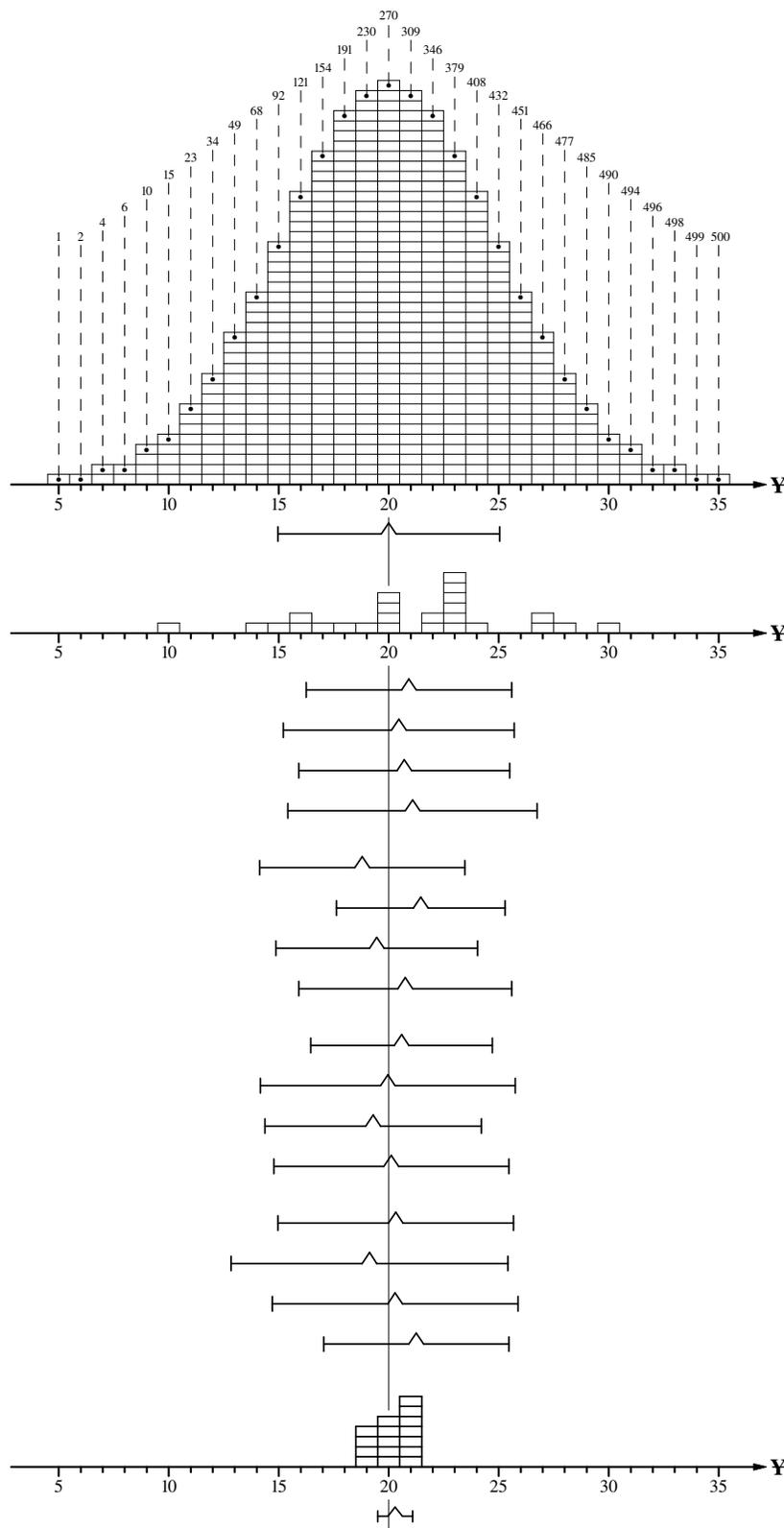
Although this Figure 8.12 is concerned primarily with sample *selecting*, it can also be illustrative of (the useful) statistical properties of *repeated measuring* – see also Section 5 on page 6.5 in Figure 6.1 of these Course Materials.

Figure 8.12d. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustrations (page 8.72 continued) Practising Working with the Ideas

- 7] How does the *shape* of the distribution of the respondent population response variate affect the difficulty of estimating:
 - its location
 - its variation
 from *sample* data. Where possible, illustrate your answer with values of appropriate numerical summaries.
- 8] Find the *median* response variate value for each respondent population.
 - How does the value of each median compare with that of the corresponding *average*? Explain briefly.
 - Which are more *variable*: the three averages or the three medians? Explain briefly.
- 9] Find the response variate *interquartile range* (IQR) for each respondent population.
 - How does the value of each IQR compare with that of the corresponding standard deviations? Explain briefly.
 - Which are more *variable*: the three IQR’s or the three standard deviations? Explain briefly.
- 10] For each respondent *population*, find the proportion of its elements whose response variate value is within one, two and three standard deviations of the average. Tabulate your results in a way which displays them effectively, and comment briefly on the similarities and differences among them.
- 11] Give an example of a real-world population whose response variate value would have a distribution similar to that shown in each of the Diagrammatic Illustrations 1, 2 and 3.

1995-04-20

Figure 8.12a. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustration 1 of 3
Selecting from a ‘Normally’ Distributed Respondent Population



Respondent population attributes:

$$N = 500$$

$$\bar{Y} = 20$$

$$S = 5.045$$

Sample attributes:
 (n = 25 in each case)

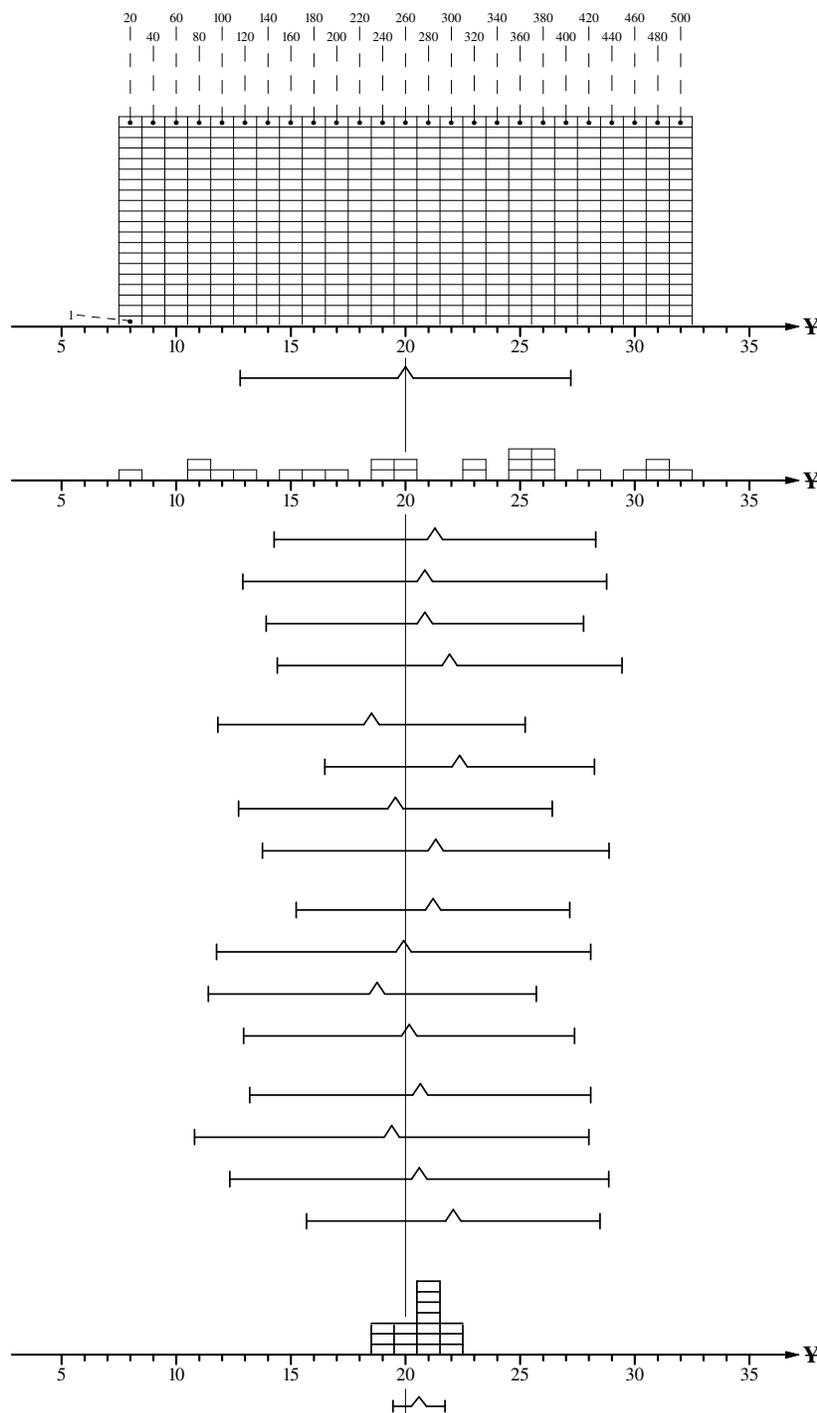
$\bar{y}_1 = 20.92;$	$s_1 = 4.68$
$\bar{y}_2 = 20.44;$	$s_2 = 5.25$
$\bar{y}_3 = 20.72;$	$s_3 = 4.78$
$\bar{y}_4 = 21.08;$	$s_4 = 5.64$
$\bar{y}_5 = 18.80;$	$s_5 = 4.66$
$\bar{y}_6 = 21.44;$	$s_6 = 3.83$
$\bar{y}_7 = 19.44;$	$s_7 = 4.60$
$\bar{y}_8 = 20.76;$	$s_8 = 4.82$
$\bar{y}_9 = 20.60;$	$s_9 = 4.13$
$\bar{y}_{10} = 19.96;$	$s_{10} = 5.79$
$\bar{y}_{11} = 19.28;$	$s_{11} = 4.91$
$\bar{y}_{12} = 20.12;$	$s_{12} = 5.34$
$\bar{y}_{13} = 20.32;$	$s_{13} = 5.35$
$\bar{y}_{14} = 19.12;$	$s_{14} = 6.29$
$\bar{y}_{15} = 20.28;$	$s_{15} = 5.60$
$\bar{y}_{16} = 21.24;$	$s_{16} = 4.20$

$$\bar{\bar{y}} = 20.28; \quad s_{\bar{y}} = 0.785$$

NOTE: The equiprobable numbers and the corresponding response variate values for the 25 elements in each sample are tabulated on the facing page 8.66.

(continued overleaf)

Figure 8.12b. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustration 2 of 3
Selecting from a ‘Uniformly’ Distributed Respondent Population



Respondent population attributes:

$$N = 500$$

$$\bar{Y} = 20$$

$$S = 7.218$$

Sample attributes:
 (n = 25 in each case)

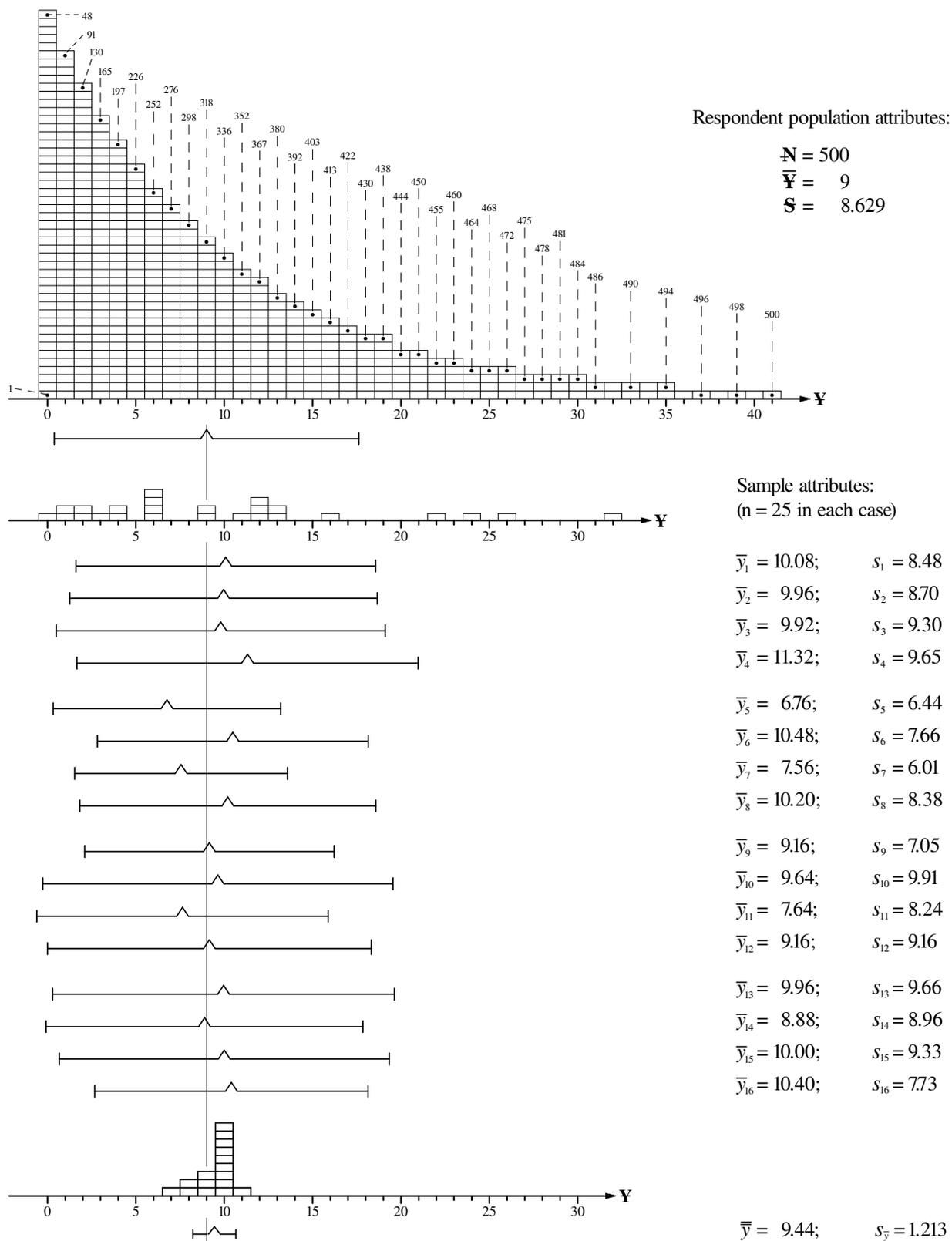
$\bar{y}_1 = 21.28;$	$s_1 = 7.01$
$\bar{y}_2 = 20.84;$	$s_2 = 7.93$
$\bar{y}_3 = 20.84;$	$s_3 = 6.93$
$\bar{y}_4 = 21.92;$	$s_4 = 7.52$
$\bar{y}_5 = 18.52;$	$s_5 = 6.70$
$\bar{y}_6 = 22.36;$	$s_6 = 5.87$
$\bar{y}_7 = 19.56;$	$s_7 = 6.84$
$\bar{y}_8 = 21.32;$	$s_8 = 7.56$
$\bar{y}_9 = 21.20;$	$s_9 = 5.97$
$\bar{y}_{10} = 19.92;$	$s_{10} = 8.16$
$\bar{y}_{11} = 18.76;$	$s_{11} = 7.36$
$\bar{y}_{12} = 20.16;$	$s_{12} = 7.22$
$\bar{y}_{13} = 20.64;$	$s_{13} = 7.43$
$\bar{y}_{14} = 19.40;$	$s_{14} = 8.60$
$\bar{y}_{15} = 20.60;$	$s_{15} = 8.26$
$\bar{y}_{16} = 22.08;$	$s_{16} = 6.40$

$$\bar{\bar{y}} = 20.59; \quad s_{\bar{y}} = 1.137$$

NOTE: The equiprobable numbers and the corresponding response variate values for the 25 elements in each sample are tabulated on the facing page 8.68.

(continued overleaf)

Figure 8.12c. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustration 3 of 3
Selecting from an ‘Exponentially’ Distributed Respondent Population



NOTE: The equiprobable numbers and the corresponding response variate values for the 25 elements in each sample are tabulated on the facing page 8.70.

(continued overleaf)

Figure 8.12d. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Diagrammatic Illustrations
Practising Working with the Ideas

The following questions refer to Figures 8.12a, 8.12b and 8.12c and the matters they illustrate.

⊙ The set of all possible samples that can be selected from a population of size $N = 10$ are illustrated on the following pages 8.73 and 8.74 and they are discussed in more detail in Figure 6.1 of the STAT 220 Course Materials.

- 1 For each shape of distribution of the respondent population response variate, the sample averages *vary*.
- What are the *reasons* for this variation?
 - Are the reasons the *same* in the three cases? Explain briefly.
 - What is the ‘centre’ or ‘average’ for this variation? How is it the *same* and how is it *different* in the three cases?
 - What factor(s) determine the magnitude of the variation?
 - How does this magnitude differ among the three shapes of distribution?
 - Why is it legitimate in the three cases to model the sample average as a *random variable*?
 - What is the *source* of the ‘randomness’?
 - What factor(s) determine whether the sample average obtained in an *actual* survey can properly be modelled as a random variable?
 - What advantage(s) arise if a sample survey average *can* properly be modelled in this way?
- 2 For each distribution of the respondent population response variate, the sample standard deviations *vary*.
- What are the *reasons* for this variation?
 - Are the reasons the *same* in the three cases? Explain briefly.
 - What factor(s) determine the magnitude of this variation?
 - How does this magnitude differ among the three shapes of distribution?
 - Why is it legitimate in the three cases to model the sample standard deviation as a *random variable*?
 - What is the *source* of the ‘randomness’?
 - What factor(s) determine whether the sample standard deviation obtained in an *actual* survey can properly be modelled as a random variable?
 - What advantage(s) arise if a sample survey standard deviation *can* properly be modelled in this way?
- 3 Rank the three respondent populations in order of *increasing* variation of their response variates.
- Explain in terms of the *shapes* of the distributions why they fall in the order you have given.
 - How does the *sample* variation relate to the *population* variation?
 - How does the *variation of the sample average* compare with, and relate to, the population variation?
 - How does the variation of the sample *average* compare with, and relate to, the *sample* variation?
 - Explain this behaviour of sample averages.
 - + Discuss briefly why this behaviour of sample averages is of practical importance.
- 4 For the symbolic statement given at the right: $\bar{Y} \doteq N[\bar{Y}, S\sqrt{\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{N}}]$,
- explain its meaning in *words*; separate clearly the different components of the meaning;
 - indicate briefly how the three Diagrammatic Illustrations illustrate each component of the meaning.
- 5 Calculate the average \bar{s} and the standard deviation (s_s) of the 16 sample standard deviations given in each Diagrammatic Illustration; tabulate your results in a way that displays them effectively.
- How close is each value of \bar{s} to the corresponding value of S ? Compare the three cases.
 - Which shows greater variation: \bar{y} or s ? Compare the three cases.
 - Instead of comparing directly the *standard deviations* of \bar{y} and s , calculate their *coefficient of variation* (in %) as defined at the right; *i.e.*, calculate $CV_{\bar{y}}$ and CV_s in the three cases and tabulate the six values in an effective way. $CV = \frac{\text{st.dev.}}{\text{average}} \times 100$
 - Discuss briefly the relative variation of \bar{y} and s on *this* basis.
 - + Which comparison – of standard deviations or coefficients of variation – is more meaningful? Explain briefly.
- 6 Each respondent population response has attributes of *shape*, *location* and *variation*.
- Arrange the three attributes in order of *increasing* difficulty of estimating from *sample* data; where possible, illustrate your answer with values of appropriate numerical summaries.

Additional questions 7 to 11 are given on the lower half of page 8.65.

(continued)

Figure 8.12e. EQUIPROBABLE SELECTING: Histograms of Sample Averages

These ten histograms show the distribution of the *averages* of all possible samples of a given size that can be selected without replacement from a population of $N=10$ units, whose response variate values are $Y=1, 2, \dots, 10$.

[A histogram of these ten population *responses* would be like that given at the right for the averages of the ten possible samples of size 1]

The decreasing vertical axis scale unit down the page reduces the visual impact of increasing histogram height; bar *frequencies* are given by the numbers at the tops of the bars.

Above each histogram, except the one at the bottom right of the page:

- the upper bold arrow (\downarrow) indicates the value of the *population average* $\bar{Y}=5.5$;
- the lower arrow (\uparrow) indicates the *average* of the set of *sample averages* ($\bar{\bar{y}}=5.5$);
- the upper bar (\longleftarrow) crossing the lower arrow has a length equal to the value of the *standard deviation* of the set of sample averages;
- the lower such bar shows the *range* of the set of sample averages.

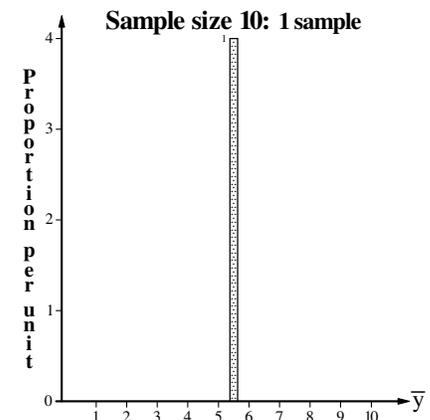
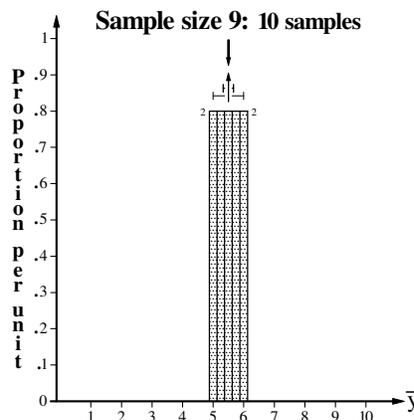
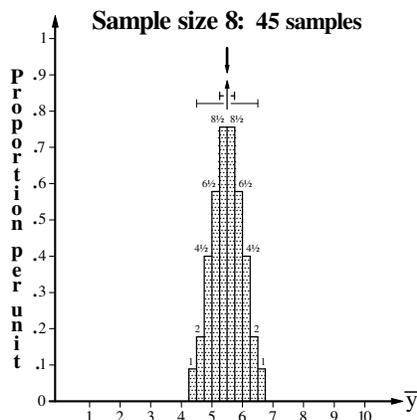
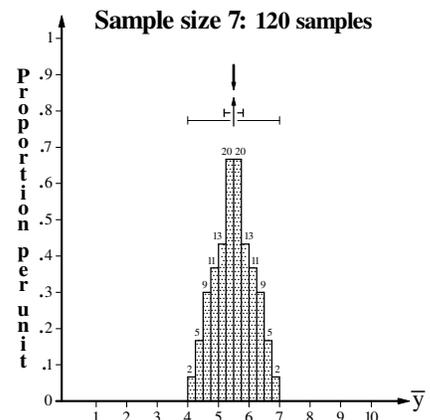
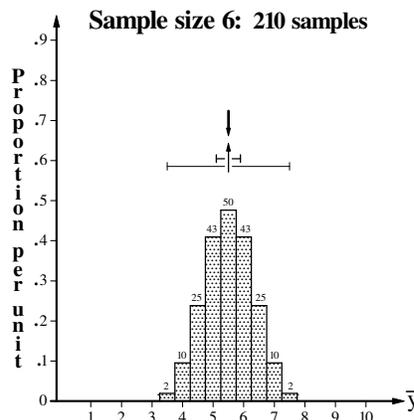
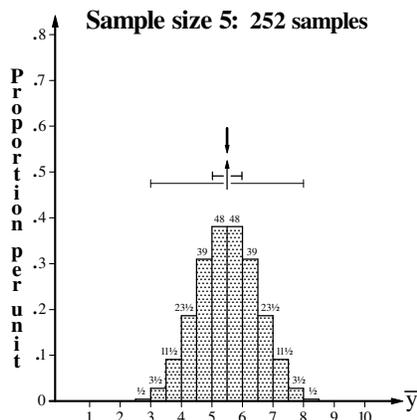
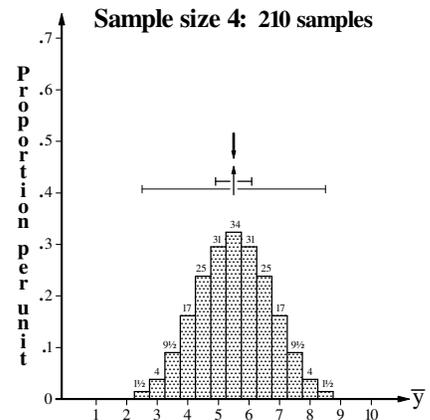
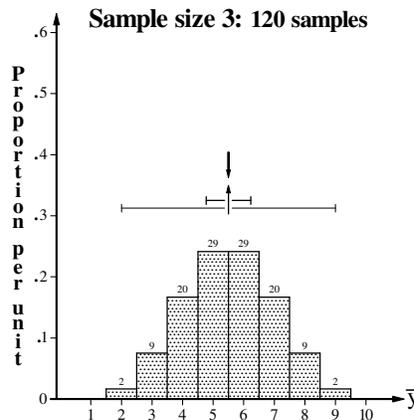
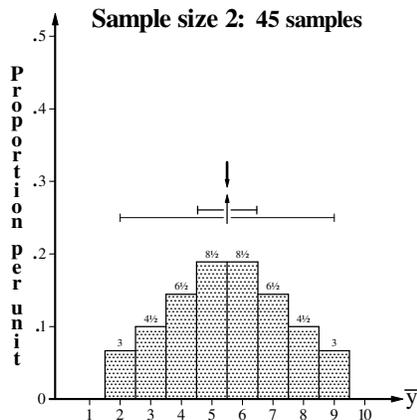
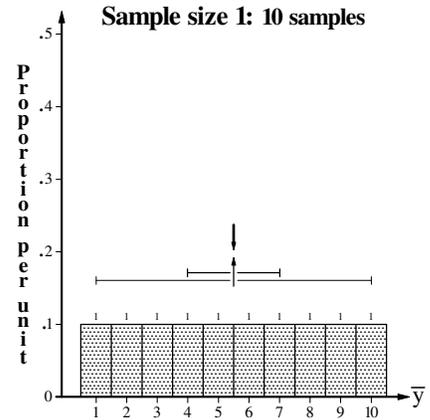


Figure 8.12f. SELECTING: Histograms of Sample Standard Deviations

These nine histograms show the distribution of the *standard deviations* of all possible samples of a given size that can be selected without replacement from a population of $N=10$ units, whose response variate values are $Y=1, 2, \dots, 10$. [A histogram of these ten population *responses* would be like that given at the top right of the facing page for the averages of the ten possible samples of size 1.]

The decreasing vertical axis scale unit down the page reduces the visual impact of increasing histogram height; bar *frequencies* are given by the numbers at the tops of the bars.

Above each histogram, except the one at the bottom right of the page:

- the upper bold arrow (\downarrow) indicates the value of the *population* standard deviation $S = 3.027\ 650$;
- the lower arrow (\uparrow) indicates the *average* (\bar{s}) of the set of *sample* standard deviations;
- the upper bar ($\overline{\quad}$) crossing the lower arrow has a length equal to the value of the *standard deviation* of the set of sample standard deviations;
- the lower such bar shows the *range* of the set of sample standard deviations.

