WORKSHOP REPORT

Five-Days Workshop on Sampling Methods in Population and Health Research: Types, Techniques, Examples

Date: DEC 12 - 16, 2022

Venue: International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai.

Organizers: IIPSAA & IIPS

Summary:

The sample size is essential in any research, and its estimation is one of the most crucial steps in designing a study. Acknowledging that, a Five-Day Workshop on Sampling Methods in Population and Health Research was held in IIPS, Mumbai, from Dec 12-16, 2022. This workshop was jointly organized by the International Institute for Population Sciences Alumni Association (IIPSAA) & International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS). The primary aim of organizing such a workshop was to equip and enhance the student's knowledge regarding the importance of sample size and essentials in its estimation, along with sample size estimation methods in different population and health research scenarios. Therefore course (for the workshop) was designed by the coordinators (Prof. T.K. Roy and Prof. Sayeed Unisa) to achieve the same.

The workshop brought together over 47 participants from IIPS and other institutes across India. The workshop started with the inauguration at 2:00 PM on Dec 12, 2022, at IIPS Mumbai. Prof. R. Nagarajan, IIPSAA Vice President & Workshop coordinator, facilitated our guest resource person Prof. T.K. Roy and gave the welcome speech. Prof. Sayeed Unisa, IIPSAA Vice President & Workshop coordinator, gave introductory remarks whereby she made the participants aware of the workshop's theme and its rationale in the research context. She further gave a brief overview of the five days workshop to the participants to add more clarity to the participants. IIPSA MC members Prof. Dhananjay W. Bansod, Dr. Dilip T. R., Dr. Kunal Keshri, and Dr. Illias Kanchan Sheikh graced the occasion with their presence.

We had well-known sampling and survey experts in this field to train participants in the workshop. Resource persons for this workshop were Prof. T.K. Roy, Prof. Sayeed Unisa, Prof. S.N. Dwivedi, Dr. Shahina Begum, and Prof. L.K. Dwivedi. The first session started with opening remarks by Prof. Roy, emphasizing that the primary purpose of the sample size estimation should be to determine the minimum number of subjects/participants required in a study to derive valid conclusions with a prefixed precision and significance level. Prof. Roy also taught multistage sampling design and sample size estimation for different study designs. Prof S.N Dwivedi delivered a lecture on clinical trials and sample size determination, whereas Dr. Shahina trained participants to estimate sample size using EPI info. Prof L.K.

Dwivedi demonstrated the importance of Sampling weight and its estimation for different sampling methods (Example of NFHS, LASI, and NSS). In the last session, Prof. Sayeed Unisa discussed impact evaluation designs using the SWABHIMAN monitoring and evolution model as an example.

Conclusively, the workshop successfully harnessed the enthusiasm and experience of participants and reached wide-ranging topics for discussion and leanings. Informative and worthwhile sessions made participants happy and satisfied. They gave positive feedback on their learning experiences during the feedback and discussion session. The Valedictory function of the workshop was held at 6:00 PM on Dec 16, 2022. Workshop Coordinators (Prof. Unisa & Prof. Nagarajan) distributed the certificate to all the participants. In the end, Pankaj Kumar Patel (workshop volunteer) extended the vote of thanks. The workshop organizing committee extends heartfelt gratitude to all resource persons, IIPS administration, IIPSAA MC Members, student volunteers, and participants.

Workshop Coordinators:

Prof. Sayeed Unisa

Prof. R. Nagarajan

Prof. L.K. Dwivedi

