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# PUBLIC ROADS 

# FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION 

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# THE APPLICATION OF RANDOM SAMPLING TO FISCAL STUDIES 

# A DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN DETERMINING HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES BY THE SEVERAL UNITS OF GOVERNMENT 

BY THE DIVISION OF CONTROL, PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

Reported by THOMAS M. C. MARTIN, Assistant Highway Engineer-Economist

$A^{\prime}$DEQUATE INFORMATION about highway finance in all units of government is a prerequisite to the orderly development of a comprehensive, forwardlooking highway program. The amounts of money raised locally by the lesser governmental units, the amounts received by them as grants-in-aid from higher units of government, as well as the use made of these funds, are all essential planning data. These facts must be known if highway needs and revenues are to be intelligently proportioned to the other needs and corresponding revenue sources of the State.

The difficulty of obtaining adequate data on highway finances appears to vary inversely with the size of the governmental unit. Ordinarily little trouble is encountered in ascertaining information relative to State revenues and expenditures, and with some exceptions the fiscal operations of the counties in the United States are readily obtainable. These, however, are by no means all of the units of government that engage in highway activities. There are a large number of local units, both rural and urban, data for which are essential to a complete picture of highway operations. Moreover, in many States the gross amounts involved in financing these local roads and streets are as large as the amounts handled by the State highway departments. Frequently, accurate information regarding the receipts and expenditures of these smaller units of government is not readily available, and special studies are necessary to obtain proper information.

## LOCAL ROAD FINANCE DATA VALUABLE

Knowledge of local road finances has been of particular value during the past decade in connection with a noticeable trend toward the assumption of greater responsibility for county and local roads by certain States. The taking over of the North Carolina county road system by the State on July 1, 1931, was preceded by a thorough study of the financial status of the county roads. ${ }^{1}$

Similarly, when the 5 -year program of county and township road consolidation was initiated in Michigan in 1931, a comprehensive study was made of all Michigan roads. ${ }^{2}$

[^1]
#### Abstract

Data on highway income and expenditures by all units of government are needed in planning future highway development. The multiplicity of local units -municipalities, townships, counties, school districts, etc.-makes collecting complete information from each a sizeable and expensive undertaking.

An investigation was made of the feasibility of applying sampling methods to the collection of local financial statistics. The procedures followed, formulas used, and results obtained, are reported herein. A graphical means is given of appraising various sample sizes in terms of their probable reliability.


Accurate information upon which to base an estimate of the probable costs of such programs of consolidation is seldom available when legislative deliberations are in progress. Consequently, when the question suddenly arises, it can be determined only approximately whether or not the resources of the State, usually limited to highway-user revenues, will be adequate for the increased burden. The question of whether a State is financially able to assume the proposed additional responsibilities without seeking new sources of money is a very important matter. It usually happens that the governmental units previously responsible financed their work with a combination of State subventions and receipts from local property taxation.

It is likewise essential to know the mileage of roads owned by local units and the standards to which they were built and are maintained. These facts are necessary to gage properly the annual financial requirements arising from the added responsibilities. The need for such information becomes evident in still other ways, particularly when proposals are made to allocate large sums of highway-user or other State revenues to local units of government for highway or nonhighway purposes either as single lump-sum payments or as continuing annual subventions. The wisdom of enacting such proposals into law can receive a more thorough consideration and fuller debate when complete and accurate data concerning the needs and resources of all units are readily available. Dissipation of State funds into channels where the public does not receive a proportionate return on the funds it has contributed can best be prevented by making all of the facts available.

The several States and the Public Roads Administration have been engaged in studies of this problem for more than 20 years. Detailed reports of State highway mileage, receipts, and expenditures, have been prepared annually since 1921. The gathering of corresponding information for the local units of government was commenced as early as 1912, made more complete in 1917, and has been done annually since 1921. The relative incompleteness of the local statistics has long been recognized, and constant attempts have been made to improve the reporting system.

The difficulty in obtaining accurate data from units of government other than the State arises in a considerable measure from the large number of governmental units involved and the incomplete records kept by many of these spending agencies even for their own purposes.

Table 1 shows the number of units in each of the States in 1939, as prepared by the Illinois Tax Commission. In the collection of State highway data the Public Roads Administration needs to concern itself only with the 48 States and the District of Columbia, but local rural road data must be obtained from approximately 20,000 units. Most of the counties and, in the States in which they exist, the towns and townships, carry on highway activities. In addition to these units, the sixth column of table 1 lists many road districts which at least until very recently carried on road functions similar to those of the townships.

Table 1.-Taxing units in the United States, 1939

| State | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Coun- } \\ & \text { ties } \end{aligned}$ | Incorporated places | Towns and townships | School districts | All others | Total ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alabama | 67 | 296 |  | 112 |  | 476 |
| Arizona | 14 | 33 |  | 416 | 22 | 486 |
| Arkansas | 75 | 389 |  | 3,062 | 834 | 4,361 |
| California | 57 | 282 |  | 2,957 | 265 | 3, 562 |
| Colorado. | 62 | 237 |  | 2,051 |  | 2.351 |
| Connecticut | 8 | 40 | 173 | 26 | 114 | 362 |
| Delaware | 3 | 52 |  | 15 |  | 71 |
| Florida | 67 | 289 |  | 893 |  | 1,250 |
| Georgia | 159 | 593 |  |  |  | 753 |
| Idaho | 44 | 150 |  | 826 |  | 1,021 |
| Illinois | 102 | 1,134 | 2 1,625 | 12, 115 | 123 | 15, 100 |
| Indiana | 92 | 544 | 1,017 | 163 | 5 | 1,822 |
| Iowa | 99 | 917 | 1,602 | 4,873 |  | 7,492 |
| Kansas | 105 | 580 | 1,550 | 8, 772 | 65 | 11,073 |
| Kentucky | 120 | 369 |  | 263 | 14 | - 767 |
| Louisiana | 64 | 210 |  | 66 | 161 | 502 |
| Maine | 16 | 20 | 494 | 512 |  | 1,043 |
| Maryland | 23 | 137 |  | 24 | 20 | 205 |
| Massachusetts | 13 | 39 | 312 |  | 63 | 428 |
| Michigan | 83 | 477 | 1,267 | 6, 550 |  | 8,378 |
| Minnesota | 87 | 726 | 1,902 | 7, 692 | 1 | 10, 409 |
| Mississippi | 82 | 305 |  | 5,796 | 756 | 6,940 |
| Missouri | 114 | 773 | 345 | 8,957 |  | 10, 190 |
| Montana | 56 | 116 |  | 2,437 |  | 2, 610 |
| Nebraska | 93 | 529 | 477 | 7,098 |  |  |
| Nevada ........ | 17 | 16 |  | 293 | 19 | 346 |
| New Hampshire | 10 | 11 | 224 | 241 |  | 487 |
| New Jersey | 21 | 331 | 238 | 551 | 17 | 1,159 |
| New Mexico | 31 | 63 |  | 1, 100 |  | 1,195 |
| New York | 57 | 615 386 | 927 | 7,913 | 96 | 9, 609 |
| North Carolina | 100 | 386 |  | . 169 | 139 | 795 |
| North Dakota | 53 | 333 | 1. 470 | 2,271 | 37 | 4,165 |
| Ohio | 88 | 869 | 1,337 | 1, 756 |  | 4,051 |
| Oklahoma | 77 | 463 |  | 4,697 |  | 5,238 |
| Oregon | 36 | 192 |  | 2, 114 | 93 | 2,436 |
| Pennsylvania | 67 | 986 | 1,577 | 2, 582 | 66 | 5,279 |
| Rhode Island |  | 7 | 32 |  | 54 | 94 |
| South Carolina | 46 | 265 |  |  | 10 | 361 |
| South Dakota. | 64 | 311 | 1,136 | 3, 437 |  | 4.949 |
| Tennessee | 95 | 233 |  | 6, 95 |  | - 424 |
| Texas. Utah | 254 29 | 580 |  | 6,000 | 271 | 7, 106 |
| Utah <br> Vermont | 29 14 | 197 |  | 40 272 |  | 267 |
| Virginia | 100 | 110 | 246 | 272 100 | 2 | 643 418 |
| Washington | 39 | 221 | 73 | 1,491 | 371 | 2,196 |
| West Virginia | 55 | 202 |  | , 55 |  | -313 |
| W isconsin | 71 | 525 | 1,280 |  | 6 | $9,273$ |
| W yoming | 23 | 82 |  | 385 |  | $491$ |
| Total | 3, 052 | 16, 450 | 19,304 | 118.667 | 3, 624 | 161, 145 |

1 Includes one for State.
1 Includes one for State.
2 Inces road districts in commission counties.
The total number of taxing counties in the United States, excluding those in States where the counties exercise no highway functions, is $2,666,{ }^{3}$ or an average of 72 counties per State in each of the 37 States involved. Although this figure is influenced slightly by the large number of counties in Georgia and Texas, the median number of counties is 67 or only slightly lower than the arithmetic mean. While the States must therefore deal with an average of approximately 50 percent more

[^2]counties than the number of States with which the Public Roads Administration is concerned, the problem of the States is still more complicated. The 48 States have 16,450 incorporated places or a mean of 343 , with the median State possessing a total of 286 such incorporated places. In addition 20 States have a mean of 851 towns and townships engaged in road work, ${ }^{4}$ with a median of 710 .

SAMPLING OBVIATES LARGE EXPENDITURES IN OBTAINING LOCAL DATA
Some information on the highway activities of the rural units (counties, towns, townships, and road districts) is available for the years since 1921, with the exception of 1922. More exhaustive surveys were conducted in 1921, 1926, and 1931 and the data for these years are believed to be more reliable than those for the intervening years when lack of funds and personnel made thorough studies impracticable.

The most exhaustive studies ever undertaken in this field were those conducted by the State-wide highway planning surveys which commenced in 1935. In these studies financial data were collected covering the receipts and expenditures for 1 fiscal year of all taxing agencies for all public purposes. This was done in order that a proper relationship could be established between highway and other governmental activities.

With the completion of these 1 -year studies the problem again arises of collecting regularly adequate annual financial data relative to highways. The task has even increased recently, since it is becoming evident that the most urgent traffic problem requiring current solution is the provision of arterial approaches to urban centers both large and small. Authorities are generally agreed that the weakest links in the existing highway system are usually these roads in and near cities. It is on these roads that most traffic congestion occurs; consequently, it is there that the chief threat to the efficiency of highway transportation arises. It is also a fact that since these highways as a class are the most expensive of all to build, the financing of them is one of the most difficult and important tasks of the immediate future. Consequently, data from more than 16,000 incorporated places should also be collected annually if a complete representation of the street and highway problem is to be obtained.
The planning surveys have greatly stimulated the adoption of uniform reporting methods for all levels of government in many States and thus contributed to the solution of part of the problem, i. e., an improvement in the quality and availability of information. There is still the problem of the large number of units and the correspondingly large costs involved in analyzing their reports. And not to be overlooked is the fact that if uniform centralized reporting does not exist, field investigation will normally be required to obtain anything approaching the desired information. An investigation was made, therefore, of the feasibility of applying sampling methods to the collection of local financial statistics with the fiscal survey data of the Wisconsin State-wide Highway Planning Survey as the basis for the inquiry. ${ }^{5}$ It is with the conduct and results of this investigation that the present article is chiefly concerned.

[^3]The data employed in this investigation were gathered by the Wisconsin planning survey during its original operations and were for the calendar year 1935. The fiscal statistics for each Wisconsin town ${ }^{6}$ had been recorded on forms which provided for a fairly extensive itemization of revenues and disbursements for all purposes. The separate classifications employed on these forms are not all of equal importance. Included to facilitate tabulation, many of them are not of particular significance in final analyses. The sampling of financial statistics should be restricted to include only items that are relatively stable in their occurrence in the reports of the individual units. Certain categories of both receipts and expenditures are entirely too variable to permit accurate estimation by sampling techniques. This would be true, for example, in the case of the borrowings of Wisconsin towns. In ordinary times these jurisdictions resort to such methods of financing very infrequently, and totals obtained by sample expansion would not be very reliable. Sampling accuracy depends upon a substantial degree of similarity in the individual members of the population or universe being sampled.

## in sampling certain elements require special treatment

If the individual members of a population are radically different one from another, an accurate description of the characteristics of the group will be possible only through the inclusion of the entire population in the analyses. All that sampling procedures afford, where they are applicable, is a more expeditious and economical means of describing the properties of a large class of things or events by means of the observation of less than the whole number of individuals constituting the group. What is requisite is that there be some welldefined central tendency in the properties of the individual members of a given group. An arithmetic average may be computed for any set of numbers, but for purposes of sample expansion it is important that the individual numbers be fairly closely centered about their average value.

[^4]In the present inquiry it was possible to include but a few of the more important classifications of receipts and disbursements which were provided for on the basic planning survey forms. On the revenue side these included (1) total local revenues, (2) total nonlocal revenues, and (3) total current receipts. On the disbursement side only total net expenditures were considered. All of the foregoing were further subdivided to show amounts collected and expended for highway purposes and for all public functions.

Table 2 presents data on the population distribution and expenditures of Wisconsin governmental units for 1935 from which the relative importance of the fiscal operations of the town units may be judged.

In applying random sampling to local units of government it is necessary to consider the possibility that certain extreme elements of the universe may require special treatment. In Wisconsin the seven towns of Milwaukee County provide such an example. The receipts and expenditures of towns necessarily bear some relation to the population which they include. The average population of the seven Milwaukee County towns is approximately 6,600 . This is more than eight times the average population of the remaining 1,273 towns in the State, which is about 800. If there were a sufficient number of these large towns it would be possible to employ stratified sampling. These especially large towns would in effect be treated as a separate universe and independently sampled. A random sample, however, should ordinarily contain no fewer than 30 items. In this instance, consequently, as in most others which would be encountered in sampling data for local units of government, it was considered advisable to obtain data for all of the Milwaukee County towns. The sampling inquiry was extended therefore only to the remaining 1,273 towns.

There are a variety of ways in which a random selection could be effected. The method selected in this instance used the so-called "Tippett's Numbers." ${ }^{7}$ This procedure involved the superposition of a new and independent characteristic, that of an ordinal number, upon the individual members of the universe.

[^5]Table 2.-Population distribution and net expenditure data for Wisconsin governmental units, 1935, classified by purpose ${ }^{1}$

| Unit of government | Number of places | Total population | Percentage of total population | Highways |  | Other public functions |  |  |  | Grand total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Education |  | Total |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent | Amount | Percent |
| Towns Incorporated places having a population of 1-1,000. | 1,280 | 1, 086, 944 | 37.1 | \$5, 485, 159 | 14.7 | \$13, 071, 972 | 23.8 | \$16, 481, 150 | 10.2 | \$21, 966, 309 | 11.1 |
|  | 334 | 159, 279 | 5.4 | 391,330 | 1.0 | 2, 395, 970 | 4.4 | 4, 051, 512 | 2.5 | 4, 442, 812 | 2.2 |
|  | 1,614 | 1,246, 223 | 42.5 | 5, 876,489 | 15.7 | 15, 467, 942 | 28.2 | 20, 532, 662 | 12.7 | 26, 409, 151 | 13.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ${ }_{36}$ | 128, 990 | 4.4 | 453, 731 | 1.2 | 2, 139, 826 | 4. 9 | 4, 455,669 | 2.6 | $4,609,400$ | 2.6 |
|  | 20 | 141,905 | 4.8 | 412, 970 | 1.1 | 2, 388, 745 | 4.4 | 4, 816, 365 | 3. 0 | 5, 229, 335 | 2. 6 |
|  | 14 | 223, 821 | 7.6 | 392, 249 | 1.1 | 3, 997, 845 | 7.3 | 8,745,482 | 5.4 | 9, 137, 731 | 4. 6 |
|  | 9 | 305, 175 | 10.4 | 678, 083 | 1.8 | 5, 129, 930 | 9.4 | 12, 332, 469 | 7.6 | 13,010,552 | 6. 6 |
|  | $\stackrel{3}{1}$ | 175, 703 | 6. 0 | 246,954 | . 7 | 3, 578, 688 | 6. ${ }^{6}$ | 7,898,974 | 4.9 16.5 | $8,145,928$ -8, 086,068 | 4.1 14.1 |
|  | 1 | 577, 083 | 19.6 | 1, 462,027 | 3.9 | 10, 826, 334 | 19.8 | 26, 624, 041 | 16.5 | 28, 086, 068 | 14.1 |
| Urban places | 171 | 1,690, 290 | 57.5 | 4, 075, 131 | 11.0 | 30, 330, 718 | 55.4 | 69, 275, 805 | 42.9 | 73, 350, 936 | 36.9 |
| Counties.State... |  |  |  | 11, 255, 374 | 30.3 | 1, 100, 576 | 2.0 | 53, 995, 482 | 33.4 | 65, 250, 856 | 32.8 |
|  |  |  |  | 15, 974, 942 | 43.0 | 7, 885, 648 | 14.4 | 17, 700, 349 | 11.0 | 33, 675, 291 | 17.0 |
| Grand total. | 1,785 | 2, 936, 513 | 100.0 | 37, 181, 936 | 100.0 | 54, 784, 884 | 100.0 | 161, 504, 298 | 100.0 | 198, 686, 234 | 100.0 |

[^6]Table 3.-Expenditures in Wisconsin towns selected for preliminary sample

| Assigned serial No. | County | Town | Total net expenditures ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Actual | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nearest } \\ & \$ 1,000 \end{aligned}$ |
| 22 | Ashland | Gordon | \$11, 726 | 12 |
| 30 | .do | White River | 16,673 | 17 |
| 75 | Bayfield | Pilsen | 6, 257 | 6 |
| 106 | Buffalo. | Dover | 13, 865 | 14 |
| 113 | - . do. | Mondovi | 9,759 | 10 |
| 124 | Burnett | La Follette | 7,770 | 8 |
| 139 | Calumet | Brillion | 20,382 | 20 |
| 151 | Chippewa | Birch Creek | 6,555 | 7 |
| 182 | Clark | Hixon | 19,659 | 20 |
| 199 | -...do | W ashburn | 9.978 | 10 |
| 205 | Columbia | Caledonia | 23,655 | 24 |
| 217 | .. do | Newport | 6, 030 | 6 |
| 242 | Dane | Burke | 49,523 | 50 |
| 304 | Door | Nasewaupee | 17, 966 | 18 |
| 322 | Douglas | Summit.... | 16, 270 | 16 |
| 334 | Dunn | Otter Creek | 8,990 | 9 |
| 351 | Eau Claire | Fairchild | 12,110 | 12 |
| 371 | Forest. | Blackwell | 6, 833 | 7 |
| 381 | . do ........ | Wabeno | 36,327 | 36 |
| 393 | Fond du Lac | Lamartine | 20,399 | 20 |
| 396 | do | Oakfield | 16, 073 | 16 |
| 432 | Grant | Watterstown | 3, 451 | 3 |
| 486 | Jackson. | Albion- | 36, 375 | 36 |
| 506 | Jefferson | Aztalan | 14,795 | 15 |
| 511 | -...do. | Ixonia | 15,717 | 16 |
| 524 | Juneau | Cutler | 12850 | 13 |
| 532 | -..do.... | Lisbon --.......- | 10, 308 | 10 |
| 558 | Kewaunee | West Kewaunee | 20,407 | 20 |
| 565 | La Crosse | Hamilton | 26, 022 | 26 |
| 608 | Lincoln. | Harding | 6,404 | 6 |
| 623 | Manitowoc | Cooperstown | 28, 173 | 28 |
| 638 | Mado | Two Rivers | 24, 202 | 24 |
| 693 | Marinette | Porterfield | 15,893 | 16 9 |
| 708 | do | Oxford | 8,903 9,094 | 9 9 |
| 724 | Monroe | Glendale. | 12, 384 | 12 |
| 726 | -...do. | Greenfield | 5,355 | 5 |
| 730 | do | Leon. | 12, 314 | 12 |
| 770 | Oneida | Hazelhurst | 5, 371 | 5 |
| 776 | do | Pelican. | 22,514 | 23 |
| 851 | Polk | Johnstown | 13, 089 | 13 |
| 852 | do | Laketown | 10, 541 | 11 |
| 863 | Portage | Almond | 15, 784 | 16 |
| 879 | Price. | Catawba | 6, 300 | 6 |
| 893 | ...do | Prentice | 9, 655 | 10 |
| 899 | Racine | Mount Pleasant | 114, 049 | 114 |
| 918 | Richland | Sylvan ... | 20, 464 | 20 |
| 987 | Sauk | Bear Creek | 19. 289 | 19 |
| 995 | do | Honey Creek | 19, 936 | 20 |
| 1017. | Sawyer. | Meteor. | 5,660 | 6 |
| 1018 | do | Ojibwa | 12, 307 | 12 |
| 1023 | do | W eirgor | 10, 128 | 10 |
| 1037. | Shawano | Hutchins | 11, 470 | 11 |
| 1071 | Taylor. | Ford | 6,675 | 7 |
| 1072 | . do | Goodrich | 9, 161 | 9 |
| 1081 | ...do do..... | Medford | 26,479 | 26 |
| 1097 | Trempealeau | Pigeon. | 23,731 | 24 |
| 1164 | W ashburn .- | Gull Lake | 4,823 | 5 |
| 1169 | --. do.... | Spooner | 5, 564 | 6 |
| 1172 |  | Stone Lake | 5,778 | 6 |
| 1179 | W. do..... | Hartford | 19,242 | 19 |
| 1198 | Waukesha | Ottawa | 10,924 | 11 |
| 1212 | Waupaca | Larrabee | 18, 656 | 19 |
| 1254 | Winnebago | Utica - | 19, 692 | 20 |

## Data taken from basic analysis form.

A general discussion of random sampling methods is given in the appendix, page 207 .

The numbering of the towns was the first task in commencing the actual selection of a sample. The 1,280 Wisconsin towns ${ }^{8}$ were arranged alphabetically by and within counties, and then numbered consecutively. There was no important reason for an alphabetical arrangement of the towns. It rendered the location of data for the selected towns somewhat easier, but it was not prerequisite and the numbering could have followed any other scheme without affecting the remainder of the procedure.

Before the actual selection could be commenced it

[^7]was necessary to make some decision relative to the size of the sample to be taken. The size of the ultimate sample, as will be emphasized later, must be predicated upon the probable accuracy which it is desired to attribute to the resultant expansions. This decision cannot very well be made without some knowledge of the characteristics of the universe being sampled. Specifically it is necessary to have some idea of the dispersion of the individual members about their mean. In these circumstances it is convenient to draw a small sample and compute certain statistics which facilitate the determination of final sample size. The initial sample in this instance consisted of 64 towns or approximately 5 percent of the total number of such units in Wisconsin. This preliminary sample was fixed at 5 percent instead of some other proportion because previous investigation had disclosed some facts relative to the range of town data. If the universe had been differently constituted, either quantitatively or qualitatively, or both, the choice of the initial sample would have been altered accordingly. In other words, familiarity with the general nature of the data being analyzed is a practical advantage for which there is no entirely satisfactory substitute.

## IMPORTANT FORMULAS EXPLAINED

It was necessary to consider total net expenditures only in the preliminary computations since the stability of the other data was believed to be of approximately the same order. A given sample will not, of course, yield exactly the same reliability in all the different categories of receipts and expenditures. The individual reliability of these statistics varies with their respective dispersions. The size of the final sample, therefore, will depend upon the degree of reliability that is believed necessary in estimating the most widely dispersed of the items to be tabulated. It follows that the less widely dispersed items will be estimated with correspondingly greater reliability.

Table 3 includes the planning survey expenditure data for the initial sample just described. In this

Table 4.-Computations required in the calculation of standard deviation and arithmetic mean from table 3

| Total net expenditures <br> $x$ | Fre- quency <br> $f$ | $\text { (1) }-M_{a}$ | $\begin{gathered} (2) \times(3) \\ f d \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { (3) } \times(4) \\ f d^{2} \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| \$1,000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1 3 | -12 -10 | -12 -30 | 144 300 |
|  | 7 | -9 | -63 | 567 |
|  | 3 | -8 | -24 | 192 |
|  | 1 | -7 | -7 | 49 |
|  | 4 | -6 | -24 | 144 |
|  | 5 | -5 | -25 | 125 |
|  | 3 | -4 | -12 | 48 |
|  | 5 | -3 | -15 | 45 |
|  | 2 | -2 | -4 | 8 |
|  | 1 | -1 | -1 | 1 |
|  | 1 | 0 |  |  |
|  | 5 | 1 | +5 | 5 |
|  | ${ }_{3}^{1}$ | 3 4 | +3 +12 | $\begin{array}{r}9 \\ 48 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |
|  | 7 | 5 | $+35$ | 175 |
|  | 1 | 8 | +8 | 64 |
|  | 3 | 9 | +27 | 243 |
|  | 2 | 11 | +22 | 242 |
|  | 1 | 13 | +13 | 169 |
|  | 2 | 21 | +42 | 882 |
|  | 1 | 35 | +35 | 1,225 |
|  | 1 | 99 | +99 | 9,801 |
|  | 64 | ----.--- | $\underline{-217}=+86$ | 14,490 |

table the total net expenditures are shown in the last column to the nearest thousand dollars. This forms a preliminary step in the transition to table 4 and in addition provides a convenient tabulation of the computed values necessary for substitution in the formulas for the standard deviation and arithmetic mean computed by the so-called "short-cut" method. The necessary notation follows:

## $X=$ variable.

$M_{x}=$ mean value of $X$.
$M_{a}=$ assumed mean class interval.
$f(x)=$ frequency of occurrence of $X$.
$d=\left(x-M_{a}\right)$ deviation of each value of $X$ from class interval of assumed mean.
$N=\Sigma f=$ total frequency.
$\sigma=$ standard deviation.
$\sigma_{M}=$ standard error of the mean.
The important formulas are:

$$
\begin{gather*}
M_{x}=M_{a}+\frac{\Sigma f d}{N} \cdots  \tag{1}\\
\sigma=\sqrt{\frac{\Sigma f d^{2}}{N}-\left(\frac{\Sigma f d}{N}\right)^{2}}-  \tag{2}\\
\sigma_{M}=\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{N}} \cdots \tag{3}
\end{gather*}
$$

In equation 2 the assumed mean should, for purposes of efficient calculation, be located asnear the actual mean as possible while the correction term $\frac{\Sigma f d}{N}$ must be an algebraic summation with due care observed as to the sign of the individual terms, since the correction may be either positive or negative depending upon the location of the assumed mean.

Substituting the values from table 4 in these equations yields the following results:

$$
\begin{align*}
M_{x} & =M_{a}+\frac{\Sigma f d}{N} \cdots  \tag{1}\\
& =15+\frac{86}{64}=16.344 . \\
\sigma & =\sqrt{\frac{\Sigma f d^{2}}{N}-\left(\frac{\Sigma f d}{N}\right)^{2}}  \tag{2}\\
& =\sqrt{\frac{14490}{64}-\left(\frac{86}{64}\right)^{2}}=14.987 . \\
\sigma_{M} & =\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{N}}  \tag{3}\\
& =14.987 / 8=1.873 .
\end{align*}
$$

If the coefficient of variation be used as a measure of reliability and defined as follows, it will provide a convenient index for comparing various size samples.

Let $V=$ coefficient of variation (percent).

$$
\begin{equation*}
V=\left(\frac{3 \sigma_{M}}{M_{x}}\right) 100 \ldots \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

In this case

$$
V=\left(\frac{3 \times 1.873}{16.344}\right) 100=34.4 \text { percent. }
$$

The interpretation to be placed upon such a result is that in repeated trials, randomly drawn samples of the same size ( 5 percent) will seldom ${ }^{9}$ yield means varying by more than 34.4 percent from 16.344. It is practically certain ${ }^{10}$ that the true mean of the parent population lies between $16.344 \pm 5.619$ or between 10.725 and 21.963.

The practical problem which arises at this point is the determination of coefficients of variation for samples of different size. This first 5 -percent sample produced a reliability as measured by this statistic of 34.4 percent. It is possible to effect a slight transformation in the basic equation for the coefficient of variation and derive an equation which will facilitate the calculation of acceptable estimates of the reliability which can be expected from larger samples randomly drawn from the same universe.

The original equation was:

$$
\begin{equation*}
V=\left(\frac{3 \sigma_{M}}{M_{x}}\right) 100 \ldots \ldots \ldots \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting for $\sigma_{M}$ the value given in equation 3,

$$
V=\left(\frac{3 \sigma / \sqrt{N}}{M_{x}}\right) 100
$$

which can be written

$$
\begin{align*}
V & =\left(\frac{3 \sigma}{M_{x}} \div \sqrt{\bar{N}}\right) 100 \\
& =\frac{300 \sigma}{M_{x}} \div \sqrt{N} \tag{5}
\end{align*}
$$

This equation affords an expeditious means of calculation since the numerator can through reasonable assumptions be made a constant for a given problem, and the denominator is a direct function of the number contained in the sample. The assumptions necessary are (1) that the $\sigma$ computed for the initial sample is a satisfactory estimate of the dispersion of the parent population from which the sample was drawn, and (2) that the value of the mean obtained from this sample

Table 5.-Coefficient of variation of 5 to 75 percent samples of total net expenditures of $W$ isconsin towns, 1935, as calculated from initial sample of 64 towns

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \begin{array}{|c|c|}
\hline \begin{array}{c}
\text { Number in } \\
\text { sample, } N
\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}
\text { Coefficient of } \\
\text { variation 1 }
\end{array} \\
300 \frac{\sigma}{M_{x}} \div \sqrt{N}
\end{array} \\
& \hline 64 \\
& 81 \\
& 100 \\
& 121
\end{aligned}
$$

[^8]

Figure 1.-Relation between Coefficient of Variation and Size of Sample.
will suffice temporarily as an estimate of the population mean. Both of these assumptions are justified.

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RELIABILITY AND SAMPLE SIZE EXAMINED

The necessary calculations were arranged in this case as shown in table 5. The range of sample sizes was limited to 5 percent increments from 5 percent to 75 percent, since the only purpose of these computations was to provide sufficient points upon which to base a freehand curve of the probable relationship between reliability and sample size for this particular inquiry. This curve is reproduced as figure 1.

The responsibility for determining the size of an acceptable sample is not a proper function of the statistician. It is an administrative problem the proper solution of which will depend upon the use to be made of the resultant expansions. The construction of a curve such as that shown in figure 1 is helpful in making a decision as to proper size of sample. It provides a graphical means of appraising various sample sizes in terms of their probable reliability. For purposes of illustration it was assumed in this case that acceptable accuracy called for a coefficient of variation of less than 20 percent. ${ }^{11}$ It appeared, therefore, that a sample of 200 towns or approximately 15 percent would be required.

The additional towns selected to raise the total sample to 200 are listed with their expenditure data in table 6. These towns were selected in the same manner as the first 64 towns, but, it should be noted, without duplication. The final sample, therefore, was precisely the same as though it had been randomly selected at one time instead of in two portions. The geographical distribution of the initial and final samples is shown in figure 2 .

Table 7 combines the rounded-off expenditure figures from tables 3 and 6 while table 8 fulfills the same function as table 4 in providing data necessary to the calculations which follow:

Again substituting in the basic equations,

$$
\begin{align*}
M_{x} & =M_{a}+\frac{\Sigma f d}{N}  \tag{1}\\
& =15+\frac{255}{200}=16.275 .
\end{align*}
$$

[^9]\[

$$
\begin{align*}
& \sigma=\sqrt{\frac{\Sigma f d^{2}}{N}-\left(\frac{\Sigma f d}{N}\right)^{2}}  \tag{2}\\
& \sqrt{\frac{28059}{200}-\left(\frac{255}{200}\right)^{2}}=11.772 \\
& \sigma_{M}=\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{N}} \cdots  \tag{3}\\
&=11.772 \div \sqrt{200}=0.832 \\
& V=\left(\frac{3 \sigma_{M}}{M_{x}}\right) 100  \tag{4}\\
&=\frac{300 \times 0.832}{16.275}=15.34 \text { percent. }
\end{align*}
$$
\]

Table 6.-Expenditures of addutional Wisconsin towns selected to complete final sample

| $\begin{gathered} \text { Assigned } \\ \text { serial } \\ \text { No. } \end{gathered}$ | County | Town | Total net expenditures ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Actual | $\begin{gathered} \text { Nearest } \\ \$ 1,000 \end{gathered}$ |
| 17 | Adams | Strongs Prairie | \$3,596 | 4 |
| 29 | Ashland | Shanagolden | 5,214 | 5 |
| 32 | Barron | Arland | 11,939 | 12 |
| 38 | do | Crystal Lake | 22,181 | 22 |
| 39 | do | Cumberland | 22, 472 | 22 |
| 61 | Bayfield | Cable... | 9,391 | 9 |
| 66 | -..- do. | Hughes | 11,694 | 12 |
| 67 | do | Iron River | 28, 633 | 29 |
| 73 | do | Orienta | 7,350 | 7 |
| 91 | Brown | Humboldt | 16,311 | 16 |
| 99 | do | Suamico | 30,178 | 30 |
| 104 | Buffalo | Canton. | 13, 246 | 13 |
| 112 | - do | Modena | 17, 622 | 18 |
| 116 | do | Nelson | 28,927 | 29 |
| 121 | Burnett | Dewey | 9,910 | 10 |
| 126 | do | Meenon | 9,316 | 9 |
| 130 | - do | Sand Lake | 7,461 | 7 |
| 144 | Calumet | New Holstein | 19,919 | 20 |
| 187 | Clark | Lynn. | 10,818 | 11 |
| 188 | do | Mayville | 18,991 | 19 |
| 190 | .do | Mentor | 14,984 | 15 |
| 221. | Columbia | Scott | 13, 235 | 13 |
| 224 | . ${ }^{\text {do }}$ | W yocena | 17,945 | 18 |
| 229 | Crawford | Haney | 16,330 | 16 |
| 230 | do | Marietta | 20,512 | 21 |
| 231 | do | Prairie du Chien | 6,505 | 7 |
| 237 | Dane | Berry | 13,878 | 14 |
| 239 | do | Blooming Grove | 67, 560 | $f 18$ |
| 257 | do | Perry ......... | 13, 374 | 13 |
| 261 | do | Rutland | 23,950 | 24 |
| 297 | Door | Claybanks | 8,095 | 8 |
| 310 | Douglas | Bennett. | 9, 267 | 9 |
| 323 | do. | Superior | 29,646 | 30 |
| 327 | Dunn | Eau Galle | 16, 028 | 16 |
| 329 | do | Grant | 12, 133 | 12 |
| 330 | do | Hay River | 10,969 | 11 |
| 344 | do | Tiffany | 11, 200 | 11 |
| 357 | Eau Claire | Union | 19,555 | 20 |
| 358 | do | W ashingtor | 23, 687 | 24 |
| 376 | Forest | Laona... | 47, 180 | 47 |
| 379 | ....do | Popple River | 8,715 | 9 |
| 389 | Fond du Lac | Empire..... | 18, 559 | 19 |
| 391 |  | Forest. | 15,500 | 16 |
| 401 | do | Taycheedah | 14,429 | 14 |
| 406 | Grant. | Cassville... | 15, 559 | 16 |
| 411. | do | Glen Haven. | 10,413 | 10 |
| 418 | do | Little Grant | 8,515 | 9 |
| 425 | do | Paris | 13,508 | 14 |
| 436 | Green | Adams. | 16,538 | 17 |
| 449 | do. | Sylvester | 17, 090 | 17 |
| 458 | Green Lake | Marquette | 11,855 | 12 |
| 464 | Iowa | Clyde | 13, 634 | 14 |
| 465 | do | Dodgeville | 36, 443 | 36 |
| 466 | do | Eden. | 8,583 | 9 |
| 468 |  | Linden | 17, 380 | 17 |
| 473 | do | Ridgeway | 19,318 | 19 |
| 493 | Jackson. | Franklin | 9,792 | 10 |
| 501 | do | Melrose | 14,301 | 14 |
| 510 | Jefferson. | Hebron | 13, 377 | 13 |
| 516. | do | Oakland. | 18, 332 | 18 |
| 522 | Juneau | Armenia | 13, 027 | 13 |
| 523 | do | Clearfield | 10, 751 | 11 |
| 525 | do | Finley ... | 7,749 | 8 |
| 530 |  | Lemonweir | 9,280 | 9 |
| 535 | --.-do | Necedah | 32,979 | 33 |
| \$44 | Kenosha | Pleasant Prairie | 71,446 | 71 |
| 552 | Kewaunee | Franklin. | 19,326 | 19 |
| 569 | La Crosse | W ashington | 5, 080 | 5 |

TABLE 6.-Expenditures of additional Wisconsin towns selected to complete final sample Continued

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Assigned } \\ & \text { serial } \\ & \text { No. } \end{aligned}$ | County | Town | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total net } \\ & \text { expenditures } \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Actual | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nearest } \\ & \$ 1,0000 \end{aligned}$ |
| 370 | Lafarette do .... | Argyle | 13, 293 | 13 |
| 5 |  | Benton. | 15, 991 | 17 |
|  | do | New Diggings | 19,876 | 211 |
| 5x | do.. | Wayne | 28,879 | 24 |
| (6)5 | Lincoln | 13 irch | 6, 811 | 7 |
| (4) 19 | do. | Harrison | 8, 464 | 8 |
| $615$ | do | Schley | 15, 411 | 1.5 |
| $f: 34$ | Manitowoc | Newton | 20. 017 | 24) |
|  | Marathon | Bern | 7,911 | $\stackrel{8}{4}$ |
| (ifis | do. | Ǩnuwiton | 14, 178 | 14 |
| 225 | Monroe | Cirant | 5, 6is8 | $1{ }^{1}$ |
| ith | Oconto | 13ayky | 5, 543 | 1 |
|  | do | Ifitle River | 26, 911 | 27 |
|  | do | Maple Valley | 18,592 | 14 |
| 784 | Onmida-- | Wonethoro | 9.105 | ! |
| 7418 | Outagamie | Kaukauma | 9. 102 | ? |
| 8199 | Ozarkee | Liberty... | 9,315 | 9 |
|  | Ozaukee - Pierce | Cration | 14.813 | 1.5 |
| 829 | P'ierce | Martell | 13,772 | 14 |
| 831 | do | River Falls | 24,738 | 25 |
| 8838 | P'olk. | Alden | 20,621 | 21 |
| $848$ | -.. do | Farmington. | 12. 050 | 12 |
| Stis | Pdo. | St. Croix Falls | 18, 340 | 1.5 |
| 894 | Price | Dewey | 10, fim | 11 |
| 898 | Racine | Dovicr | 7,209 14,540 | , |
| $\begin{aligned} & 914 \\ & 916 \end{aligned}$ | - . do | Orion. | 12, 737 | 13 |
|  | do | Richwood | 12,428 | 12 |
| 917 | do | Rockhridge | 16,460 | 16 |
| 929 | Rock | Johnstown | 14.628 |  |
| 931 | do | Lima | 20, 453 | 20 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 934 \\ & 947 \end{aligned}$ | do | Masnolia | 17, 6i15 | 17 |
|  | Rusk | Irant. | 17,602 | 18 |
| 957 | do. | Strickland | 11. 174 | 10 |
| 958 | do | Stublis. | 12, 911 | 1.3 |
| 959 | 10 | Thornapple | 17.21:3 | 17 |
| $917$ | st. roix | Covi. | 10, 1.30 | 15 |
| $971$ | do | Tros | $16,0 \pm t i$ | 16 |
| 986 | Sauk | Bataboo. | 23, 141 |  |
| 10991010 | - do | Washington | 25,910 | $3 i$ |
|  | Sawyer | Draper | 20, 464 | $21)$ |
| 1014 | dio | Hunter | 14, 1(1) | 14 |
| 1020 1028 | do | Ruturl Lake | 15, 577i | 1 if |
| 11128 | Shawano | Bartelme | 6, 6, 78 | 7 |
| 1140 | do. | Morris | 11, 307 | 11 |
| 1052 | Shehoygan | Holland | 35, 947 | $31 ;$ |
| 1106911756 | Taylor.. | Pershing | 8, 979 | 4 |
|  | do | Holway | 13, 654 | 11 |
| 1079 | do | Mrekinley | 10, 5017 |  |
| 1091 | Trempealeau | Chimney Rock | 14. 6445 | 15 |
|  | do | Hate | 24, 205 | 24 |
| 1095 | Vernon | Sterling | 22,397 | 22 |
| 112.5 | Vilas | Roulder Junction | 11. 9146 | 12 |
| 1128 | do | S1. (iermain | 8, 97\% 3 | $!$ |
| 1152 | Walworth | Whitewater. | 16,9,917 | 17 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1165 \\ & 116 i 6 \end{aligned}$ | Washburn | Lone Lake | 9,3.311 | 9 |
|  | do! | Madge | 7,025 | 7 |
| 1175 | Washingtor | Barton. | 11.880 | 12 |
| 1184 | do | Trenton. | 16, 893 | 17 |
| 12116. | Waupaca | I upant.. | 17,287 | 17 |
| 1218 | do. | Royalton. | 15,651 | 16 |
| 1220 | do | Scandinaria | 12,366 | 12 |
| 122.5 | W aushara | Aurora | 14,734 | 15 |
| 1241 |  | Warren | 11,469 | 11 |
| 1250 | Winnebago | Omro. | 20, 120 | $21)$ |
| 1277. | Wood... | Seneca | 8,965 | 9 |

It is now possible to say that in repoeated trials. randomly drawn samples of 200 towns will seldom yield means varying by more than 15.34 percent from 16.275 . It is practically certain, therefore, that the population mean lies between $16.275 \pm 3(0.832)$ or be1 ween 13.759 and 18.751.

The formulas which were applied in the calculation of the sampling error in total net expenditures are equally applicable to the determination of error in estimating any other statistics. Ordinarily the same sample should be used in estimating all data pertaining to the same class of governmental units for a given fiscal period. The dispersion of the various items may vary considerably, and consequently, as was previously emi-


Figute 2.- (ieographical Distrabution of Inithal ani) Final. Samples
phasized, the choice of sample size should be governed by the minimum reliability required in the estimation of the most widely dispersed of the statistics tabulated. This procedure will neeessarily result in a higher degree of reliability in certain items than might otherwise be required, but it is merertheless the only practicable way sampling ean be efficiently empleyed. If separate samples were to be used for different statistice the derical work involved woukd incerase and could casily divipate the satrings fhat would otherwise acertue throigh the lese of sampling procedures. It was not leasible in the present instance to present complete calculations for statisties other than total net expenditures. Table 9 has been included, however, to provide some indication of the relative stability of other important receipt and disbursement classifications.

The method of obtaining the results shown in talle! ! are as follows:

The mean $\left(M_{x}\right)$ of total net expenditures of the eron Wisconsin towns selected for the final sample wat found to be $\$ 16,27.5$. There were 1,273 towns in the class to

Table 7.-Frequency distribution of net expenditures of initial and final samples of Wisconsin towns taken from tubles is and fi

| Total net expenditures | $\begin{aligned} & \text { First } \\ & \text { fit } \\ & \text { fowns } \end{aligned}$ | Second 136 towns | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & 200 \\ & \text { towns } \end{aligned}$ | Total net expenditures | $\begin{gathered} \text { First } \\ \text { f4 } \\ \text { towns } \end{gathered}$ | Second 136 towns | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & \text { 2(N) } \\ & \text { fowns } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 \$1,000 |  |  |  | (21,000 |  |  |  |
| 3 | 1 |  | 1 | $21 . .$. |  | 2 | $\stackrel{2}{2}$ |
| 6. | 7 | 2 | 9 | 23... | 1 | 1 | $\stackrel{3}{2}$ |
| 7. | 3 | 7 | 10 | 24... | 3 | 3 | $1 i$ |
| 8 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 25 |  | 1 | । |
| 9 | 4 | 14 | 1s | 26. | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 10. | 5 | 4 | 9 | 27 |  | 1 | 1 |
| 11. | 3 | 4 | 12 | 28 | 1 |  | 1 |
| 12 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 29. |  | 3 | 3 |
| 13. | 2 | 8 | 10 | 30 |  | 2 | 2 |
| 14 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 33 |  | 1 | 1 |
| 15 | 1 | 7 | $\checkmark$ | 36 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 16 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 47 |  | 1 | 1 |
| 17 | 1 | $x$ | 4 | 50 | 1 |  | 1 |
| 1x | 1 | 5 | fi | is |  | 1 | 1 |
| 19 | 3 | 5 | * | 71 |  | 1 | 1 |
| $20 \ldots$ | 7 | 8 | 15 | 114.... | 1 |  | 1 |

Which the 200 yielding this mean expenditure belonged. The expanded figure representing the over-all expenditures of the group is $\$ 20,718,075$ and results from multiplying the mean, $\$ 16,275$ by the number of towns, 1,273. The dissimilarity of the seven Milwaukee County towns was noted at the outset and it was remarked that it would be necessary to obtain actual data for all of them. The total net expenditures of these towns as shown in column 4 of table 9 was $\$ 1,423,660$ which, added to the expanded figure for the 1,273 towns described above, provides a State total of $\$ 22,141,735$ as shown in column 5 . This latter amount

TABLE 8.-Computaiions required in the calculation of standard deviation and arithmetic mean from table 7 -Continued

was more than the known State total of $\$ 21,966,309$ by $\$ 175,426$ which facts are shown in columns 6 and 7 respectively. As shown in column 8 this is a relative error of +0.8 percent.

## SUMMARY

It is taken for granted that sampling would not ordinarily be undertaken where complete data are already available in the form desired. Consequently, in practical operations, it would be impossible to ascertain the actual error in expansions like those illustrated above. The only practical indices of error which can be derived are those predicated upon theories of probability. In the case of the present expansions complete data were available and it is, therefore, possible to compare the error which mathematical reasoning had indicated as a maximum which it was practically certain would not be exceeded, with the actual error which resulted.

In table 2 it was shown that the total net expenditures of Wisconsin towns for 1935 as developed from the reports of the entire 1,280 units amounted to $\$ 21,966,309$. In table 9 it is shown that the corresponding figure resulting from this particular sampling experiment was $\$ 22,141,735$. This difference of $\$ 175,426$ or approximately 0.8 percent was much less than the coefficient of variation calculated from the sample of 200 units. The careful interpretation of this difference is of utmost importance. With such a result as a precedent there might be a tendency to assume that too great conservatism had been injected into the procedure, and that in reality much smaller samples could be relied upon to yield satisfactory expansions. This would be an unfortunate attitude to cultivate, for it overlooks certain fundamentals of probability theory.

In random sampling the most unbiased method will occasionally produce the most biased selection possible, while conversely, the most biased of sampling methods will now and then yield a sample that would satisfy every test for freedom from bias. It is a question of the frequency of particular results when an infinite, or at least a very large number, of trials are made. Even when a theoretically unbiased sampling method is employed it should be evident that the exact error can neither be foretold, nor indeed measured at all, save by tabulating all of the data, which procedure would, of course, completely vitiate the whole sampling attempt. The important consideration is, or should be, the relative frequency with which a biased selection can be

Table 9.-Expansion of means obtained from sample of 200 Wisconsin towns together with a comparison of actual and relative errors resulting from the procedure

expected through the use of a given sampling procedure on the particular data a vailable. It should be obvious that the frequency theory is only important as it affects the chances of bias in the single selection which is ordinarily drawn. The actual error in a single selection may be any size whatever, and this fact must be recognized if erroneous conclusions are to be a woided. Theories of probability are helpful, however, even though hut one sample is drawn instead of an infinite number.

The problem may be likened to one of the betting odds against the occurrence of a certain event such as the toss of a coin yielding a head, or the rolling of a die producing a four. Assuming freedom from bias in each case the odds against a head in the toss of a coin would be even or $1: 1$, and against a four in the roll of a die $5: 1$. Similarly, the odds against the occurrence of errors larger than certain specified departures from actuality can be calculated for the present sampling inquiry in exactly the same fashion in which it is done for coin tossing and die rolling experiments. The data in table 10 have been arranged to demonstrate these relationships.

Thable 10.-Probability of occurrence of theoretical errors in statistics abstracted from sample of 200 Wisconsin towns in comparison with actual errors


The important conclusion to be obtained from this presentation is that the reliability of a sample cannot be improved by using less standard errors of the mean as a criterion for an acceptable sample. It is true that by being less conservative and permitting a choice of sample size to rest upon calculations using a single standard error of the mean, the resultant expansions will, apparently, be closer approximations of the actual totals. This improved accuracy is only apparent, however, since the odds against the error being of greater magnitude decrease with the number of standard errors used in determining the range. In the final analysis it is entirely a question of point of view; and a preference for one, two, or three standard errors of the mean is a matter of individual choice without substantial significance, providing it is understood that the probabilities are correspondingly altered and overoptimism is not engendered to the extent that too small a sample is selected.

## APPENDIX

The method suggested in this article of selecting a sample by means of "Tippett's Numbers" opens up a
field of inquiry that in itself is sufficiently extensive to require separate treatment. It is appropriate to discuss here a few of the reasons for the use of random sampling numbers.

By way of introduction it is pertinent to inquire exactly what is meant by a "random" sample. The statistical concept of randomness cannot be defined merely as the absence of design or purpose. It is not, as its name appears to suggest, the result of caprice. A definition sufficiently rigorous to satisfy the mathematician would fail in most respeets to appease the lay reader. If, as is usually true, a random sample is taken to mean an unbiased sample, then the concept of randomness must be approached through a consideration of sampling methods rather than irdividual samples. It is the method that is biased or unbiased rather than particular samples drawn by that method.

An unbiased method is merely one which, repeated a very large number of times (theoretically an infinite number), rarely produces a biased sample. It is clear that defined in this manner the question of whether methods are biased or unbiased largely depends upon the frequency theory of probability. If it can be established cither empirically or inductively that a given method of sampling produces a biased sample very infrequently, then by definition, such method may be termed a random method and samples produced through use of the method will be random samples. While all samples, as thus defined, will be random samples, they will by no means all be unbiased. The apparent inconsistency is not real since the definition for an unbiased method in nowise precludes the possibility of a biased drawing, but merely stipulates that such occurrences will be experienced relatively infrequently.

There is still another aspect of unbiased or random methods of selection that should be fully appreciated; and this is that a biased result may occur at any point in an infinite series of trials. There are no mathematical propositions upon which to base prognostications of the point at which a biased drawing will occur. It is important to remember this because in actual practice nothing approaching an infinite number of samples is drawn. In fact, usually but a single drawing is made and conclusions derived therefrom are attributed to the entire population from which the drawing was made.

A random sample, then, is one produced by a random method of selection. A random method is usually taken to mean an unbiased method, that is, a method which infrequently yields a biased result. A biased result, however, may as easily occur one time as another (including the first time) in an infinite number of trials, the exact incidence of occurrence being utterly unpredictable.

With meticulous regard for the foregoing distinctions, consideration may be given to the problem of drawing randomly. Stated in mathematical form, a random method is one in which every selection of $M$ objects from an original $N$ is equally probable. This is a task that is deceptive in its apparent simplicity. If rigorous mathematical treatment is adhered to, there are few statistical problems more difficult of practical accomplishment. It is clear that whatever other expedients are resorted to it will not suffice to leave the matter of selection to human discretion. This is true even when the individuals concerned are imbued with a conscious desire to avoid bias, are unaware of predis-
positions of any kind, and are above suspicion so far as intellectual honesty is concerned. The remarks of two leading English authoritics, Kendall and Smith, are worth quoting in this particular connection.

*     *         * House-to-house sampling, the sampling of crop yields, even ticket drawing have all been found to give results widely divergent from expectation. Apart from theoretical considerations, there is thus practical evidence to show that it is insufficient to define a random method as one free from purposive selection. The criterion of randomness in selection must be of a more objective kind.

For the purpose of the discussion we require, at this point, a notion of independence. For the present we take this concept to be undefined, merely noting that it may be expressed in terms of probability. With its aid we may define a random method of selection, applied to the characteristic $C$ of a Universe $I$, as a method which is independent of $C$ in $I$

It is important $t o$ notice that this definition of random selection relates to a particular characteristic which is under consideration. There is no such thing as a random method of selection per se, considered apart from the miverse whose members are heing selected. A method which would he random for one miverse is not necessarily random for another, and even within the same miverse a method which is random in respect of one characteristic is not necessarily random in respect of another.

This accords with general ideas on the subject. For example, a possible method of sampling inhabitants of a street is to take, say, every tenth house. This may give a random sumple, but if every tenth house is a corner honse, the sample may, or may not, lose its randomess. To decide this point, we shall have to consider the properties of the universe which are under investigation. If we were inquiring into the proportion of inhabitants with blue eyes, it might be sufficient to take the corner houses, on the assumption that the color of eyes was independent of geographical location. On the other hand, if we were sampling for income, the method might fail, since corner houses have, in general, higher rents and rates than others, and we should therefore expect to find them inhabitated by people with larger incomes.

A practical question of great importance which arises in this connection is: How are we to determine whether a given method is independent of a given characteristic? The answer is that we cannot determine it without doubt, for to do so would require a full knowledge of the universe; and this is almost always in practice denied us, for otherwise there woukl be no point in a sampling inquiry. The assumption of independence must therefore be made with more or less eonficlence on a priori prounds. It is part of the hypothesis on which our ultimate: expression of opinion is based.

Ample evidence to substantiate Kéndall and Smiths' recommendation against the use of so-called random methods of sampling involving the selection of every nth variate of an array has accumulated during the progress of the State-wide Highway Planning Surveys. To mention but one instance, the sampling of motorvehicle registrations by taking each license number ending in naught was found quite unsatisfactory. It is useless to speculate upon the reasons for the bias which occurred, but important to note that it did oceur in spite of a popular belief that the method was entirely adequate and practical.

Virtually the only situation in which the selection of every nith variate would fulfill the general requirements for an unbiased method would be where the variates were arrayed in random order at the outset. The sampling process would then consist merely in choosing the neressary number of variates, taking them in a block from any part of the array. This presupposes the existence of randomness in the arrayed order of the variates prior to selection, a condition seldom if ever satisfied. In fact the entire problem arises precisely because raw data as they are usually assembled are not randomly arrayed. Data tend to become what is termed "packaged" or grouped together in various

[^10]and sundry ways. Sometimes packaging in data is readily discovered merely by inspection, while at other times its detection is extremely difficult.

Granted that the method of drawing every nth variate lacks virtue, consideration may be given the alternative chiefly resorted to prior to the advent of random sampling numbers, that is, lottery devices. These methods involve the same initial step necessary in the case of sampling by random numbers, the superimposing of an additional and independent characteristic upon the members of the universe. This is accomplished by numbering the members in any convenient way. Tickets, cards, marbles, beads, capsules, and an infinitude of similar media are numbered to correspond and placed in a varicty of contrivances that supposedly effect thorough shuffing. Practical experiments, however, have demonstrated that it is impossible to mix balls or shuffle cards sufficiently to effect randomess in their arrangement. Speaking of this problem Karl Pearson of the University of London says,

*     *         * The dice of commerce are always loaded, however imperceptibly. The records of whist, even those of long experienced players, show how the shuffling is far from perfect, and to get theoretically correct whist returns we must deal the cards without playing them. In short, tickets and cards, balls and beads fail in Iarge scale random sampling tests; it is as difficult to get artificially true random samples as it is to sample effectively a cargo of coal or of barley. ${ }^{2}$

It is evident that what is needed is an unbiased method of sampling that will overcome the deficiencies of the alternative methods that have been discussed. A method is needed that will overcome the theoretical objections surrounding the taking of every nth variate of an array, and at the same time one that will avoid the practical difficulties involved in devising and operating an adequate shoffling mechanism for the randomizing of tickets, capsules, beads, ete. Fortunately, both objectives may be accomplished by the use of random sampling numbers.

Random sampling numbers are tables of numbers, the digits of which have been selected by unbiased methods. Presumably they represent a random set of possible ordinals. Until recently, relatively few tables have been offered, but a number of methods of producing satisfactory sets have been devised, including some very refined processes. There are a number of technical requirements to be satisfied in constructing a set of numbers, and there is still a measure of disagreement among students as to the necessary and sufficient tests that must be applied. The fact that no set of numbers has received the unqualified endorsement of all investigators is a circumstance of little consequence insofar as the present use of certain of these tables is concerned. The numbers of Tippett, Kendall and Smith, and possibly others, are entirely satisfactory.
One of the conditions to be satisfied by a set of random sampling numbers is "local randomness". The concept of local randomness arises from the necessity of distinguishing between a random table of numbers and a table of random numbers. Any set of numbers are random in the sense that they could have resulted from a random selection. A set of one million zeros might even have been produced by an unbiased method. Subsets of numbers drawn from such tables would not necessarily, in fact almost certainly would not, be
(Continued on page 212)

[^11] No. XV, Tracts for Computers. Cambridge University Press, London, 1927

# EFFECT OF GLASSY SLAG ON THE STABILITY AND RESISTANCE TO FILM STRIPPING OF BITUMINOUS PAVING MIXTURES 

REPORTED BY THE DIVISION OF TESTS, PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION

TTHERE appeas to be a considerable difference of opinion in the various States that use blast-furnace slag as a road-building material as to the amount of restrietion that should be placed on the pereentage of glassy particles in slag aggregates for hitmmons paving mixtures. This difference of opinion is rexfleeted in the specification requirements of the states concemed. Beveral states that use slag place mo restriction whatsocver on the amount of glassy material. Others allow various maximum percentages from 20 percent in some cases down to 10 percent in others. A third group of States words its specifications in such a way as virtually to prohibit the inclusion of any appreciable pereentage of glassy particles.
As generally understood. glassy particles are those that hy visual inspection appear to be composed of more than 50 percent of glassy material. They are characterized by a vitreous to waxy luster and are therefore easily distinguished from the rough-textured cellular material that usually comprises the major portion of blast-furnace slags. Glassy particles have been considered detrimental hecause it was feared that their smonth surface texture would impair the stability of bituminous mixtures and that the bituminous film would not adhere to them in the presence of water.
The investigation which is the subject of this report was undertaken to determine whe ther the stability and resistance to film stripping of bituminous paving mixtures prepared from shag aggregates were affected materially by the glases-particle content of the slag.
The seven samples of slage used in the investigation were fumbished by the Natiomal slag Association and were obtained foom representative plants in Ohios. Pemestrania, and Now York. They were normal mat terials for the plants that produced them and white not neeessarily representative of shag aggregates for the entire country, they were typical of material produced in the areas from which they came. Samples 1 to 6 were composed of rarious proportions of glassy and nonglassy particles all retained on the No. 4 sieve. The percentage of glassy particles in each was determined by hand sorting the entire samples and weighing the glassy and nonglassy fractions. The fractions were then stored in separate containers and used either separately or recombined in definite proportions for the various tests to be described. Sample 7 was a slag sand
In the various states that use blast-furnace slag as a
road-building material, there appears to be considerable
difference of opinion as to the amount of restriction
that should be placed on the percentage of glassy par-
ticles in slag aggregates for bituminous paving mixtures.
Gilassy particles have been considered detrimental
because it was feared that their smooth surface texture
would impair the stability of bituminous mixtures and
that the bituminous film would not adhere to them in
the presence of water.
From an investigation to determine whether the
stability and resistance to film stripping of bituminous
paving mixtures prepared from slag aggregates were
affected materially by the glassy-particle content of
the slag, it was concluded:

1. The susceptibility to film stripping of the mixtures
containing the six slags that were tested was not
affected materially by variations in the content of
glassy particles.
2. For bituminous mixtures containing 0,15 , and 30
percent of glassy particles in the fraction retained on
the No. 4 sieve, the percentage of glassy material did
not have a significant effect on stability.
3. The tests furnish no indication that specification
requirements placing drastic limitations on the glassy-
particle content of slag aggregates for bituminous
concrete are necessary.
sized to pass the No. 8 sieve. No attempt was made to determine its glassy-particle content. It was used as the fine aggregate in preparing all the mixtures for the stability tests but was not used in the mixtures for the film-stripping lest since theser mixtures eontained only material pasising the $\frac{3}{8}$-inch sieve and retaimedon the No. 4 sieve.

The pereentages of glassy particles contamed in plant samples 1 to 6 inclusive as detemmed in the Public Roads lahoratory, were as follows:

| Slag No.: | Qlassy particles, <br> percent |
| :---: | :---: |
| $1 \ldots \ldots$ | 22 |
| $2 \ldots$ | 22 |
| $3 \ldots$ | 17 |
| $4 \ldots$ | 21 |
| $\ldots \ldots$ | 22 |
| $\ldots \ldots$ |  |

FILM-STRIPPING TESTS MADE on individual fractions ANi) ON BLENDS
From earh of the six slags listed above, three classes of bituminous mixtures were prepared for the film-stripping test. The first eontained only the nonglassy fraction; the second contained the same proportions of nonglassy and glassy particles as were found in the plant samples; and the third contained only glassy particles. A complete series of mixtures was made with each of four hituminous materials, mamely, RC-3 cut-back asphat, 85-100 penctration asphalt, and road tars RT- 6 and RT 9. All the mixtures contained is percent by weight of bituminous: material and 95 pereent by weight of aggregate. The aggregates were sized to pass the $3 / 8$-inch sieve and be retained on the No. 4 sieve. All the mixtures were oven-cured for 24 hours at a temperature of $140^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. before testing.

The stripping test was made in an apparatus similar to that deseribed by Vietor Nicholson in the Proceedings of the Association of Asphatt Paving Techologists, January 1932, page 43.' ('ertain modifications of the described machine were made such as the installation of an eleetric heater and thermostat in the bath and the provision of a variable-speed motor and odometer to permit rariation of the number of turns obtained duriner the 60 -minute normal test period. The rate of rotation used in these tests was 4is revolutions per minute.

The amount of stripping was recorded at $1.5-\mathrm{min} 4 \mathrm{t}$ intervals during the f00-minute test period. The test temperatures were: For the first lwo 15 -minute periods, $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for the thind is minutes. $100^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. and for the

[^12]fourth and final 15 minutes, $120^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. The degree of stripping at each time of observation was recorded as follows:
\[

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{N}=\text { no stripping; } \\
& \mathrm{VS}=\text { very slight stripping (minute breaks show- } \\
& \text { ing in film); } \\
& \mathrm{S}=\text { slight stripping (dots of bare stone showing); } \\
& \mathrm{B}=\text { bad stripping ( } 1 / 4 \text { of the aggregate surface } \\
& \text { exposed); and } \\
& \mathrm{VB}=\text { very bad stripping (more than } 1 / 4 \text { of aggre- } \\
& \text { gate surface exposed). }
\end{aligned}
$$
\]

In order to facilitate comparison of the behavior of the various test mixtures, two methods of assigning numerical ratings based on the test results were devised. In both methods the numerical values, 100,90 , 70,40 , and 0 were assigned to the five degrees of strip-ping- $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{VS}, \mathrm{S}, \mathrm{B}$, and VB, respectively.

In the first method of rating (see table 1) the observed condition of the samples after 30 minutes of rotation at $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. was taken as the criterion of behavior and the numerical value previously assigned to the degree of stripping observed was used as the rating index.

In the second method (see table 2) the numerical values corresponding to the various degrees of stripping observed at the four stages of the test were averaged to give a rating index. By either method, the best possible rating would be 100 corresponding, in the first, to "no stripping" after 30 minutes rotation at $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. and, in the second, to "no stripping" after 15, 30, 45, and 60 minutes while the temperatures at the respective observation times were $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$., $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$., $100^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. and $120^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.

The results of the stripping tests on the entire series of mixtures using the first method of rating, as shown in table 1, indicate that the type and consistency of the bituminous material affected the amount of stripping

Table 1.-Results of stripping tests for one test condition ${ }^{1}$ (rating method 1)


[^13]Table 2.-Results of stripping tests for four test conditions ${ }^{1}$ (rating method 2)

| Slag No. | Glassyparticle content | Rating in the stripping test for slag aggregates mixed with- |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | RC-3 | $85-100$ <br> penetration asphalt | RT-6 | RT-9 | Average <br> ot all tests |
| 1. | 0 | 58 | 78 | 28 | 60 |  |
| 2 | 0 | 58 | 78 | 28 | 33 |  |
| 3 | 0 | 50 | 50 | 0 | 33 | 47 |
| 4 | 0 | 60 | 50 | 0 | 33 | 47 |
| 5. | 0 | 73 | 68 | 28 | 50 |  |
| 6. | 9 | 68 | 73 | 33 | 33 |  |
| A verage |  | 61 | 66 | 20 | 40 |  |
| 1 | 22 | 58 | 85 | 63 | 28 |  |
| 2 | 22 | 78 | 85 | 50 | 28 |  |
| 3 | 17 | 63 | 63 | 50 | 28 | 55 |
| 4 | 21 | 63 | 73 | 20 | 28 | 55 |
| 5 | 22 | 63 | 85 | 45 | 43 |  |
| 6. | 25 | 58 | 85 | 45 | 43 |  |
| Average |  | 64 | 79 | 46 | 33 | -------- |
| 1. | 100 | 50 | 78 | 20 | 28 |  |
| 2. | 100 | 50 | 78 | 28 | 28 |  |
| 3 | 100 | 40 | 63 | 10 | 28 | 41 |
| 4 | 100 | 50 | 63 | 0 | 28 | 41 |
| 5. | 100 | 63 | 73 | 0 | 43 |  |
| 6. | 100 | 63 | 78 | 0 | 28 |  |
| A verage |  | 53 | 72 | 10 | 31 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

${ }^{1}$ Condition observed at 15 -minute intervals while test temperature is $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for 30 minutes, $100^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for 15 minutes, and $120^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for 15 minutes.
to a much greater extent than did the variations in the glassy-particle content of the slag aggregate. In fact, no consistent and significant difference in the resistance to stripping appeared to result from the complete exclusion of glassy particles or the inclusion of 100 percent glassy particles in the mixtures with any of the bituminous materials. The most startling result of the tests was the fact that, in 22 out of 24 sets of samples where the only variable considered within the set was the glassy-particle content, the mixtures containing blends of glassy and nonglassy particles showed resistance to stripping equal to or greater than that shown by the mixtures containing all nonglassy particles; and that in 20 out of 24 cases, the mixtures containing all glassy particles resisted stripping as well as, or slightly better than those containing all nonglassy particles.

The ratings obtained by method 2 , as shown in table 2 , are generally similar in the group relationships to those of table 1, although the numerical values are nearly all lower. It should be realized that the ratings in both tables are based on visual estimates of the extent of the stripping. Thus, they are, at best, only approximately quantitative and for that reason, slight differences in the ratings of individual samples should not be given too much consideration. However, the test results by groups of samples show a fair degree of consistency and, from these group relationships, it is concluded that the percentage of glassy particles in the slag aggregate has no important influence on stripping.

Stability Tests made on mixtures containing $0,7.5$, and 15 PERCENT GLASSY PARTICLES

Both roller stability and Stanton-Hveem stability tests were made on a series of slag-asphalt concrete mixtures containing one $50-60$ penetration asphalt and three different proportions of glassy and nonglassy particles. All six slags were brought to the following grading and 7.5 percent by weight of asphalt and 92.5 percent by weight of aggregate were used in all the mixtures.

| Sieve size: | Total amount Passing percent |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1/2-inch | 100 |
| 3/8-inch | 92 |
| No. 4 | 50 |
| No. 8 | 42 |

For all the mixtures, the material passing the No. 4 sieve and retained on the No. 8 sieve was obtained by crushing and sieving a part of the nonglassy material from the appropriate plant sample. In all cases, the fraction passing the No. 8 sieve consisted of a portion of slag sand, sample No. 7. As shown above, the sum of these two fractions, or the total amount passing the No. 4 sieve, comprised 50 percent of the aggregate in rach test mixture.

Variations were made in the glassy-particle content of the 50 percent of the aggregate retained on the No. 4 sieve. In one set of six mixtures (one from each slag sample) no glassy particles were included in the fraction retained on the No. 4 sieve. In the next set, 15 percent of the material retained on the No. 4 sieve, or 7.5 percent of the total aggregate, consisted of glassy particles. In the third set, 30 percent of the coarse fraction or 15 percent of the total aggregate was glassy.
One $21 / 2$ - by 4 - by 8 -inch specimen was prepared from each mixture and tested in the Public Roads roller stability machine. ${ }^{2}$ Each specimen was compacted to develop the same aggregate density in the bituminous mixture as that obtained by vibrating the dry aggregate. ${ }^{3}$ The compacted unit weights of the mixtures in grams per cubic centimeter and the roller stability values obtained on them are given in table 3 .

The roller stability test is a simulated small-scale traffic test in which a series of small steel rollers are passed over the specimen, which is immersed in water maintained at the test temperature of $140^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. The measure of stability is taken as the number of roller passages required to produce an elongation in the specimen of 0.3 inch.

After the specimens had been tested in the roller stability machine, they were broken up and a portion of each was molded into a cylindrical specimen 4 inches in diameter by $2 \frac{1}{2}$ inches high for the Stanton-Hveem stability test. These specimens were molded under direct compression of 3,000 pounds per square inch by the double-plunger method. They were tested at a temperature of $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. The results of the StantonHveem stability tests are given in table 4 and are shown graphically in figure 1 .

Table 3.-Results of roller stability tests on slag-asphaltic concrete

| Slag N | Unit weight of test specimen |  |  | Roller stability at $110^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 0 percent glassy | 7.5 percent glassy | 15 percent glassy | 0 percent glassy | 7.5 percent glassy | 15 percent glassy |
| $\begin{aligned} & 1 \\ & 2 \\ & 3 \\ & 4 \\ & 5 \\ & 6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} G m . \\ p e r \\ C . C \\ 2.21 \\ 2.22 \\ 2.33 \\ 2.21 \\ 2.23 \\ 2.19 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Gm. } \\ \text { per } \\ \text { C. } . C . \\ 2.23 \\ 2.24 \\ 2.34 \\ 2.23 \\ 2.24 \\ 2.21 \end{gathered}$ | G $m$. per C. $C$. 2.26 2.27 2.34 2.24 2.24 2.22 | $\begin{aligned} & 15 \\ & 25 \\ & 55 \\ & 22 \\ & 25 \\ & 25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24 \\ & 25 \\ & 51 \\ & 24 \\ & 33 \\ & 25 \end{aligned}$ | 20 19 27 14 28 21 |
| A verage | 2. 23 | 2. 25 | 2. 26 | 28 | 30 | 22 |

[^14]

Figure 1.-Maximum, Minimum, and Average StantonHveem Stability Curves for the 18 Test Mixtures of Table 4.
This stability test is a direct compression test in which a measurement is made of the lateral pressure generated in a cylindrical test specimen by the axial load. High lateral pressure for a given load indicates relatively low stability while low lateral pressure for the same axial load indicates relatively high stability.

Neither the roller nor the Stanton-Hveem test results indicated that the stability of this group of mixtures

Table 4.-Results of Stanton-Hveem stability tests on slagasphaltic concrete


[^15]was materially aflected by the glassy-particle content of the slag aggregate. Considering individual slag samples, the roller stability test indicated that the mixtures containing 7.5 percent glassy particles might be slightly more stable than those containing 15 percent (see table 3). However, in two cases, the mixtures containing no glassy particles appeared to be slightly less stable than either of the mixtures containing glassy fractions and there were only two cases in which the nonglassy mixtures showed even slight superiority over both the corresponding glassy mixtures.

The Stanton-Hveem tests were quite consistent in showing a slight advantage for the all nonglassy mixtures over those containing 7.5 percent of glassy material and essentially the same advantage for the 7.5 percent mixtures over those containing 1.5 percent glassy material. These slight differences are not believed to be particularly significant since, without
exception, the stability values for all 18 mixtures, whether obtained by the roller or Stanton-Hreem method, are well within the range considered necessary to assure satisfactory resistance to displacement under traffic.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. The susceptibility to film stripping of the mixtures containing the six slags that were tested was not affected materially by variations in the content of glassy particles.
2. For bituminous mixtures containing 0,15 , and 30 percent of glassy particles in the fraction retained on the No. 4 sieve, the percentage of glassy material did not have a significant effect on stability.
3. The tests described furnish no indication that specification requirements placing drastic limitations on the glassy-particle content of slag aggregates for bituminous concrete are necessary.

## (Continued from page 208)

random. Hence, a table of numbers from which randomly arrayed subsets may be drawn is designated "locally random".
The subject of local randomness cannot receive a full exposition here but some discussion of its fundamental importance in a set of random sampling numbers is believed to be desirable. The remarks of Kendall and Smith relative to tests for local randomness are worthy of quotation.

For practical purposes in deciding whether a given set is locally random, we have found that the following four tests are useful and searching. They are, however, not sufficient to establish the existence of local randomness, although they are necessary.
a. The first and most obvious test to be applied is that all the digits shall occur an approximately equal number of times. This test we call the frequency test;
b. Secondly, if the series is locally random, no digit shall tend to be followed by any other digit. If therefore we form a bivariate table showing the distribution of pairs of digits in the series, arranged in the rows according to the first digit, and in the columns according to the sccond digit, we should get frequencies which are approximately equal in all the cells. This test we refer to as the serial test;
c. Thirdly, if the digits are arranged in blocks of, say, five, there will be certain expectation of the numbers in which the five digits are all the same, the numbers in which there are four of one kind, and so on. This test we refer to as the poker test, from an analogy with the card game;
d. Finally, there are certain expectations in regard to the gaps occurring between the same digits in the series. For instance, if we take one digit, say, zero, in about one-tenth of the cases the first zero will be followed immediately by a second zero, and there will be no gap. In about nine-hundredths of the cases there will be one digit between two zeros. In about cighty-one thousandths of the cases there will be a gap of two digits between successive zeros, and so on. This we call the gap test.

These four tests taken together are very powerful. It is comparatively easy to form series that evade the first three. For example, the recurring series, $0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8$, 9 , evades the frequency test, the series $1-2-3-4-$, etc., evades the frequency test, and the serial test if the dashes are filled with random digits. We have, however, not succeeded in constructing a series which would certainly evade the gap test. Such a series would, it appears, have to have a very peculiar bias indeed, such as would hardly ever rise in practice.

The gap test may be extended. Not only will there be an expectation of the frequency of the gaps, but there will also be an expectation of the gaps between gaps of the same kind; these in turn will have expected gaps between them, and so on. There is thus an infinite sequence of the gap tests no one of which includes the others. All these tests are necessary for local randomness, though we have not established their sufficiency. It appears, therefore, that there is no finite set of tests of this

[^16]character which is sufficient to demonstrate the local randomness of all finite sets of numbers. ${ }^{3}$

There remains to be mentioned the manner of using a set of random numbers in drawing a sample. If the topics just discussed are kept in mind, the use of a table of random numbers is extremely simple and straightforward. As already indicated, the first step is to number the members of the universe being sampled in any convenient order. Then, recalling that the digits of a proper set of random numbers are locally random, it is seen that all that is required is the choice of some pattern for selecting subsets of the proper number of digits each of which will constitute the sample to be drawn from the universe in question.

Naturally, to maintain theoretical validity the pattern chosen to select subsets should be followed consistently until a sufficient number of ordinals are obtained or until the possibilities of this pattern are exhausted. Most sets are arranged in columns of four or five digit numbers. Assuming the set being used to be that of Tippett which contains columns of four digit numbers, the selection of a 10 percent sample, for example, from a universe of 1,000 variates becomes a matter merely of selecting, starting at any point and not retracing, the first 100 numbers less than 1,000 which appear. This will be taken as following an unbiased method of selection. Any other method of putting digits together vertically or horizontally, forwards or backwards to make numbers of the desired size will be equally satisfactory, providing only that the pattern of selecting subsets once chosen is followed consistently.

## HIGHWAY RESEARCH BOARD MEETS IN BALTIMORE DECEMBER 2-5, 1941

Changing a custom of twenty years' standing on account of the need for conserving Washington facilities for urgent defense needs, the Highway Research Board amonnces that its Twenty-fisrt Annual Meeting will be held at The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, the first week of December 1941.

On Tuesday, December 2 several Departments of the Board will hold open meetings for the consideration of papers and reports.
Sessions of the Board for the discussion of topics relating to highway finance, economics, desion, materials, construction, maintenance, traffic, and soils investigations will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 3-5.



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Report of the Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, 1932. 5 cents.
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## HOUSE DOCUMENT NO. 462

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The Taxation of Motor Vehicles in 1932. 35 cents.
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An Economic and Statistical Analysis of Highway-Construction Expenditures. 15 cents.
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Specifications for Construction of Roads and Bridges in National Forests and National Parks. 1 dollar.

## DEPARTMENT BULLETINS

No. 1279D . . Rural Highway Mileage, Income, and Expenditures, 1921 and 1922. 15 cents.
No. 1486D . . Highway Bridge Location. 15 cents.

## TECHNICAL BULLETINS

No. 55T
Highway Bridge Surveys. 20 cents.
No. 265T. . Electrical Equipment on Movable Bridges. 35 cents.

Single copies of the following publications may be obtained from the Public Roads Administration upon request. They cannot be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents.

## MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

No. 296MP. . Bibliography on Highway Safety.
House Document No. 272 . . . Toll Roads and Free Roads. Indexes to PUBLIC ROADS, volumes 6-8 and 10-21, inclusive.

SEPARATE REPRINT FROM THE YEARBOOK
No. 1036Y Road Work on Farm Outlets Needs Skill and Right Equipment.

## TRANSPORTATION SURVEY REPORTS

Report of a Survey of Transportation on the State Highway System of Ohio (1927).
Report of a Survey of Transportation on the State Highways of Vermont (1927).
Report of a Survey of Transportation on the State Highways of New Hampshire (1927).
Report of a Plan of Highway Improvement in the Regional Area of Cleveland, Ohio (1928).
Report of a Survey of Transportation on the State Highways of Pennsylvania (1928).
Report of a Survey of Traffic on the Federal-Aid Highway Systems of Eleven Western States (1930).

## UNIFORM VEHICLE CODE

Act I.- Uniform Motor Vehicle Administration, Registration, Certificate of Title, and Antitheft Act.
Act II.-Uniform Motor Vehicle Operators' and Chauffeurs' License Act.
Act III.- Uniform Motor Vehicle Civil Liability Act.
Act IV.-Uniform Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act.
Act V.-Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways.
Model Traffic Ordinances.

A complete list of the publications of the Public Roads Administration, classified according to subject and including the more important articles in PUBLIC ROADS, may be obtained upon request addressed to Public Roads Administration, Willard Bldg., Washington, D. C.




[^0]:    A SECTION OF US 195 NEAR SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ North Carolina County Road and Finance Survey, PUBLIC ROADS, vol. 11, No. 12, February 1931. (Report of a cooperative investigation by the North Carolina State Highway Commission, the North Carolina State Tax Commission, and the United States Bureau of Public Roads.)
    2 A Survey of Highway Transportation in Michigan, PUBLIC ROADS, vol. 13,
    No. 12, February 1933 . No. 12, February 1933.
    The Michigan Financial Survey, PUBLIC ROADS, vol. 14, No. 4, June 1933.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ The five counties of Rhode Island do not exist as taxing jurisdictions, while the counties in Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Vermont, and West Virginia perform no highway functions. Only three rcad programs are of extremely minor character, with the possible exception of Allegheny County. None of these States has been included, therefore, in this figure.

[^3]:    ${ }^{4}$ The townships of Indiana and Michigan for all practical purposes may be considered to have no road functions.
    SThe studies at Madison, Wisconsin, reported here were under the sponsorship of
    Dr. H. R. Trumbower, Senior Agricultural Transporat Dr. H. R. Trumbower, Senior Agricultural Transporation Economist, and were made in connection with the cooperative agreement between the University of

[^4]:    'A "town" in Wisconsin is an unincorporated rural unit of government and should not be confused with so-called towns which are in reality incorporated villages or not
    cities.

[^5]:    ${ }^{7}$ L. H. C. Tippett, Random Sampling Numbers, No. XV, Tracts for Computers, Edited by Karl Pearson, Cambridge University Press, London, 1927.

[^6]:    ${ }^{1}$ From Wisconsin State-wide Highway Planning Survey, basic analysis form, line 37.

[^7]:    ${ }^{8}$ The seven Milwaukee County towns were numbered in regular order although they could have as easily been skipped inasmuch as they were not subjected to sampling for reasons outlined above.

[^8]:    - Presuming an infinite number of trials the variation would in the limit be greater only three times in a thousand.
    10 Observe a literal construction of "practically certain" as opposed, for example, to absolutely certain. Practically certain as here used does not imply the impossibility of an adverse result; it merely is indicative of the relatively infrequent occurrence of such events.

[^9]:    11 This is a purely abstract assumption and could as well have been any other
    percentage.

[^10]:    1. M. G. Kendall and B. Babington Smith, Juurnal of the Royal Statistical Society, (1). 101, p). 151, 152.
[^11]:    ${ }^{2}$ Karl Pearson, in foreword to Random Sampling Numbers, by L. H. C. Tippett

[^12]:    : See also Renurt of Committee on Characteristics of Asphalts, by F F Kelles Chairman. Yroceedings of The Eighway Rescarch Board, 1937, pp. 329 to 333.

[^13]:    Test condition: Temperature, $77^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.; time of rotation, 30 minutes.

[^14]:    ${ }^{2}$ Apparatusand method of test described by E. L. Tarwater in PUBLIC ROADS, Scptember 1935, p. 134.
    sicpparatusand method of test described by J. T. Paulsand J. F. Goode in PU B. LIC ROADS, May 1939, p. 55.

[^15]:    I Most stable of the 18 mixtures.
    2 Least stable of the 18 mixtures.

[^16]:    ${ }^{3}$ M. G. Kendall and B. Babington Smith, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society vol. 101, pe, 154, 155.

