On Survey Sample Designs for Consumer Price Indexes

A. H. Dorfman, S. Leaver, J. Lent, and E. Wegman

Using scanner data of prices and quantities of cereal purchases, we construct several populations having known consumer price indexes. Then, through simulation, we compare the degree to which accurate estimation of the population targets is achieved by a variety of commonly used sampling methods and different index estimators. Of particular interest is the comparison of probability and judgmental approaches to sampling.