

Homework Solutions

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Exercise 50

- (a) If the population is all people who called the help line, then this is a simple random sample. If the population is all cocaine users or if it is all workers, then the best you can say is that this is a very poorly designed survey because there is very significant selection bias present.
- (b) I think the sampled population was all people who called the help line, although the researchers might think their population is all workers or all cocaine users.
- (c) No. First, the headline indicates that the number is increasing, but the survey did not compare the current numbers to past numbers. Second, they did not survey workers; they surveyed only people who called the help line (who were presumably cocaine users), so there is no way to tell from the data whether the other workers are using cocaine at work.