

## Lean Six Sigma Module 1 Revision Answers

### 1. Sample Sizes

1. What sample size is required to estimate the mean queue time to within +/-0.1m? Standard deviation = 3.4m.

$$n = \left( \frac{2s}{\Delta} \right)^2$$

$$n = \left( \frac{2 \times 3.4}{0.1} \right)^2 = 4624$$

2. What is the sample size for mortgage processing times given a standard deviation of 23 minutes and a requirement to be accurate to +/- 5 minutes.

$$n = \left( \frac{2s}{\Delta} \right)^2$$

$$n = \left( \frac{2 \times 23}{5} \right)^2 = 85$$

3. What is the sample size required to establish if people prefer TV3 to TV1? We want the answer to be accurate to +/-3%. Assume that, historically, the two stations have been equally popular.

$$n = \left( \frac{2}{\Delta} \right)^2 p(1 - p)$$

$$n = \left( \frac{2}{0.03} \right)^2 0.5(1 - 0.5) = 1111$$

4. What is the sample size required to estimate the number of people who prefer branch banking to online banking to an accuracy of +/- 5%? This has historically been 10%.

$$n = \left( \frac{2}{\Delta} \right)^2 p(1 - p)$$

$$n = \left( \frac{2}{0.05} \right)^2 0.1(1 - 0.1) = 144$$

## 2. Baseline calculations

Baseline the following situations to find the sigma level and DPMO (assume a long term drift of 1.5 sigma when converting short term sigma to long term sigma and vice versa):

1. A process has 7 steps with the following first time yields in the long term:

70%, 85%, 90%, 99%, 80%, 95%, 95%

$$Y_{RT} = 0.70 \times 0.85 \times 0.90 \times 0.99 \times 0.80 \times 0.95 \times 0.95 = 0.383 \text{ (or 38.3\%)}$$

$$DPU = 1 - 0.383$$

$$DPMO = \frac{DPU \times 1000000}{\text{opportunities for a defect}} = \frac{0.617 \times 1000000}{7} = 88143$$

From DPMO tables: Sigma Level ( $Z_{ST}$ ) = 2.85

Note: This is the simple method. Another method would be to use Normalised Average Yield in the estimation of the probability of a defect (advanced subject).

2. Long term unacceptable lead times for resolving transaction disputes = 959 out of 1000 analysed. There are 5 process steps.

$$DPU = \frac{959}{1000} = 0.959$$

$$DPMO = \frac{DPU \times 1000000}{\text{opportunities for a defect}} = \frac{0.959 \times 1000000}{5} = 191800$$

From DPMO tables: Sigma Level ( $Z_{ST}$ ) = 2.37

3. The office temperature has a mean of 20.2 degrees and a standard deviation of 1.5 degrees measured over 365 days (normal distribution). The specification range is 20 degrees +/- 2.7 degrees.

$$Z_{(upper)} = \frac{22.7 - 20.2}{1.5} = 1.66\dot{6}$$

$$Z_{(lower)} = \frac{20.2 - 17.3}{1.5} = 1.93\dot{3}$$

*From Standard Normal Distribution tables:*

$$p_{(upper)} = 0.0475$$

$$p_{(lower)} = 0.0268$$

$$p_{(total)} = 0.0475 + 0.0268 = 0.0743$$

*Reverse look up in Standard Normal Distribution tables:*

$$Z = 1.44 \text{ (as this is long term data this is } Z_{LT})$$

*As the Sigma Level =  $Z_{ST}$  then we need to add the shift of 1.5 sigma:*

$$Z_{ST} = 1.44 + 1.5 = 2.95$$

4. A 12 stage process creates an average of 12 defects for every 150 items processed over a period of 2 years.

$$DPU = \frac{12}{150} = 0.08$$

$$DPMO = \frac{DPU \times 1000000}{\text{opportunities for a defect}} = \frac{0.08 \times 1000000}{12} = 6667$$

*From DPMO tables: Sigma Level ( $Z_{ST}$ ) = 3.97*

5. A process measured over a year has a DPU of 0.11. The following is a description of the process scope:

1. Inspect incoming documents
2. Enter customer details in the database
3. Update customer credit rating
4. Check for errors
5. Call customer with response

*There are 3 opportunities for a defect: Steps 2,3 and 5*

$$DPMO = \frac{DPU \times 1000000}{\text{opportunities for a defect}} = \frac{0.11 \times 1000000}{3} = 36667$$

*From DPMO tables: Sigma Level ( $Z_{ST}$ ) = 3.29*