

**Confidence in Population Estimates from sampling  
Based upon 1995 Test Census**

Chart CA 2.1  
Oakland, CA

SAMPLE FOR A SMALL BLOCK  
Base Population 100  
Standard error 14  
S.E. as % of base pop. 14

For each population estimate, the Bureau calculates the standard error as a measure of the sampling error. The range of how much the estimate may vary from the census count depends upon the confidence level desired. That is, the true census count is, with 95% certainty, between 72 and 128, or plus/minus 28%. The range of "true" populations, as a %, will decrease with the increased size of the population estimate.

