

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

Chart CA 2.3
Oakland, CA

SAMPLE FOR A MID-SIZED CITY
Base Population 100000
Standard error 1956
S.E. as % of base pop. 1.956

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 96088 and 103912, or plus/minus 3.9%. The range of "true" populations, as a %, will decrease with the increased size of the population estimate.

