

UTILITY ANALYSIS SAMPLE SIZE

The O/A must use an appropriate sample size to perform a statistically accurate utility analysis. Multifamily Housing requested assistance from HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) to determine the appropriate sample size. To support this study, utility analyses were obtained from properties in California, Florida, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, and Washington, DC. PD&R's research, which used a 12 percent margin of error and a 95 percent confidence interval, resulted in the sample size rule and formula below.

This formula has been built into the utility allowance submission template mentioned earlier and Figure 1 below shows how it translates based on the number of units per bedroom size.

Figure 1

Number of Units *	Minimum Sample
1-20	All
21-61	20
62-71	21
72-83	22
84-99	23
100-120	24
121-149	25
150-191	26
192-259	27
260-388	28
389 and above	29

*Per bedroom size. If the property consists of multiple non-identical buildings (the buildings are not substantially similar), then the sampling must be performed for each bedroom size for each building on the site.