Session 6, Activity 1

Assessment Vignette

Eduland decided to implement a large-scale assessment in two regions, Region 1 and Region 2. Each region has a regional office of the Ministry of Education in charge of the assessment. The national curriculum was used by each region to develop its own test. Region 1 had an exhaustive list of schools in the region and a random sample of schools was selected from that list. In Region 2, an exhaustive list of schools in urban and semi-urban areas was used to select a random sample of schools. Both regions used the same procedures to draw the random sample. A team at the national level was in charge of training the test administrators, and test administration manuals were produced and distributed to the regions. In Region 1, test administration manuals were used in the training. In Region 2, test administration manuals were not used in the training. In Region 1, the students' responses were entered manually by two independent individuals. In Region 2, the answers to the test questions were scanned and automatically uploaded to the computer once. Each region set its own standards to interpret the results. The Ministry of Education used the results from both regions to talk about how many students are reaching the national standards.