WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SEMINARS

Title: **Bayesian Estimation of Trends in Population-Level Health Metrics Using Disparate Data Sources**

Dates/Time: **November 12, 2014**
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Speaker: Mariel Finucane, Mathematica Policy Research

Discussant: Daniell Toth, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chair: Donsig Jang

Sponsor: WSS Methodology Section and WSS Public Health and Biostatistics Section

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center #9

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Abstract: Rational priority setting in global health requires rigorous quantification of worldwide, population-level trends in health status. Because global-level surveys are not available, however, researchers are forced to rely on country-level and local data that are often sparse, fragmentary, or unreliable. We present a Bayesian model that addresses this problem by systematically combining data from disparate sources to make country-level estimates of trends in important health metrics for all nations. The model uses Markov random field methods to allow for nonlinear trends and a hierarchical structure to borrow strength within and across regional country clusters. MCMC sampling facilitates inference in a high-dimensional, constrained parameter space, while providing posterior draws that enable straightforward inference on the wide variety of functionals of interest. Throughout, the Bayesian approach accounts for uncertainty resulting from data missingness, as well as sampling and parameter uncertainty.

In this talk, I will present results for two example health metrics. First, I will discuss trends in hypertension, a primary risk factor for cardiovascular disease – the leading cause of death worldwide. I will then turn to malnutrition, an important contributor to childhood morbidity and mortality in low-income regions. As all levels of mild, moderate, and severe malnutrition are of clinical and public health importance, I will present an extension of the model that uses a finite normal mixture to estimate the shape of the distributions for markers of malnutrition. The model incorporates both individual-level data when available, as well as aggregated summary statistics from studies for which individual-level data could not be obtained.

This work addresses three important problems that often arise in the fields of public health surveillance and global health monitoring. First, data are always incomplete. Second, data from different sources are often incomparable. Third, standard techniques fail to provide estimates of the full distributions of health metrics, the tails of which are often of substantive interest.

POC e-mail: mfinucane@mathematica-mpr.com

WebEx event address for attendees:
https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=mfdc5b6d08d4d1480685f067714db3649

For audio: Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-747-9048 (US)
Call-in number (Verizon): 1-517-233-2139
(US) Attendee access code: 938 454 2

Note: Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx.

Title:	**Geographic Oversampling for Race/Ethnicity Using Data from the 2010 U.S. Population Census**
Dates/Time:	December 3, 2014 12:30 – 2:00 pm
Speaker:	Sixia Chen, Westat
Chair:	Donsig Jang
Discussant:	David Judkins, Abt Associates
Sponsor:	WSS Methodology Section
Location:	Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center #9 To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Abstract: In this paper, we apply geographic oversampling approach in Waksberg et al. (1997) for Race/Ethnicity by using 2010 U.S. census data. Some comparisons between 1990 and 2010 census data are discussed. Specifically, we extend the application to the census region and CBSA level. We consider the sampling rates as well as the reduction of sampling variance compared to the simple random sampling. In addition, we apply the proposed method to examine the renting status of occupied housing units. Some discussions about estimation of multiple rare population parameters are also presented.

POC e-mail:	SixiaChen@westat.com

WebEx event address for attendees:
  https://dol.webex.com/dol/j.php?MTID=m9e71621de7e06f29d68362b1d62f9329

For audio:	Call-in toll-free number (Verizon): 1-866-747-9048 (US) Call-in number (Verizon): 1-517-233-2139 (US) Attendee access code: 938 454 2
Note:	Particular computer configurations might not be compatible with WebEx.

Save the Date! – 24ᵗʰ Hansen Lecture

The 24ᵗʰ annual Hansen Lecture will be held on the afternoon of **Tuesday January 20ᵗʰ, 2015**, the exact time to be determined. The lecture will take place at the usual location, the USDA Auditorium.

The speaker will be Professor Danny Pfeffermann, Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel (along with many other titles!). The title of the lecture is "Methodological Issues and Challenges in the Production of Official Statistics." There will be two discussants of Danny's lecture – Professor Larry Brown of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and John Eltinge, Associate Commissioner for the Office of Survey Methods Research at BLS.
So be sure put this special event in your calendar. A full announcement will be posted once the details are finalized.

- The Hansen Lecture Committee

PLEASE FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC

Title: **Introductory Statistics at the College Level—Making it More Exciting and Relevant**

Dates/Time: **February 2, 2014**
3:15— 4:30 pm
informal reception to follow at East Street Café at Union Station

Panelists: Elizabeth Johnson, George Mason University;

Stephanie Talbot, Montgomery College, Rockville Campus;

Bonnie Kegan, U.S. Census Bureau, University of Maryland, Anne Arundel Community College.

Chair: Carol Joyce Blumberg, Winona State University and U.S. Energy Information Administration (Retired)

Sponsor: WSS Statistics Education Committee

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Please bring a photo ID to the seminar.

BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE across from Union Station. Use the Red Line to Union Station. Take the elevator or escalator at the north end of the tracks up to the Mezzanine level. Once you go through the exit gates, go past the ticket machines and down the ramp. The entrance to BLS will be directly across the street.
Parking in the area of BLS is available at Union Station. For parking information see http://www.unionstationdc.com/parking. No validation is available from BLS for reduced parking rates.

Abstract: Over the last twenty years there have been numerous changes in the statistical procedures used in the fields of study of the students taking introductory statistics. In addition, the technology has changed considerably, both for data analysis and delivery of the course content. Further, students are coming to the course with more knowledge of statistics from high school. The purpose of this seminar is to have three instructors of introductory statistics discuss how they have changed their introductory statistics courses to adapt the content and technology to make them more relevant and exciting to their students.

POC email: Carol Joyce Blumberg, cblumberg@gmail.com

Remote Access Information Will Be Available Later

STUDENT CORNER

On October 15, 2014, DC Statistics students from Georgetown University, George Washington University, and the University of the District of Columbia met for a happy hour at the KramerBooks in Dupont Circle. We were joined by several professional Statisticians, including folks from the Department of Interior, RTI, Mathematica, and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

We talked about exams and theses, programming in R vs. SAS, and finding jobs as statisticians. We also ranged through subjects such as Buffy the Vampire Slayer, whether the Redskins should change their name, and I'm pretty sure I heard someone extoling the virtues of grass fields over Astroturf. It was a thorough success.

We will have another such happy hour around mid-November; keep an eye on http://www.meetup.com/washstat for details!

~Tim Allen, wss.webmaster@gmail.com

Washington Statistical Society
Member Spotlight
Introducing your fellow members and showcasing the diversity of the WSS membership

Meet WSS President-Elect Chris Moriarity...

1. Where do you work and what do you do?
I work at the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), one of the major federal statistical agencies, located in Hyattsville, MD. My position within NCHS is Mathematical Statistician, Office of the Director, Division of Health Interview Statistics. The division is responsible for the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). The NHIS is a survey of 35,000-45,000 interviewed households annually that has been in continuous operation since 1957, collecting baseline health information about the U.S. civilian non-institutional population. I am responsible for supporting technical aspects of the survey such as weights, variance estimation structures, etc. I also review all Research Data Center (RDC) proposals submitted to the NCHS RDC that are NHIS-related. I also am responsible for overseeing implementation of the next sample design of the survey, which is scheduled to begin in 2016. This is a major project of several years' duration.

2. What attracted you to your current position?
I first started working at NCHS in 1993 in the Office of Research and Methodology. I worked on a variety of interesting projects. Over time I wound up working on one or more assignments for many of the sample surveys conducted by NCHS. In the late 1990's, after a colleague passed away, I assumed my late colleague's duties, which were to provide technical support for the NHIS. There were many interesting and challenging tasks to do. I did a lot of NHIS-related work from that time until my departure from NCHS in 2002. When I returned to NCHS in 2005, my position is essentially a continuation of the work I had been doing during my previous tenure at NCHS.

3. Finish this sentence: "I joined WSS to..."
... meet other ASA members who live in the Washington, DC metro area.

4. What was your first job?
My first job with defined days/hours as a young teenager was selling newspapers on street corners, usually on Saturday night. Prior to that I did various seasonal things, such as lawn work in the summer, leaf raking in the fall, and snow shoveling in the winter.

5. What is the last book you read?
The Adventures of Pinocchio, by Carlo Collodi. This is the original story, with parts not included in movie adaptations. A friend of mine's daughter was winnowing her library as she was preparing to go to college. She decided not to keep this book. I picked it up as a future reading item for my son. It was an enjoyable quick read during a recent plane flight.

6. Why did you join the statistics profession?
Statistics was not a career path that I gave any thought to in college. My undergraduate degree is in Mathematics, and my master's degree is in Applied Mathematics. I was only required to take one statistics course for my master's degree, but I decided instead to take a two-semester mathematical statistics sequence, earning 6 credit hours. It turned out that those 6 credit hours in statistics just met the minimum requirement for a Mathematical Statistician position at the Census Bureau in 1986 after I finished my master's degree. Once at the Census Bureau, I quickly realized I needed to learn more statistics. Many of my work assignments involved sampling, which I found to be very interesting, and challenging, as I had very little background in sampling beyond simple random samples. The choices for taking classes while working were somewhat limited then, as the Joint Program in Survey Methodology hadn't yet come into existence. I took an evening sampling course at The George Washington University, then an evening class at the USDA Graduate School. After a break lasting a year or two, I resumed taking evening statistics classes at The George Washington University. After a while, I decided to go ahead and make the extra effort to earn a Ph.D., which I did in 2001.

7. How do you like to spend your free time?
My son and I do many things together, such as bicycle rides and Metro trips to visit Smithsonian museums downtown. I have two rental vegetable garden plots that my son and I work on together. (My yard is too shady to grow vegetables.) We enjoyed eating many tomatoes, peppers, and beans from the plots this year.

8. Finish this sentence: "On an ideal Saturday, I would..."
... be doing something with my son.

9. What is your favorite vacation spot?
I have two favorite seasonal vacation spots that my son and I enjoy being at together. In the summertime, our favorite spot is Wildwood Crest, NJ, a beach town on the Atlantic Ocean. In the wintertime, our favorite spot is the Snowshoe Mountain Ski Resort in West Virginia.

10. Have you had any great career mentors? If so, what made them great?
I am very fortunate that many people have given me guidance and assistance during my professional career. I am especially grateful that Fritz Scheuren agreed to be my dissertation advisor. He identified an area (statistical matching, also known as data fusion) where I could make a contribution. He was very generous with his time. He was very patient during my periods of little or no progress towards finishing my dissertation.

SPOTLIGHT A WSS MEMBER!

Washington Statistical Society's Spotlight on Members Program

The WSS Board of Directors has established a program to highlight members who have made or are making notable contributions to the work of their organization or their professional field of expertise. We know that WSS members are doing interesting work in the fields of statistics, survey methodology, and the social sciences. Through this program, we hope to spotlight the accomplishments of our fellow WSS members.

This is our first request for nominations, to be featured in an upcoming issue of WSS News. We are interested in featuring members at all levels of the employment spectrum including recent graduates, mid-career employees, and those seasoned veterans.

Please feel free to nominate more than one person or a team working together. You may also nominate yourself as well. The nominees must be members of the WSS and not currently affiliated with the Board.

Please provide us with the following information about your nominee or nominees.
1. Your name, email address, and telephone number
2. Name or names of nominee(s)
3. Organizational affiliation
4. Job title
5. Their contact information including email address and telephone number
6. A brief narrative describing the reasons for your nomination
7. A photo of the nominee, although not required, would be great be greatly appreciated

Please submit your nominations or direct any questions to, John Finamore (jfinamore@nsf.gov), member of the WSS Board.

We look forward to hearing from you.

BE ENLIGHTENED!

Videotape and Handouts from "Statistics Education as Part of the Common Core: What, Why, and How?" Now Available

The videotape, PowerPoint slides, and handouts from the "Statistics Education as Part of the Common Core: What, Why, and How?" seminar on October 8 by Douglas Tyson of Central York High School are now available on the WSS website at http://washstat.org/materials.html by scrolling down to the October 8, 2014 portion of the webpage.

We wish to thank Paul Buckley of Gonzaga College High School for recording the talk and editing the videotape. We also wish to thank Mr. Tyson for giving permission for others to use the videotape, slides and handouts.

SHORT COURSES

Quality Adjustment Methods for Price Indexes
NOVEMBER 6-7, 2014
College Park Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Hyattsville, MD 20783
Presented by John S. Greenlees
Registration and Payment Due by October 23, 2014
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=110614

Introduction to Survey Sampling
DECEMBER 2-3, 2014
College Park Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Hyattsville, MD 20783
Presented by Colm O'Muircheartaigh and James M. Lepkowski
Registration and Payment Due by November 18, 2014
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=120214

Issues in Data Science: Unpacking "Big Data"
JANUARY 22-23, 2015
College Park Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Hyattsville, MD 20783
Presented by Cliff Lampe
Registration and Payment Due by January 8, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=012215

Leveraging Mobile & Social Technologies for Data Collection
FEBRUARY 10-11, 2015
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC 20212
Presented by Michael W. Link
Registration and Payment Due by January 27, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=021015

Introduction to the Federal Statistical System
FEBRUARY 25, 2015
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC 20212
Presented by Brian A. Harris-Kojetin and Hermann Habermann
Registration and Payment Due by February 11, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=022515

Writing Questions for Surveys
MARCH 12-13, 2015
Presented by Nora Cate Schaeffer
Registration and Payment Due by February 26, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=031215

Practical Tools for Sampling and Weighting Survey Samples
MARCH 30-31, 2015
Presented by Richard L. Valliant and Jill A. Dever
Registration and Payment Due by March 16, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=033015

Introduction to Survey Management
APRIL 16-17, 2015
Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Washington DC 20212
Presented by Steven G. Heeringa and Nancy Gebler
Registration and Payment Due by April 2, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=041615

Total Survey Error
MAY 4-5, 2015
Presented by Paul P. Biemer and Lars Lyberg
Registration and Payment Due by April 20, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=050415

Introduction to Survey Estimation
MAY 28-29, 2015
Presented by David Morganstein and Sunghee Lee
Registration and Payment Due by May 14, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=052815

Practical Tools for Nonresponse Bias Studies
SEPTEMBER 18, 2015
Presented by Jill Montaquila and Kristen Olson
Registration and Payment Due by September 4, 2015
https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=091815

WEBINAR:
PRODUCING GOVERNMENT DATA WITH STATISTICAL
CONFIDENTIALITY CONTROLS

December 17, 2014,
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm (Eastern time)

Registration Deadline: December 15, 2014 at 12:00 pm (Eastern time)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER]   or go to
http://community.amstat.org/CPC/trainingmodules/webinars

Presenters:

Tom Krenzke, Westat Statistical Group and Ed Christopher, Federal Highway Administration

Sponsor:

ASA Privacy and Confidentiality Committee

Description:

Plans to disseminate data to the public include statistical and confidentiality controls. Learn about statistical disclosure control (SDC) methods that have been used effectively in government data production processes. From data collection to data delivery and post-delivery trainings on data usage, this webinar will review statistical methods that are used in government data production processes to ensure the integrity of the released data while maintaining data subjects' confidentiality. Participants will gain insights on various SDC approaches that also achieve feasible implementation. The discussion will conclude with an example from a special tabulation generated from the American Community Survey for the transportation community of over 400 transportation planning agencies across the US. The discussion illustrates a confidentiality protection perturbation technique that satisfied the Census Bureau's Disclosure Review Board and data production staff, while at the same time provided the transportation planners with data they could use. In this webinar, statistical disclosure methods will be discussed along with the views of the user community.

Fees:

There is no fee to attend this event. Registration is required. Access is limited and is handled on a first-come, first-served basis. Each registration is allowed one web connection and one audio connection. Multiple persons are encouraged to view each registered connection (for example, by projecting the webinar in a conference room).

Access Information

Registered persons will be sent an email in the afternoon of Monday, December 15, with the access information to join the webinar and the link to download and print a copy of the presentation slides.

We hope that you'll share this webinar announcement with your networks.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

HIRING SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington D.C.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), of the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), is currently seeking a high performing professional to join its senior executive team as the Associate Commissioner for Prices and Living Conditions. This is a senior executive service (SES) position.

If this opportunity interests you, please apply through the vacancy announcement on the USAJOBS website: https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/385316300 and https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/385317000.

This vacancy announcement will be open from **Monday, November 10 – Tuesday December 9, 2014**.

The announcement describes the technical and managerial experience required for effective performance of the job. No prior Federal experience is required.

U.S. Citizenship is required.
BLS is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

NISS Fellowships in Statistics

NISS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Statistics in Conjunction with US Federal Agencies

NISS plans to appoint several postdoctoral fellows/research analysts to be deeply involved in the statistical methodology, modeling and analysis of large statistical data bases.   Fellows will participate in ongoing research collaborations between NISS and federal agencies and will conduct research in methodological development, implementation and data analysis of high importance and impact for inference and interpretation of federal data. Fellows will be located in Washington, DC. Current openings include collaborations of NISS with NASS (National Agricultural Statistical Survey).

NISS Fellowships for Mentors and their Graduate Students

NISS also anticipates Research Fellowships for a few senior researchers to supervise technical statistical development required by selected NISS-NASS collaborative projects. Appointments are typically part-year or part-time. Graduate students may serve as interns under their mentors during the summer and part-time during the academic year. Inquiries about mentorships and/or graduate student internships should be sent to nissjob@niss.org prior to submission of a formal application.

Technical Requirements

The positions require a PhD or ScD in statistical, mathematical or computational science, or engineering . Necessary technical expertise includes mathematical statistical theory, statistical modeling, advanced data analysis, knowledge of basic statistical computing software (SAS and R). In addition strong written and oral communication skills are required and commitment to collaborative research is essential.

Salary and Position Information

Salary will be commensurate with experience. Positions are variously open 1 January 2015, 1 March 2015 and 1 May 2015 (delayed starting dates may be negotiable).

Review of Applications

Applications will be evaluated on the strength of the applicant's statistical skill and on the applicability to the research area. Applications will be reviewed as they are received and positions will remain open until filled.

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply, especially women and members of underrepresented groups. US citizenship is preferred but is *not* required.

Application to NISS

Applications should be submitted electronically (pdf preferred) to nissjob@niss.org. Go to http://www.niss.org/jobs/niss-fellowships-statistics for details on this job and what to include in your application.

NISS is an AA/Equal Opportunity Employer

Associate Statistician for Federal Financial Management

Required Qualifications

- Possess at least 5 years of direct experience in developing and executing statistical programs, preferably in the federal financial management environment
- Experience in working with statistical sampling methodology and estimation models, validating cost estimates, and solving complex financial problems
- Knowledge of statistical sampling, data analysis, and Statistical Analysis System (SAS) programming
- Experience in communicating the positions and statistical sampling activities when defending client's methodologies in meetings with auditors and financial statements auditors' statisticians

Required Skills/Experience

- Bachelor's degree in statistics, mathematics, computer science, or a related area.
- Working knowledge of SAS/programming experience.
- Experience/knowledge of regression, and time series analysis.
- Experience/knowledge in predictive modeling and forecasting is highly desirable.
- Excellent written/verbal communication skills.
- Proficient Excel (including VBA).
- Knowledge of data base management systems such as Oracle, SQL, or Microsoft is desired.

This is a part-time/contract role, on a multi-year federal engagement to provide statistical support and quality assurance related to federal financial audit requirements, with the possibility to extend or go permanent.

Please contact Chad Wambold (Chad.wambold@aocsolutions.com) or Ronald Fecso if you're interested (rfecso@msn.com).

Research Associate, Scientific Techniques and Analysis Team (STAT)

Fors Marsh Group LLC (FMG) is an applied research consulting firm based in Arlington, VA. Our primary mission is to leverage insights from the social sciences for improved communication and decision-making. As a thriving small business we are committed to providing growth opportunities to our employees, expanding their areas of competence, and challenging them to provide the best possible research for our clients.

FMG is seeking an experienced, intelligent and motivated Research Associate with expertise in the area(s) of research methods (including experimental and survey research) and statistical analysis to support research projects across a variety of projects. This individual's primary responsibility will be to provide statistical and methodological expertise for research designed and executed specifically for our clients.

Responsibilities:

- Contribute to the design, execution, and interpretation of social science, experimental, survey research, and other studies across quantitative and qualitative methodologies.
- Apply sophisticated principles in the fields of statistics, survey statistics, and/or other social science disciplines to analyze survey, experimental, and other data.
- Prepare written proposals, technical reports, presentations and external communications summarizing research methods, findings, and implications.
- Coordinate with internal teams to support projects.
- Analyze and interpret results from advanced descriptive and inferential quantitative analyses.
- Participate in project meetings and assist project managers with development of research projects.
- Advance the reputation of our organization through participation at professional conferences, publication of research studies, and continued technical training.

Qualifications:

- Graduate degree in social science, statistics, mathematics, survey research or related field
- Minimum of three years of academic or professional research experience required
- Demonstration of strong verbal and written communications skills
- Experience working with government agencies, such as HHS, CDC, FDA, or similar preferred
- Ability to work well with others, as well as independently under minimal supervision
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Strong quantitative ability and experience working with data in Microsoft Excel® and at least one statistical analysis software package (e.g., SPSS, STATA, SAS, R). Experience writing syntax preferred.
- Applicants may be subject to a low-level government security investigation and must meet eligibility criteria for access to sensitive information.

We Offer:

- Significant growth opportunities
- A highly collegial and intellectually stimulating work environment
- Opportunities to participate in high quality research and influence decision making among government leaders
- Highly competitive benefit/compensation package

All completed submissions will include a resume, cover letter and salary requirements.

Candidates should apply online using the link provided:

http://formarshgroup.theresumator.com/apply/5o2sE5/Research-Associate-Scientific-Techniques-And-Analysis-Team-STAT.html?source=WSS

Statistics Research Analyst

NISS Statistics Research Analyst in Conjunction with NCES

NISS plans to appoint a Ph.D.-level research analyst/statistician to be deeply involved in the statistical methodology and application of large statistical databases. The research analyst will lead division-level and center-level work related National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) publications, and will participate in project data analysis using restricted NCES databases. The research analyst will be located in the Washington DC area, and interact strongly with NCES. He or she will report to both the Director of NISS and the NCES supervisor.

Research Areas

NCES collects data and produces reports that cut across all levels of education, from early childhood through life-long learning. The agency also oversees planning, design, operations, statistical methodology, statistical analysis, reporting and dissemination for elementary, secondary and library surveys at the national, state and local levels.

Technical Requirements

The position requires a Ph.D. in statistics, survey methodology or a quantitative social science such as educational psychology. Necessary technical expertise includes research and data analysis, knowledge of basic statistical computing software (SAS and R) and Microsoft Office in addition to strong written and oral communication skills. Experience in enabling diverse audiences to understand complex, quantitative information is highly desirable. Commitment to collaborative research is essential.

Salary and Position Information

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The position will remain open until filled.

Review of Applications

Applications will be evaluated on the strength of the applicant's statistical skill and on the applicability to the research area. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply, especially women and members of minority groups. U.S. citizenship is *not* required.

Application to NISS

Applications should be submitted electronically (pdf format preferred) to essin-applications2015@niss.org. Go to http://www.niss.org/jobs/statistics-research-analyst for details on what to include in your application.

Associate Service Fellowship in Data Linkage

Position and organization

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), located in Hyattsville, Maryland, is seeking an Associate Service Fellow to work in the Special Projects Branch (SPB) of its office of Analysis and Epidemiology (OAE). NCHS is the principal health statistics agency in the United States, and its mission is to compile accurate, relevant, and timely statistical information to guide actions and policies that improve the health of the American people.

OAE conducts developmental and evaluation research and analysis in the fields of epidemiology, health status, health services utilization, health promotion, and health economics. Within OAE, SPB coordinates NCHS' data integration activities and provides support and technical assistance to users of linked data files. For more information about data linkage activities at NCHS, visit
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/data_linkage_activities.htm.

Position overview

The Associate Service Fellow will contribute to multiple aspects of planning and implementing record linkages between NCHS surveys and administrative records, such as vital statistics and records from other agencies. The record linkage program is designed to maximize the scientific value of NCHS' population-based surveys. Linked data files enable researchers to examine factors that influence disability, chronic disease, health care utilization, morbidity, and mortality. In collaboration with other members of SPB and NCHS, the Fellow will help produce linked data files, conduct statistical and methodological studies to evaluate linked data, conduct subject-specific analyses using linked data, and assist with user analytic guidelines and documentation for linked data files.
Qualifications

Applicants must have successfully completed a master's degree or higher in statistics, biostatistics, computer science, epidemiology, or a related field (e.g., medicine, sociology, demography, economics, or health sciences). Experience or applied coursework in computing and in applying statistical techniques to data is required. Strong skills using SAS are expected. Experience with STATA, R, SUDAAN, or other statistical software for complex data is desirable. Strong speaking, writing, and interpersonal skills are also highly desirable. This fellowship is open to all citizens of the United States or legal permanent residents with a work authorization.

Terms of appointment

The Fellow will be offered an initial 24-month appointment, with potential for an extension up to 5 years. A starting date will be determined by mutual agreement. An initial salary range of $74,872—$115,742 will be offered based on education and experience. Salary increases will be commensurate with performance. Federal benefits such as annual and sick leave, Thrift Savings 401(k)-equivalent, health and life insurance, and a flexible work schedule apply. Free onsite parking or a public-transportation subsidy is also available. The local subway station is within walking distance.

Application process

Applications will be accepted through November 14, 2014. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae to Jennifer Parker, Special Projects Branch Chief, at the mailing address below. Inquiries or questions regarding this fellowship can be directed to Dr. Parker at jdparker@cdc.gov. Official transcripts of all graduate and undergraduate credits (in a sealed envelope) and two reference letters (on original letterhead with original signatures) will be required of the selected candidate.

Mailing address

Jennifer D. Parker
Chief, Special Projects Branch
Office of Analysis and Epidemiology
National Center for Health Statistics
3311 Toledo Road, Room 6418
Hyattsville, MD 20782

CDC/NCHS is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, or sexual orientation.

Statistical/Financial/Economic Modeling Positions

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