

# Washington Statistical Society

CHAPTER • AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 1976

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- January 6 - Raking Adjustments to Sample Count Data
- January 13 - 75 Years of United States Life Tables
- January 14 - Adverse Reactions to Cosmetics-Perception and Confirmation
- January 15 - Imputation of Missing Survey Data
- January 21 - New Developments in Local Area Employment and Unemployment Estimation
- January 22 - International Technical Assistance in Statistics With Emphasis on Agriculture
- January 28 - On Selecting Which of k Populations Exceed a Standard

## FREDERICK F. STEPHAN MEMORIAL METHODOLOGY PROGRAM

- Topic: Raking Adjustments to Sample Count Data
- Speakers: C. Terrence Ireland, The George Washington University  
Robert Pugh, Social Security Administration  
Beverly Causey, Bureau of the Census  
Gary Koch and Dan Freeman, University of North Carolina and Yale University
- Chairman: W. Edward Deming, Statistical Consultant
- Discussant: Solomon Kullback, George Washington University

Raking adjustments were first proposed by Deming and Stephan over 35 years ago as a means of conforming sample count data to known marginal population totals. Their approach is basically a generalization of ratio estimation and has been widely used under the name, the method of iterative proportions. Stephen in his later work considered several other related adjustment procedures that also continue to be of interest.

The speakers will talk about a number of the recent developments in the application of these extremely powerful adjustment procedures to complex sample surveys. Particular emphasis will be placed on computational simplifications and on methods for calculating the variances of the estimators obtained.

All survey practitioners and students of contingency table techniques will find this meeting to be extremely useful.

When and Where: Tuesday, January 6, 1976, 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.  
Martin Luther King Library, 9th and G Sts., N.W., Room A5.

NOTE: This meeting begins earlier than usual, 10:00 AM and not 12:30.

## SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC PROGRAM

Topic: 75 Years of United States Life Tables

Speaker: Tom Grevill, NCHS

Chairman: Jacob Siegel, Bureau of the Census

Decennial life tables have been based on each United States Census from 1900 to 1970. Annual abridged life tables began with 1945. Life expectancy increased spectacularly in the first half of the century, but has leveled off since 1950.

The speaker will discuss the history of the United States life table program and long-term trends in life table values.

When and Where: Tuesday, January 13, 1976, 12:30 to 2:00 P.M.  
Tower Building, Basement Conference Room  
14th and K. Streets, N.W. (To gain entrance to building, show guard a copy of this newsletter, or Government ID, or sign in with guard.)

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND BIostatistics PROGRAM

Topic: Adverse Reactions to Cosmetics-Perception and Confirmation

Speaker: Dr. Evelyn Gordon, FDA

Chairman: Tavia Gordon, National Heart and Lung Institute

A household survey sponsored by the FDA elicited consumers' accounts of adverse reactions to cosmetics. The household survey program of the FDA, the methods used for confirming reports of adverse reactions and the results of the confirmation process are discussed by Dr. Evelyn Gordon of FDA.

When and Where: Wednesday, January 14, 1976, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM  
Conference Room 4, Bldg. No. 31, NIH.

### METHODOLOGY PROGRAM

Topic: Imputation of Missing Survey Data

Speakers: John Coder, Bureau of the Census  
Steven Baer, Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Barry Ford, Department of Agriculture

Chairperson: Beulah Mathis, Internal Revenue Service

Discussant: Sidney A. Jaffe, Westat, Inc.

Item nonresponse is a problem seemingly endemic to surveys no matter how carefully they are conducted. This is especially the case for studies which have questions about income or other financial matters where the bias (and variance) implications can be considerable.

The speakers will talk about the methods they employ in adjusting for missing financial data in their respective settings. Particular emphasis will be placed on the so-called "hot deck" procedure as it is used in the Current Population Survey and in the Consumer Expenditure Survey. The properties of other techniques (e.g., regression) will also be touched on.

When and Where: Thursday, January 15, 1976, 12:30 to 2:00 P.M.  
George S. Boutwell Auditorium, 7th Floor, IRS Building,  
1111 Constitution Ave., N.W.

### JOINT ECONOMICS AND SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC PROGRAM

Topic: New Developments in Local Area Employment and Unemployment Estimation

Speakers: Martin Ziegler, Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Earle Gerson, Bureau of the Census  
William Clatanoff, District of Columbia, Manpower Division

Chairman: Dudley Young, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Recent changes in the methods used for estimating state and local area unemployment has sparked a good deal of controversy among state employment security agencies and local prime sponsors of employment and training programs. A panel of experts representing both federal and state agencies will explain and discuss these changes.

When and Where: Wednesday, January 21, 1976, 12:30 to 2:00 P.M.  
Tower Building, 14th and K. Streets, N.W. Basement Conference Room.  
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## AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

Topic: International Technical Assistance in Statistics with Emphasis on Agriculture.

Speakers: Galen Hart, Chief, Research and Development Branch, SRS, USDA.  
William Wigton, Mathematical Statistician, R & D Branch, SRS, USDA.

Chairman: Clarence Dunkerley, International Programs Officer, SRS, USDA.

The SRS approach to technical assistance including review of existing systems, sampling and sample frame considerations, remote sensing applications, survey planning, and training will be presented. Case study examples from El Salvador, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic will be discussed.

When and Where: Thursday, January 22, 1976, 12:30 to 2:00 PM Tower Building, 14th and K. Streets, N.W., Basement Conference Room. (To gain entrance to building, show guard a copy of this newsletter, or Government ID, or sign in with guard.)

## PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PROGRAM

Topic: On Selecting Which of  $k$  Populations Exceed a Standard

Speaker: Ray Schafer, Hughes Aircraft Company, Fullerton, California

Chairman: Bruce McDonald, Office of Naval Research

The speaker will discuss a procedure for selecting from  $k$  populations those and only those which have a corresponding parameter  $\theta_i$  that equals or exceeds a minimum standard, say  $\theta^*$ . A lower bound on the probability of correct selection is provided when a pivotal function exists and has a  $X^2$  distribution. This bound is tabulated for a large choice of degrees of freedom both when  $\theta^*$  is known and unknown.

When and Where: Wednesday, January 28, 1976, 12:30 to 2:00 PM.  
George Washington University, Building C, Room 100  
2201 G St. N.W.

SPECIAL YEAR IN PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

The following is the January lecture schedule:

Professor I.J. Cohen, Mathematisch Institute, Utrecht, Netherlands will give a series of lectures on "Stochastic Processes and Applications":

Wednesday	January 14
Thursday	January 15
Tuesday	January 20
Thursday	January 22

3:30 P.M.

Room Y4419 (Math Bldg.)

Coffee will be served prior to the seminars

For future schedule and other information, contact Grace Yang, Department of Mathematics, (454-4884), University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

NAS-NRC MEETING ON PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Committee on National Statistics of the National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council has organized a Panel on Privacy and Confidentiality as Factors in Survey Response. The Panel is engaged in a study, sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, on the extent to which perceptions of privacy and confidentiality affect responses in population censuses and surveys. The study may help statistical agencies to learn what assurances the public requires, how to effectuate these assurances, and how to communicate them, in the interest of providing needed statistics while protecting individual privacy.

The Panel is developing recommendations for exploratory field work, and is interested in hearing from individuals and organizations with experience in the subject. The Panel will meet in Washington in February. The specific date will be determined later. A portion of the meeting time will be made available for receiving presentations from interested persons. Persons who wish to submit written statements or to request further details with a view toward appearing before the Panel may write to:

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