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Washington Statistical Society

CHAPTER • AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

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Newsletter - December 1979

- Dec. 5 Estimates of Expenditures of Pediatric Medical and Dental Care from the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey.
- Dec. 6 Jackknifing Procedures for Application of Chi-square Tests to Complex Sample Surveys
- Dec. 12 Union Contracts and Money Wage Changes
- Dec. 14 The National Longitudinal Surveys: The New Cohorts

Public Health & Biostatistics Section

Topic: Estimates of Expenditures for Pediatric Medical and Dental Care from the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey
Speakers: Daniel C. Walden, Louis F. Rossiter, Walter Lawson, National Center for Health Services Research
When: Wednesday, December 5, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Where: Prince George's Plaza Center Building, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland, Rm. G-20

These papers use data on pediatric medical and dental visits from a nationwide sample of the U.S. population to compare average charges, amounts paid out-of-pocket, and amounts paid by third parties for visits to dentists, physician's offices, hospital outpatient clinics and hospital emergency rooms. They analyze charges and payments for care by the characteristics of children, including color, education of parents, residence and region of the country. Discussion will also focus on whether children with particular characteristics are more or less likely to receive dental care, care in any medical setting or care in doctor's offices, hospital outpatient departments or emergency rooms.

Methodology Section

Topic: Jackknifing Procedures for Application of Chi-Square Tests to Complex Sample Surveys
Speaker: Robert E. Fay III - Statistical Methods Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census
Chairperson: Dwight Brock - Acting Chief of Statistical Research Branch, NCHS
Discussant: Yvonne Bishop - Energy Information Agency

This talk extends the paper given on this subject at the August 1979 ASA meetings. The Jackknife is applied directly to the x^2 statistic to produce a test that reflects the sample design. The procedure may be used to test the overall fit of a model or the contribution of a specific set of parameters to the fit. An example will be discussed in which this procedure was applied to the log-linear analysis of cross classified data from the Current Population Survey.

When: Thursday, December 6, 1979, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
Where: Room 3000A Federal Building, 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, (Federal Triangle Metro Stop)

Topic: Union Contracts and Money Wage Changes
 Speaker: Wayne Vroman, The Urban Institute
 Chair: Nancy Barrett, U.S. Department of Labor
 Discussant: Victor Sheifer, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

In several detailed industries, multiple regressions have been fitted to examine the effects of union contract provisions on hourly earnings. As would be expected, union negotiated increases have highly significant effects in many industries. This analysis is one part of a longer term project which is examining the effects of union wage settlements on the rate of inflation in the U.S. Economy.

When: Wednesday, December 12, 1979, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
 Where: Auditorium (main floor, center), Dept. of Labor Bldg., 3rd & Constitution Ave., NW (metro red line, Judiciary Square Stop, 4th and D Street Exit, one block southeast.)

Social Statistics Section

Topic: The National Longitudinal Surveys: The New Cohorts
 Speakers: Michael Borus, Ohio State University, Martin Frankel, National Opinion Research Center
 Chair: Marvin Thompson, Bureau of the Census
 Discussant: Carol Jusenius, National Commission for Employment Policy

This session will present recent developments in the design of the new cohorts of the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth. The Youth Surveys are unique in the breadth and depth of information collected on youth, drawing on the disciplines of economics, sociology, and psychology. The first paper will discuss innovations in study design and content which have been incorporated into the surveys of the new cohorts. Differences between the surveys of the new cohorts and the earlier cohorts, which began in 1966-1968, will be highlighted. The second paper will address the important developments in sample design which will make these surveys particularly useful for policy analysis.

When: Friday, December 14, 1979, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
 Where: Department of Labor Auditorium (main floor center), 3rd and Constitution, NW

Board Meeting Notes

At the November 6, 1979 meeting of the WSS Board of Directors some minor adjustments of the Chapter By-Laws were approved. The changes basically accomplished three things:

- (1) Brought the list of program committees up-to-date.
- (2) Added the Shiskin Award Committee as a WSS Standing Committee
- (3) Provided a guideline for two-year terms as WSS Representative to the ASA Council. This was requested by ASA to provide more continuity to the Council.

Note for All Statisticians

A second organizational meeting of a possible Washington alliance of statisticians will be held on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4. The agenda of the evening will be partially social and partially a discussion of the potential activities and organization of the group. The focus will be on career development aspects other than straight statistical theory and methods topics. Although these concerns originally arose at last Spring's Washington meeting of the Caucus of Women in Statistics, they impact on all professionally junior statisticians, both male and female. It is anticipated that the group will work closely with the Washington Statistical Society, and also with the ASA and the national Women's Caucus, for most of its programs and activities.

Issues which have been raised in the discussions to date include the problems of finding or changing jobs, how to get challenging work assignments and the dual problem of how to manage and develop professionally junior statisticians, how to consult as an individual on a free-lance basis or as the statistician within an Agency or Company, how to sell yourself as a statistician, how to get WSS to make its meetings more accessible to suburban and/or time-pressured junior statisticians, and how to broaden the set of peers/statisticians that one has a sense of knowing.

The meeting will be on Tuesday, December 4 - 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. - at the home of Ruth Foster, 6601 Piney Branch Road, N.W. This is at the corner of Piney Branch and Van Buren (northeast corner), two blocks north of the intersection of Georgia and Piney Branch (P.B. is also the continuation of 13th Street going north). If you need a ride, we will try to arrange one with someone who is coming. Light refreshments will be served - so an RSVP by Monday afternoon, December 3 would be appreciated. Please call either Marcia Glauberman 632-9797, Lee-Ann Hayek 381-4264, Nancy Schroeder 827-6798, or Dick Taeuber 245-6456.

Any statistician from the local area is invited and welcome.

Employment Column

Deadline for inserting notices is the 12th of the month preceding the publication date.

**Send notices and requests to:
Evelyn R. Kay, National Center
for Education Statistics
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D. C. 20202
202/245-8340**

Job Openings

**General Statistician
Demographic Statistician
GS-1530-9/13**

The Immigration and Naturalization Service anticipates openings for statisticians to work in migration analysis. Projects may include trends and sources of migration, travel and tourism analysis, estimating illegal migration, and so on. Experience in demographic analysis, survey research, or forecasting is useful. Interested persons should call the Chief, Statistics Branch, at 633-3053.

**Supervisory Math Statistician
GS-1529-15 USDA**

The Mathematics and Statistics Division of the Food Safety and Quality Service, USDA, seeks an individual with a strong background in the application of statistical theory, especially in experimental design. Work involves designing acceptance sampling systems, standards and specifications. Applicant must have supervisory ability or experience, demonstrated ability to establish productive work relationships with professional scientists in other disciplines, and the ability to communicate mathematical and statistical concepts to personnel who may not be familiar with mathematics and statistics. Submit SF 171 by December 31 to Cathie Higgins, USDA, FSQS, Rm. 3438-S, Washington, DC 20250. Telephone (202) 447-6617. Attn. No. FSQS-79-288.

**Senior Survey Design
Statistician**

PhD or Master of Science in statistics and several years of work experience in sample design and variance estimation.

**Survey Design
Statistician**

Entrance level. Master of Science in statistics and course work in survey sampling or some equivalent work experience.

For above two positions, send applications to Westat, Inc., 11600 Nebel Street, Rockville, Maryland, 20852. 301/881-5310. c/o David Morganstein.

**Statistician
GS-1530-11/12/13**

Applicants must have extensive knowledge in field of probabilistic and statistical analyses, including both Bayesian and classical procedures, and have broad capability to apply these techniques to practical problems. Duties require the development of new techniques for statistical and probabilistic analyses for utilization in risk analyses. Send form 171 to Dr. William E. Besely, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Washington, DC 20555.

**Statistician
GS-1530-9/12**

One position is open for statistician to aid in the computer analysis of materials attending complex Department of Justice litigation. Applicants should be familiar with statistical packages, such as SPSS or PL/1. A BS or MA in math is desirable. Contact Forrest Thoats, Department of Justice, LASS, Todd Bldg., 550-11th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20530. (202) 724-5769.

**Statistician
GS-1529 7/9/11**

Applicant should have an interest in Sample Survey Design and Estimation. The incumbent will participate in the formation of a statistical program in the areas of estimation procedures, quality control, and nonresponse imputation for a survey of traffic accidents. Send form 171 to Mike Brick, NHTSA/NRD33, 400 7th St., SW, Washington, DC 20590.

**Survey Design
Statistician**

Master of Science in Statistics or equivalent with course work in survey sampling or some equivalent work experience. For a full time, junior level position in a research firm in Washington, D.C. area. Send resume to P.O. Box 29094 Brookland Station, Washington, D.C. 20017.

Job Applicants

Listed below are brief descriptions of the qualifications of applicants seeking employment. Employers interested in interviewing these applicants should notify Mrs. Kay of their interest by **CODE NUMBER**. The request should be by mail and should include the employer's name, organization, and telephone number. The applicant will be notified of the employer's interest and initiation of any further contact will be left to the applicant. All contacts will be confidential.

CODE NUMBER 12-1-79

Education: BA Economics
Experience: Expertise is the 80,000 individual US governments: their organization, employment, wages, revenues, expenditures, property tax assessment, debt and assts. Lived and worked at 100 seats of governments.
Position & Salary: Survey Statistician GS-1530-12/13 or \$30-35K

CODE NUMBER 12-2-79

Education: BS Mathematics. MS Statistics. Additional work in computer science.
Competence: Managing statistical computing and computer graphics
Experience: Two years teaching college mathematics. 12 years statistical computing.
Salary desired: GS-15 or equivalent
Preferences: Nonmilitary application. Prefer something in human services in the Washington metropolitan area.



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