



2023 IASS Annual Report

January 2024

Association website: <http://isi-iass.org/home/>

Executive Committee:

President: Natalie Shlomo

President-Elect: Partha Lahiri

Vice-Presidents: Annamaria Bianchi, Eric Rancourt, Jiraphan Suntornchost and
Andres Guitierrez Rojas

Ex- Officio Member: Conchita Kleijweg

Number of members; institutional members:

2023 316; 21

2022 318; 20

2021 314 ; 20

2020 304; 24

2019 319; 24

IASS in Social Media (coordinated by Dr. Annamaria Bianchi):

We have been posting regularly on our social media platforms about IASS activities and related contents of interest for our members, namely, webinars, conferences, books, articles, prizes, the newsletter release and its contents, and the recruitment drive. The number of followers to the pages have increased. Since December 2022, X (Twitter) followers increased from 321 to 392, LinkedIn followers from 706 to 1420, and Facebook followers from 100 to 175.

The calendar of events is available at <http://isi-iass.org/home/events/>

Follow IASS activities and updates on LinkedIn!



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-association-of-survey-statisticians-iass>

Follow the IASS X account https://twitter.com/iass_isi

Follow the IASS Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/iass.isi>

The brochure can be downloaded here: http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS2022brochure_final_21012022.pdf

Updating of IASS Country Representatives:

As of 2023, we have over 60 country representatives of the IASS across all continents, and are continually seeking out new country representatives for countries without representation.

The role of the country representative is to:

- (1) Supporting recruitment drives
- (2) Engaging with their country networks in requesting IASS conference support funding or sponsoring sessions at local workshops
- (3) Contributing to our twice-yearly journal: **The Survey Statistician**, by producing articles on activities and applications related to survey statistics in their countries.

We have been active in recruitment drives for both individual and institutional members since October 2022.

IASS Participation to the 64th WSC 2023 : <https://www.isi2023.org/>

The IASS sponsored 14 Invited Papers Sessions (IPS) covering both traditional statistical research in survey statistics and new developments related to new forms of data and innovation. The IPS were:

- Better ways to address nonresponse in social surveys
- Longitudinal observation of human populations
- Measurement Error Modelling: Advances and Applications
- Recent Advances in Data Anonymization and Data Modelling for Education and Poverty Research
- Unlocking Microdata: Experience from International Organizations

- Inference under Informative Sample Designs
- Harnessing data by citizens for public policy and SDG monitoring: a conceptual framework and what is next?
- Monitoring Progress towards Sustainable Development Goals with Small Area Estimation over Space and Time
- The use of alternative data through modelling in Official Statistics
- Innovative statistical methods for large-scale surveys
- Developments in Small Area Statistics Leveraging Non-Random Sampling
- Sample surveys in the era of Big Data and Machine Learning
- Advanced inference on mixed effects models for SAE
- Data Integration in Survey Sampling

There were also three Special Invited Paper Sessions (SIPS) sponsored by the IASS:

- SIPS Waksberg Award with a presentation by the 2023 Waksberg Award Winner, Prof. Ray Chambers. The title of Ray's talk was 'The Missing Information Principle - A Paradigm For Analysis Of Messy Sample Survey Data'.
- SIPS IASS President's Invited Speaker session was delivered by Prof. Fulvia Mecatti. The title of her talk was: 'Bridging Big Data and Sampling Methodology: a Sampling Statistician Perspective'.
- SIPS Cochran-Hansen Prize session with presentations by our two Cochran-Hansen prize winners: Alejandra Arias-Salazar (Costa Rica) with her paper: "Small Area Estimates of Poverty Incidence in Costa Rica under a Structure Preserving Estimation (SPREE) Approach" and Ziqing Dong (China) with his paper: "Linearization and Variance Estimation of the Bonferroni Inequality Index".

IASS 2023 General Assembly:

The General Assembly (GA) of the IASS was held at the 64th WSC 2023 in a hybrid mode. The presentation to the GA included an overview of IASS activities and the 2022 IASS budget. The final 2022 report and budget were approved by attending IASS members. The GA was also an opportunity to thank the outgoing 2021-2023 Executive Committee (Monica Pratesi, Nikos Tzavidis, Jairo Arrow and Andrea Diniz da Silva) as well as welcome the incoming 2023-2025 Executive Committee (Natalie Shlomo, Partha Lahiri, Annamaria Bianchi, Jiraphan Suntornchost and Andres Gutierrez Rojas).

IASS Strategic Plan 2024-25:

The IASS Strategic Plan for 2022-2023 found here: <http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2022-2023.pdf> was ratified by the 2022 IASS GA held on July 14th, 2022 after a period of consultation. Recall that initial ideas for a strategy for the IASS for the period 2022-23 were discussed at the IASS General Assembly held in July 2021. The 2023-2025 EC have now updated IASS Strategic Plan for 2024-2025 found here: http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2023-2025_V2.pdf and this has been uploaded to the website and will be sent out to consultation in January 2024.

IASS Monthly newsletters:

Monthly newsletters can be viewed at: <http://isi-iass.org/home/2023-newsletters/>

In each newsletter, we feature a **Book of the Month**.

Webinars held in 2023:

See <http://isi-iass.org/home/webinars/> for the presentations and <https://www.isi-web.org/events/webinars> for the recordings

- #25 Unemployment Estimates for the Brazilian Labour Force Survey Using State-Space Models
Caio Gonçalves and Denise Silva
25 January 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)
- #26 Integrating Survey and Non-Survey Data in the Production of U.S. Official Agricultural Statistics: A Progress Report
Linda J. Young
22 February 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)
- #27 Designed Big Data in Surveys and Official Statistics: Augmenting Surveys with Sensors, Apps, Wearables and Data Donation
Bella Struminskaya
29 March 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)
- #28 The Production of Microdata on Household Income, Consumption and Wealth At ISTAT: Experiences, Methods, Perspectives

Gabriella Donatiello

26 April 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#29 Fitting Classification Trees to Complex Survey Data

Jean Opsomer

31 May 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#30 Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys: What We Have Achieved and What's Next?

Haoyi Chen

28 June 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#31 Producing Small Area Estimates for Labour Market Indicators in Latin America: a Bayesian Perspective

Andres Gutierrez Rojas

30 August 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#32 An extension of the weight share method when using a continuous sampling frame, with application to the French National Forest Inventory

Guillaume Chauvet

27 September 2023 at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#33 Whose perspectives are missing in household survey data?

Cheryl Doss

25 October at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#34 Three Extensions of the Basic Unit Level Small Area Estimation Model

Emily Berg

29 November at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

#35 Enhancing the Credibility of Survey Data: Old Tricks and New Techniques in Improving the Respondent Experience

Barbara Rater

13 December at 2pm – 3:30pm (CET)

The Survey Statistician in 2023:

Editors: Danutė Krapavickaitė (Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania) and Eric Rancourt (Statistics Canada)

Section Editors:

Peter Wright: Country Reports

Ton de Waal: Ask the Experts

Maria Giovanna Ranalli: New and Emerging Methods

Alina Matei: Book & Software Review

Production and Circulation: Maciej Beręsewicz (Poznań University of Economics and Business)

(1) The **January 2023** issue number 87 is available here:

http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/Survey_Statistician_2023_January_N87_v2.pdf

Other than the static features: Letter from the Editor, Letter from the President, Report from the Scientific Secretary, News and Announcements, Upcoming Conferences and Journal articles, this issue included an article in the New and Emerging Methods section titled: **Using Social Media to Enhance Survey Data**, by **Annamaria Bianchi, Camilla Salvatore** and **Silvia Biffignandi**. The Ask the Experts section addressed the question **Mixed Mode Official Surveys. Current Status and Near Future**, by **Barry Schouten, Jan van den Brakel, Dierdre Giesen, Annemieke Luiten** and **Vivian Meertens**. The Book and Software Review section reviewed the book titled: **Multiple Imputation of Missing data in Practice, Basic Theory and Analysis Strategies**, by Yulei He, Guangyu Zhang and Chiu-Hsieh Hsu. The reviewer was **Maria Michela Dickson**. This section also included a software review of **Multiple Imputation of Missing Complex Survey Data using SAS®: A Brief Overview and An Example Based on the Research and Development Survey (RANDS)**, reviewed by **Yulei He** and **Guangyu Zhang**.

Country Reports contributions were made by the following countries: **Argentina, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, France, Germany, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Ukraine, United States**.

(2) The **July 2023** issue number 88 of **The Survey Statistician** is available here:

http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/Survey_Statistician_2023_July_N88.pdf

It was a **special edition** to celebrate our **IASS 50-year jubilee!**

Other than the static features: Letter from the Editor, Letter from the President, Report from the Scientific Secretary, News and Announcements, Upcoming Conferences and Journal articles, this issue featured **contributions** on the history of IASS and its role for the study and development of the theory and practice of sample surveys. There were many contributing articles by prominent members of the IASS, including: Imbi **Traat**, J.N.K. **Rao**, Ton **de Waal**, Sander **Scholtus**, Jean-Francois **Beaumont**, Dennis **Trewin**, Ivan P. **Fellegi**, Eric **Rancourt**, Jae Kwang **Kim**, Wayne **Fuller**, Danny **Pfeffermann**, Isabel **Molina** Peralta, Mahmoud **Torabi**, Jairo **Arrow**, Monica **Pratesi**, Carl-Erik **Sarndal**, Daniel **Thorburn**, Siu-Ming **Tam**, Peter **Wingfield-Digby**, Graham **Kalton**, Denise **Silva**, Pedro **Silva** and Luigi **Biggeri**.

The New and Emerging Methods section featured a paper by **Changbao Wu** on **Calibration Techniques for Model-based Prediction and Doubly Robust Estimation**. The Ask the Experts section featured a response by **Sixia Chen** and **David Haziza** on the question of **Doubly and Multiply Robust Procedures for Missing Survey Data**. The Book and Software Review section featured a review of the book: **“Sampling: Design and Analysis, Third Edition”** by Sharon L. Lohr and was reviewed by **Camelia Goga**. There was also a software review **“The Survey Package for R, 15 Years on”** by **Thomas Lumley**.

Country Reports contributions were made by the following countries: **Argentina, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Fiji, France, Kenya, The Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Switzerland, Uruguay and the United States**.

IASS Conference Support in 2023:

The IASS EC supported three conferences/workshops in 2023:

- The 8th ITAlIAn COncference on Survey Methodology – ITACOSM2023 – "New Challenges for sample surveys: innovation through tradition" held at the University of Calabria, Italy, on June 7-9, 2023
- The Sixth Baltic-Nordic Conference on Survey Statistics - BaNoCoSS-2023 - held on August 21-25, 2023 in Helsinki, Finland;
- A Day Survey Researchers Conference on the theme “Good design and proper conduct of surveys – Key determinants of reliable data for planning”, held on July 13, 2023 at the Department of Statistics, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.

Conference and Workshop Activities 2023:

- (1) The IASS took part in the (virtual) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) **Asia-Pacific Stats Café** on **“What ISI can mean to you?”** that was held on Monday, 30 October 2023, 14:30-16:00 hrs. (Bangkok time, UTC+7). The IASS President, Natalie Shlomo, provided a presentation titled: **ISI promoting survey statistics: the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS)** where she provided an overview of the what the IASS has to offer to survey statisticians around the world. See: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2023/asia-pacific-stats-cafe-series-what-isi-can-mean-you>
- (2) The IASS sponsored a session at the **ISTAT Second Workshop on Methodologies for Official Statistics**, held on 6-7 December 2023, titled: **Machine learning methods in survey statistics**. See: <https://www.istat.it/en/archivio/288564>

Prizes/awards given in 2023:

(1) **2023 Cochran-Hansen Prize**

The Cochran-Hansen Prize Committee was chaired by Nikos Tzavidis and he was supported by committee members: Bernard Baffour and Maria Giovanna Ranalli. The committee reviewed 8 high quality papers. There was good geographical distribution (Asia, Africa, Central and South America) and good representation on other ED&I characteristics. The results of the prize:

Highly commended Papers:

Caio César Soares Gonçalves (Brazil)

“Model-Based Single-Month Unemployment Estimates

from the Brazilian Labour Force Survey Incorporating Google Trends Data.”

Priyanka Anjoy (India)

“Spatial Nonstationary Hierarchical Bayes Estimation of Small Area Proportions.”

Joint Prize Winners:

Alejandra Arias-Salazar (Costa Rica)

“Small Area Estimates of Poverty Incidence in Costa Rica under a Structure Preserving Estimation (SPREE) Approach.”

Ziqing Dong (China)

“Linearization and Variance Estimation of the Bonferroni Inequality Index.”

The Cochran-Hansen prize winners presented their papers at a dedicated SIPS at the 64th WSC in Ottawa. They were also awarded with a certificate presented at the ISI and Associations Awards Ceremony.

(2) **Call for Hukum Chandra Memorial Prize 2024**

A prize to be awarded to a mid-career researcher, defined as someone with more than 10 years of experience after PhD or in employment, who has made an important contribution in research areas of Hukum Chandra’s work namely, survey sampling, small area estimation, official statistics, spatial analysis applied to official and survey statistics and agricultural statistics. The recipient of the Hukum Chandra Memorial Prize will receive an honorarium of 500 Euros and will be invited to present a special webinar with discussion in the IASS Webinar Series. The CV, extended abstract and paper (if available) must be submitted to the chair of the IASS prize committee, Eric Rancourt eric.rancourt@statcan.gc.ca by 23:59 GMT on May 16th, 2024.

Looking forward to 2024:

- (1) Continue with ongoing activities of the website, webinars, The Survey Statistician, newsletters
- (2) Continue with updating country representatives and recruitment drive
- (3) Conference support 2024 (up to 1500 euros have been allocated)
- (4) Hukum Chandra Memorial Prize 2024 (500 euros to the recipient of the prize and a October 2024 webinar)
- (5) Consultation and Ratification of IASS 2024-2025 Strategic Plan
- (6) General Assembly (online) July 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm CET
- (7) Satellite conference planning in 2025 (combined with the annual ITACOSM2025 conference), in Bologna, on July 1 - 4, 2025.