

September 2023 Newsletter: International Association of Survey Statisticians

IASS Podcast Stats and Stories

The recent podcast of Stats and Stories titled --- Survey Statistics: Where is it Heading? by the IASS President, Natalie Shlomo, is available at this link: <https://statsandstories.net/methods/survey-statistics-where-is-it-heading> [statsandstories.net]

IASS Initiatives

The IASS is sponsoring a session at the **ISTAT Second Workshop on Methodologies for Official Statistics** from December 5 to 7, 2023. The title of the session is: **Machine Learning Methods in Survey Statistics**, and will feature David Haziza, University of Ottawa, Canada and Petrus J.H. Daas of Statistics Netherlands.

The IASS will participate in the **Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Statistics Division Stats Café session** on "What ISI can mean to you" on Monday, October 30, 2023. The title of the session is: 'ISI promoting survey statistics: the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS)'.

In Memoriam: Professor C.R. Rao

The IASS community is saddened to hear of the passing of the world renowned statistician Professor **C.R. Rao**. He died at the age of 102 years old on Tuesday, August 22nd 2023. He will be remembered as the pioneer of statistical research having contributed to many major breakthroughs throughout his long career. He was recently honored for the **International Prize in Statistics** at the 2023 64th World Statistics Congress in Ottawa. The prize recognizes a major achievement by an individual or team in the statistics field, particularly an achievement of powerful and original ideas that has led to practical applications and breakthroughs in other disciplines.

About the IASS

The **July 2023** issue of **The Survey Statistician** is out now and available here: http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/Survey_Statistician_2023_July_N88.pdf. It is a **special edition** to celebrate our **50-year jubilee!**

Other than the static features Letter from the Editor, Letter from the President, Report from the Scientific Secretary, News and Announcements, this issue features **contributions** on the history of IASS and its role for the study and development of the theory and practice of sample surveys. Don't miss contributing articles by 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 features a paper by Prof. **Changbao Wu** (University of Waterloo, Canada) on **Calibration Techniques for Model-based Prediction and Doubly Robust Estimation**.

It is an extremely carefully crafted issue, for which we are very grateful to the Editors, and to Danuté Krapavickaite in particular for her care and dedication!

<http://isi-iass.org/home/services/the-survey-statistician/>

IASS Newsletters are available at <http://isi-iass.org/home/services/newsletters/>

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 Twitter account https://twitter.com/iass_isi and the IASS Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/iass.isi>

Call for Conference Support for 2024

The International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) will consider providing financial support to organizations/societies planning workshops, conferences and similar events that:

- promote the study and development of the theory and practice of statistical surveys and censuses and associated subjects, and
- foster interest in these subjects among statisticians, organizations, governments, and the general public in different countries of the world.

Watch out for the call that will come out on the IASS website and our social media channels in the Fall of 2023.

IASS Webinar Series

The IASS Webinar Series continues to be a **very successful** initiative. The current timetable for upcoming IASS webinars is below. Note that CET is Central European Time. Links to register for the webinars are provided below. More details, such as abstracts will be directly emailed to registered members and can be viewed in the calendar of events at <http://isi-iass.org/home/events/>. A list of previous IASS webinars with the presented slides can be found <http://isi-iass.org/home/webinars/> while recordings for past webinars can be found at <https://www.isi-web.org/courses-webinars-workshops>. If you would like to contribute with suggestions for future speakers, please contact Andrés Gutierrez Rojas at andres.gutierrez@cepal.org.

#33: 25 October 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). **Whose perspectives are missing in household survey data?**

Cheryl Doss, Tufts University

Register at <https://bit.ly/IASS-webinar-33>

#34: 29 November 2023, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). **Recent Developments in Unit-Level Models for Small Area Estimation.**

Emily Berg, Iowa State University.

Register at <https://bit.ly/IASS-webinar-34>

Calls for submissions

Call for Submissions: **Metron**

Special Issue: **ITACOSM 2023 - New Challenges for sample surveys: innovation through tradition**

Guest Editors: Pier Francesco Perri (University of Calabria), Fulvia Mecatti (University of Milano-Bicocca), Daniela Marella (Sapienza University of Rome)

The call is open to anyone interested. Contributions presented at the 8th ITALian COncference on Survey Methodology (ITACOSM 2023) @University of Calabria 7 - 9 June, 2023, are encouraged.

Submission deadline: **October 31, 2023**

Please find all details at <http://meetings3.sis-statistica.org/index.php/itacosm20> [meetings3.sis-statistica.org] or write to fulvia.mecatti@unimib.it

Conferences on survey statistics and related areas

BigSurv23 The 3rd international conference on **Big Data Meets Survey Science** will be held on **October 26-29, 2023**, at Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador.

The theme is "Connecting innovations in data science, survey research and social sciences".

The BigSurv23 Scientific Committee is delighted to announce that the full program for the conference is now available at www.bigsurv.org/program23

Register: <https://aenu.ec/registro/>

More details on the BigSurv23 website at <https://www.bigsurv.org/>

SAE2023-2024 Conference – A conference celebrating the 65th birthday of Prof. Partha Lahiri will be held on June 3-7, 2024 at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú. More information: <https://sae2023.pucp.edu.pe/>. The deadline for invited paper session is March 15, 2024 and the deadline of abstract submission is March 15, 2024.

Reading of the Month

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine have recently published a report from the Panel on the Implications of Using Multiple Data Sources for Major Survey Programs chaired by Sharon L. Lohr titled: **Toward a 21st Century National Data Infrastructure: Enhancing Survey Programs by Using Multiple Data Sources** (edited by Sharon L. Lohr, Daniel H. Weinberg, and Krisztina Marton)

The abstract from the website is as follows:

‘Much of the statistical information currently produced by federal statistical agencies - information about economic, social, and physical well-being that is essential for the functioning of modern society - comes from sample surveys. In recent years, there has been a proliferation of data from other sources, including data collected by government agencies while administering programs, satellite and sensor data, private-sector data such as electronic health records and credit card transaction data, and massive amounts of data available on the internet. How can these data sources be used to enhance the information currently collected on surveys, and to provide new frontiers for producing information and statistics to benefit American society?’

Toward a 21st Century National Data Infrastructure: Enhancing Survey Programs by Using Multiple Data Sources, the second report in a series funded by the National Science Foundation, discusses how use of multiple data sources can improve the quality of national and subnational statistics while promoting data equity. This report explores implications of combining survey data with other data sources through examples relating to the areas of income, health, crime, and agriculture.’

The report includes chapters on types of data and methods for combining them, using multiple data sources to enhance data equity, creating new data resources with administrative records, data linkage to improve income measurement, data linkage to supplement health surveys, combining multiple data sources to measure crime, using multiple data sources for country-level crop estimates, and the final chapter on combining data sources for national statistics: next steps.

See the report here:

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2023. *Toward a 21st Century National Data Infrastructure: Enhancing Survey Programs by Using Multiple Data Sources*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/26804>.