

## June 2024 Newsletter: International Association of Survey Statisticians

### ***IASS 2024 General Assembly***

We would like to invite you to attend the **2024 IASS General Assembly**. The IASS General Assembly will take place online, and is scheduled for **Wednesday, 17 July 2024 at 14:00 hr./ 2pm CEST**. Please register for the webinar here:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_58o85NU3ROq9hkSFWAhKYQ#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_58o85NU3ROq9hkSFWAhKYQ#/registration)

You will receive a confirmation email following your registration containing the zoom link to join the General Assembly.

Members are invited to propose agenda items. If you have any suggestions for items you would like to add to the agenda, please inform IASS President Natalie Shlomo by email to [natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk).

The Annual Report 2023 will be uploaded to the website here prior to the General Assembly and we will be voting to approve the Annual Report as well as the 2023 IASS Budget during the meeting: <http://isi-iass.org/home/meetings/>.

We will also be voting on the 2024-2025 IASS Strategy Document available here: [http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2023-2025\\_V2.pdf](http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2023-2025_V2.pdf) and out now for consultation.

We look forward to seeing you at the **General Assembly on July 17th**.

### ***IASS Sponsored Sessions at International Conferences and Workshops***

The IASS would be happy to continue partnerships with local organizers of workshops and conferences around the world and to sponsor sessions focusing on cutting-edge applications of survey statistics. If you would like to collaborate on organizing a session, please get in touch with **Natalie Shlomo** [natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk).

We are delighted to announce the upcoming IASS sponsored sessions:

**Invited Session at the Statistics Canada International Methodology Symposium 2024**, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, from **October 29 to November 1, 2024**. The topic is **Small Area Estimation**. Invited speakers are: **Francois Verret**, Statistics Canada; **Emily Berg**, University of Iowa and **Andreea Erciulescu**, Westat and the session is chaired by **Natalie Shlomo**, President of the IASS 2023-2025.

**Invited Session at the 2024 Third Workshop on Methodologies for Official Statistics**, ISTAT, Rome, Italy, from **December 4 to 5, 2024**. The topic is **Advancements in Small Area Estimation**. The session will be chaired by **Natalie Shlomo**, President of the IASS 2023-2025. The 'master class' will be delivered by **Jan Van Den Brakel**, CBS Netherlands and the University of Maastricht, **Francesco Schirripa Spagnolo**, University of Pisa, and a contribution from ISTAT.

### ***IASS Webinar Series***

The IASS Webinar Series continues to be a **very successful** initiative. The current timetable is available on the calendar of events page of the IASS website: <http://isi-iass.org/home/events/> for upcoming IASS webinars. Note that CET is Central European Time. Links to register for the webinars are also provided in the advertisement. A list of previous IASS webinars with the presented slides can be found at: <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](mailto:andres.gutierrez@cepal.org).

It was with deepest regret that we had to cancel the June 26<sup>th</sup> IASS Webinar #41 due to unforeseen circumstances. The speaker, **Andrew Mercer**, from the Pew Research Centre will deliver his talk at a later date.

Please register for the next webinar:

**IASS Webinar #42: Leveraging AI for Survey Research**

**Speaker: Prof. Frauke Kreuter**

**Date and Time: 31 July 2024, 2:00-3:00 pm (CET)**

**The registration link:**

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/1017192290666/WN\\_nlvPPSGESoOV0VrvOD0-5g#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/1017192290666/WN_nlvPPSGESoOV0VrvOD0-5g#/registration)**

Please note the following confirmed upcoming webinars:

**IASS Webinar #43: 28 August 2024, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Paul Corral**

**IASS Webinar #44: 25 September 2024, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Nikos Tzavidis**

**IASS Webinar #45: 30 October 2024, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Hukum Chandra Prize**

**IASS Webinar #46: November 2024, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Andrew Tatem**

**IASS Webinar #47: 18 December 2024, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Isabel Molina**

**IASS Webinar #48: 29 January 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET). Danny Pfeffermann**

### ***Other webinars***

**CIR-SWB Webinar Series: An Overview of Statistical Data Integration in Health Policy**

**Speaker : Susan Poddock**

**Date and Time: 24 July 2024, 12.00 pm (ET)**

**The registration link:**

**[https://amstat.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_rj7IK06AQcSJpHok8MbLTA#/registration](https://amstat.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rj7IK06AQcSJpHok8MbLTA#/registration)**

## ***The Survey Statistician***

We are delighted to announce the **July 2024 issue** of the **The Survey Statistician** available here: [http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/Survey\\_Statistician\\_2024\\_July\\_N90.pdf](http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/Survey_Statistician_2024_July_N90.pdf)

This issue features an article for the **New and Emerging Methods Section** titled: **From Traditional to Modern Machine Learning Estimation Methods for Survey Sampling**, by **Camelia Goga**. We are also very happy to feature an article in our newly formed Early Career Survey Statistician Section titled: **The Use of New Data Sources in Small Area Estimation of Attitudes Towards Climate Change**, by Camilla Salvatore and Angelo Moretti.

The book titled: **Sampling and Estimation from Finite Populations**, by **Yves Tillé** was reviewed by **Angelo Moretti**. The software on **Inference with Non-probability Surveys** was introduced by **Beatriz Cobo, Ramon Ferri-Garcia, Jorge L. Rueda-Sanchez and Maria del Mar Rueda**.

As we are continuing to celebrate our 50 year jubilee, the issue includes an article titled: **Early Scandinavian Contributions to Survey Sampling**, by **Thomas Laitila**. We also pay tribute to past IASS Presidents that have sadly passed away: **Barbara A. Bailar** (IASS President 1989-1991) and **Nanjamma Chinnappa** (IASS President 1997 to 1999). Finally our ongoing Country Reports section continues to provide updates from many countries around the world. The contributing countries in this issue are: **Argentina, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Hong Kong SAR, Hungary, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, United States and the Ukraine**.

We are very grateful to all of the Editorial Team, and particularly to **Danutė Krapavickaite** and **Alina Matei**, for their dedication in producing this excellent resource serving the entire survey statistics community.

## ***Conferences on survey statistics and related areas***

**CANSSI-CRT Workshop on Modern Methods in Survey Sampling** will be held on **July 8-10, 2024** at University of Ottawa. More information here: <https://canssi.ca/events/workshop-survey-sampling/>

**Baltic-Nordic-Ukrainian Network (BNU) Workshop on Survey Statistics 2024** will be held on **August 26-30, 2024**. The BNU Workshop on Survey Statistics 2024 will be organized in August 26-30, 2024, in Poznań, Poland. The workshop will be of a hybrid type, connecting in-person participation in Poznań and online participation (via Zoom) for those registered participants who cannot attend in person. More information: <https://wiki.helsinki.fi/xwiki/bin/view/BNU/Events/Workshop%20on%20Survey%20Statistics%202024/>

**2024 International Total Survey Error Workshop (ITSEW2024)** will be held on **September 18 to September 20, 2024** at George Washington University, Washington DC, United States. The goal of ITSEW is to promote discussion of questions of research, methodology and practice relating

to Total Survey Error (TSE) and Total Survey Quality, and Blended Data. More information: <https://www.niss.org/events/international-total-survey-error-workshop-itsew> and [register here](#):

**9th Conference on Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research** sponsored by the Department of Statistics, Econometrics, and Mathematics at the University of Economics in Katowice, along with the Polish Statistical Association – Katowice branch, will be held on **December 3rd-4th, 2024** in **Katowice, Poland**. This conference aims to continue the tradition of fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange among experts in the field of survey methodology. The conference website is: <https://web.ue.katowice.pl/metoda>

**Statistics Canada International Methodology Symposium 2024** – Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, will be held on **October 29 to November 1, 2024**. The theme of the conference is: ‘Shaping the future of official statistics’. For all accepted proposals, the presentation (in English or French) is due by **September 6, 2024**. Conference proceedings will be published online. A final paper must be submitted by **January 10, 2025** for inclusion in the proceedings. Visit the website: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/conferences/symposium2024/index>.

**13th edition of the International Francophone Conference on Sample Surveys** - Esch-Belval, Luxembourg will be held from November **5 to 8, 2024**. View the website here: <https://sondages2024.sciencesconf.org/>

**65th ISI World Statistics Congress 2025** will be held on October 5-9, 2025 at the Hague. More information: <https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/>.

### **Call for Submissions:**

**Journal for Survey Statistics and Methodology, Special Issue: Survey Research from Asia-Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean**

**Guest Editors: Carolina Franco, Mamadou Diallo, Sunghee Lee, Denise Britz do Nascimento Silva**

The *Journal for Survey Statistics and Methodology* seeks submissions for a special issue on survey research from Asia-Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Survey research stands to benefit from examining the richness of applications, ideas, and contributions from investigators around the world. This issue aims to highlight work from locations that are typically underrepresented in JSSAM and other leading journals. In keeping with the theme of the special issue, it is desirable for at least one of the authors in a submission to be working in one of the regions covered, and applications must use data primarily from these regions. The issue will showcase interesting survey papers from various countries. Submissions to the special issue are welcomed through **August 16, 2024**. Electronic copies of the manuscripts should be uploaded at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jssam> following the [manuscript preparation instructions](#). To ensure consideration in the special issue, authors must include a cover letter that clearly states that the manuscript has been submitted for consideration for the special issue on “Survey Research from Asia-Pacific, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, and the Caribbean.” Queries about this special issue should be directed to Carolina Franco at [franco-carolina@norc.org](mailto:franco-carolina@norc.org).

### **IASS Websites:**

The Survey Statistician issues are available at <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/>

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Follow the IASS X account [https://twitter.com/iass\\_isi](https://twitter.com/iass_isi) and the IASS Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/iass.isi>

### **Reading of the Month**

In the past ten to fifteen years, there has been a wind of change and other data sources are being increasingly explored. Five key factors are behind this trend: the decline of response rates in probability surveys, the high cost of data collection, the increased burden on respondents, the desire for access to real-time statistics and the proliferation of non-probability data sources such as voluntary web surveys. Some people have even come to believe that probability surveys could gradually disappear. However, data from non-probability sources are not without challenges. For example, it is well known that non-probability surveys can often lead to estimates with significant selection bias. Another major challenge is the presence of measurement errors. They can significantly impact the estimates, especially when data are collected without relying on experienced interviewers.

The [June 2024 issue of \*Survey Methodology\*](#) is dedicated to three invited papers aiming to better understand and correct issues associated with the use of non-probability samples. The three papers were initially presented virtually at the 29<sup>th</sup> Morris Hansen Lecture on the topic "Working with Nonprobability Samples: Assessing and Remediating Bias" by **Courtney Kennedy**, **Yan Li** and **Jean-François Beaumont**. All three papers are accompanied with a discussion and a rejoinder. A preface by **Partha Lahiri**, the Guest Editor, introduces the special issue and the papers.

The first paper is authored by **Courtney Kennedy**, **Andrew Mercer** and **Arnold Lau**, and discussed by **J. Michael Brick**, **Michael R. Elliott** and **Aditi Sen**. It investigates the measurement issues associated with nonprobability opt-in surveys, frequently utilized to generate estimates for rare domains due to cost considerations. Through an extensive benchmarking study, the authors identify population subgroups characterized by significant bias in opt-in surveys, attributing a portion of this bias to bogus responses. Their findings underscore the importance of scrutinizing errors arising from bogus responses in nonprobability surveys, emphasizing the need to address not only selection bias but also the issue of erroneous responses.

The second paper is authored by **Yan Li**, and discussed by **Jae Kwang Kim**, **Yonghyun Kwon** and **Takumi Saegusa**. It examines the conditional exchangeability assumption, which serves as a pivotal assumption in propensity score-based adjustment methods. Specifically, Yan Li explores the validity of the exchangeability assumption under various balancing scores and

devises an adaptive balancing score aimed at achieving unbiased estimation of finite population means.

The third paper is authored by **Jean-François Beaumont, Keven Bosa, Andrew Brennan, Joanne Charlebois** and **Kenneth Chu**, and discussed by **Vladislav Beresovsky, Julie Gershunskaya** and **Changbao Wu**. It represents a significant advancement in the field of inverse probability weighting methods for nonprobability samples aimed at mitigating selection bias. Their research encompasses data integration techniques incorporating both parametric and Classification and Regression Trees (CART) methods, with particular emphasis on accounting

for the probability sampling design. Of note is their substantial focus on variable selection within the context of their proposed methodologies. In their rejoinder, they offer some new insights and developments on population and sample likelihood approaches to estimation of participation probabilities for non-probability samples.

The preface, papers, discussions and rejoinders of this special issue of *Survey Methodology* can be downloaded free of charge in both [English](#) and [French](#).

**Written by Jean-François Beaumont**