

March 2025 Newsletter: International Association of Survey Statisticians

2025 Nominating Committee for the next IASS Executive Committee 2025-2027

The 2025 Nominating Committee for the election of the next IASS Executive Committee 2025-2027 is now active to accept proposals for the next slate of candidates. The 2025 IASS Nominating Committee is chaired by **Prof. Monica Pratesi**. Members of the committee are: **Guillaume Chauvet, Andreea Erciulescu, Andres Gutierrez** and **Anders Holmberg**.

The slate of candidates to be determined are for the following roles:

- IASS President-Elect (2025-2027 to be the President of the IASS 2027-2029) – 1 candidate
- 4 Vice-Presidents – selected from 6 candidates on the ballot.

The IASS Executive Committee is responsible for developing, implementing and promoting the strategic plan for the activities of IASS detailed here: <https://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2024-2025.pdf>

Specific duties include:

- Developing and supporting IASS policies and activities, including our biannual journal *The Survey Statistician*, maintaining the IASS website: <https://isi-iass.org/home/>, monthly newsletters, conference support and webinar series;
- Hosting the Annual General Assembly;
- Overseeing IASS finances and determining the membership fees for organisational and affiliated members .

In view of these responsibilities, the nominees must have the time, energy and dedication to become actively engaged in the IASS. It is important to consider diversity in terms of gender and geographical representation. We ask that all nominations, including self-nominations, be sent to the following email address: intasssurvstat@gmail.com.

Renew your Membership

We would like to thank you for being a part of our community and for your support in 2024. Please continue to support the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) in 2025!

The link to the registration page is

here: <https://www.isiwebshop.org/index.php?view=registration>

There are two different fees for membership to the IASS for 2025 depending on what country you live in: 60 Euros for a year subscription or 35 Euros for a year subscription. The list of countries for the reduced fee is here: <https://www.isi-web.org/resources/developing-countries>

Please help us spread our important message around the world:

Promoting good survey theory and practice around the world

Call for Requests for Support for Workshops and Conferences 2025

The International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) will consider providing financial support for hosting 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 public in different countries of the world.

The proposed conference, workshop or similar event must be well governed, with a clear organising structure (virtual or in-person), and an ability to account for the funding provided, in addition to give the IASS visible credit for the support provided. Preference will be given to:

- activities that promote sharing of knowledge and practice across a number of countries which would not normally have opportunities to share such knowledge and practice;
- facilitating attendance at such activities by people who would be otherwise unlikely to be able to attend, but whose presence would add appreciable value to the activity in terms of furthering IASS objectives; this attendance may be by a participant from a developing country, or a student, or it may be in terms of a teacher/presenter who would particularly enrich the event, who would otherwise be unlikely to attend; and
- forms of assistance that support IASS membership attendance at the event.

To apply for support, please send a document project, including a budget sheet, to IASS President Natalie Shlomo (Natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk) and in cc to IASS President-Elect Partha Lahiri (plahiri@umd.edu) before May 31st.

Applications should address the criteria set out above and comply with the mission of IASS. The total amount of funds available under this scheme will be € 1,500 in one year and will be shared to support more than one project.

IASS Sponsored Sessions at International Conferences and Workshops

The IASS is 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.

65th 2025 World Statistics Congress (WSC), October 5 to 9, 2025

Visit the 2025 WSC website: <https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/> . The weekly overview week overview schedule is available: <https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/week-overview/> and early bird registration has now opened: https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/fees_2025/

The Invited Paper Sessions programme for the 2025 WSC is now live on the website here: <https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/36/programme/>

The Short Courses Committee, chaired by Prof. Dr. Peter van der Heijden, will develop a Short Courses programme to meet the needs of participants at the WSC. The programme will cover a wide range of topics with a special focus on young statisticians. Announcements about the selection of short courses will be available soon.

The Special Invited Session at the 2025 WSC sponsored by the IASS President is delighted to announce the esteemed speaker: [Professor Yves Tille](#) from the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland. The discussants are **Dr. Pedro Silva** and **Prof. Changbao Wu**.

IASS Satellite Conferences to the 65th WSC, July 2025

There will be two satellite conferences to the 65th World Statistics Congress (WSC) that will be held in The Hague October 5 – 9, 2025. The satellite conferences will both be held in July 2025:

1. 9th Italian Conference on Survey Methodology and International Association of Survey Statisticians (**ITACOSM2025 - IASS**) Satellite Conference, July 1 - July 4, 2025, **Bologna Italy**. We are delighted to announce 6 keynote speakers: **Alina Matei** from University of Neuchatel, **Nikos Tzavidis** from the University of Southampton, **Jean-Francois Beaumont** from Statistics Canada, **Bella Struminskaya** from University of Utrecht, **Michael Elliot** from the University of Michigan and **Pier Francesco Perri**, past coordinator of the Italian S2G.

Scholars are invited to submit an abstract in English on the on-line platform, whose **link will be available here from February 1st, 2025 to April 7th, 2025** (note the extended deadline). Abstracts should contain no more than 500 words and must include the substantive problem, the approach, data, and models employed as well as the main results of the analysis.

Please [find here a summary of the important dates](#).

Two half-day short courses will be held the day before on June 30, 2025 in the beautiful town of Rimini. The short courses are:

Course 1 (9.30 am-1 pm): Advanced sampling and estimation methods with R

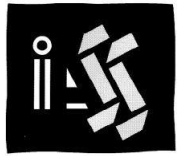
Lecturer: [Alina Matei](#)

Course 2 (2.15 pm-5.45 pm): Introduction to Small Area Estimation (SAE) and some topics of recent research interest

Lecturer: [Nikos Tzavidis](#)

More information about the conference is on the event's website: <https://eventi.unibo.it/itacosm-2025>

2. Small Area Estimation Conference (**SAE 2025**): An International Conference on Small Area Estimation, Surveys and Data Science, will be held on July 7-11, 2025 in **Torino, Italy**. The conference is co-sponsored by the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) and International Association of Official Statistics (IAOS). The SAE 2025 conference will feature keynote speeches from **Partha Lahiri**, **Raymond Chambers** and **Mariana Kotzeva**. There will be many invited sessions and a panel discussion on Opportunities and challenges for official statistics in a digital era.



It is possible to submit an Invited Session. The deadline is April 7th, 2025. Each Invited Session will be 75 minutes long and will have 3 speakers. Each speaker will have 25 minutes for their presentation including Q&A. The organizer can be a participant in the session they are organizing. Invited Sessions must be submitted online. The program committee will decide on the acceptance/rejection of Invited Sessions approximately every two weeks. All invited speakers are required to [REGISTER](#) for the conference by paying the registration fee. The link to [submit an invited session](#) is here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdR9QPc9Nv1zAGqbDOledPKN2VC7WBBRzb5T17SBI6RAcOm8A/viewform>

Abstracts for contributed presentations must be submitted online. The deadline is April 7th, 2025. The program committee will decide on acceptance/rejection of contributed presentations approximately every two weeks. All speakers are required to [REGISTER](#) for the conference by paying the registration fee. The link to [submit a contributed paper](#) is:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSclbfGOz7vcR0n78kdpM4-y21A7BSqgD6HpIN2lpyfchFcl7w/viewform>

There will be two short courses:

Course 1 Graph Sampling and graph representation learning

Lecturer: [Li-Chun Zhang](#)

Course 2 Conformal Prediction in Survey Sampling

Lecturer: [Brunero Liseo](#)

More information about the conference SAE2025 will appear on the event's website:

<https://www.sae2025.org/>

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.

IASS Webinar 51: Inferential Issues in Model-based Small Area Estimation: Some History and Selective Recent Developments

Speaker: J.N.K. Rao

Date and Time: 25 April 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET)

The registration link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/7617419634346/WN_OXQ1_FRbRk6sQXdJlw2T3A#/registration

Please note the following confirmed upcoming webinars and the speakers:

- IASS Webinar 52: 28 May 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET) Carolina Franco**
IASS Webinar 53: 25 June 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET) Thomas Lumley
IASS Webinar 54: 30 July 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET) Jae-Kwang Kim
IASS Webinar 56: 24 September 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET) Peter Lynn
IASS Webinar 57: 29 October 2025, 2:00 – 3:30 pm (CET) Mike Hidiroglou (with an introduction by Jean-Francois Beaumont on the Waksberg Award)

Conferences on Survey Statistics and Related Areas

6th Mobile Apps and Sensors in Surveys (MASS) Workshop will be held on **June 4-5, 2025**, at the London School of Economics (LSE), London, UK.
More information: <https://massworkshop.org>

Workshop on Survey Sampling in Honour of Professor Yves Tille on the occasion of his retirement, **25-26 June 2025** in Neuchatel, Switzerland. This celebration will consist of two days of lectures by experts in the field of survey sampling.
Registration: The event is free of charge, but registration is mandatory. Please register by sending an e-mail with your name and affiliation to Message.ISTAT@unine.ch by 1 June 2025. Venue: Faculté des sciences-Rue Emile-Argand 11-2000 Neuchâtel–Suisse

ITACOSM2025-IASS Satellite Conference will take place from July 1-4, 2025 in Bologna, Italy. More information about the conference is on the event's website: <https://eventi.unibo.it/itacosm-2025>

Small Area Estimation Conference (SAE 2025): An International Conference on Small Area Estimation, Surveys and Data Science, will be held on July 7-11, 2025 in Torino, Italy. More information about the conference SAE2025 is on the event's website: <https://www.sae2025.org/>

11th Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA) will take place from July 14-18, 2025 in Utrecht, The Netherlands.
More information: <https://www.europeansurveyresearch.org/conference/utrecht-2025/>

Baltic-Nordic-Ukrainian Network Workshop on Survey Statistics 2025, to be held on August 25-29, 2025 in Vilnius. The workshop is a hybrid event offering both in-person participation in Vilnius and online participation for registered participants who cannot attend in person. More information: <https://wiki.helsinki.fi/xwiki/bin/view/BNU/Events/Workshop%20on%20Survey%20Statistics%202025/>

65th 2025 World Statistics Congress (WSC), will take place from October 5 - 9, 2025. Visit the 2025 WSC website: <https://www.isi-next.org/conferences/isi-wsc2025/>. Registrations are now open.

9th biennial European Establishment Statistics Workshop (EESW25), to be held on 5 - 7 November 2025 in Rome, Italy, at the premises of Istat, the Italian National Institute of Statistics. ENBES is organized by the European Network for Better Establishment Statistics, More information: <https://sites.google.com/enbes.org/home/home/news-and-events/eesw25>

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/>

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

Reading of the Month

The reading of the month is the paper: **Combining Administrative and Survey Data to Correct Coverage Errors in Register-Based Statistics: A Bayesian Approach** by Veronica Ballerini, Marco Di Zio, Brunero Liseo, and Simona Toti. It is an advanced issue of a paper in the open-access Journal of Official Statistics and available here: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0282423X241312739>

The paper is very relevant as National Statistical Institutes are exploring more the potential of using administrative data in their statistical processes and in particular to replace (at least partially) some of the traditional censuses. Administrative data are not designed for statistical purposes and therefore are not without errors. The main source of errors are under and over-coverage. The paper proposes a method to make inference on the population sizes at different aggregation levels by leveraging administrative data in the presence of coverage errors. The authors introduce a Bayesian statistical model for integrating nonprobability (register-based) and probability samples. The use of a Bayesian model allows a natural quantification of the uncertainty of estimates through the posterior distribution of the unknown target parameters. Although the framework discussed is quite general, the application in the paper is the setting of the Italian Permanent Census. Model performance is first assessed using simulated data closely related to the real one; then, results are shown for the real data.