

# the Survey Statistician

The Newsletter of the International Association of Survey Statisticians

No. 59

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No. 59 January 2009



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# Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

Preparation of the **programme of IASS short courses** to be offered before the ISI session in South Africa is in full gear. A contract with the venue has been signed and first class facilities are now secure in **Durban**. We have an exciting programme with top class instructors. This time the IASS short courses will be part of a wider programme of short courses to be offered by ISI, and we happy to see this idea extended to other areas of statistics and to draw contributions from other ISI sections. Further details on the IASS short courses appear in the sequence. Do not miss these unique opportunities for personal development which will be provided in Durban.

The IASS nominations committee, chaired by *Cynthia Clark* (United States of America), charged with preparing the **2009 elections** for the renewal of officers in the Executive and Council of the association, has completed selection of candidates and the ballot papers will shortly be sent to the IASS membership by the secretariat.

The **IPMs organised or co-sponsored by IASS** during the 2009 meetings in Durban under the leadership of council member *Leyla Mohadjer* are complete now. The full list of topics, authors and discussants for IPM sessions is available from the ISI 2009 session website:  
<http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/>

Time to start planning your trip to South Africa, to make your registration and make sure that you do not miss the impressive scientific and social programme which was lined up for you in Durban.

IASS has submitted a proposal for organising an **invited paper session** during the next **Joint Statistical Meetings** in the US, in August 2009.

Council member Louise Bourque and Vice-president Pierre Lavallée are in charge of this and they report elsewhere on the programme prepared for this exciting session. If you will attend the JSM, do not miss it.

The consultation process for the preparation of the **invited paper meetings for the 2011 ISI session in Dublin** has started. Geoff Lee (Australia) chairs the IASS programme committee for Dublin. If you have any ideas for challenging, innovative topics do not hesitate to let Geoff know of your ideas.

IASS is keen to welcome **new members, both individual and institutional**. The registration form for individual members can be found in our website (<http://isi.cbs.nl/iass/>). For organizations wishing to join, please contact our Executive Director, Michel Peronnet ([peronnet.michel@orange.fr](mailto:peronnet.michel@orange.fr)).

Best wishes,

Pedro Silva  
[pedronsilva@gmail.com](mailto:pedronsilva@gmail.com)

## IASS Program for the 57<sup>th</sup> ISI Session, Durban 2009

Report of the Scientific Secretary  
Steve Heeringa

The IASS has organized seven **short courses** to be offered prior to the start of the 57<sup>th</sup> Session of the ISI. The seven short courses will be offered over two two-day sessions, August 12-13, 2009 or August 14-15, 2009. The tables to the right (Session 1 and Session 2) list the course topics and the instructors who have volunteered to present each short course. Short descriptions of the syllabus and aims of each IASS short course are provided as an addendum to this summary report.

ISI and IASS members who are planning their travel itinerary for the 2009 ISI meetings in Durban should note that the IASS short courses will now be offered at a Durban venue, the Hotel Southern Sun Elangeni.

Registration for the IASS short courses and local accommodations will be on-line through the official website of the 57<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Statistical Institute at:  
<http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/>.

We expect that the short course registration page should be active during February 2009.

As IASS Scientific Secretary, I will be coordinating this activity in close liaison with the ISI short course coordinator and the Local Hosts in South Africa. If at any time you have questions or concerns about the 2009 IASS short courses, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at the address below.

Regards,

Steve Heeringa  
[sheering@isr.umich.edu](mailto:sheering@isr.umich.edu)

## IASS Short Courses for the ISI 2009 Durban Meetings

### Session 1: Aug 12-13, 2009 Course

	Volunteer Instructors
Editing and Imputation	John Kovar Eric Rancourt Wesley Yung
Business Survey Design Sample Design	Michael Hidiroglou Colm O'Muircheartaigh Steve Heeringa

### Session 2: Aug 14-15, 2009 Course

	Volunteer Instructors
Survey Quality (August 15 only)	Paul Biemer
Seasonal Adjustment of Data	Craig McLaren Dominique Ladiray Benoit Quenneville Brian Monsell
Analysis of Complex Sample Data	Jay Breidt Kirk Wolter Wayne Fuller
Small Area Estimation	Jon Rao Isabel Molina

## IASS Invited Paper Meetings for ISI 2011 in Dublin

The next ISI meeting is in Durban, South Africa, in August 2009. IASS members may not be aware that the Invited Paper Meetings (IPM) for the following ISI in Dublin 2011, are planned and decided during the various administrative meetings that will occur in Durban.

During the August 2009 meeting each of the sections of the ISI will propose possible IPMs, and the overall ISI Program Coordinating Committee will consider them all and develop the IPM program for 2011. Geoff Lee, from the Australian Bureau of Statistics will chair the IASS sub-committee for this meeting is currently in the process of forming his sub-committee.

The first round of collecting suggestions and ideas for topics for the IASS sponsored IPM sessions is now going on. This will feed into an initial list of topics, which will then undergo several rounds of consolidation and refinement within the IASS sub-committee with a final list of topics expected to be finalised by early July 2009. The program sub-committee is looking for suggestions for topics that are current and emerging topics in survey sampling.

Suggestions for topics, authors/presenters and recommendations for IPM organisers for the 2011 ISI IPMs can be forwarded to Geoff Lee ([geoff.lee@abs.gov.au](mailto:geoff.lee@abs.gov.au)) or Alan Herning ([alan.herning@abs.gov.au](mailto:alan.herning@abs.gov.au)) at the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

## 2009 IASS Election Nominations

The IASS nominations committee, chaired by *Cynthia Clark* (United States of America), and including *Dennis Trewin* (Australia), *Luigi Biggeri* (Italy), *Gad Nathan* (Israel), *Jelke Bethlehem* (Netherlands), *Gordon Brackstone* (Canada), and *Seppo Laaksonen* (Finland) has completed the nominations for the **2009 elections** for the renewal of officers in the Executive and Council of the association.

IASS members have received or will shortly receive ballot papers to vote. Below we provide a short biography of each of the candidates who agreed to stand for the various posts, listed in alphabetic order.

### Candidate for the Office of President-Elect

**NAME: Raymond Lourenço Chambers**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1950

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Australia and U.K.

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Australia

Ray Chambers is Professor of Statistical Methodology at the Centre for Statistical and Survey Methodology, University of Wollongong, Australia. Prior to moving to Australia, he was Leverhulme Professor of Social Statistics and founding Director of the Southampton Statistical Sciences Research

Institute at the University of Southampton, UK. He started his statistical career in the Australian Bureau of Statistics in Canberra in 1973, working there till 1983, when he moved to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics (now the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Research Economics). In 1991 he took up a Senior Lecturer position at the Australian National University and then moved to Southampton in 1995 to take up a Chair in Social Statistics.

He completed his undergraduate degree in mathematical statistics at the University of Western Australia in 1972, his MSc in Statistics at the Australian National University in 1975 and his PhD in Biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore USA, in 1982. His research interests include sample survey design and analysis, robust statistical methods and statistical modelling and inference. He has served both as President of the Canberra Branch and as Treasurer of the Statistical Society of Australia. He is a member of the International Statistical Institute and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. As part of the methodological and consulting arrangements at Southampton and Wollongong, he has contributed to survey methodology development at the UK Office for National Statistics and the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and has served on the Methodological Advisory Committees of both organisations.

### Candidate for the Office of President-Elect

**NAME: Danny Pfeffermann**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1943

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Israel

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Israel

I am a professor of statistics at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and at the Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute (S3RI), University of Southampton, UK. I am an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (since 1985) and a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

Throughout my professional career, I combined my academic duties with work for

Government statistical bureaus in countries such as Australia, Brazil, Canada, Israel, UK, USA (working for the Bureau of Labor Statistics since 1993 and until presently), and as of next year, in Singapore. This collaborative work gave me the unique opportunity to learn first hand of the problems facing statistical offices and indeed, most of my research and consequent publications originated from this collaborative work. Part of the methods that we have developed over the years is applied by some of these agencies.

My main research interest is in inference from complex survey data, covering the following four broad topics: estimation and prediction under informative sampling, small area estimation, time series analysis with emphasis on trend estimation and seasonal adjustment, and more recently, observational data analysis and nonresponse. Over the years, I presented more than 50 invited talks on these topics at international conferences and I have also run many workshops and short courses in several countries. Recently, I completed editing (with Professor C.R. Rao) the new handbook in statistics entitled: *Sample Surveys: Theory, Methods and Inference*. The handbook contains 41 chapters covering almost every aspect of sample surveys theory and applications. It is due to appear in print in the spring of 2009.

Other than the aforementioned activities, I tried also to contribute in other capacities. I chaired or was member of several important committees at the Hebrew University, I served as Chairman of the Department of Statistics at the Hebrew University for almost three years and as the President of the Israel Statistical Association (ISA) for two years. I chaired the programme committee of the IASS for the 2003 ISI meeting in Berlin and I have organized two local conferences and three international conferences.

## Candidate for the Office of Vice-President

**NAME: H. Oztas Ayhan**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1945

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Turkey

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Turkey

Oztas Ayhan is Professor of Applied Statistics in the Department of Statistics at Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey.

**Education and academic positions.** He has studied at the Istanbul University, TR (BSc, 1969), University of Aberdeen, UK (MSc, 1974), and University of Wales, UK (PhD, 1978). In 1981, he was a Visiting Scholar in the Sampling Section of the Survey Research Center of the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. During this time, he has also completed the *Michigan Summer School in Survey Research Techniques* as well as the *Sampling Program for Foreign Statisticians*.

Between 1979 and 1986, he has worked as an Instructor on Social Statistics at the Institute of Population Studies of the Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. He has worked as Assistant Professor of Applied Statistics (1986), Associate Professor of Biostatistics (1986-1988), Associate Professor of Applied Statistics (1988-1992) and Professor of Applied Statistics (since 1992) in the Department of Statistics at the Middle East Technical University in Ankara.

**Administrative positions.** Oztas Ayhan had official statistics experience in several institutions, in addition to his university work, between 1989 and 1992 he was appointed as the Statistical Advisor to the President of the State Institute of Statistics (now; *Turkish Statistical Institute*), Prime Ministry of the Republic of Turkey, Ankara. In addition, in the early 90s he also served as the Director of the Technical Services Department of the State Institute of Statistics.

During 1991–1995 he was the Associate Head of the Department of Statistics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Middle East Technical University. Later, between 2001 and 2007 he has served as the Head of Department of the Department of Statistics, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Middle East Technical University.

During the same period, he was also the Director of the Statistics Graduate Program, Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences, Middle East Technical University.

**ISI and IAOS activities.** Oztas Ayhan has been an ordinary member of the *International Statistical Institute* since 1995. He has contributed to several ISI Meeting activities as *Invited Section Organizer* (1997 and 2003), *Invited Discussant* (1997), *Moderator* (1997), and *Contributor*. He is also since 1992 a member of the *International Association for Official Statistics*. He was also involved in the organization of the *IAOS Third Independent Conference* as a *Council Member* and *Member of the Executive Secretariat* of the National Organising Committee, in 1992.

**IASS activities.** Oztas Ayhan has been a member of IASS since 1987.

Offices he has held in IASS include: *Country Representative for Turkey* (1989 to present), *Council Member* (1997 – 2001), *Member, Nominations Committee for Council Members of the IASS* (years 1993, 1995, and 2007). *Member, Program Committee of the IASS*. (years 1997, 2001, 2003, and 2007). During 2000 – 2001 he was a *Member of the Editorial Committee* for IASS Jubilee Commemorative Volume on “Landmark Papers in Survey Statistics”.

As the Country Representative for Turkey, he has published many Country Reports in *The Survey Statistician* since 1989. Oztas Ayhan has authored and co-authored several books, research monographs, journal articles, and scientific reports in the field of survey statistics and survey methodology. He has devoted many years to the IASS activities. He is hoping that, his academic, professional, and ISI / IASS experiences will have a positive contribution towards his continuing service to the IASS.

## Candidate for the Office of Vice-President

**NAME: Linda Hewitt**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1943

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

**Statistical Career Highlights.** Linda Hewitt is a Demographer/Statistician and currently serves as Director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Development non-profit organization initially founded with two other colleagues. Since establishing the centre in 2000, Ms Hewitt has been offering consultancies in survey design, research and analysis, also working with interdisciplinary teams. She has served as Research Consultant on a number of projects funded by national and regional governments and international agencies. Personal benchmarks include:

- Induction to ISI as Country Survey Director of the World Fertility Survey (WFS) 1975-1982
- Member of IASS since 1975 and current member of IASE
- Statistician/Senior Statistician-Central Statistical Office of Trinidad and Tobago-1975-1992 with responsibility for: Population and Vital Statistics, Continuous Sample Survey of Population/Labour Force Statistics and Mapping, Population Censuses (Deputy Head and Head- Population Census Unit for the Trinidad and Tobago 1980 and 1990 Population and Housing Censuses), Demographic Health Survey, Household Budgetary Survey, Survey of Living Conditions and other Ad hoc Surveys.
- Senior Planning and Programming Officer at the University of the West Indies 1992-2000, with responsibility for Strategic Planning, Statistics and Research. Director CIRP 2000 to present primarily promoting statistics for policy making through survey design, research and analysis of data. More recent projects serving as consultant in applied statistics include:
- Design of survey questionnaires for the 2005 Surveys of Living Conditions



for Trinidad and Tobago (TTGOV/EU) and for Countries of the Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (5)-auspices-the OECS/World Bank.

- Member of Expert Group on Social and Gender Statistics for the Caribbean Region auspices CARICOM and UNSD, UNECLAC
- Analysis of 2000/2001 Regional Population and Housing Census Data for St. Lucia and St. Kitts/Nevis- auspices CARICOM
- Projects incorporating Statistical Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluation: Child Indicators Monitoring System (UNICEF); Production and Consumption Indicators (TTGOV/UNEP); Secondary Education Modernization Programme (TTGOV/IADB).
- Throughout career has been serving as lecturer in In-service Statistics Training programmes at the National Statistical Office
- Since 1976, has maintained participation in annual statistical meetings and activities of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) and Regional Census Coordinating Committee (RCCS).
- Currently concluding PhD thesis on "Investment in Human Capital and Returns for Trinidad and Tobago" utilizing SNA data, Social Accounting Matrix and Structural Equation Modeling with Statistical Indicators as major inputs.
- Current interest is especially in developing survey designs and use of statistics in enabling evidenced based policy interventions especially in areas of poverty, employment and un-employment relief programme and education and training that are posing development challenges at this time.
- A reasonable number of published/conference papers have been produced over the years. More recent ones have focused on the need for special survey designs and methodologies that would more appropriately cater for the data challenges posed by problems such as poverty, crime, fall-outs from

globalization and economic liberalization. Interest also centers on issues of data harmonization, data quality and the use of statistical indicators for monitoring and evaluation and for evidenced based policy interventions.

My commitment is to continue promoting statistics globally and especially within the Caribbean region, at educational and applied levels using the valuable experience being gained from membership in the ISI and from participation in the activities of its sections. Global economic, social and environmental changes affecting every country are posing very difficult challenges and the IASS especially is well placed to contribute to the problem solving effort that is highly required.

#### **Candidate for the Office of Vice-President**

**NAME: Peter Lynn**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1966

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: UK

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: UK

Peter Lynn has been Professor of Survey Methodology at the University of Essex, UK, since June 2001. Prior to that he was director of the Survey Methods Centre at the National Centre for Social Research, London UK. His research interests cover all aspects of survey methodology, with publications in the areas of sample design, non-response, measurement error, questionnaire design, mode effects and survey quality. His latest publication is the book "Methodology of Longitudinal Surveys" in the Wiley Survey Methodology series. He has a bachelor degree in statistics, computing and economics from the University of London and a master's degree in applied statistics from Sheffield Hallam University.

Peter has been a member of the IASS since 1988. Florence 1993 was his first ISI session and he has missed only one since then. He has been organiser of IP meetings and discussant at IP meetings and has twice been a member of the IASS scientific programme committee as well as presenting several papers at ISI sessions. He has been IASS country rep for the UK since 2000. He was elected a full member of ISI in 2002.

Peter has been involved in many international survey activities. He was a member of the European Science Foundation committee that developed a blueprint for the *European Social Survey* (ESS) and for the past nine years has been a member of the ESS expert panel on sampling, which is responsible for developing and assessing sample designs in collaboration with the national teams in all of the 36 countries that have to date taken part in the ESS. He was for several years a course leader on the Eurostat *Training of European Statisticians* programme, presenting fifteen courses in six countries. He has acted as consultant to major public sector surveys in Thailand, Albania, Russia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, where he developed an efficient probability sampling method for household surveys in the post-war period. He is currently working with a team developing household panel surveys to study poverty in Chile.

Back home, Peter is co-director of the UK Survey Resources Network. The network provides training in survey practice, online research resources, co-ordination of methodological research activities, and strategic advice on survey methods to the ESRC, the UK's main funding body for academic surveys and research. Peter is also part of the management team of *Understanding Society: The UK Household Panel Study*, an ambitious new panel survey with a sample of 40,000 households and various methodological innovations. Additionally, Peter is a member of the UK Government Statistical Service Methodology Advisory Committee, is a board member of the European Survey Research Association and is editor of the online journal, *Survey Research Methods*. In 2003 he was awarded the Royal Statistical Society Guy Medal in Bronze.

### **Candidate for the Office of Scientific Secretary**

**NAME: Leyla Mohadjer**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1954

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: USA

**Present Position:** Vice President and Senior Statistician, Westat Inc., USA

**Other Professional Involvement:** Chair, IASS Programme Committee for 2009 ISI meetings, 2006-2009. IASS Council member, 2005-2009. ISI elected member, 2005. Editor, IASS Newsletter, 2000-2003. American Statistical Association (ASA), SRMS (Survey Research Methods Section), Education Officer, 2007-2008. SRMS, Secretary, 2001-2003. WSS (Washington Statistical Society), Representative-at-Large, 2000-2003. ASA Fellow, 2007.

**Professional Interest:** Leyla Mohadjer's special areas of expertise include sample design, selection, and estimation for large-scale complex surveys. She has conducted research on topics such as the impact of incentives on the quality of data collected in Federal surveys, sampling of rare populations within the context of national surveys, compositing of samples selected from overlapping frames, data disclosure risk assessment, nonresponse bias analysis, and small-area estimation. Dr. Mohadjer has contributed to the development of regression models for WesVar, Westat software for the analysis of data from complex sample surveys. She is a member of the faculty of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland, USA.

### **Candidate for the Office of Scientific Secretary**

**NAME: Natalie Shlomo**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1958

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA and Israel

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: UK

I began my career as a Survey Methodologist working for the Statistical Methodology Directorate of the Israel Central Bureau of

Statistics (ICBS) directly after receiving my B.Sc. in Mathematics and Statistics from the Hebrew University, Jerusalem in 1981. Over the years, I served in many capacities including as Head of Survey Estimation and Weighting Division and Census Methodology and Data Processing Sectors. From 2004 to 2006, I took a leave of absence from the ICBS to undertake my Ph.D. studies at the University of Southampton, UK and during that time worked as a consultant for the Statistical Disclosure Control Branch of the Methodology Directorate of the Office for National Statistics.

After completing my Ph.D. at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem in 2007, I joined the faculty of the Social Statistics Division, School of Social Sciences at the University of Southampton, UK, as a Lecturer and Coordinator for the MSc. in Official Statistics Program. I have experience in teaching both at graduate and undergraduate level as well as short training courses. My main areas of interest are survey methodology and the production of official statistics, with particular focus on data integration, estimation procedures, non-response analysis and adjustments, statistical disclosure control, small area estimation and edit and imputation processes. I am also a member of the International Statistical Institute, the American Statistical Association and the Royal Statistical Society and serve on the IASS Program Committee for the ISI Conference in Durban 2009, as well as the Program Committees for Privacy in Statistical Databases 2006 and 2008 and UNECE Work Sessions on Edit and Imputation from 2004 to 2009. I serve on the UK Census Design and Methodology Advisory Committee and European Task Force for Statistical Disclosure Control of Census Data.

#### **Candidates for IASS Council Members**

**NAME: Mick P. Couper**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1957

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: USA

Mick P. Couper is a Research Professor in the Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, at the University of Michigan and a

Research Professor in the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM). He holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from Rhodes University (South Africa), an M.A. in Applied Social Research from the University of Michigan and an M.Soc.Sc. from the University of Cape Town. He is an elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, and has been an IASS member since 1992. He has over 20 years experience designing and conducting surveys using a wide range of methods and in a variety of settings around the world. He has presented short course on various survey topics in places ranging from South Africa to China, Vietnam, and various European countries. His research has focused on survey nonresponse, self-administered survey methods (such as audio-CASI and the Internet), and the application of technology to the survey data collection process. He is the author of *Designing Effective Web Surveys* (Cambridge, 2008), co-author (with Robert Groves) of *Nonresponse in Household Interview Surveys* (Wiley, 1998), among other books, and has published extensively in a wide range of peer-reviewed survey methods journals.

**NAME: Edith D. de Leeuw**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1962

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: The Netherlands

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: The Netherlands

Edith D. de Leeuw is a full professor in survey methodology at the department of methodology and statistics, Utrecht University. She was president of the Methodology and statistical section of the International Sociological Association and executive secretary of the Dutch Statistical association and (co)organized international conferences. She has published articles in both Dutch and international scientific journals and co-authored books in the field of methodology and statistics, including the recently published *International Handbook of Survey Methodology*. Her most recent publications focus on mixed-mode surveys, children as respondents and comparative research. She has taught specialized courses on survey methodology both in Europe and the USA.

More information and downloadable papers are available at <http://www.xs4all.nl/~edith/>

**NAME: John L. Eltinge**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1960

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: USA

John L. Eltinge is the Associate Commissioner for Survey Methods Research at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. He previously served as a Senior Mathematical Statistician at the BLS, and as an Associate Professor with tenure at Texas A+M University. He received a Ph.D. from the Department of Statistics at Iowa State University in 1987. He is currently the President-Elect of the Washington Statistical Society, and served previously as the 2003 Program Chair for the Joint Statistical Meetings, as the 2000 Program Chair for the Survey Research Section of the ASA, and as a member of the 2001 IASS Program Committee. His primary research interests are in nonresponse, measurement error, survey inference, survey cost structures, and the application of computationally intensive analysis methods to survey data.

**NAME: Eva Elvers**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1947

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Sweden

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Sweden

In 1971-1980 I worked for the National Defence Research Institute and I got a Ph.D. in mathematical statistics from Stockholm University in 1977 with a thesis related to that work. Since 1980 I work for Statistics Sweden, and I have had several positions as a methodologist, e.g. in environmental and economic statistics. Recently I was head of the methodological unit in the Research and Development department for five years. Now I work in the Process department as a process owner with responsibility for the following common sub-processes in the statistics production: Design and plan & Build and test. I have been active in the Swedish Statistical Association several times, e.g. as president from October 2005 until March 2008.

**NAME: Mike Hidioglou**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1948

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Canada

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Canada

Mike Hidioglou has worked for thirty-five years as a survey sampler. The majority of this time has been with Statistics Canada, and two-and a half years with the Office for National Statistics in the United Kingdom as a Director in Methodology. He is currently Director of the Statistical Research and Innovation Division at Statistics Canada, Canada. Mike has extensively published in the area of survey methodology, and has designed numerous business surveys at Statistics Canada. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, and a Member of ISI.

**NAME: Frank. D. Nolan**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1953

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: New Zealand/Ireland/UK

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: UK

I have worked as an official statistician in a variety of roles across a number of different countries and cultures. I currently head the Census and Social Methodology division at the UK Office for National Statistics, with a key accountability for the methodology of the 2011 UK Census. My recent work has concentrated on the quality of statistics (including the European Leadership Expert Group on Quality and Co Chair of Q2006) and aspects of statistical legislation and the quality assurance of official statistics (having lead two EU Peer Review teams in assessing Member States official statistics - Iceland and Norway). I have worked in both economic and social statistics, have been a member of the RSS Official Statistics section, am on the Editorial Panel of the IAOS Journal and teach two courses on the University of Southampton degree in Official Statistics.

**NAME: Eric Schulte Nordholt**  
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1967  
COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: The Netherlands  
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: The Netherlands

Eric Schulte Nordholt is a senior researcher and project leader at Statistics Netherlands. After graduating in Mathematics and Econometrics, he joined Statistics Netherlands in 1992. He first worked in the department of Statistical Methods and since 1996 he is working in Social Statistics. In 1995 he had a secondment at Eurostat in Luxembourg and in 2006 at Statistics New Zealand. Eric Schulte Nordholt is Statistics Netherlands' advisor on the Statistical Disclosure Control of social data and contributed several times to statistical courses. He is responsible for the Dutch Virtual Census where all tables are estimated based on already existing data sources (registers and surveys). Eric Schulte Nordholt presented his work at various conferences and has published in different refereed journals. Eric Schulte Nordholt is a member of the ISI, IAOS, IASS and Netherlands' Society for Statistics and Operations Research.

**NAME: Monica Pratesi**  
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1962  
COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Italy  
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Italy

Monica Pratesi, Associate Professor of Statistics at University of Pisa, has taught several statistics-related courses at University of Florence, Bergamo and Pisa. Her main research fields include small area estimation, inference in elusive populations, nonresponse in telephone and Internet surveys, design effect in fitting statistical models. She has been involved in the management of several research projects related to these fields and now she coordinates a collaborative project on Small Area Methodologies for Poverty and Living Conditions Estimates (S.A.M.P.L.E. project) funded by the European Commission in the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Program. She has served in several roles as a member of the Italian Statistical Society and the European Survey Research Association. She has been Secretary of the Scientific Organizing

Committee of the 56<sup>th</sup> ISI Session IASS Satellite Meeting on Small Area Estimation in Pisa in 2007. Her recent academic position includes that of Vice-President of one graduate school at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Pisa and Vice-Director of the Department of Statistics and Mathematics Applied to Economics of the University of Pisa.

**NAME: Ineke Stoop**  
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1953  
COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: The Netherlands  
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: The Netherlands

Ineke Stoop is head of the Department of Data Services and IT, Netherlands Institute for Social Research/SCP. Her main research interests are comparative social surveys and nonresponse. She is an elected member of the ISI, and a member of the Advisory Council on Methodology and Quality of Statistics Netherlands, and of the Central Coordinating Team of the European Social Survey. Until recently, she chaired the Subcommittee of Social Statistics of the European Advisory Committee on Statistical Information in the Economic and Social Spheres (CEIES). Ms Stoop is co-founder of the Dutch Platform for Survey Research, and Laureate of the 2005 Descartes Prize for Excellence in Scientific Collaborative Research.

**NAME: Yves Tille**  
YEAR OF BIRTH: 1960  
COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Belgium  
COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Switzerland

Yves Tillé is currently professor at the University of Neuchatel in Switzerland. He holds a Ph.D. in Statistics of the University of Brussels. He was previously assistant professor at the École Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse de l'Information (Rennes, France). His research interests are in survey sampling and estimation in finite populations. His main contributions deal with sampling algorithms, calibration, resampling method in finite population, and repeated sampling.

**NAME: Imbi Traat**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1950

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Estonia

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Estonia

Imbi Traat is Associate Professor at the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, University of Tartu, Estonia where she teaches various disciplines in mathematical statistics but supervise students mostly on survey sampling theory and methodology which has been my research area for last 15 years. The Estonian Science Foundation has supported her research and educational activities by three grants. Two of her students have won the Cochran-Hansen price for their works. After re-independence of the country, she was involved in designing first sample surveys in Statistics Estonia, now offering consulting support and preparing young specialists-methodologists for that agency, also acting in the scientific council of Census 2011 prepared by Statistics Estonia. Serves as the country coordinator of the Baltic-Nordic network in survey sampling theory and methodology that has over the years organized 10 annual workshops and two international conferences. Country representative and IASS member since 1993, and ISI member since 1999.

**NAME: Marcel D. T. Vieira**

YEAR OF BIRTH: 1976

COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: Brazil

COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE: Brazil

Marcel Vieira (B.Sc. M.Sc. Ph.D) is Senior Lecturer of Statistics at the Department of Statistics at the Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil. His academic interests focus on statistical methods in sample surveys, official statistics, and the social sciences, including the design and analysis of longitudinal sample surveys. He was the CASS-ESRC Fellow at the Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute (S<sup>3</sup>RI) at the University of Southampton in 2006, and the Cochran-Hansen Prize winner in 2007.

# Country Reports



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## Australia

Paul Sutcliffe

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There is a substantial amount of activity in Australia in the area of **data linkage**, mostly health-related. Some examples of key players are the long established Western Australian Data Linkage Unit and the more recently established Centre for Health Related Linkage (CHeReL) in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

One of the 12 capabilities being addressed by the Federal Government funded National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy is Population Health and Clinical Data linkage which aims to

- enhance the linkage and integration of health-related data collected in Australia;
- provide improved accessibility to these data for the research sector; and
- support the development of improved data collection systems.

A panel discussion about whether national statistical agencies and collections should be an integral component of a national data linkage infrastructure will be held at the Second National Symposium on Data Linkage Research. A record linkage workshop on linking cancer and other health data, challenges and issues, a global view is also planned.

Meanwhile the ABS has almost completed the first stage of the Census Data Enhancement project, reported about in the September 2005 issue. The primary aim of this project is to link a 5% sample of the 2006 Census with records

from the 2011 and subsequent censuses thus forming a Statistical Longitudinal Census Data set (SLCD). The linkage must be performed without using name and address as, in keeping with standard ABS practice, these have not been retained for the 2006 Census.

During the 2006 Census processing period a number of quality studies were conducted linking several different data sets to the Census using names and addresses while they were still available. An important one was a feasibility study conducted to determine the likely quality of linked Census data. The study involved linking the Census data to the Census Dress Rehearsal data, which were collected from a sample of households one year prior to the Census. Linkages were performed using name and address to form a benchmark linkage (Gold Standard), without name and address (Bronze Standard) and using hash-encoded names which have since been destroyed (Silver Standard). The method of linkage was probabilistic.

Various measures of linkage quality were developed including match-link rate, link accuracy, features of unlinked records, under- and over-representation of population sub-groups in the linked data sets and comparisons of models fitted to Gold, Silver and Bronze Standard linked data sets. A further refinement was to apply a method of adjusting fitted models to take account of inexact linkage. Reports of this work are being written and will be available on the ABS website in early 2009.

For further information please contact Glenys Bishop, Analytical Services Branch on +61 2 6252 5140 or email: [glenys.bishop@abs.gov.au](mailto:glenys.bishop@abs.gov.au)

## Climate change perceptions of Australian farmers:

The 2006-07 *Natural Resource Management Survey* was the second collection of its type conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and, in response to demand, the survey sought some information from land holders relating to their perceptions of climate change on their holding. Respondents were asked if they considered that the climate affecting their holding had changed, what the climatic changes were (e.g., temperatures, rainfall, extreme events), the impact of the changes (e.g., increased/decreased production, increase/decrease of weeds or pests), and any farm practice changes made in response.

No new survey methodology was used but asking perception questions of the farming community - especially around one of their pet topics of discussion - climate, is considered new and novel. The results have provided another important perspective of Australian farm management which, because they are based on the perceptions of land holders, may differ from scientific or satellite assessment.

Testing revealed a strong acceptance of the questions and a good understanding of the concepts. Some concerns that were raised related to interpretation of *Climate Change* (are recent weather patterns just part of a natural cycle?) and the absence of a specified time-frame. Many of those interviewed pointed to their own on-farm weather/production records as a possible basis for their consideration. The multi optional questions on *changed climate elements* and *impact of changes* had worse than expected completion rates. While the added complexity of this type of questions are always a problem for respondents, the sensitive nature of this topic seems to have added an extra 10-20% to the error count. With the impact question, an issue was also found that related to the wording of the question leading to bias/unwillingness to answer the question in the prescribed manner. A thorough editing process detected and repaired most of the

inconsistencies and the final results are not thought to be significantly impaired.

A summary of the results can be seen in the table below. More specific details were released in the publication *Farm Management and Climate 2006-07*, cat. no. 4625.0, including types of changes (e.g., rainfall, extreme events, temperature), noticeable impacts (e.g., change in production levels, change in frequency of pests or weeds) and changes in management practices.

LAND HOLDERS' PERCEPTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE

	Total agricultural businesses no.	Consider climate affecting holding has %	Impact of perceived changes to climate on holding %	Have changed management practices %
NSW (a)	47 629	63.6	60.7	47.1
Vic.	37 410	74.2	71.2	58.0
Qld	30 551	60.6	57.3	46.1
SA	15 815	67.3	63.4	50.7
WA	13 592	58.5	54.6	41.8
Tas.	4 766	69.4	65.8	50.2
NT	640	31.8	25.0	14.9
Aust.	150 403	65.6	62.4	49.5

(a) includes ACT

For further information please contact Karen Connaughton, Land and Agriculture Statistics on +61 2 6252 5502 or email: [karen.connaughton@abs.gov.au](mailto:karen.connaughton@abs.gov.au)

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### Brazil

Marcel de Toledo Vieira

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An **Invited Paper Meeting (IPM) on Model-Based Survey Sampling** was held during the 18<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Symposium on Probability and Statistics (Sinape), which was organized by the Brazilian Statistical Association in July 2008 in São Pedro, state of São Paulo. The IPM was organized by Dr. Pedro Luis do Nascimento Silva (IASS President) and was structured around three invited talks, which were entitled "Estimating Population Models from Survey Data Under Informative Sampling" (Professor Danny Pfeffermann, Hebrew University and University of Southampton, S<sup>3</sup>RI), "Dealing with



Nonresponse: Weighting and Imputation Methods” (Professor Djalma Pessoa, Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics, IBGE), and “Superpopulation Models: The Foundations and Some Applications” (Dr. Fernando Moura, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, UFRJ).

The 18<sup>th</sup> **Sinape** was very well attended, with over 700 delegates from most Brazilian states, and from several other countries such as Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Spain, United States, Netherlands, Peru, Switzerland, and United Kingdom. In addition to the IPM on Model-Based Survey Sampling, the conference program contained the following activities, which were related to the Survey Sampling Methodology topic:

- a short course on “Small Area Estimation” (Dr. Fernando Moura, UFRJ),
- two invited talks, which were entitled “Estimation of Treatment Effects in Observational Studies by Fitting Models Generating the Sample Data” (Professor Danny Pfeffermann, Hebrew University and University of Southampton), and “Covariance Structure Models for Longitudinal Complex Survey Data” (Dr. Marcel Vieira, Federal University of Juiz de Fora, UFJF), and
- a Contributed Paper and Poster Session on Official Statistics and Demography.

The organizing committee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Brazilian School on Sampling and Survey Methodology - ESAMP**, which is going to be held this year, has been launched with the aim of defining the programme, date and place where the conference will take place. The 1<sup>st</sup> ESAMP was held at IBGE’s Centre for Documentation and Information Dissemination (CDDI) in Rio de Janeiro in November 2007. That conference, with over 150 delegates from most Brazilian states, brought together for the first time in Brazil survey statisticians, researchers from both official statistics offices and universities, and students, with the aim of discussing the most recent methodological developments on survey sampling design and the analysis of complex survey data. For further information on the 2<sup>nd</sup> ESAMP, please contact Dr. Cristiano Ferraz (Federal University of Pernambuco, UFPE) at

[cferraz@de.ufpe.br](mailto:cferraz@de.ufpe.br), or Dr. Eduardo Lima Campos (National School of Statistical Sciences, ENCE, IBGE), at [eduardo.campos@ibge.gov.br](mailto:eduardo.campos@ibge.gov.br).

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## Canada

John Kovar

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Statistics Canada has initiated a program to produce **population projections for ethnocultural diversity** of Canadian population for the years 2006-2031. Microsimulation models will simulate the future course of events that each individual in the current population may experience and will be based upon the population and its characteristics of interest as shown in the micro data from the 2006 Census of Population.

A number of different scenarios are considered with respect to how fertility, mortality, immigration, emigration, and internal migration may evolve from 2006 through 2031. Several different statistical models and approaches are used. For the *fertility* component and the *internal migration* component, log-log regressions are used. For *the transfer of characteristics from mother to child*, transition matrices are used. The *change of marital status* component uses logistic regression models with trend parameters to control for changes in the growth of common-law unions. The *mortality* component and the *emigration* component utilize Cox proportional hazards regression models. To estimate the *immigration* component, individuals who join the population during the simulation are assigned characteristics by a donor imputation method; the donors are selected at random from the database. Statistical models for other components like *religious mobility*, *highest level of schooling* are still under study.

The work is done using a general purpose microsimulation modeling software called Modgen developed at Statistics Canada. It has a visual interface that implements functionality useful in simulation modeling such as scenario management, parameter input, display of results tables and generated on-line model documentation.

For further information, please contact [Robert-Charles.Titus@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:Robert.Charles.Titus@statcan.gc.ca) or [Eric.CaronMalenfant@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:Eric.CaronMalenfant@statcan.gc.ca).

**Twenty years of the General Social Survey:** Statistics Canada's General Social Survey (GSS) has been gathering information from Canadians since 1985. The two primary objectives of the GSS are, first, to gather data on social trends in order to monitor changes in the living conditions and wellbeing of Canadians over time and, second, to provide information on specific social policy issues of current or emerging interest. In addition to collecting data on general social conditions in Canada, the GSS has also explored several special topics including health, time use, personal risk and victimization, education and work, social networks, family, aging and retirement, social support and technology use.

The GSS uses computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) to collect data from respondents in a sample of households selected by the method of Random Digit Dialling (RDD). This survey design is attractive because of lower collection costs, as well as considerable flexibility with respect to sample design. Coverage is very good as only a very small proportion of households in the ten provinces do not have telephones. Response rates for the GSS have been typically around 70 to 80%. Nevertheless, telephone interviewing does have some drawbacks: non-coverage of households, while low, is concentrated in population groups with low educational attainment or income; response rates tend to be lower for telephone interviews than for face-to-face interviews, and there are limitations on the amount and type of data which can be collected.

As a result of the General Social Survey 20th Anniversary Project, it is now possible to observe the changing social conditions of Canadians over the past twenty years. The GSS Historical Database is available in Research Data Centres across Canada. This historical database with twenty years of data includes a series of data files containing harmonized variables for trend analysis. To accompany the database, tools and supporting documents are also provided to aid researchers in analyzing these data. Statistics

Canada is also releasing a series of Fact Sheets highlighting important findings from the 20 years of data (see <http://www.statcan.ca/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=89-630-X&CHROPG=1>).

For more information, contact: Heather Dryburgh at [heather.dryburgh@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:heather.dryburgh@statcan.gc.ca) or Isabelle Marchand at [isabelle.marchand@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:isabelle.marchand@statcan.gc.ca).

The Canadian **Labour Force Survey** is redesigned every ten years. The document Methodology of the Canadian Labour Force Survey describing the latest design is now available in PDF format at this link: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/71-526-XIE/71-526-XIE2007001.htm>

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## France

Benoît Riandey

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For over a year, official statistics and surveys have been the topic of heated debates in France, notably on the measurement of the unemployment rate, the inflation rate and the discrimination rate. The introduction of the Euro, the European currency, was blamed for a sharp rise in prices, even though the consumer price survey indicated otherwise. Objective and subjective increases in price diverged. Recent expert opinion suggested that this negative perception was due to stagnation in purchasing power and an increase in the fixed expenditures portion of income, and did not question the statistical tool, only the way it was presented in publications.

When the election campaign was in full force, a debate on changes in the unemployment rate led to questions about the quality of the ongoing *Emploi* survey, France's portion of the European labour force survey. In fact, administrative records indicated a sharper drop in "unemployment" than the *Emploi* survey. The Director of the statistics bureau cautiously suspended the survey's release in order to conduct a non-response control survey and ensure that non-response was not the reason for the discrepancy between the sources. Labour statisticians found that the gap was instead due to changes in the way

the administrative records of job seekers were managed, as these were being contacted more often than before, and, hence, struck off more quickly from the records. In addition, survey statisticians found that while the move to the ongoing European survey had resulted in a decline in the response rates, these had stabilized and could not therefore be introducing a bias that accounted for the recent changes. In fact, the control survey estimated at only 0.1% the difference in unemployment from the survey, whose quality was fully recognized. While the independence of official statistics was not in question, this development hurt its public image at an important time and contributed to the government's decision to replace the highly respected director of the bureau of statistics. This might have helped the August 2008 vote on legislation guaranteeing the independence of statistics, as required under the code of good practices on European statistics.

More worrisome for official statistics are the controversies surrounding the government's policy on immigrant controls, which have hindered some of the statistical operations, whether based on surveys or administrative records. The statistical handling of discrimination greatly lags behind in France. Regardless of whether this is done in good faith or bad, associations sometimes incorrectly equate anonymous survey records with police records. On the heels of an intensive and confused social debate, it is now impossible in France to assess the impact of discrimination based on physical appearance through an official statistical survey. The debate led to the elimination of students' social or geographic origins from student school record databases. This means that any corresponding future statistical record will be deprived of this key social information. How will we measure the extent to which French schools adapt to minority children if statistical sources do not record the minority grouping of these children? Certainly, it is the student panels who fill out the administrative records that triggered this understandable defiance. But in the current climate, intimidated authorities prohibit these questions from being asked to these school panels. Statisticians are well aware that it is not enough for records to be secure: the

public must be completely confident that they are secure or the statistics will not be reliable.

In June 2008 one minister declared that the number of illegal immigrants had fallen by 8% in one year. Needless to say, there is no statistical model to corroborate these "back-of-the-envelope estimates." It was in this climate that the government decided to distance the statistical services from Paris, raising some strong concerns.

To close on an optimistic note, as you read *Le Statisticien d'Enquête*, you will find on the INSEE Web site the first results of the renewed population census. This broad census, which rotates through the smaller communities over a five-year cycle, and is conducted annually in the larger ones, will release its first population estimates on communities since the 1999 census. This is a revolution for official statistics. A number of methodological difficulties were confronted. This will be the topic of our next report in this publication.

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## Germany

Ralf Münnich

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The four publicly funded **research data centres (RDC) in Germany** – the Research Data Centre of the Federal Employment Agency at the Institute for Employment Research (<http://fdz.iab.de/>), the Research Data Centre of the German Pension Insurance (<http://forschung.deutschenversicherung.de/ForschPortalWeb>), the Research Data Centre of the Statistical Offices of the Länder and the Research Data Centre of the German Federal Statistical Office (<http://www.forschungsdatenzentrum.de/en/index.asp>) – have made a significant improvement to the data and services available to researchers over the past few years. Two data service centres – the German Microdata Lab (GML) at ZUMA and the International Data Service Center at IZA (IDSC) – were also set up as part of this development, and have also worked very successfully.

Founded on a recommendation by the German Commission on Improving the Informational Infrastructure between Science and Statistics (KVI; 2001) and funded in the project phases by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the centres have developed in a form that was not initially anticipated. Their services are widely used, empirical findings lead to refereed publications and the state of research in rendering microdata anonymous has made great leaps. Many policy decisions are now planned and evaluated on the basis of data originating from the data research centres. Germany has gone from the bottom of Europe's league with regard to the use of individual data produced by empirical research with public funding, to an innovative provider of new ideas, such as on access to individual data for teaching purposes and linked employer-employee datasets.

In 2007, the research data centres developed criteria for the specific design of research data centres in Germany in conjunction with the German Council for Social and Economic Data (RatSWD; <http://www.ratswd.de/eng/index.html>). These criteria are based on the experiences of the four research data centres, which have now all been positively evaluated according to the regulations of the Leibniz Association. The criteria catalogue is designed as a guideline for other data producers planning to set up a research data centre.

**Project TrEffeR - Treatment Effects and Prediction:** The German Federal Employment Agency (BA) has developed a comprehensive evaluation system and thus a completely new database to measure the efficiency of the large variety of job-training programs. Because the assignment to any of the possible training programs (i.e., treatments) is typically not based on an explicit randomized process, corrections have to be done before drawing causal inferences. Basically, we try to answer the following type of question for each job-training program and each trained person: If a person had not been job trained, how much time would have passed until the person found employment? Based on the framework of Rubin's Causal Model, we multiply impute these missing

potential outcomes to get estimates of the individual causal effects. This so-called "null dataset" can be used to estimate any average treatment effect of interest. Since this is a massive imputation task, innovative and complex algorithms, as well as the automation of the whole process, have been developed in a joint project among the BA, its research institute IAB, Donald B. Rubin, Harvard University, and Susanne Rässler, Bamberg University. For more information contact [Susanne.Raessler@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:Susanne.Raessler@uni-bamberg.de)

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## New Zealand

John Créquer

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The first **General Social Survey (GSS)** was launched in April 2008 and is the 'flagship' survey of the Programme of Official Social Statistics. The Programme of Official Social Statistics is a 10 year programme aimed to meet the most important information needs and provide a coherent picture of social issues and social change in New Zealand.

From April 2008 to March 2009 the General Social Survey will collect information on key aspects of social well-being for the population of New Zealand. The GSS will function as an integrating survey, providing a cross-domain perspective of social well-being. In representing key aspects of social well-being across a range of domains, it will provide a basis for cross-domain analysis. The 12 'social outcome' domains covered by the GSS are population, housing, safety and security, economic standard of living, knowledge and skills, health, paid work, culture and identity, social connectedness, human rights, physical environment, and leisure and recreation. The contents of these domains can be changed between iterations of the GSS, to address different information needs.

The GSS is a sample survey of the usually resident population of New Zealand aged 15 years and over, staying in permanent private dwellings in New Zealand. It will have an achieved sample size of 8,000 households and has a 12 month collection period. One



individual will be selected from each household and the GSS is expected to take on average 45 minutes per household to complete. The household and individual demographics are collected through a standard core demographic module which is incorporated in a range of social surveys.

The GSS will be conducted every two years with the next General Social Survey to start in 2010, reflecting the need for regular information on social outcomes. For more information contact person [Conal.Smith@Stats.govt.nz](mailto:Conal.Smith@Stats.govt.nz)

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### Poland

Tomasz Zadło

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The 5th Biennial Conference on **Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research** was held at the Faculty of Management of the University of Economics in Katowice (Poland), 8-10 September 2008. It was organized by the Department of Statistics at the University of Economics in Katowice in co-operation with Department of Statistical Methods of Łódź University and the Polish Statistical Association. The Scientific Committee consisted of Andrzej Barczak, Czesław Bracha, Czesław Domański (chair), Lorenzo Fattorini, Zdzisław Hellwig, Jan Kordos, Walenty Ostasiewicz, Jan Paradysz, Jan Steczkowski, Jacek Wesołowski, Janusz Wywiat.

Conference participants, representing universities, statistical agencies and opinion poll companies, came from 8 countries. At the conference 3 invited lectures and 18 papers were presented. The conference was organized to give an opportunity to present latest developments in survey sampling and related fields and to exchange experience on practical applications of survey sampling. The topics discussed during the conference included:

- Estimation of population parameters based on complex samples
- Statistical inference based on incomplete data

- Small area estimation
- Sample size and cost optimization in survey sampling
- Sampling designs
- Statistical inference using auxiliary information
- Model-based estimation
- Longitudinal surveys
- Practical applications of survey sampling

Abstracts are available at

<http://web.ae.katowice.pl/metoda>

The invited lectures were presented by Malay Ghosh on Bayes and empirical bayes benchmarking with applications to small area estimation, Nicholas T. Longford on Small-area estimation with spatial similarity, and Yves Tillé on Balanced sampling, principles, algorithms and applications.

The conference was sponsored by the Polish Statistical Association and SPSS Poland. The 6th Conference on Survey Sampling in Economic and Social Research will take place in 2010.

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### United States

Howard Hogan

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For the past two decades, the **Survey of Income and Program Participation** (SIPP) has been the leading source of data on the economic well-being of Americans. Recently, the U.S. Census Bureau initiated a project to reengineer the SIPP in order to provide crucial information in a timely manner and at reduced cost through reengineered survey design, improvements in processing efficiency, and a focused content scope. The main purpose of SIPP is to provide a nationally representative sample that can be used to evaluate the annual and sub-annual dynamics of income, the movements into and out of government transfer programs, and the effect on family and social context of individuals and households.

As reported in the January 2008 edition of the Survey Statistician, part of the reengineering of the SIPP is the development and evaluation of an event history calendar instrument

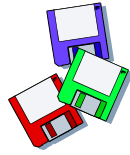
(EHC). In December 2007, collaborating with the University of Michigan's Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) staff, we held a two-day conference on the use of, evaluation of data from, and training of Field Representatives for the EHC methodology. The conference featured presenters and attendees from numerous countries in addition to those from across the federal government and academics within the U.S. Papers presented at the conference are available at the following website:  
<http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Publications/Workshops/ehc-07papers.html>

A continuous outreach effort has been a critical component of the SIPP reengineering effort. Papers and presentations made to inform current and potential SIPP users and stakeholders are available on the SIPP website under a link specifically for reengineered SIPP:  
<http://www.census.gov/sipp/dews.html>

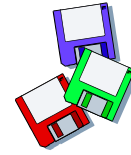
From March through early June the U.S. Census Bureau conducted a re-interview and validation test of the EHC methodology. We re-interviewed respondents from the 2004 SIPP Panel in two locations (Texas and Illinois) re-collecting information about calendar year 2007 using a paper and pencil event history calendar instrument. Of our 1,945 households listed for interviewing, 1,792 were determined to be eligible in the field, and completed interviews were collected for 1,627 households yielding a 91% response rate. These households included two groups, those responding during 2007, and a component cut prior to 2007 as part of a SIPP sample reduction. The evaluation comparing these groups with their paper EHC responses is ongoing and should be available during the fall/winter of 2008. Following the evaluation of the survey responses – both the SIPP and EHC survey responses will be compared with administrative records in a validation activity.

Progress is continuing in the SIPP reengineering effort to field a test of the CAPI Event History Calendar instrument in early 2010. This test will focus on the ability to integrate an instrument with EHC methodology into survey management systems, survey field operations, and survey processing. We are developing the evaluation

strategy, and will survey approximately 5,000 households in selected metropolitan areas, focusing on those areas with higher than average poverty rates. Following the successful completion of this test and the evaluation of the results from both the paper EHC and CAPI EHC tests we expect to implement an enhanced version of this instrument in 2013, collecting data about calendar year 2012. For more information please contact  
[David.S.Johnson@census.gov](mailto:David.S.Johnson@census.gov)



# SOFTWARE REVIEW



Software reviews over the last several years have presented summaries of the features of a number of systems or components of systems that deal directly with survey estimation issues, particularly sampling error and weighting procedures. They have addressed such systems as Epilinfo, Wesvar, SUDAAN, SAS sampling error PROCedures, Stata, IVEware, and software for generalized regression weighting. Some of this software is available for free over the internet, and others require payment of a licensing fee.

We are considering additional reviews, and we would like to get reader advice about

software that has not been reviewed to date, or for updated reviews on some software. We also would like to hear from you about whether there are software systems that address other survey sampling issues that you'd like us to review. Please keep in mind that we review only software that is available for purchase or for free download. We do not review proprietary or other software that our readers cannot purchase or access through a download.

Please send your advice and ideas to the editor Dan Hedlin.

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#### To All Members

- ◆ The IASS needs your contribution.
- ◆ Please do not forget to renew your membership.
- ◆ The payment of dues and subscriptions must be made either in Euros or in U.S. dollars.

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## Joint Statistical Meetings 2009

### Invited session sponsored by the IASS

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The next **Joint Statistical Meetings** (JSM) will be held on August 2-6, 2009 in Washington DC. The IASS has been chosen to organize an **invited session** entitled: **Use of Administrative Data in Policy Making**. The session is scheduled for 2:00 p.m., on Tuesday, August 4.

The analysis of statistics derived from surveys or administrative files constitute a major input in the elaboration of public policies. The use of administrative files in the production of statistics has been growing in statistical agencies. Administrative data offer advantages such as being available for the entire population of interest and reducing the response burden, but also have a few drawbacks such as possible discrepancies between the available data and the desired concepts. Some countries have been successful in extracting information and developing policies strictly based on the use of administrative data, i.e., without the use of sample surveys or together with sample surveys.

At this session, examples of applications of administrative data in policy making will be given, followed by a discussant that will present the user's point of view with regard to the use of statistical information for policy debate and decision making.

The session should interest statisticians involved in the processing and the use of

administrative data and who are interested in getting the maximum out of such data for the benefit of policy makers. This session should provide some different points of view regarding the quality of statistics required.

Our three speakers will each broach the subject from a different angle:

**Sonia Demers** (Statistics Canada): "Use of Income Tax Data of Individuals for Demographic Purposes";

**Seppo Laaksonen** (Statistics Finland and University of Helsinki): "Register data are a good backbone but sometimes restricted for policy makers. Experiences from Finland over some decades."

**Stéphane Jugnot** (INSEE): "Mixing Administrative and Survey Data in a Longitudinal Setting: Construction and uses of the French Permanent Demographic Sample."

**Dr. John Eltinge** (Bureau of Labor Statistics) will be discussant. He will bring the user's point of view in order to show what is expected from statisticians.

For information on the JSM 2009 see:  
[www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2009](http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2009)

#### Session Organizers

**Louise Bourque**

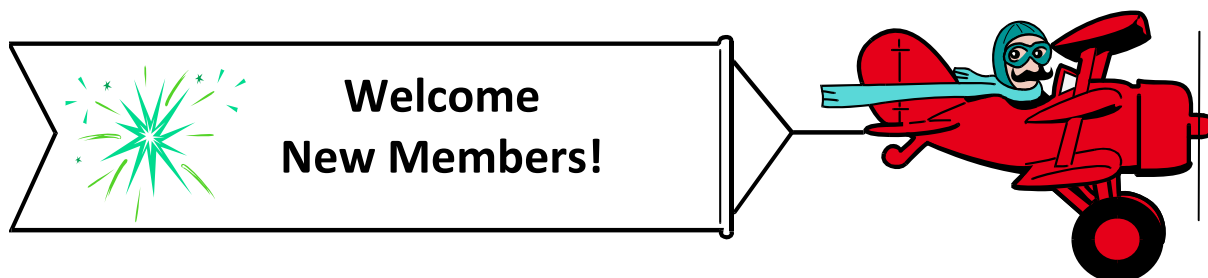
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**Pierre Lavallée**

Statistics Canada  
[pierre.lavallee@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:pierre.lavallee@statcan.gc.ca)







*We are very pleased to welcome the following new members:*

Country	First Name	Last Name
Argentina	Roberto	de Miguel
Azores, Madeira	Sofia	Ferreira
Brasil	Raphael	Nishimura
Egypt	Mahmoud	Al Kasapi
Iran	Afsaneh	Yazdani
Iran	Mahmoud	Salahi
Italy	Alessandro	Barbiero
Nepal	Naresh	Khatiwada
Sierra Leone	Gbogboto	Musa
South Africa	Nhlanhla	Makhanya
South Africa	Pinki	Mulibana
Thailand	Karuna	Sriklung
Tunisia	Gregoire	Mboya de Loubassou
Ukraine	Olga	Vasylyk
UK	Emilio	Lopez Escobar
USA	Brenda M.	Roper

Dear New Member:  
 For questions or input regarding *The Survey Statistician*, please contact:

Dan Hedlin  
 Statistics Sweden  
 Dept of Research and Development  
 Box 24 300  
 SE-104 51 Stockholm  
 Sweden  
[dan.hedlin@scb.se](mailto:dan.hedlin@scb.se)

## Announcements

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**XXV International Methodology  
Symposium  
Statistics Canada  
Longitudinal Surveys: from Design to  
Analysis  
October 27-30 2009  
Gatineau, Qc, Canada  
Call for Contributed Papers**

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The International Methodology Symposium, which mark this year its **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary event**, will take place at the Palais des Congrès conference centre in Gatineau (5 minutes from downtown Ottawa) October 27-30, 2009.

This Symposium will be titled “**Longitudinal Surveys: from Design to Analysis**”. Members of the community, such as those with private research organizations, governments, and universities, who are interested in statistical or methodological issues specific to longitudinal surveys, are invited to attend. In addition, a special call is extended to all those who have attended past Symposia and who wish to celebrate this anniversary with us.

The first day will consist of workshops, while the following days will consist of both plenary and parallel sessions covering a variety of topics. Additional research and results will be presented via poster sessions.

We are soliciting papers related to **several methodological aspects of longitudinal surveys**, including

- Sampling Frame and Design
- Content and Questionnaire Design
- Data Collection
- Collection Method
- Use of Administrative Data
- Imputation
- Weighting and Estimation
- Dissemination and Data Access
- Longitudinal Data Analysis

- Analysis Software
- International Comparability
- Measurement Errors
- Respondent Burden
- Attrition and Nonresponse
- Confidentiality, Privacy and Ethical Issues
- Longitudinal Surveys on Hard-to-Trace Populations
- Challenges Related to Economic Longitudinal Surveys

Your proposal must be submitted by e-mail to: [symposium2009@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:symposium2009@statcan.gc.ca) by **March 31, 2009**. It should include a 250-word abstract (French or English) of the content of the presentation, as well as its title and your full contact information.

We will contact you by **May 1st, 2009**, to inform you whether or not your proposed communication has been accepted. In the case it has been accepted, the final slides of your presentation will have to be submitted by **September 4th, 2009**. Proceedings from the conference will be published and disseminated to participants. Your final paper will need to be sent by **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010**.

Visit our Internet site regularly to learn more details on the program, workshops, registration, accommodation, tourism information and more at

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/conferences/symposium2009/index-eng.htm>

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**ITACOSM09 First ITALian COnference on  
Survey Methodology June 10-12, 2009,  
Siena, Italy**

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Organizer:

The Permanent Working Group of the Italian Statistical Society on "Sample Survey Methodology"

<http://www.gruppocampioni.unisi.it/>

**Conference Aims**

Sample surveys are challenged to produce unbiased, precise, timely, and cost-efficient estimates of population characteristics, mainly averages and totals. This conference serves as a scientific forum on development, testing, and application of survey sampling methodologies in the fields of economics, of social and demographic sciences, of official statistics and in the studies on biological and environmental phenomena.

**Conference topics**

- Auxiliary information
- Complex surveys
- Incomplete data
- Longitudinal surveys
- Non-sampling errors
- Practical applications
- Small area estimation

**Keynote Speakers**

The following speakers have agreed to participate:

- Yves Berger (University of Southampton)
- Timothy Gregoire (Yale University)
- Carl Erik Särndal (University of Montreal)
- Yves Tillé (Université de Neuchatel)

**Important Dates**

Title and extended abstract submission deadline: **March, 31st, 2009.**

Papers should be sent in pdf format to [itacosm09@unisi.it](mailto:itacosm09@unisi.it).

Instruction for Authors are available on the conference web site.

<http://www.unisi.it/eventi/dmq2009/>

Notice of acceptance will be given April, 15th, 2009

Early Registration deadline: May, 10th, 2009

**Scientific Committee**

Giancarlo Blangiardo, Giuseppe Cicchitelli, Marisa Civardi, Giuliana Coccia, Giancarlo Diana, Lorenzo Fattorini (chair), Andrea Giommi, Gianni Marliani, Giovanna Nicolini, Monica Pratesi, Nicola Torelli

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For more information

<http://www.unisi.it/eventi/dmq2009/>  
[itacosm09@unisi.it](mailto:itacosm09@unisi.it)

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**Workshop on survey sampling in honour  
of Jean-Claude Deville  
Neuchatel, Switzerland  
June 24-26, 2009**

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The Institute of Statistics, University of Neuchâtel is organizing a conference in honour of Jean-Claude Deville on June 24-26, 2009, to be held in Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Jean-Claude Deville is one of the most influential survey statisticians of the last 30 years.

This workshop welcomes the exceptional opportunity of celebrating his contributions to survey sampling methodology.

This workshop will also serve the purpose of showcasing the sample methodology. To this end, the conference will bring together members from the sampling community.

All invitees have had the privilege of collaborating or interacting with Jean-Claude Deville throughout his illustrious career.

We do hope you join us in what will surely be an exceptional event celebrating Jean-Claude Deville. We look forward to your presence in Neuchâtel.

Detailed information about the workshop is available at the website:

[http://www2.unine.ch/colloque\\_deville/page24065\\_en.html](http://www2.unine.ch/colloque_deville/page24065_en.html)

You can contact us at [group.stat@unine.ch](mailto:group.stat@unine.ch)

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### Measurement errors in surveys

21-25 September 2009

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The Swedish Statistical Society and the Department of statistics at University of Stockholm are in the process of organising an ECAS course (European Courses in Advanced Statistics) on Measurement errors in surveys on 21-25 September 2009.

Lecturers will be Paul Biemer, Mick Couper, Joop Hox and Edith de Leeuw.

The venue will be Arild in southern Sweden. For further details see

<http://www.statistics.su.se/ecas/>

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### New Book from the International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP)

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Survey statistics is an important part of the statistical literacy of the public. It is a hidden secret that some Government Statistical Offices are doing as much as or more for **Statistical Literacy** of their countries than Academics, Departments of Education and Statistical Societies. It is for this reason that the ISLP asked the directors of some of the most successful statistical literacy programs of government statistical offices to explain how they do it.

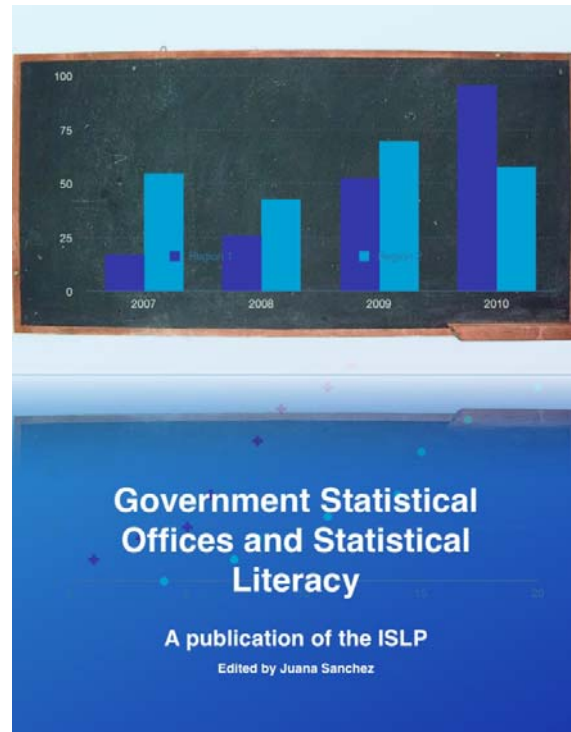
The ISLP has recently published a **book** containing chapters that summarize the efforts of Government Statistical Offices and their statistical literacy programs in detail. Some of these programs are award winning programs, like Statistics Canada's and Statistics Portugal's.

This publication provides examples for other countries and contacts that these countries can dialogue with. The inspiration for this book came from the compilation of government statistical offices done by the ISLP years ago under the leadership of Reija

Helenius and maintained subsequently by her, Paola Guiache and Carol Blumberg.

The book is available from

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp>



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### The Imputation Bulletin Statistics Canada

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The Imputation Bulletin is published by Statistics Canada twice a year. It is devoted to promoting best practice and disseminating information related to imputation methods and applications. The contents include information on papers, conferences and other activities related to imputation.

The bulletin is distributed via e-mail free of charge. If you are interested please send an email to: [imputationbulletin@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:imputationbulletin@statcan.gc.ca)

The contents of the last issue include papers on the relationship between imputation and confidentiality protection in surveys: Jerome Reiter on *Protecting data confidentiality in public release datasets: Approaches based on multiple imputation*; Laura Zayatz on *Imputation for disclosure avoidance*; Jean-Louis Tambay on *Using imputation to protect data confidentiality*; and Eric Schulte Nordholt

and Peter-Paul de Wolf on *The links between confidentiality and imputation.*

Visit the new and improved IASS web site and  
read *The Survey Statistician* on line!

<http://isi.cbs.nl/iass/index.htm>

	<p><b>International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS)</b> The Premier World Organization representing who's who in Sample Survey and Census Methodologies</p>
<p>More about the IASS Becoming a member Services for members Survey Statistician Publications IASS Conferences Ask the experts Links What's new</p>	<p><b>FOUNDATION AND OBJECTIVES:</b></p> <p>Founded in 1973, the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) has as its charge and mandate to promote the study and development of the theory and practice of sample surveys and censuses. It also aims to increase interest in surveys and censuses among statisticians, governments, and the public the world over.</p> <p><b>MEMBERSHIP AND EXECUTIVE:</b></p> <p>At present the IASS has approximately 1.200 members from 130 countries and 38 institutional members.</p> <p>IASS headquarters are situated in Libourne (FRANCE) and operate, to a large extent, under the auspices of the French statistical agency INSEE, which lends its expertise and status to aid and promote the association's work.</p> <p>The society is run by an Executive Committee elected for a period of two years and a Council elected for a four-year period.</p> <p>Anyone interested in learning more about IASS should contact</p> <p>Michel Péronnet IASS Executive Director 3 rue de la Cité 33500 Libourne France 33 (0)5 57 55 56 02 e-mail: <a href="mailto:peronnet.michel@wanadoo.fr">peronnet.michel@wanadoo.fr</a></p>
	<p><b>Association Internationale des Statisticiens d'Enquête (AISE)</b></p>

### Important Notices

A PDF file of the newsletter is available on the IASS web site. Currently, a few members prefer to be notified only when a new issue is posted, instead of receiving the hard copy. At this point we do not have a process in place to support this option. A process will be developed when an adequate number of members choose the above. Until that time, all members will continue to receive hard copies of the newsletter. Please send an e-mail to [dan.hedlin@scb.se](mailto:dan.hedlin@scb.se) or [annica.isaksson@scb.se](mailto:annica.isaksson@scb.se) if you would like to take advantage of this option.

Members are encouraged to view the IASS website (<http://isi.cbs.nl/iass/index.htm>) and provide comments or suggestions to Eric Rancourt: [eric.rancourt@statcan.ca](mailto:eric.rancourt@statcan.ca).

## In Other Journals



### **Journal of Official Statistics** An International Review Published by Statistics Sweden

JOS is a scholarly quarterly that specializes in statistical methodology and applications. Survey methodology and other issues pertinent to the production of statistics at national offices and other statistical organizations are emphasized. All manuscripts are rigorously reviewed by independent referees and members of the Editorial Board.

#### **Contents: September 2008, Vol.24, No.3**

##### Special Section on Longitudinal Surveys

Estimating Models for Panel Survey Data under Complex Sampling  
Marcel D.T. Vieira, Chris J. Skinner pp. 343-364

The Contribution of Residential Mobility to Sample Loss in a Birth Cohort Study: Evidence from the First Two Waves of the UK Millennium Cohort Study  
Ian Plewis, Sosthenes C. Ketende, Heather Joshi, Gareth Hughes, pp. 365-385

Seam Effects in Longitudinal Surveys  
Mario Callegaro, pp. 387-409

Dependent Interviewing: Effects on Respondent Burden and Efficiency of Data Collection  
Annette Jackle, pp. 411-430

Explaining the Size and Nature of Response in a Survey on Health Status and Economic Standard  
Fredrik Johansson, Anders Klevmarken, pp. 431-449

Finite Sample Revision Variances for ARIMA Model-Based Signal Extraction  
Tucker McElroy, Richard Gagnon, pp. 451-467

Weight Adjustments for the Grouped Jackknife Variance Estimator  
Richard Valliant, J. Michael Brick, Jill A. Dever, pp. 469-488

Book and Software Reviews  
Rob Burnside, Charlotte Steeh, pp. 489-494

**Contents: December 2008, Vol. 24 No. 4**

Assessing the Value of Bayesian Methods for Inference about Finite Population Quantities

Joseph Sedransk - pp. 495-506

Discussion by Nathaniel Schenker, Trivellore E. Raghunathan pp. 507-512

Discussion by David A. Binder pp. 513-516

Model Averaging Methods for Weight Trimming

Michael R. Elliott pp. 517-540

A Note on the Asymptotic Equivalence of Jackknife and Linearization Variance Estimation for the Gini Coefficient

Yves G. Berger pp. 541-555

On Some Common Practices of Systematic Sampling

Li-Chun Zhang pp. 557-569

Does a Final Coverage Check Identify and Reduce Census Coverage Errors?

Elizabeth Martin, Don A. Dillman pp. 571-589

Privacy Concerns, Too Busy, or Just Not Interested: Using Doorstep Concerns to Predict Survey Nonresponse

Nancy Bates, James Dahlhamer, Eleanor Singer pp. 591-612

Seasonality in Investment Plans and Their Revisions

Alex Teterukovsky pp. 612-622

Editorial Collaborators pp. 623-628





**STATISTICS IN TRANSITION— n s**  
**Journal of the Polish Statistical Association**

**Contents: Vol. 8, No. 3, December 2007**

This issue was devoted mainly to selected papers presented at the *Second Baltic-Nordic Conference on Survey Sampling*. The Conference was held in Kuusamo, Finland, in June 2007. There are also in this issue four articles in the part **Other Articles**, three **reports** from conferences and **Acknowledgement** for referees of volume 8.

Two-Phase Power Allocation in the Finnish Labour Cost Index Survey  
Outi Ahti-Miettinen.

Comparing Alternative Distributional Assumptions in Mixed Models Used for Small Area Estimation of Income Parameters  
Enrico Fabrizi, Maria Rosaria Ferrante and Silvia Pacei

Danish Work Environment Cohort 2005: From Idea to Sampling Design  
Helene Feveile, Ole Olsen, Hermann Burr, Elsa Bach

Design-Based Inference from On-Site Samples  
Thomas Laitila and Annica Isaksson

On the Estimation of Variance of Calibrated Estimators of the Population Covariance  
A. Plikusas and D. Pumputis

Inverse Probability of Censoring Weighting Method in Survival Analysis Based on Survey Data  
Marjo Pyy-Martikainen and Leif Nordberg

Regression Composite Estimation with Application to the Finnish Labour Force Survey  
Riku Salonen

Challenges in the Estimation and Quality Assessment of Services Producer Price Indices  
Markus Gintas Šova, John Wood and Ian Richardson

Administrative and Statistical Registers in Business Statistics of Ukraine  
Olga A. Vasechko and Michel Grun-Rehomme

Unbiased Nonlinear Estimators of a Finite Population Total: Do They Exist?  
Jan Wretman

Estimation of Unpaid Work in Polish Households  
Ilona Błaszczak-Przybycińska

Some Aspects of Post-Enumeration Surveys in Poland  
Jan Kordos

On Basic Notions of Nonparametric Bayesian Inference  
Marek Męczarski

Asymptotic Tests for Receiver Operating Characteristic Curves  
Agnieszka Rossa

### **Reports from Conferences**

*Report from the Small Area Estimation 2007 Conference (SAE2007), Pisa, Italy, 3-5 September 2007*

Tomasz Klimanek and Tomasz Żądło

*Report from the National Scientific Conference "Statistics Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow", Wrocław, Poland, October 10 -12, 2007, devoted to celebration of 95th Anniversary of the Polish Statistical Association*

Cyprian Kozyra and Joanna Dębicka,

*XXVI Conference on Multivariate Statistical Analysis (MSA 2007) & VI Conference on Statistics in Social and Economic Practice (SwPSG 2007), Łódź, Poland, 5-7 November 2007*

Aleksandra Baszczyńska and Jacek Białek

This issue is concluded with the Acknowledgements of referees of Volume 8.

### **Contents: Vol. 9, No. 1, June 2008**

On Estimating Population Variance Using Auxiliary Information

V. Dubey and H. K. Sharma pp. 7—18

On Asymptotic Properties of Standard Deviation Estimates Under Double Sampling for Nonresponse

Wojciech Gamrot pp. 19—31

Estimation of Mean With Imputation of Missing Data Using Factor Type Estimator

Diwakar Shukla, Narendra Singh Thakur pp. 33—48

Estimating Item Weights of Consumer Price Indexes for Small Reference Populations

Rosa Bernardini Papalia pp. 49—70

A General Procedure of Estimating Population Mean Using Auxiliary Information in Sample Surveys

Housila. P. Singh and Neha Agnihotri pp. 71—87

An Alternative to Ratio Estimator of the Population Variance in Sample Surveys

Housila P. Singh and Prem Chandra pp. 89—103

On Linear Combination of Ratio and Product Type Exponential Estimator for Estimating the Finite Population Mean

Rajesh Singh, Pankaj Chauhan and Nirmala Sawan pp. 105—115

On Optimum Numbers of Controls Under Case Control Studies on Unwanted Pregnancies: An Analytical Appraisal

Shahina Begum, Sada Nand Dwivedi, Arvind Pandey pp. 117—128

Test of Hypothesis on the Means of a Bivariate Correlated Normal

Angiola Pollastri pp. 129—138

A General Procedure for Estimating Various Measures of Normal Distribution Using Prior Knowledge of Standard Deviation  
Housila P. Singh<sup>1</sup> and Vankim Chander pp. 139—158

Correlation and Regression: Similar or Different Concepts?  
Marcin Kozak pp. 159—162

Statistical Disclosure Limitations Issues in Research and Practice Lessons for a Country's Data System From International Studies  
Włodzimierz Okrasa pp. 165—173

Some Legal Aspects of Statistical Confidentiality of Micro-Data Collected by Official Statistics in Poland — An Expert's View  
Tadeusz Walczak pp. 175—181

On The Importance of Statistical Confidentiality for The Quality of Survey Data  
Miroslaw Szreder pp. 183—186

Conference on the Occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CSO, Krakow, 28<sup>th</sup> — 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2008  
pp. 187—188

Public Statistics as one of the Fundaments of Self-Governance in a Democratic State, Toruń, 16—18 April 2008, pp. 189—192.

#### **Contents: Vol. 9, No. 2, September 2008**

An Application of Shrinkage to Dealing With Extreme Values  
Nicholas T. Longford pp. 197—206

General Class of Estimators for Estimating the Population Mean in Two-Stage Cluster Sampling  
Mohanad Al-khasawneh pp. 207—214

On The Use of Guess Value for the Estimation of Population Median on Current Occasion in Two Occasions Rotation Patterns  
G. N. Singh, Kumari Priyanka pp. 215—232

Existence of the BLUE for Finite Population Mean Under Multiple Imputation  
Pulakesh Maiti pp. 233—258

Factor Type Estimator under Poststratification in Sample Surveys  
Diwakar Shukla, Jayant Dubey, Manish Trivedi pp. 259—271

Effect of Non-Response in Sampling over Two Successive Occasions Using Auxiliary Information  
Housila P. Singh, Sunil Kumar pp. 273—296

FIGARCH Models and Long Memory  
Henryk Gurgul, Tomasz Wójtowicz pp. 297—310

Conjoint Analysis within the Field of Customer Satisfaction Problems – A Model of Composite Product/Service  
Piotr Tarka pp. 311—326

Constructing Some A-Optimal Weighing Designs with 23 Weightings: A New Method  
Farmakis Nicolas pp. 327—335

Some Modification of The Simple Component Analysis  
Andrzej Młodak pp. 337—357

Some Remarks on Challenges for Public Statistics from Internationally Dispersed Study Object  
Editor's note: pp. 359—360

Cross-Border Surveys — Some Methodological Aspects  
Marek Cierpiał-Wolan pp. 361—366

Regional Statistics in a Transnational Research Perspective  
Andrzej Miszczyk pp. 367—377

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Survey Sampling In Economic And Social Research –  
8—10 September 2008, Katowice, Poland, pp. 379—380

Public Statistics in the Process of European Integration in View of The Transnational Co-Operation,  
Lublin, 22—24 September, Lublin pp. 381—383

#### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Members are encouraged to inform the IASS Secretariat of changes of address as soon as possible. Mailings of “The Survey Statistician” will be delayed and may be lost if the Secretariat does not have your correct address.

You may notify Ms. Claude Olivier of your change of address by completing and mailing the Change of Address form given at the end of this newsletter. Alternatively, you can provide the same information to Ms. Olivier by email to [claudes.olivier@insee.fr](mailto:claudes.olivier@insee.fr).

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2011 Programme Committee:	Geoffrey Lee (Australia)	<a href="mailto:geoff.lee@abs.gov.au">geoff.lee@abs.gov.au</a>

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<b>Secretary:</b>	Claude Olivier (France)	<a href="mailto:claudio.olivier@insee.fr">claudio.olivier@insee.fr</a>

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF SURVEY STATISTICIANS

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM



*If your home or business address has changed, please copy, complete, and mail this form to:*

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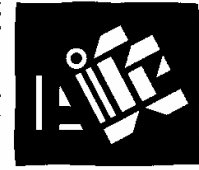
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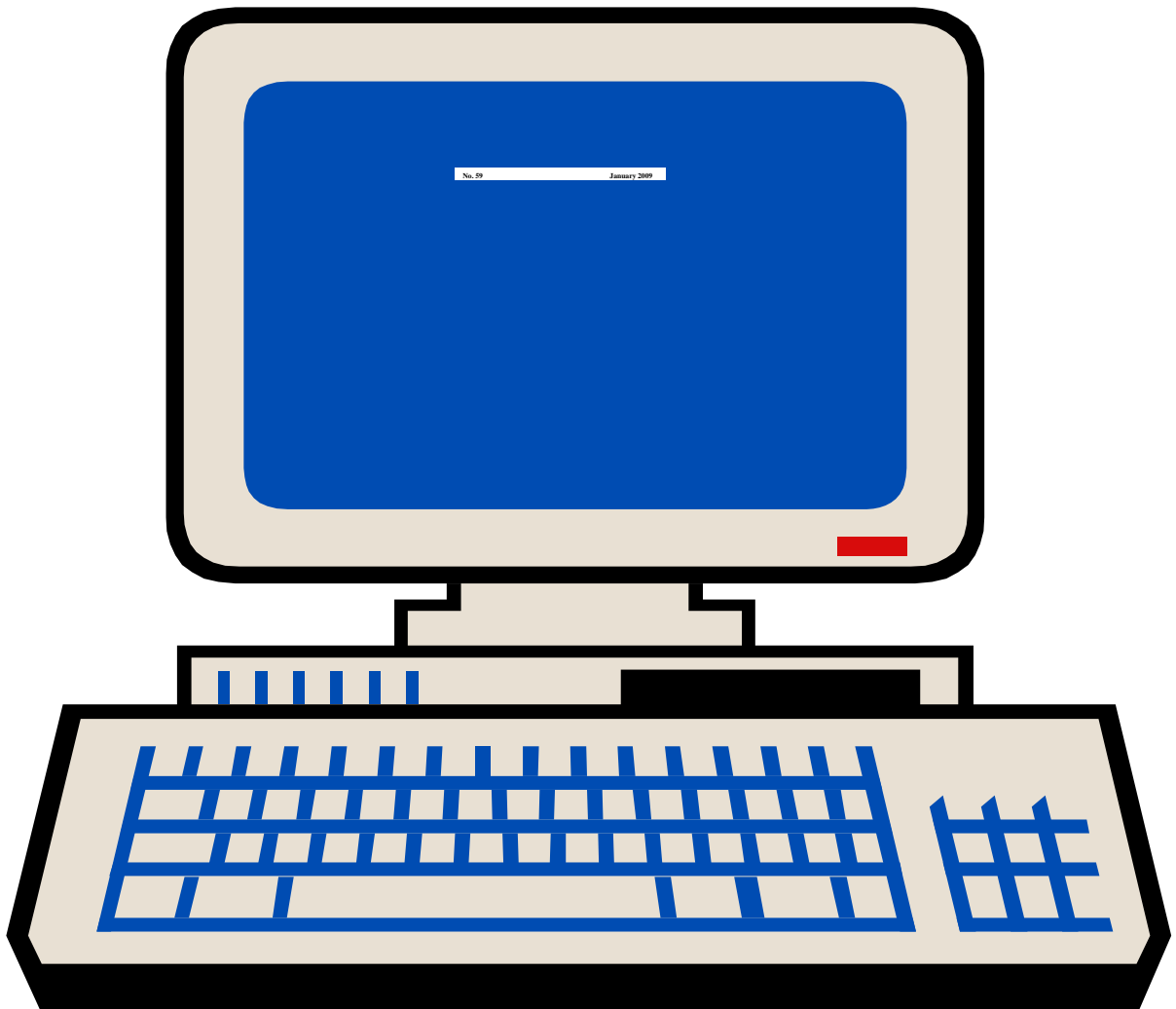
### 31 Bureaus of Statistics

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**AUSTRALIA** - AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
**BELGIUM** - INSTITUT NATIONAL DE STATISTIQUE  
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**NETHERLANDS** - CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
**NEW ZEALAND** - STATISTICS NEW ZEALAND  
**NIGERIA** - FEDERAL OFFICE OF STATISTICS  
**NORWAY** - CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
**PORTUGAL** - INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTATISTICA - INE  
**REPUBLIC OF KOREA** - NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE - NSO  
**SPAIN** - INSTITUTO NACIONAL DE ESTADISTICA  
**SWEDEN** - STATISTICS SWEDEN  
**SWITZERLAND** - OFFICE FEDERAL DE STATISTIQUE  
**TANZANIA** - BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
**UNITED KINGDOM** - OFFICE FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS  
**USA** - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
**USA** - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
**USA** - DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### 6 Universities, Research Centers, Private Statistics Firms

**ARGENTINA** - UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE TRES DE FEBRERO  
**DENMARK** - SFI  
**EUROPE** - A.C. NIELSEN MANAGEMENT SERVICE  
**FRANCE** - INSTITUT NATIONAL D'ÉTUDES DEMOGRAPHIQUES - INED  
**USA** - RESEARCH TRIANGLE INSTITUTE  
**USA** - Westat

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