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The World of Statistics Needs Your Help

Now that the [new website for The World of Statistics](http://www.worldofstatistics.org) is up and running, we need your help.

You can help move The World of Statistics website up in the list of Internet search results by linking to the new website address—www.worldofstatistics.org—from your organization’s website and replacing the old Statistics2013 logo with the new logo for The World of Statistics and linking it to the new website. [You can download the new logo here.](#)

Some other things your organization can do to help the cause include:

1. Update existing links to www.statistics2013.org on your website so that these point to www.worldofstatistics.org
2. Change all references to Statistics2013 on your website to The World of Statistics and link to the new website (www.worldofstatistics.org)
3. Change your Facebook page information, links and logos so that these reference The World of Statistics. Also, share information about and publicize The World of Statistics on your organization’s social media accounts, including Facebook and Twitter
4. Post a version of The World of Statistics logo in your language on your organization’s website. [We currently have German, Portuguese and Slovenian language versions available for download.](#) To request a language-customized logo, email the following information in a PDF document to Jeff Myers at jeffrey@amstat.org:
 - a. The interpretation in your language of: “The World of Statistics”
 - b. The interpretation in your language of: “Participating Organization”
5. If you have a linked Statistics2013 banner on your organization’s website, please remove it and replace it with a new banner for The World of Statistics and link the new banner to www.worldofstatistics.org. [You can download these new banners here.](#)
6. The World of Statistics Twitter account is @astatworld. Start following us today. Be sure to retweet our tweets and also mention The World of Statistics in your tweets.
7. If your website has content about Statistics2013, please delete it and replace it with [copy about The World of Statistics](#).
8. As you did with Statistics2013, include mentions of The World of Statistics in all your organization’s online communications.

Working together, we’ll move up The World of Statistics in all search engine results.

Contribute to The World of Statistics Website

We also invite you and your organization to provide content for [The World of Statistics website](#). Several participating organizations and individuals already have sent us content contributions. You can join them! Areas for which contributions are needed include:

1. **[The World of Statistics Blog](#)**—For this homepage blog, which was popular on the Statistics2013 website, entries can be up to a maximum 500 words in length. You can write about nearly any topic related to statistics, including your organization, its activities oriented toward the goals of The World of Statistics, or your thoughts about a statistical issue. Since the website is public, please write in layman’s language and do not use statistical prose. To submit a blog entry (as a Word document), accompanying graphics and the author’s photo, email Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
2. **[At Work With Statisticians](#)**—On the Statistics2013 site this section was titled “Statistician Job of the Week”. While we’ve rename this section, which also appears on the homepage, it still will focus on the many different types of jobs of statisticians. Again, no statistical prose and limit the article to a maximum of 300 words. Email your article and a photo of the statistician to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
3. **[Statistics in Action](#)**—Share information about how statistics are applied to solve problems around the world and other interesting takes on statistics. Remember, no statistical prose and limit the article to a maximum of 300 words. Email your article to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
4. **[Around the World in Statistics](#)**—Share information about how your organization is promoting statistics to the public. In the past, stories featured great infographics, programs, projects and a host of similar activities sponsored by statistical organizations. Limit the article to a maximum of 400 words and email it to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
5. **[Career Resources](#)**—Get a broader audience for your organization’s career resources—web-based and video—by spotlighting information about them on The World of Statistics website. We’ll post this information on the [International Career Resources](#) and [Statistics Career Videos](#) pages. Submit the information via email to jeffrey@amstat.org.
6. **[Teacher Resources](#)**—You can help teachers improve their instruction by sharing the statistics education tools and resources your organization has created. Send that information to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.
7. **[The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar](#)**—Send us information about your organization’s upcoming meetings, events and activities. We’ll post this information to the activities calendar so the public and other participating organizations can learn about the event. [Please use this easy webform](#) to submit your information.
8. **[The World of Statistics Announcements](#)**—You can submit short announcements about your organization’s work, activities, events and news for posting to the website’s Announcements page. These announcements can be up to 150 words in length. Email entries to Jeff at jeffrey@amstat.org.

International Prize in Statistics Website is Live

In [the December 16 edition of the International Year of Statistics newsletter](#), we announced the formation of an International Prize in Statistics Foundation, an organization committed to developing an annual “Nobel-like” prize in statistical science. The prize will greatly increase media and public awareness of the growing importance of statistics to modern life and promote understanding of the myriad and diverse ways that statistical science is impacting the well-being of billions of people.

You can learn more about the International Prize in Statistics, which is in the early stages of development, by visiting statprize.org.

Share Your News & Events through The World of Statistics

Tell your colleagues in the worldwide statistical community and the public about your organization’s events through the popular The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar. [Using this brief webform](#), it’s easy to submit information about your event so it is added to the activities calendar for all to see.

After your event is over, you can send us a story about it for this newsletter. We have developed [this easy-to-use webform](#) you can use to submit your event stories and other news about your organization’s activities to promote and advance the statistical science profession. These event stories and news items will be featured in an upcoming issue of this newsletter.

Send us your calendar and news items now!

Statistical Organization News & Events

Following is the latest news and information from statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

United States—Advances in genomic technology and significant decrease in the associated costs are driving progress in genetic studies for disease gene identification. Studies of whole exome and genome sequences of complex traits in large samples will become increasingly common. Other sources of high-dimensional information, including expression, epigenetic, metabolic and microbiomic data, are also being commonly collected in disease and control samples. To fully understand the complex bases of human disease, all of these factors should be properly considered in a unified analytical framework, together with epidemiological data on environmental exposures and other risk factors. To discuss how to address the analytical challenges presented by these sources of data, the Center for Genetics and Complex Traits of the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania is organizing the 2014 Mid-Atlantic Genetic Epidemiology and Statistics (MAGES) conference: Integrated systems biology analytical methods for epidemiological studies of complex traits. The event will be held May 30 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Registration is free but mandatory. For more information, contact Katherine Toder at ktoder@mail.med.upenn.edu.

United States—Stats+Stories, a radio program about the statistics behind stories in the news today, is now available on iTunes as a podcast. To access the podcast of current and previous programs, you can

go to <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/stats+-stories/id807504453> or you can log into iTunes and search for "stats+stories." You also can point your RSS reader to <http://cas.miamioh.edu/statsandstories/statsandstories.xml>. Stats+Stories was developed at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio by Statistics Department Chair John Bailer and Richard Campbell, director of the university's journalism school. The program is moderated by former National Public Radio broadcaster Bob Long. [Go to the Stats+Stories website](#) to learn more about the program.

Caribbean—Statisticians of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are planning decisive steps in 2014 to improve statistics across the region. In 2013, the CARICOM Secretariat and member states participated in the commemoration of the International Year of Statistics (Statistics2013) with a celebratory launch March 6 at the CARICOM Secretariat headquarters in Georgetown, Guyana. The year 2013 also was CARICOM's 40th anniversary. Throughout 2013 there were events in both member states and at the Secretariat that fulfilled the objectives of Statistics2013, including promoting the awareness of statistics as a science and also heightening the awareness of statistics careers among youth.

Among the highlights of the 2013 activities was the launch of the Caribbean Association of Professional Statisticians (CAPS). The impetus for CAPS was the *High Level Advocacy Forum on Statistics: The Urgency of Statistics and the Global Crisis – Enabling Development in the Caribbean Community*, which was convened by the CARICOM Secretariat in July 2009. This meeting was held in collaboration with the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS 21) and also was supported by the European Union (EU) under the Ninth European Development Fund (EDF).

The objectives of this forum were to:

- Gain a greater profile for statistics and its crucial role in understanding the magnitude and effect of the global crisis and its impact on the region
- Advocate for increased and urgent support to the development of statistics in CARICOM
- Engender improvement in the production of statistics in the national statistical systems within CARICOM
- Enable the creation of greater links between policy and statistics and increased use by policymakers and other users

Among the recommendations generated at this Forum was one made by keynote speaker Professor Chukwudum Uche, who at that time was at the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work of the University of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica. Professor Uche emphasized the important role of statistics in decision-making and implementation of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) and the Regional Census Coordinating Committee (RCCC), the two existing statistical committees that deal with official statistics in CARICOM. He recommended these two committees “...initiate the formation of a Regional Professional Association, the Caribbean Statistical Society, for the further development of the discipline in the region.”

Statisticians of the region led by the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics (AGS) followed up this recommendation by preparing a draft constitution and bylaws and conducting a competition for the motto and logo for CAPS. The first meeting of CAPS tentatively is scheduled to be held in May. It is the

intention that chapter(s) of the association will be set up to accommodate statisticians and professionals with interest in the development of statistics at the national level as well as from outside of CARICOM.

Meanwhile, plans are being put into place to convene a second high level forum on statistics focused on the theme: "Strategizing for the Harmonization of Statistics in CARICOM in the Context of the Strategic Development of the Community and the Post-2015 Development Agenda." This forum will be held during the same time period as the first CAPS meeting.

The focus of this second high level forum will be to realize the engagement of regional governments in the process of enabling relevant and in general high-quality statistics across member states for decision-making.

Work is progressing in this area on two key elements of the process of developing statistics. The first advancement is the development of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) in countries to be underscored by a Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS) at the CARICOM Secretariat. The second key development is the implementation of an updated Regional Statistical Work Programme (RSWP) in individual countries, the first version of which was approved by the Community Council of Ministers in 2005. Countries of the CARICOM region have received support from both PARIS21 and the EU in developing the NSDS.

Side events will be conducted during the week of the second high level forum, including an Information Technology Fair to display hardware and software applications that can support statistics; seminars on the estimation of labour force statistics and on a multi-dimensional approach to measuring poverty; and a Census Symposium to review the 2010 Census Round of Population and Housing Census and to plan for the 2020 round.

The previously noted items are some of the plans being put in place in 2014 to improve statistics in CARICOM. The community looks forward to the support of international development partners and from statisticians from outside the region in the conduct of these planned events and activities.

India—As a part of the year-long celebrations of the International Year of Statistics, the C.R. Rao Advanced Institute of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science conducted an international conference in Hyderabad from December 28 to 31 under the theme "Socio-Economic Challenges and Sustainable Solutions."

The conference featured public lectures by internationally renowned leaders in science and technology, plenary talks by distinguished academicians, approximately 70 special and invited talks by eminent senior researchers, three expert panel discussions, and more than 35 excellent contributed papers. Academia, industry and government representatives participated in the conference. In the true spirit of an International meeting, speakers and participants came from many different countries and several continents across the world.

The talks covered both theory and applications of statistics under the themes of socio-economic issues and finance, bioinformatics and biostatistics, environmental and agricultural statistics, Big Data

challenges, and advances in statistics and probability. This expansive coverage ensured that conference participants had an enriching experience. A “Book of Abstracts” of talks presented at the conference [is available on the institute website](#).

The conference was a fitting completion and tribute to the yearlong celebration of the International Year of Statistics and resulted in a genuine spirit of hope among attendees that the future of statistics will be glorious, especially because of its numerous and profound contributions to our world and its people.



United Kingdom—The PSI 2014 Conference, sponsored by the Statisticians in the Pharmaceutical Industry, will be held May 11 through 14 at The Tower Hotel in London. The opportunity to save on registration fees will expire February 14 when the early-bird registration deadline passes. PSI 2014 starts May 11 with a half-day training course “An Introduction to Health Economics,” which will be presented by Professor Steven A. Julious and Dr. Nicholas Latimer. [You can view the complete conference schedule here](#). [Click here](#) to register or [click here](#) to get detailed information about the conference, including how to submit abstracts and posters. Send an email to psi2014@mci-group.com with your event questions.

Trinidad and Tobago—From last May to December, the [Caribbean Centre for Money and Finance](#) featured a series of articles in its monthly newsletter that highlighted the development of statistics in the Caribbean region, statisticians who contributed to statistics development in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and the work and events conducted by CARICOM member countries to recognize the International Year of Statistics. [Click here to access these newsletters](#).

Russia—As part of its celebrations of the International Year of Statistics 2013, the Higher School of Economics (HSE) in Moscow organised a series of statistical training courses for students and faculty throughout 2013. The project received financial support from the HSE Strategic Development

Programme and was designed to enhance statistical education at the university by building on international best practices. To deliver the courses, HSE invited influential practitioners and opinion leaders in economic statistics from the United States, The Netherlands, India, Poland, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe located in Switzerland, Ukraine and Russia.

Among the invited lecturers were internationally recognised experts in official statistics, such as Misha Belkindas, CEO of Open Data Watch and former leader of the World Bank Development Data Group; Jozef Olenski, former chief of the Polish Statistical Office; Hermann Habermann, former chief of the United Nations Statistics Division and chief statistician at the U.S. Office of Management and Budget; incumbent statisticians Suresh Kumar Sukumarapillai and Gabriel Gamez; and distinguished academics Erik Dietzenbacher, Ruslan Motoryn and Irina Eliseeva.

The project was conceived and implemented by the HSE's International Institute of Statistical Education (MISO). For Alexey Ponomarenko, MISO director, the value of the series was that it helped enhance the understanding of trainees of the challenges and opportunities inherent in modern statistical systems and internationalize the discussion on statistical education. The courses also generated considerable interest from Russian government agencies that handle macroeconomic and environmental statistics.



A speaker makes a point during an HSE-organised statistical training course in Moscow.

National Statistical Organization: News & Events

Following is the latest news and information from national statistical organizations participating in The World of Statistics:

Australia—During the International Year of Statistics, the Education Services team at the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) embarked on another exciting year. With schools around Australia implementing the new Australian Curriculum, there was a great opportunity for the ABS to promote the teaching and learning of statistics.

The Australian Curriculum acknowledges the importance of statistics and probability, including the topic as a separate strand of mathematics, which provides many authentic entry points for teaching statistics.

The opportunity for Education Services was how to leverage Statistics2013 to deepen the learning opportunities.

To celebrate the International Year of Statistics and to leverage opportunities, the ABS included a number of references to Statistics2013 in its work related to education in 2013. These included:

- Presenting information at conferences and within teacher professional-development seminars around Australia which showcased statistical teaching and added value, interest and relevance for teachers to engage with teaching statistics
- Developing Statistics2013-themed activities for the September edition of the *Commonwealth Science and Industrial Organisation Maths and Stats by Email* e-newsletter
- Coordinating and sponsoring the national phase of the International Statistical Literacy Project Poster Competition
- Providing CensusAtSchool resources for inclusion on the Teacher Resources page of the Statistics2013 website

For more information about ABS Education Services and its work, send an email to education@abs.gov.au or visit its website at www.abs.gov.au/education.

Participation Spikes Anew

In the last three weeks, participation in The World of Statistics movement grew by 36 new organizations. A check of participation counts reveal there are a total of 2,353 participating organizations from a whopping 129 countries. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to [The World of Statistics website](#).

There are many more groups that should participate in The World of Statistics. So, please encourage other organizations, secondary schools, universities and businesses in your area to join this worldwide movement. It's easy for them to join. Simply tell representatives of these groups to go to www.worldofstatistics.org and click on the "Join" icon on the top right-hand side of the homepage to become an official participating organization in The World of Statistics.

Share Your Work on The World of Statistics Website

Do you know an outstanding statistician deserving of recognition for his or her work? If so, nominate the person for the [At Work With Statistician](#) page on The World of Statistics website. To do so, simply send a 250-to-300-word article about your colleague or yourself along with a photograph. In the article, explain the person's/your job and his or her/your contributions to the mission of his or her/your organization. We'll feature the profile on The World of Statistics website homepage. Send your submission to Jeff Myers at Jeffrey@amstat.org.

Event Submission Forms on Website

Two web-based forms make it easy for you to promote your organization's events on [The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar](#) and have an article featured in this newsletter about the event or other organization news.

The first form—called the “Event Submission Form for the 2014 Activities Calendar”—provides you a quick and simple way to submit information about your organization's planned events. All you do is input the requested information and press the “Submit” button. We'll then take your event information and post it to The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar. [You can access this form here.](#)

The second form—titled the “News & Post-Event Information & Photo Submission Form”—enables you to send us information about your organization's completed event and news as well as up to two photos for this newsletter. On this form, you are prompted for information about your event and you also can input a brief summary (up to 1,750 characters). After you submit your organization's news or event information, we'll run the photo and story in this newsletter so others can learn about your organization and its work to promote statistics. [Click here to access this form.](#)

Get The World of Statistics Logo & Web Banners

It's time to update your organization's website by posting The World of Statistics logo. [Click here to download this new logo.](#)

Also, a series of new web banners are available for posting to your website. [You can access these banners by clicking here.](#)

Get a Language-Specific Logo

We now have The World of Statistics logos available in these languages available for download from the website:

- German
- Portuguese
- Slovenian

To have a version of The World of Statistics logo created in your language, please e-mail to Jeffrey@amstat.org a high-resolution PDF document with the following:

- The interpretation of the phrase “The World of Statistics” in the appropriate font in this format: The World of Statistics=“The interpreted phrase”
- The interpretation of the phrase “Participating Organization” in the appropriate font in this format: Participating Organization=“The interpreted phrase”

The high-resolution PDF document you provide will ensure the accuracy of your logo.

Once your language-specific logo is created, [it will be posted to The World of Statistics website here](#) and we will send you an email to let you know the logo is available for download.

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Get the latest news and updates about The World of Statistics by following us on Twitter at @astatworld. Also, when you use Twitter to spread the word about The World of Statistics, be sure to use the hashtag “#TWOS”. You also can follow developments in The World of Statistics [on our Facebook page](#). Become our friend today!