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## STATISTICS CANADA PRODUCES “OFFICIAL STATISTICS” AWARENESS VIDEO

Statistics Canada has developed a video to create public awareness of the fundamental principles of official statistics. Determining what constitutes a good system of official statistics and what role that system should play in national governments is critical. That’s precisely why in 1994 the United Nations adopted the “Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics” at a special session led by the Conference of European Statisticians.

Despite the fact that the principles represent values that are ingrained in Statistics Canada’s culture, most Canadians would have no idea that the agency is guided by these principles. This was the main reason why the Communications Division at Statistics Canada decided that producing a video to explain the principles would be of interest to the general Canadian public.

Earlier this year, the two-minute video titled “Serving Canadians: The Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics” was launched on the agency’s website as well as its YouTube channel, Facebook page and on Twitter.

The video’s ultimate goal is to not only shed light on the 10 fundamental principles of official statistics, but also to help Canadians gain a better understanding of how official statistics have a profound effect on all of us. Mission accomplished! [Click here to view this outstanding Statistics Canada production.](#)

## THE WORLD OF STATISTICS NEEDS YOUR HELP

Now that the [new website for The World of Statistics](#) 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](http://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.](#)

[See how Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey is displaying The World of Statistics logo on its website.](#) Kudos to Assistant Professor Zeynep Kalaylioglu, Ph.D., for sharing the link with us and, more importantly, for posting the logo.

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

1. Update existing links to [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) on your website so that these point to [www.worldofstatistics.org](http://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](http://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 nine 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](mailto: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](http://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—hashtag #TWOS—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.

### 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!

### THE WORLD OF STATISTICS 2014 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR THROUGH END OF APRIL

Following are The World of Statistics participating organization-sponsored events and activities around the world for the remainder of April. To see the complete list of activities for 2014, [click here](#).

- **April 14-16, 2014** — [Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems](#); United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Eurostat, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Dublin, Ireland
- **April 21-23, 2014** — [Trends and Innovations in Clinical Trial Statistics Conference](#); Quintiles Center for Statistics in Drug Development and North Carolina State University Department of Statistics; Durham, North Carolina, USA
- **April 22-24, 2014** — [Sixth International Conference on Mathematical and Statistical Methods for Actuarial Sciences and Finance](#), Dipartimento di Scienze Economiche e Statistiche (Department of Economics and Statistics) of the University of Salerno, Vietri sul Mare (SA), Italy
- **April 24-25, 2014** — [Frontiers in Biostatistics](#); University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas Western-Missouri Chapter of ASA, Cerner Corporation; Overland Park, Kansas, USA
- **April 25, 2014** — [Third Annual Statistics Day](#), Texas A&M University-Kingsville Department of Mathematics, Kingsville, Texas, USA
- **April 28, 2014** — [BCS70 Training Workshop: The Age 42 Survey](#), United Kingdom Data Service, London, United Kingdom
- **April 28-30, 2014** — [Work Session on Statistical Data Editing](#), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Paris, France
- **April 28-July 7, 2014** — **ONLINE WORKSHOP: [Analyzing Repeated Measures Data](#)**, The Analysis Factor, Ithaca, New York, USA
- **April 29, 2014** — [Statisticians' Day](#), Regional Statistics Council Region 2 – Rio de Janeiro and Espitiro Santo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- **April 30, 2014** — [SORA-BN-TABA Workshop and the DLSPH Biostatistics Research Day](#); Statistical Society of Canada, Southern Ontario Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Buffalo-Niagara Chapter of the American Statistical Association; Toronto, Canada

- **April 30-May 2, 2014** — [Short Course on Empirical Processes and Their Applications to Extreme Value Statistics](#), Development of Extremes in Time and Space Project, Aveiro, Portugal

[Click here to submit your organization's activities to The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar.](#)

## **PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION NEWS & EVENTS**

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

**Portugal**—The Development of Extremes in Time and Space Project will conduct a “Short Course on Empirical Processes and Their Applications to Extreme Value Statistics” from April 30 to May 2. The event will be conducted at the University of Aveiro in Aveiro. [Learn more about this event by clicking here.](#)

**International**—The International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) is conducting a Student Paper Competition. Students are invited to submit a paper for presentation in the competition at the 2014 IISA Conference that will be held in Riverside California, USA July 11-13. Up to 20 student papers will be selected for presentation in five special student competition sessions of four students each. If a student paper is selected for the competition, the student's registration fee for the IISA Conference will be waived. Papers should be emailed in PDF format to Mouli Banerjee at [moulib@umich.edu](mailto:moulib@umich.edu) by the May 1 deadline. Papers should be at most 20 pages in length (including references) in 11 point (or a larger) font and double-spaced. In cases where a student is selected to present in the competition and is also scheduled to speak in a different conference session (where they may have been invited or submitted a contributed talk), they will be required to drop one of the two sessions, i.e., either participate in the competition or present in the other session, not both.

**United States**—Would you like to polish your presentation skills and better influence your organization's decision-makers, your clients, your students and other people to whom you may make presentations (think future employers)? The American Statistical Association (ASA) Career Success Factors course on “Effective Presentations for Statisticians” will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 10 at SAS Institute in Cary, North Carolina.

This well-received course, taught at previous ASA meetings and other venues, will cover topics such as conducting slide preparations, crafting your argument, giving oral presentations and communicating statistical ideas. Attendees will review examples of effective and ineffective presentation techniques, learn how to make effective presentations to different audience types using various platforms, and improve their communication skills used with both statisticians and non-statisticians.

The course instructors will be Dr. Robert Starbuck, who retired after 30 years in the pharmaceutical industry, and Roberto Gutierrez of SAS Institute.

The course registration fee is \$25 and includes refreshments and lunch. [Click here to learn more about the event and to register.](#) Course attendance is limited to 36 people. The registration fee cannot be refunded after May 3. Contact Starbuck at [rstarbuck49@gmail.com](mailto:rstarbuck49@gmail.com) for additional information.

**International**—The StatProb project is aimed at producing a freely accessible web encyclopedia concerning all matters statistical and probabilistic. It started in 2010, sponsored by 10 scientific societies including the Bernoulli Society and International Statistical Institute. Unfortunately, for various reasons, it fell into abeyance and is no longer being developed. After very careful consideration of various options and in order to maintain and develop the web presence of the StatProb corpus in the long run, it has been agreed that the StatProb materials be merged with the web version of the Encyclopedia of Mathematics (EoM), a freely available and updateable wiki-style web encyclopedia managed by Springer and by the European Mathematical Society (see <http://www.encyclopediaofmath.org/>). StatProb contributors are now being invited to agree to the transfer of their articles to the EoM collection. EoM Editor-in-Chief Ulf Rehmann ([rehmann@math.uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:rehmann@math.uni-bielefeld.de)) warmly welcomes further contributions.

**United States**—The Southern Regional Council on Statistics (SRCOS) will host its 2014 Summer Research Conference (SRC) June 1-4 in Galveston, Texas at the historic Hotel Galvez. This year marks the conference's 50th anniversary. Every year, the SRC brings together leading researchers, faculty and students in a dynamic, interactive learning format. In 2014, the SRC meeting highlights will include plenary speakers Butch Tsiatis and Peter Mueller and invited senior speakers Simon Sheather, Elizabeth Slate, Deb Sinha, Jianhu Huang and Marie Davidian, the past president of the American Statistical Association (ASA).

The SRC event will host two poster sessions: the ASA/Mike Kutner Faculty Contributed Poster Session and the National Science Foundation/Anderson Student Poster Competition. Partial financial support for participants in these sessions may be available. For details about this potential financial support, please [visit the conference website](#).

The deadline for making reservations at the Hotel Galvez and for consideration for financial support is May 1. [Click here for registration and more information about the conference](#).

**United Kingdom**—The April 25 nomination deadline for the 2014 Statistical Excellence in the Pharmaceutical Industry Award—an international honor presented jointly by the [Royal Statistical Society](#) and [Statisticians in the Pharmaceutical Industry](#)—is approaching quickly. The award honors the most influential application of an existing statistical practice or the implementation of an innovative statistical practice in the pharmaceutical industry. [Get award criteria and an entry form here](#).

**United States**—The 8th International Total Survey Error Workshop (ITSEW 2014) will take place October 1-3 at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington D.C. The event's theme is "Total Survey Error: Fundamentals and Frontiers."

Like previous ITSEWs, this year's gathering seeks to foster an exchange of ideas and preliminary research findings toward a better understanding of total survey error. Participation will be valuable for researchers planning to present invited or contributed papers at next year's 2015 International Total Survey Error Conference (TSE2015). Participants can share ideas, receive valuable feedback, identify

opportunities for collaboration, and plan sessions or joint presentations for TSE2015, which will be held September 2015 in Baltimore, Maryland.

On the first day of ITSEW—October 1—Paul Biemer of RTI International and the University of North Carolina will present a short course titled “Total Survey Error Paradigm in Practice.” This is a great opportunity to become familiar with this key perspective of survey methodology or to learn about the state of current research and how it can be applied in practical survey situations.

On October 2 and 3, the conference will feature presentations and posters exhibiting current research on multiple error sources and their interactions including design tradeoffs, minimization strategies, estimation and analysis issues, and methods for presenting and visualizing TSE results. Possible topics for the ITSEW 2014 sessions include, but are not limited to:

- Design for and methods of estimating relationships between different sources of nonsampling error
- Monitoring and reducing multiple survey errors (e.g., paradata applications)
- Adaptive total designs that consider multiple errors
- Errors in combinations of survey data with other data sources (i.e., administrative data, Big Data)
- Tradeoffs in longitudinal panels, multi-mode surveys and data processing (i.e., editing, imputation)
- Cost/error tradeoffs in surveys

You can submit an abstract of a paper you would like to present at the workshop. The deadline for submissions is April 30. You will be notified of acceptance by May 31.

[Click here to learn more, respond to the call for participation and register for the workshop.](#) Contact Peter V. Miller, Ph.D., at [peter.miller@census.gov](mailto:peter.miller@census.gov) for answers to your questions about ITSEW 2014.

**International**—*Annual Reviews*, the nonprofit publisher that intelligently synthesizes critical research literature, is pleased to announce it will offer free online access until next January to the new journal, *Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application*. This new journal will publish reviews that bring modern methodologies and their applications across disciplines to statisticians and non-statisticians alike.

“In-depth works in areas of application lie at the core of modern statistics and we hope to promulgate this cross-disciplinary perspective in the *Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application*. We also expect to include articles that focus on core statistical principles, lest these be lost in a sea of new methods and computational algorithms,” says Editor Stephen E. Fienberg.

The 22 reviews in the inaugural volume inform statisticians, quantitative methodologists and users of statistics more broadly about major methodological advances and the computational tools that allow for their implementation. Topics include methodological articles on Bayesian computational tools and Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithms as well as articles focused on statistical applications in

ecology, climate modeling, brain imaging analysis, and the role of statistics in the discovery of a Higgs boson.

[Click here to access this \(free\) volume, which is useful for teaching and research.](#)

**United States**—The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Williams College is the 2014 recipient of the American Mathematical Society (AMS) Award for an Exemplary Program or Achievement in a Mathematics Department. The department was honored for “excellence in providing exceptional teaching and research experiences for its students, as well as those in the wider mathematical community.”

Francis Edward Su of Harvey Mudd College, chair of the award selection committee, said, “The Williams College math program is recognized for excelling in two cornerstone areas: teaching and undergraduate research. As a result, they have had enormous success in attracting all majors to take math and statistics courses, in publishing texts that have had influence beyond Williams, and in providing math students with exciting experiences of discovery through their long-running Research Experiences for Undergraduates.”

Presented annually by AMS, the award recognizes a college or university mathematics department that has distinguished itself by undertaking an unusual or particularly effective program of value to the mathematics community, internally or in relation to the rest of society. Since it was first presented in 2006, the award has highlighted outstanding mathematics departments in a wide variety of institutions around the country.

**International**—If you would like to get more involved in data science, here's an opportunity to participate, win money and make statistical science more visible.

[Data Science Central](#), the leading community for analytic practitioners with 3 million visitors per year and more than 200,000 members, is sponsoring a competition for research papers about a statistical technique called Jackknife Regression, which is a robust regression technique.

[The details for the competition are here.](#) It involves working on simulated data. The results, to be published on the Data Science Central network and possibly in a scientific journal, will reach far more practitioners than an article published in a statistical journal. The prize is \$1,000 (U.S. dollars).

On a related note, if you want to get your statistics students interested in experimental design (or criticize flaws in the ‘data science’ version), you should share the interactive, real-time experiment. [You can find it, participate and check results in real-time here.](#)

**United Kingdom**—The Pharmaceutical Users Software Exchange (PhUSE) Annual Conference will be held October 12-15 in London. The conference’s theme will focus on “Data Transparency.” Initiatives are starting to emerge from regulatory agencies and some large companies alike, leaving no doubt change is nearing. This hot topic was already addressed in some streams of the 2013 conference as well as by one of our keynote speakers who explained how transparency would help to improve patients’ lives. With

data at the heart of our work there is no doubt that this will impact our day-to-day lives. In addition, the conference has grown from a statistical programmer's event to one gathering all data professionals in the industry (data managers, statisticians, PK/PD specialists, health outcome and economics specialists) and this theme will once again reinforce this trend. [Learn more about the event by clicking here.](#)



**United States**—The American Statistical Association's (ASA) Council of Sections Governing Board has approved the charter for a new Astrostatistics Interest Group. [Click here to see a complete listing of ASA sections.](#)



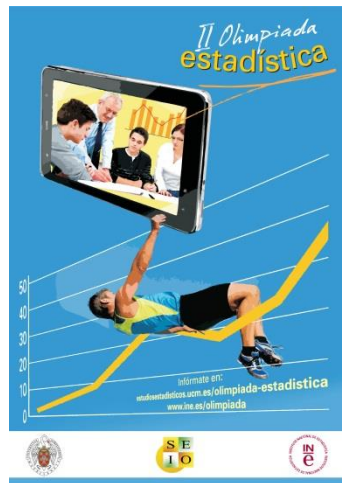
*Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics*

**Spain**—The Faculty of Statistical Studies at the Complutense University of Madrid recently sponsored a competition called “Incubadora de Sondeos y Experimentos” or “Incubator of Surveys and Experiments” in English. The seventh annual competition is for high-school students and consists of a statistical project related to a current topic. [Click here to learn more about the event.](#)





Also, the university's statistical faculty was joined by the National Institute of Statistics and the Spanish Society of Statistics and Operations Research to create the 1st Statistical Olympics for high-school students during the International Year of Statistics. These organizations currently are sponsoring the second edition of the Statistical Olympics. The contest consists of three tests: questions about statistical knowledge, an interpretation of reports and the analysis of a database. The number of participants this year is double 2013's participation count. [Click here to learn more about these Olympics.](#)



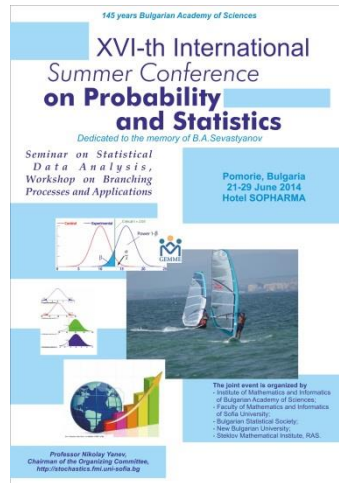
**International**—The Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics (eCOTS) 2014 will take place entirely online May 19-23. Focusing on undergraduate-level statistics education (including AP Statistics) with a target audience of statistics teachers, eCOTS seeks to provide a virtual meeting space for educators to share ideas, teaching methods and research results. It is hoped that eCOTS will be a forum where statistics educators from around the world network and connect as they learn how to incorporate new ideas, methods and resources into their existing courses or programs. Themes for eCOTS 2014 are: “Teaching from Big Data,” “The Impact of the Common Core” and “Bridging the Disciplines.”

Keynote presenter Conrad Wolfram will speak on the topic “Fundamentally Changing Maths Education for the New Era of Data Science,” and keynote presenter Chris Franklin will speak about “Preparing K-12 Teachers to Navigate the Data Stream: Great Opportunities and Challenges.” [Click here to view the complete program.](#)

Registration is now open. The \$25 registration fee provides unlimited access to all sessions and activities, including six workshops by U.S. National Science Foundation-supported Statistics Education projects. [Click here to register and get more details.](#)

**Bulgaria**—The XVIth International Summer Conference on Probability and Statistics will be held June 21-28 in Pomorie. The event is being sponsored by the Institute of Mathematics and Informatics of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Bulgarian Statistical Society. Related events include the Seminar of Statistical Data Analysis and the Workshop on Branching Processes and Applications. The joint event will feature several sessions in the fields of Stochastic Processes, Limit Theorems, Theoretical and Applied Statistics, Combinatorial Analysis, Financial Mathematics and Stochastic Applications. Pomorie is

a charming fishing village on the Black Sea coast with beaches, taverns, old wooden houses, churches and modern discos. Participants will be accommodated in the Hotel SOPHARMA, which is located on the beach. May 1 is the deadline for submitting abstracts, to take advantage of the reduced registration fee and to register for your accommodation. [Click here for more information about the International Summer Conference and to register.](#)



## NATIONAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION: NEWS & EVENTS

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

**Brazil**—The Regional Statistics Council Region 2 (Rio de Janeiro and Espitiro Santo) is conducting a Statisticians' Day celebration April 29 in Rio. [Click here to learn more about this event.](#)

**Republic of the Maldives**—A pretest of the Census 2014 questionnaire was carried out in Thoddoo April 2. The census is scheduled to be conducted September 20-27. A total of 20 staff from the Department of National Planning visited households on the island to gather information. Three forms were tested during this pretest: Haa Form 1 (Listing Form), Haa Form 2 (Person Listing) and Shaviyani (Household and Individual Form). Information collected includes general information on households and detailed information of people regarding education, migration, employment, marriage and fertility. This is the fifth pretest conducted by the Department of National Planning to test the flow of the questions. Prior to this pretest, all others were mainly targeted in the capital city of Male'.

**United Arab Emirates**—Statistics Centre—Abu Dhabi (SCAD) has published a YouTube video that presents a recap of Abu Dhabi economic indicators and trends from 2012. [Click here to view this SCAD video.](#)

## JOIN THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

If your organization or an organization you know of isn't yet a part of The World of Statistics, encourage them to join. Joining is easy—just ask a representative of the group go to [www.worldofstatistics.org](http://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. Participation is valuable but is absolutely free!

The World of Statistics movement has grown to a total of 2,369 organizations from a whopping 129 countries. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to [The World of Statistics website](#).

### **FOLLOW US ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK**

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!

### **NEW GUIDE TO CONTRIBUTING TO THE WORLD OF STATISTICS IS AVAILABLE**

[Click here to access the “Guide to Contributing to the World of Statistics and Downloading Logos and Other Resources.”](#)