



June 23, 2014  
Volume 1, Issue 8

## IN THIS ISSUE:

- [Latin American Congress of Statistical Societies 2014 Coming Up in October](#)
- [Share Your News & Events Through The World of Statistics](#)
- [The World of Statistics 2014 Activities Calendar for June](#)
- [Participating Organization News Roundup from:](#)
  - Georgia
  - International
  - Spain
  - United States
- [National Statistical Organization News Roundup from:](#)
  - New Zealand
  - Qatar
- [Join the World of Statistics](#)
- [The World of Statistics Needs Your Help](#)
- [Follow Us on Twitter & Facebook](#)
- [New Guide to Contributing to The World of Statistics is Available](#)

## LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS OF STATISTICAL SOCIETIES 2014 COMING UP IN OCTOBER

CLATSE or the Latin American Congress of Statistical Societies 2014 will be held October 20-23 in La Serena, Chile. The conference, which has been conducted periodically since 1991, is jointly organized by the statistical societies of various South American countries, including the Chilean Statistical Society (SOCHE), the Argentina Society of Statistics (SAE) and the Uruguayan Society of Statistics (SUE).

CLATSE is conducted every two or three years as a way of contributing to the integration of statistical societies and associations. This year's event is being organized by the University of La Serena in collaboration with a dozen academic universities in Chile.

The event's twin missions are to enhance the knowledge and dissemination of statistics as a contribution to regional and national progress, and to strengthen ties of cooperation for joint development of scientific research not only in statistics, but also in the wide range of scientific disciplines that apply and contribute to its improvement.

This is a meeting place for specialists and users of statistics for the exchange of results of scientific research, teaching experiences and applications of this discipline. CLATSE, in its 11th edition, will be held in parallel with the 41st National Statistical Meeting of Chile. The event's goals are to:

1. Disseminate current developments on the theory and practice of statistics.
2. Discuss applied statistical analysis and teaching of the discipline.
3. Promote the development of statistics.

[Click here to learn more about CLATSE 2014, including speakers, invited sessions and event registration.](#)



## 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 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 e-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 e-newsletter.

Send us your calendar and news items now!

## THE WORLD OF STATISTICS 2014 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR FOR JUNE

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

- **June 21-28, 2014** — [XVIth International Summer Conference on Probability and Statistics](#); Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgarian Statistical Society; Pomorie, Bulgaria
- **June 23-24, 2014** — [Recent Advances in Smoothing and Regression for Longitudinal, Spatial and Event History Data](#); The Nigerian Young Academy and Department of Statistics, University of Ilorin; Ilorin, Nigeria
- **June 24-26, 2014** — [Statistics and Quality in a Data Rich World](#), ASA Section on Quality and Productivity and ASA Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences, Seattle, Washington, USA
- **June 24-28, 2014** — [Flint International Statistics Conference: Flint: One City–100 Years Under Variability](#); American Statistical Association, National Science Foundation, Kettering University; Flint, Michigan, USA
- **June 26-27, 2014** — [International Conference on Survival Analysis \(In Memory of John P. Klein\)](#), Division of Biostatistics at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
- **July 1-4, 2014** — [Fourth Biennial International Statistical Ecology Conference](#) (ISEC2014), Montpellier, France
- **July 7-11, 2014** — [IASC-ERC Summer School on Compositional Data Analysis](#); University of Girona and International Association Statistical Computing; Girona, Spain
- **July 7-12, 2014** — [Summer School in Ecological Data Analysis](#), University of the Aegean, Heraklion, Crete, Greece
- **July 13-18, 2014** — [ICOTS 9: Sustainability in Statistics Education](#), International Association for Statistical Education, Flagstaff, Arizona, USA

[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:

**Georgia**—The International Scientific Conference on Globalization and Statistics will be held October 23-24 in Tbilisi at Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University. The conference is dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Statistics at the university. Thematic sessions will include:

1. Theory and Methodology of Statistics
2. Economic and Business Statistics
3. Fields of Social Statistics
4. Macro- and Microeconomics
5. Contemporary Information Technology
6. Finances, Accounting and Banking
7. Labor Market and Demography
8. Econometrics and Mathematical Statistics
9. Contemporary Global and Regional Economies

10. Management and Marketing
11. The rest (taking into account the content of the paper)

[Click here for more information about this event.](#) Additional information is available in English by contacting Professor Maia Mindorashvili via email at: [maia.mindorashvili@tsu.ge](mailto:maia.mindorashvili@tsu.ge) or [statconference@tsu.ge](mailto:statconference@tsu.ge).

**Spain**—The [Statistical Institute of Aragón](#) located in Zaragoza has produced a statistics education video that helps raise awareness—mainly among students—of the importance of statistics for a better understanding of society. In “If Aragón were a village of 100 people,” data is presented in a simplified form in order to be easily understood by every user, including the youngest. Among data presented in the production are gender and age demographics, popular names in the community, life expectancy of Aragón residents, average household size, and ratio of homeowners and renters. The video, which is based on an original idea by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, was undertaken as an activity within the International Year of Statistics and in celebration of the Institute's 20th anniversary. The Aragón Statistics Institute enlisted a large number of children—ages from 3 to 14 years old—to help with producing the video. Students from Zaragoza, Almudévar and Monzón schools created drawings, recorded the voice narration and provided enthusiasm for the video. Their hands-on assistance helped make this video come true. The video is available in English, French and Spanish. Aragón is an autonomous community within Spain. [Click here to view “If Aragón were a village of 100 people.”](#)

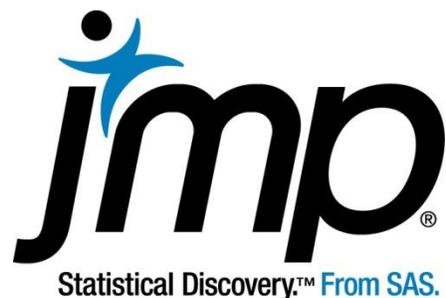


*A student records part of the soundtrack for the Statistical Institute of Aragón's educational video.*

**United States**—The Department of Biostatistics at the State University of New York at Buffalo will host a talk July 24 focused on the nonparametric statistical evaluation of a continuous diagnostic marker by means of receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves. The goal of this seminar—titled “Nonparametric Statistical Inference for Receiver Operating Characteristic Curves in Measurement Error Models”—is to develop minimax optimal and adaptive nonparametric techniques for estimating the ROC curve and some of its summary indexes. Indexes of interest are the ROC curve, the area under the

curve (AUC), the Youden Index and the optimal classification threshold. In this talk, presenter Dr. Itai Dattner, of the University of Haifa Department of Statistics in Haifa, Israel, will focus on the estimation of the AUC in measurement error models which are closely related to deconvolution of distribution functions. [Click here for more information about this seminar.](#)

**International**—SAS’s JMP division has introduced a new, on-demand webcast video series called “Analytically Speaking.” This complimentary webcast series features thought-leaders sharing insights that come with years of developing best practices and enjoying great success with analytics. Among the featured presenters are [David J. Hand](#), a two-time president of the Royal Statistical Society and author of the book *The Improbability Principle*; [Kaiser Fung](#), author of *Numbers Rule Your World*; [John Pullinger](#), immediate past president of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) who recently was named United Kingdom national statistician; [Roger Hoerl](#) and [Ronald Snee](#), authors of *Statistical Thinking: Improving Business Performance*; [Dick De Veaux](#), professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Williams College; SAS cofounder and JMP chief architect [John Sall](#); and legendary statisticians [Stu Hunter](#) and [David Salsburg](#). JMP is a business unit of SAS that produces interactive software for desktop statistical discovery. JMP has been a part of SAS since the first version of JMP statistical discovery software was launched in 1989, bringing interactive data visualisation and analysis to the desktop. SAS helps customers at more than 60,000 sites improve performance and deliver value by making better decisions faster. [Click here to access the “Analytically Speaking” webcast series.](#)



**United States**—Organizers of the [KDD 2014 Data Science for Social Good Workshop](#) are calling for submissions, which are due by July 1. This workshop will held in conjunction with KDD 2014, the leading data-science conference that brings together more than 1,000 researchers and practitioners from academia and industry and different areas of data science.



Social good organizations such as nonprofits and governments have started to realize the value of data-driven decision-making. Many of them have started collecting better (and more) data. They are starting to investigate how data can be used make decisions. The challenge they now face is a lack of resources—both people and tools—to turn that initial interest into action. There is an urgent need to take this enthusiasm and interest from nonprofits and government organizations and jumpstart efforts to help them along this path.

In order for data science to be used effectively for social good, three things need to happen:

1. Data scientists need to understand the kinds of problems social good organizations face, and be interested and excited to work on them.
2. We need to develop tools/algorithms/methods that are tailored for problems facing social good organizations and social causes.
3. We need to give proof-points and case studies to social good organizations that can help them understand the role of data science and how it can help them solve some of their critical challenges.

The KDD 2014 Data Science for Social Good workshop is aimed at filling these needs. Since [KDD 2014](#) already has the special theme of “Data Mining for Social Good,” we want to use this venue to bring together researchers, practitioners and organizations focused on social good in a smaller, more discussion-focused setting.

As a result, organizers are soliciting two types of submissions:

- **Research and Case Study Talks:** Highlighting exciting and impactful machine learning, data mining, and data science work on understanding and addressing complex and high impact social challenges through data.
- **Position/Problem Description Talks:** Posing practical and high impact social challenges for machine learning, data mining, and data science researchers to motivate and guide their research.

The workshop will bring together data science researchers, practitioners and organizations focused on social good in a discussion-focused setting. It will feature panel discussions, short talks, and give participants from different backgrounds opportunities to interact with each other, pose open problems, and discuss potential solutions.

Areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- Healthcare
- Transportation
- Education
- Sustainability/Climate Change

- Disaster relief
- Urban Planning
- Crime/Public Safety
- Community Development

Problem types related to machine learning, data science and data mining include, but are not limited to:

- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Prediction
- Detection
- Resource allocation
- Behavior change
- Optimization
- Causal Discovery
- Text Analysis
- Network Analysis
- Data Cleaning/Pre-processing
- Data Standardization

Please email submissions in PDF format by July 1 to [kddworkshop@edgeflip.com](mailto:kddworkshop@edgeflip.com).

**United States**—Kettering University in Flint, Michigan will host an international conference this week that will start June 24 and run through June 28. Titled “Flint: One City–100 Years Under Variability,” the event will commemorate the International Year of Statistics and celebrate the 175th anniversary of the American Statistical Association (ASA).

It will bring together statisticians with expertise in statistical modeling, education and applications. The conference will focus on multi-disciplinary use of historical data for urban communities. Analysis and models based on historical records will be included or discussed in the plenary sessions, invited talks, presentations and tutorials.

Data about the city of Flint, consisting of up to 100 years of demographic, health, labor, census and crime records will be summarized in advance of the conference and made available to the participants. The Flint history spans the early years of the automotive industry, the force behind city’s growth as well as its decline, both of which have had an impact on the community.

Each conference session will start with an extended presentation of the statistical achievements and perspectives in the discussed area, followed by several talks on current research and results. The conference's main focus will be on—but not limited to—the research methods, modeling and analysis of historical data in the following areas:

- Big data

- Computational statistics
- Crime statistics
- Data mining
- Financial services and statistics
- General methods
- Health Service statistics and pharmaceutical development
- Historical data and statistics. Time series.
- Reliability and longevity statistical issues
- Statistics in education
- Urban statistics
- Wealth data analysis

For more information, [click here to visit the conference website](#).

## NATIONAL STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION: NEWS & EVENTS

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

**New Zealand**—Statistics Minister Nicky Wagner congratulated two [Statistics New Zealand](#) (NZ) staff members for their achievements in an international competition. Laura O’Sullivan and Michelle Feyen claimed first and second place, respectively, in the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) 2014 Prize for Young Statisticians Competition. “This is an outstanding accomplishment on the international stage by two bright, young statisticians,” Ms. Wagner said. “It’s papers like these that keep thinking fresh, and it’s good to see Statistics New Zealand is fostering innovation and talent.” O’Sullivan has been invited to present her paper at the [IAOS’s 2014 conference in Da Nang, Vietnam](#) in October. Both women are members of the Statistical Methods Units at Statistics NZ. For the competition, they had to prepare a short paper addressing a pressing methodological or strategic issue in official statistics. O’Sullivan’s first-place-winning paper investigated tradeoffs between cost and quality in using new sources of data, while Feyen explored new methods standardisation. Third place in the IAOS competition was awarded to Andrius Čiginas of [Statistics Lithuania](#) for his paper titled “Domains similarity models in synthetic estimation.”

**Qatar**—The country’s Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics has released the seventh edition of its quarterly publication titled “Window on Economic Statistics of Qatar.” The report presents data from the fourth quarter of 2013. The publication’s main objective is to provide users—government, businesses, students, researchers, and the public at large—the latest information on the economic performance of the country. It meets two of the ministry’s strategic goals:

1. To satisfy user needs for quality statistical information in support of evidence-based policy formulation and to monitor development progress adhering to best international practices.
2. To raise statistical literacy and promote correct use of statistics in the country.

The publication consists of three parts: data showing the economic performance of the State of Qatar to the real growth rate of GDP, the inflation rate measured on the consumer price index, and the current

account balance as a percentage of GDP.

It provides 30 indices of macroeconomic indicators, a time series quarterly for the period 2013-2012 and annual for the period 2013-2007 in addition to analysis of the latest statistics published by the Department of Economic Statistics and National Accounts of the ministry and related data quarterly for each of the GDP price index and consumer price index for the product, and exports and imports (goods only), and compared to the performance during the fourth quarter of 2013 with the same period during 2012. [Click here to access this publication.](#)

## JOIN THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

If your organization or an organization you know of isn't yet 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 and is absolutely free!

The World of Statistics movement now comprises 2,382 organizations from 129 countries. You can view the current participant and country lists by going to [The World of Statistics website](#).

## 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 the United States National Center for Education Statistics is displaying The World of Statistics logo on its website \(go to bottom of the homepage\).](#) Kudos to Andrew White, NCES Senior Research Statistician Statistical Standards and Data Confidentiality, 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.

### **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.”](#)