

Celebrating 50 years of Service to the Statistical Community 1972-2022

Committee on National Statistics • National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE NOTE

The National Academies continues to hold virtual meetings until further notice in response to COVID-19. All times are Eastern.

Save the Date!

Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century Workshop 2: The Implications of Using Multiple Data Sources for Major Survey Programs will be held on May 16 and 18 see this [site](#) for more details.

PEOPLE NEWS

Passing of Tom Jabine and Leland Wilkinson

CNSTAT regrets the passing of two important members of the statistical and research communities:

- Thomas B. (Tom) Jabine**, who served for many years in the federal government and with CNSTAT, died on January 30, 2022, at the age of 97. His federal service included positions as chief of the Statistical Research Division for the U.S. Census Bureau, chief mathematical statistician for the Office of Research and Statistics in the Social Security Administration (SSA), and statistical policy expert for the Energy Information Administration (EIA). He was also a consultant to the United Nations, and the U.S. Agency for International Development, and the editor and author of several books on statistics and survey methods. At the Census Bureau he worked for Morris Hansen and William Hurwitz, but he branched out from sample design to questionnaire design after it became clear to him that minimization of error in surveys required work on both sampling and nonsampling error. Jabine was an ASA Fellow, an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, a president of the Washington Statistical Society, and he received the Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. At CNSTAT, over a 20-year span, he coedited, consulted, or served as a panel member on 13 of the committee's reports. Among them were the 1984 report, *Cognitive Aspects of Survey Methodology: Building a Bridge Between Disciplines* and the 1993 report *Private Lives and Public Policies: Confidentiality and Accessibility of Government Statistics*.
- Leland Wilkinson**, fellow at H2O.ai, passed away December 10, 2021, at age 77. During the late 1970s and early 1980s, he wrote SYSTAT, the first comprehensive statistical software package designed expressly for microcomputers and the first software implementation of the now widely used heatmap display. He founded SYSTAT, a company of the same name, selling it to SPSS in 1995. He wrote the seminal book on statistical graphics, *The Grammar of Graphics*, in 1999. He earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard, a bachelor of sacred theology degree from Harvard Divinity School, and a doctorate from Yale. He was an adjunct professor of computer science at the University of Illinois at Chicago, a fellow of the American Statistical Association, an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of

Science. He served on the Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics of the National Academies, and was vice chair of the National Institute of Statistical Sciences Board. He was a member of the CNSTAT panel that produced the report, *Capturing Change in Science, Technology, and Innovation: Improving Indicators to Inform Policy* (2013).

CNSTAT Welcomes Alex Henderson

Alex Henderson is a new senior program assistant with the Committee on National Statistics and Committee on Population. She is a lifelong native of Fairfax, VA, who graduated with her B.S. in wildlife conservation from Virginia Tech and immediately went on to complete her M.S. in environmental sciences & policy from Johns Hopkins University. Some of her most interesting experiences include studying abroad in China to learn about solutions to anthropogenic climate change and tracking owls on foot across a national forest for her capstone research. Coming from a blended park-ranger and policy background, her interests lie across a broad spectrum of sociopolitical and environmental issues. Outside of the hard sciences, Alex is also a professional bartender, and loves watching classic films, painting, and running.

DBASSE Welcomes Carlotta Arthur

Dr. Carlotta Arthur joined the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education (DBASSE), CNSTAT's parent unit at the National Academies, as its new executive director on February 24, 2022. Dr. Arthur came from the Henry Luce Foundation, where she served as director of its Clare Boothe Luce Program for Women in STEM. Previously she was director of the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Diversity Initiatives, HBCU, and Appalachian Colleges Programs at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. She was the first African American woman to earn a B.S. in Metallurgical Engineering from Purdue University. After a decade in the aerospace and automotive industries, she completed an M.A. in psychology and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She was a member of the inaugural cohort of W.K. Kellogg Scholars in Health Disparities at the Harvard School of Public Health and has served as an assistant professor at Meharry Medical College; an Andrew W. Mellon postdoctoral fellow at Smith College; and an adjunct assistant professor at the Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine. Dr. Arthur succeeds Mary Ellen O'Connell, who retired.

RECENT EVENTS AND REPORTS

CNSTAT Seminar: Transparency in Statistical Information for Federal Agencies, December 17, 2021

Video and other materials available from this [site](#).

Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century Workshop 1: The Scope, Components, and Characteristics of a 21st Century Data Infrastructure, December 9 and 16, 2021

Video and other materials available from this [site](#).

Improving Consent and Response Rates in Longitudinal Studies on Aging Workshop, September 27-28, 2021

Video and other materials available from this [site](#).

Research and Development, Global Value Chains, and Globalization Measurement Public Workshop, May 5-7, 2021

Video and other materials available from this [site](#).

CNSTAT Seminar: Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency, April 21, 2021

Video available [here](#).

REMINDER: Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars](#) page.



Transparency in Statistical Information for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and All Federal Statistical Agencies, a consensus report chaired by Daniel Kasprzyk (NORC) and sponsored by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), was released November 18, 2021. Free PDFs are available [here](#).

Widely available, trustworthy government statistics are essential for policy makers and program administrators at all levels of government, for private sector decision makers, for researchers, and for the media and the public. In the United States, principal statistical agencies as well as units and programs in many other agencies produce various key statistics in areas ranging from the science and engineering enterprise to education and economic welfare. Official statistics are often the result of complex data collection, processing, and estimation methods. These methods can be challenging for agencies to document and for users to understand. The goal of transparency is to enable consumers of federal statistics to accurately understand and evaluate how estimates are generated.

Transparency in Statistical Information for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and All Federal Statistical Agencies examines the degree to which the information currently provided by NCSES and the other federal statistical agencies is consistent with the goals of being transparent. The panel identified best practices that agencies can use to determine the extent to which their policies are consistent with transparency. The report also explores how NCSES could work with other federal statistical agencies to facilitate the adoption of currently available documentation and archiving standards and tools.

Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 3—A Comprehensive Ecosystem for PCOR was released January 11, 2022. Free PDFs are [here](#).

Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 2—Data Standards, Methods, and

Policy, was released October 27, 2021. Free PDFs are available [here](#). ***Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 1—Looking Ahead at Data Needs*** was released September 10, 2021. Free PDFs are available [here](#). All three are consensus reports chaired by George Isham (HealthPartners Institute) and sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), ASPE, in partnership with other agencies and divisions of DHHS, coordinates a portfolio of projects that build data capacity for conducting patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR). PCOR focuses on producing scientific evidence on the effectiveness of prevention and treatment options to inform the health care decisions of patients, families, and health care providers, taking into consideration the preferences,

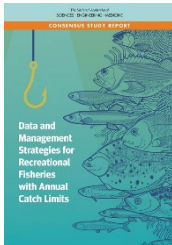


values, and questions patients face when making health care choices. ASPE asked the National Academies to appoint a consensus study committee to identify issues critical to the continued development of the data infrastructure for PCOR over the next decade.

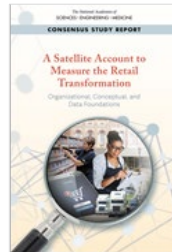
As part of its information gathering activities, the committee organized three workshops to collect input from stakeholders on the PCOR data infrastructure focused on: 1) data user needs; 2) data standards methods, and policies; and 3) ways of enhancing collaborations, data linkages, and the interoperability of electronic databases to make the PCOR data infrastructure more useful in the years ahead.

**AVAILABLE NOW
IN PRINT OR PDF**

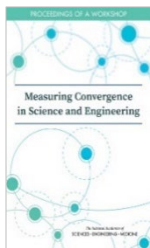
PDFs are downloadable
for free from
<https://www.nap.edu>



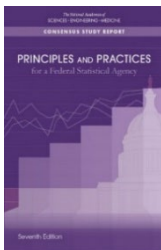
Data and Management Strategies for Recreational Fisheries with Annual Catch Limits



A Satellite Account to Measure the Retail Transformation: Organizational, Conceptual, and Data Foundations



Measuring Convergence in Science and Engineering: Proceedings of a Workshop



Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency: Seventh Edition



High and Rising Rates of Mortality Rates Among Working-Age Adults

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

OMB requests input on standard application process for accessing federal data

The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has issued a [request for comments](#) on the recommendations of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) regarding the implementation of a standard application process for accessing confidential federal data (which may be downloaded [here](#)). The ICSP report, which was written in response to requirements in the *Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018*, outlines considerations for applying to access confidential statistical data, agency review of applications, and an appeals process for applications that are denied. OMB is particularly interested in receiving comments on the proposal related to metadata standards, application windows, applicant evaluation, appeals process, and public reporting. Full

details are available in the [Federal Register notice](#). Comments must be submitted by March 16, 2022.

CURRENT PROJECT PORTFOLIO *(listed by sponsor)*

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Consensus Panel on Evaluation and Improvements to the Supplemental Poverty Measure

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2020–July 2022

Study director: Christopher Mackie; senior scholar: Constance Citro; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: James Ziliak (University of Kentucky)

Publication planned: Consensus report is being drafted

Meetings (most recent): public meeting held January 14, 2022; closed meeting held March 2, 2022 (closed meetings being held on a monthly basis); see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Study for a Roadmap for Disclosure Avoidance in the Survey of Income and Program Participation

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2021–September 2023

Study director: TBD

Chair: TBD

Publications planned: final consensus report

Meetings: TBD; see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Panel to Review and Evaluate the Quality of the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2021–April 2023

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior scholar: Constance Citro; senior program officers: Michael Cohen and Katrina Stone; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Teresa Sullivan (University of Virginia)

Publications planned: Interim consensus report is in response to review; final consensus report is planned

Meetings: Public meeting held November 16, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Consensus Panel on Opportunities for the National Assessment of Educational Progress in an Age of AI and Pervasive Computation: A Pragmatic Vision

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences

Duration: January 2021–July 2022

Study director: Stuart Elliott; senior program officer: Judy Koenig; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Karen Mitchell (American Association of Medical Colleges, retired)

Publication planned: Consensus report, *A Pragmatic Future for NAEP: Containing Costs and Updating Technologies*, has cleared review and is being prepared for public release

Meetings: Closed meeting held September 10, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Panel on a Vision and Roadmap for Education Statistics

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences

Duration: January 2021–July 2022

Study director: Melissa Chiu; senior program officers: Brad Chaney, Nancy Kirkendall; consultant: Celeste Stone; project assistant: Eric Grimes

Chair: Larry Hedges (Northwestern University)

Publication planned: Consensus report, *A Vision and Roadmap for Education Statistics*, has cleared review and is being prepared for public release

Meetings: Closed meetings held January 11, 18, 2022; see this [site](#) for more information

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Consensus Committee on Future Directions for Applying Behavioral Economics to Policy *(led by Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences)*

Sponsors: National Institutes of Health, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Duration: January–December 2022

Study Director: Molly Checksfield

Chair: Alison Buttenheim (University of Pennsylvania)

Publication planned: Consensus report

Meetings: Public and closed meetings held February 17, March 1, and March 3, 2022; see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Committee on Policies and Programs to Reduce Intergenerational Poverty

(led by Board on Children, Youth, and Families)

Sponsors: Administration for Children and Families, Bainum Family Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Foundation for Child Development, National Academy of Sciences W.K. Kellogg Fund, Russell Sage Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Duration: September 2021–September 2024

Study Director: Emily Backes

Chair: Greg Duncan (UC Irvine)

Publication planned: Consensus report

Meetings: Public and closed meetings held February 10-11, 2022; see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Panel on Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation for the National Institutes of Health

Sponsor: National Institutes of Health, Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office

Duration: December 2020–May 2022

Study director: Tara Becker; senior program officer: Katrina Stone; project assistant: Eric Grimes

Co-chairs: Nancy Bates (U.S. Census Bureau, retired), Marshall Chin (University of Chicago)

Publication planned: Consensus report, *Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation*, has cleared review and is being prepared for public release

Meetings: Closed meeting held November 1, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

Consensus Panel on Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: An Agenda for 2021 to 2030 *(in collaboration with the Board on Health Care Services and the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board)*

Sponsor: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

Duration: September 2020–March 2022

Study director: Krisztina Marton; associate program officers: Crystal Bell and Ruth Cooper; project assistant: Rebecca Krone

Chair: George Isham (HealthPartners Institute)

Publications planned: Interim reports after each workshop and a final report with findings and conclusions. *Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 1—Looking Ahead at Data Needs* released September 10, 2021; *Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 2—Data Standards, Methods, and Policy*, released October 27, 2021; *Building Data Capacity for Patient-Centered Outcomes Research: Interim Report 3—A Comprehensive Ecosystem for PCOR*, released January 11, 2022; (see “Recent Events and Reports” above); final report is in response to review.

Meetings: Most recent closed meeting held November 29, 2021; workshops held May 3 (materials available [here](#)), May 24 (materials available [here](#)); and June 14 (materials available [here](#)); see this [site](#) for more information

Workshop on Improving Consent and Response in Longitudinal Studies of Aging

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging

Duration: September 2020–March 2022

Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; project assistant: Rebecca Krone

Chair: Michael Davern (NORC at the University of Chicago)

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings, *Improving Consent and Response in Longitudinal Studies of Aging: Proceedings of a Workshop*, has cleared review and is being prepared for public release

Meetings: Workshop held September 27-28, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Consensus Committee on an Assessment of Native Seed Needs and Capacities

(led by Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources)

Sponsor: Bureau of Land Management

Duration: Fall 2018 through Spring 2022

Study director: Robin Schoen (BANR); senior program officer: Krisztina Marton

Chair: Susan Harrison (University of California, Davis)

Publications planned: Interim consensus report, *An Assessment of the Need for Native Seeds and the Capacity for their Supply*, released October 29, 2020; final consensus report planned

Meetings: Public meetings held November 11-12, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Consensus Panel on Improving Cost-of-Living Indexes and Consumer Inflation Statistics in the Digital Age

Sponsor: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Duration: September 2019–May 2022

Study director: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Michael Siri; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Daniel Sichel (Wellesley College)

Publication planned: Consensus report is in response to review

Meetings: Last (closed) meeting held November 3, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Consensus Committee on Reassessment of the Department of Veterans Affairs Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry *(led by Board on Population Health and Public Health Practice)*

Sponsor: Department of Veterans Affairs

Duration: October 2020–June 2022

Study director: Anne Styka; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Alexandra McKay

Chair: David Savitz (Brown University School of Public Health)

Publication planned: Consensus report is being drafted

Meetings: The panel continues to meet in closed session; see this [site](#) for more information

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

Consensus Panel to Evaluate the Quality of Compensation Data Collected from U.S. Employers by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission through the EEO-1 Form

Sponsor: Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Duration: September 2020–July 2022

Study director: Jennifer Park; senior program officer: Brad Chaney; project assistant: Eric Grimes

Chair: William M. Rodgers, III (Federal Reserve Board, St. Louis)

Publication planned: Consensus report is being drafted

Meetings: Closed meeting held January 26, 2022; see this [site](#) for more information

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Workshop on Research and Development, Global Value Chains, and Globalization Measurement

(led by Board on Science, Technology, and Economic Policy)

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2019–March 2022

Study director: Gail Cohen (STEP); senior scholar: Constance Citro

Co-chairs: Susan Helper (Case Western Reserve University) and Wolfgang Keller (University of Colorado, Boulder)

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings are in review

Meetings: Workshop held May 5–7, 2021, in Washington, DC; see this [site](#) for more information, including links to the agenda, videos of the proceedings, and other meeting materials

Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century

Workshop 1: The Scope, Components, and Characteristics of a 21st Century Data Infrastructure

Sponsor: Division of Social and Economic Sciences

Duration: April 2021–March 2023

Study director: Thomas Mesenbourg; associate program officer: Michael Siri; program assistant: Joshua Lang

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown University)

Publication planned: Consensus report is being drafted

Meetings: Workshop sessions held December 9 and December 16, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

Workshop 2: The Implications of Using Multiple Data Sources for Major Survey Programs

Sponsor: Division of Social and Economic Sciences

Duration: April 2021–March 2023

Study director: Daniel Weinberg; program assistant: Joshua Lang

Chair: Sharon Lohr (Arizona State University, emeritus)

Publication planned: Consensus report

Meetings: Closed meeting held February 4, 2022; Workshop is being planned for May 16 and 18, see this [site](#) for more information

Workshop 3: Approaches for Data Governance and Protecting Privacy

Sponsor: Division of Social and Economic Sciences

Duration: April 2021 –March 2023

Study director: TBD

Chair: TBD

Publication planned: Consensus report

Meetings: TBD; see this [site](#) for more information

THE ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION

Consensus Panel on Understanding the Aging Workforce and Employment at Older Ages

(led by Committee on Population)

Sponsor: The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Duration: September 2019–December 2021

Study director: Tara Becker; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Susan Fiske (Princeton University)

Publication planned: Consensus report, *Understanding the Aging Workforce: Defining a Research Agenda*, has cleared review and is being prepared for public release

Meetings: Sixth meeting held January 28, 2021; see this [site](#) for more information

THE BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

Workshop on Strengthening the Evidence Base to Improve Economic and Social Mobility in the United States *(led by Committee on Population)*

Sponsor: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Duration: July 2021–September 2022

Study director: Malay Majmundar; project assistant: Rebecca Krone

Chair: Courtney Coile (Wellesley College)

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings is being drafted

Meetings: Workshop held February 14-15, 2022; see this [site](#) for more information

THE SPIEGEL FAMILY FUND; THE OMIDYAR NETWORK; THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION

Consensus Panel on an Integrated System of Household Income, Wealth, and Consumption Data and Statistics to Inform Policy and Research

Sponsor: Spiegel Family Fund, Omidyar Network, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Duration: January 2022–March 2024

Study director: TBD; senior scholar: Constance Citro; senior program officer: Christopher Mackie;
program assistant: Alex Henderson
Chair: Tim Smeeding (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
Publication planned: Consensus report
Meetings: TBD; see this [site](#) for more information

THE WILLIAM AND FLORA HEWLETT FOUNDATION

Guidebook on Developing Indicators of Educational Equity (led by Board on Testing and Assessment)

Sponsor: William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Duration: September 2019–August 2022

Study director: Natalie Nielsen (BOTA); senior program officers: Judith Koenig, Stuart Elliott; project assistant: Rebecca Krone

Chair: Not applicable.

Status: Staff are now using the *Guidebook* to talk with states and districts about the options for implementing the recommended indicators

Publication: Guidebook for state and district education policymakers to briefly explain the indicators in the consensus report *Monitoring Educational Equity* and provide concrete examples that will help in implementing them. The guidebook has been released and is available [here](#).

ABOUT CNSTAT

FUTURE MEETING DATES

150th CNSTAT Meeting
May 5-6, 2022

This meeting will celebrate CNSTAT's 50th anniversary

CONTACT US

Brian Harris-Kojetin, Ph.D. Director bkojetin@nas.edu 202 334-2077 or 3096	Melissa Chiu, Ph.D. Deputy Director mchiu@nas.edu 202-334-2018	Rebecca Krone Program Coordinator rkrone@nas.edu 202-334-2515 or 3096	Constance Citro, Ph.D. Senior Scholar/ Newsletter Editor ccitro@nas.edu 202-981-4054 (cell)
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MEMBERS

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OUR MISSION

The Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) was established in 1972 at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to provide an independent review of federal statistical activities. The mission of CNSTAT is to provide advice to the federal government and the nation grounded in the current best scientific knowledge and practice that will lead to improved statistical methods and information upon which to base public policy. CNSTAT seeks to advance the quality of statistical information, contribute to the statistical policies and coordinating activities of the federal government, and help provide a forward-looking vision for the federal statistical system and national statistics more broadly in service of the public good.