



NEWS from CNSTAT

— August 18, 2017 —

**6th Edition of *Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency*
released on-line, July 6, 2017; printed copies now available
[see “Report News” below]**

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate **J. Michael (Mike) Brick** for receiving the **2017 Monroe G. Sirken Award in Interdisciplinary Survey Methods Research**. He was cited for: “significant contributions to our understanding of the growing problem of survey nonresponse and its impact on survey data quality; for seminal research on the properties and design of estimators for multiple frame samples; for leadership in addressing both the potential and the challenges of nonprobability sampling; and for pioneering work on the implementation of replication variance estimation methods.” Mike is vice president at Westat, co-director of its survey methods unit, and associate director of its Statistical Staff. He gave the Sirken Lecture, “Quality with Non-Probability Samples, Administrative Records, and ‘Found’ Data,” at the Joint Statistical Meetings held in Baltimore, MD, July 29–August 3. Mike served on the CNSTAT panel that produced *Nonresponse in Social Science Surveys: A Research Agenda* (National Academies Press, 2013). [See the May and July newsletters on the contributions to federal statistics of **Monroe Sirken**.]

We congratulate **John Eltinge** on receiving the **2017 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics** at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore, MD, August 1, 2017. John was recognized for two fundamental sets of contributions to statistical methodology and practice. The first set centers on his 17 years of service at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), including more than 12 years as the associate commissioner for survey methods research, where his office contributed to significant modernization and improvement of many BLS programs in collaboration with other BLS staff. The second set arose from his leadership with interagency, international, and editorial work, including contributions to the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, which he now chairs; workshops on data collection for the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; and service as an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *The American Statistician*, *Journal of Official Statistics*, and *Survey Methodology*. John became assistant director for research and methodology at the U.S. Census Bureau in December 2016.

[**Roger Herriot** was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics when he died in 1994 and before that chief of the Population Division at the Census Bureau. Soon after his death, the American Statistical Association (ASA) Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections, along with the Washington Statistical Society, established the award, which is intended to recognize individuals or teams who, like Herriot, develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data-collection programs.]

We congratulate **John Eltinge** and **Wendy Martinez** on receiving **Founders' Awards** from the **American Statistical Association** at the Joint Statistical Meetings, held in Baltimore, MD, on August 1, 2017. John is assistant commissioner of research and methodology at the U.S. Census Bureau; Wendy is director of the Mathematical Statistics Research Center at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The ASA gives up to 5 Founders' Awards each year (sometimes skipping a year) in recognition of members who have rendered distinguished service to the association.

We congratulate **Wayne Fuller** on receiving the **Samuel S. Wilks Memorial Award** at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore, MD, on August 1, 2017. He was cited: "For his outstanding contributions to three broad areas of statistical theory: time series analysis, measurement error models, and survey sampling; for his translation of this theoretical work into applied statistical methods and practices that have contributed significantly to the U.S. federal statistical system; and for other statistical programs in the U.S. and internationally." Wayne is emeritus professor at Iowa State University; he served on CNSTAT and on its panel that produced *The Bicentennial Census: New Directions for Methodology in 1990* (first published by the National Academies Press in 1985 and reissued in a 30th anniversary edition in 2015).

[**Samuel Wilks**, who chaired the Division of Mathematics at Princeton University, was noted for his work on multivariate statistics and unit-weighted regression.]

We congratulate **Cynthia Ogden**, chief of the Analysis Branch in the Division of Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys at the National Center for Health Statistics and adjunct professor with the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health, on receiving the 2017 **Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award** in July. The award encourages the mentoring of junior staff in the statistical community and is awarded annually based on advising, counseling, encouraging and motivating junior staff in their career development in addition to serving as a role model through expertise, information and insight. The Griffith award is supported by the ASA Government Statistics and Social Statistics Sections, NORC at the University of Chicago, Westat, the American Institutes for Research, the American Educational Research Association, the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, the Washington Statistical Society, and the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.

[**Jeanne Griffith** worked for more than 25 years in the federal statistical system. Throughout her career, and especially in her senior management positions at the National Center for Education Statistics and the National Science Foundation, one of her highest priorities was to mentor and encourage younger staff at all levels to learn, grow, and recognize and seize career opportunities as they came along.]

We congratulate **Neomi Rao** on her confirmation by the U.S. Senate, July 11, 2017, as **administrator** for the **Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA)** in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. OIRA is the U.S. government's central authority for review of executive branch regulations, approval of government information collections, establishment of government statistical practices, and coordination of federal privacy policy. In this capacity, she oversees the Statistical and Science Policy Office, headed by chief statistician **Nancy Potok**. Dr. Rao was most recently at George Mason University, where she founded and directed the Center for the Study of the Administrative State. Her research and teaching focused on constitutional and administrative law. She was also a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States. She previously served as associate counsel to President George W. Bush; counsel for nominations and constitutional law to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary; and law clerk to Justice Clarence Thomas of the U.S. Supreme Court. She practiced public international law and arbitration at Clifford Chance LLP in London. She has a J.D. from the University of Chicago and a B.A. from Yale University.

We congratulate **Fritz Scheuren** on delivering the **Deming Lecture** at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore, MD, on August 1. His topic was "A Rake's Progress Revisited." He discussed the algorithm called raking, or raking ratio estimation, which W. Edwards Deming and Franklin Stephan first advanced for use in the 1940 decennial census. The algorithm adjusts the weights of a dataset iteratively within

categories until the weights produce estimates that match, within tolerance, two sets of pre-specified population totals (e.g., population by race/ethnicity and population by detailed age category). Fritz is senior fellow and vice president in the Center for Excellence in Survey Research at NORC at the University of Chicago.

[**W. Edwards Deming** was renowned for his innovations in statistics and quality control. He helped pioneer the development and use of sampling techniques at the U.S. Census Bureau, assisted Japanese industry to improve the quality of its products after World War II, and was a much-sought-out management consultant and lecturer for many years thereafter. He was a member of the National Academy of Engineering and received the National Academy of Science's Distinguished Career in Science award.]

We congratulate **Cynthia Thomas**, senior program officer with the Committee on National Statistics, on her election in May as one of 72 new fellows of the **Gerontological Society of America (GSA)** — the nation's oldest and largest interdisciplinary organization devoted to the field of aging. According to GSA, the status of fellow acknowledges outstanding and continuing work in gerontology, which may include research, teaching, administration, public service, practice, and notable participation within the organization. Cynthia has been with CNSTAT since spring 2015. Before that she worked at Westat, NORC at the University of Chicago, Montefiore Medical Center, and Mathematica Policy Research. She has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Rochester.

We congratulate **John Thompson**, recently retired from serving as director of the Census Bureau (see the July newsletter), on his appointment as executive director of the **Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (COPAFS)**. He takes over from **Kitty Smith Evans**, who took a position as Washington area representative for the **American Economic Association (AEA)** in March 2017 (see the March newsletter). She works with the AEA's Committee on Economic Statistics and Committee on Government Relations to, among other things, promote the involvement of economists in improving the collection, analysis, and reporting of economic statistics.

[**COPAFS** is a membership organization of professional associations, such as AEA and ASA, with an interest in the health of the federal statistical system (see copafs.org—many other organizations are affiliates). COPAFS reaches out to the executive and congressional branches to demonstrate the value of federal statistics, holds open quarterly meetings on current issues related to federal statistics and their use, and organizes conferences and forums, such as the research and policy conferences sponsored by the **Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology** (see <https://fcsml.sites.usa.gov/>). COPAFS was formed in 1981 in response to the Reagan Administration's extensive cut backs to federal statistical programs. Its first executive director, who served for more than 10 years, was **Katherine Wallman**, who retired in January 2017 after 24 years as chief statistician in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. She was followed as COPAFS executive director by Ed Spar, Kitty, and now John.]

PUBLICATION *News*

Developing a Methodological Research Program for Longitudinal Studies: Proceedings of a Workshop—In Brief was released online and in print, August 4, 2017. This report summarizes the discussions at a workshop, held June 5-6, 2017, and chaired by James Jackson (University of Michigan and Russell Sage Foundation) for the National Institute on Aging, Division of Behavioral and Social Research (NIA/BSR). The report is available on-line as a [PDF](#). One of the strategic objectives of NIA/BSR is to “support the development of population-based data sets, especially from longitudinal studies, suitable for analysis of biological, behavioral, and social factors affecting health, well-being, and functional status through the life course.” To contribute to that objective and to inform the development of a methodological research program for longitudinal studies, the Committee on National Statistics held

a public workshop in June 2017. The discussion focused on challenges that are specific to the types of longitudinal studies supported by NIA/BSR and aimed to identify areas of methodological research that could be pursued in order to benefit from emerging methods, new techniques, or other opportunities to enhance the data and increase data collection efficiency. This publication summarizes the presentations and discussions from the workshop.

Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency: Sixth Edition, released online, July 6, 2017, is a report of CNSTAT acting as a committee of the whole. The first edition of *P&P*, also known as the “purple book,” was released in 1992, and, beginning in 2001, new editions have been prepared every 4 years to be available to new appointees and others at the beginning of a presidential term. Senior scholar Connie Citro (CNSTAT’s 5th director) edited this edition, which is dedicated to CNSTAT’s 3rd director, ***Miron Straf***. The 6th edition has been reformatted for ease of access; the on-line version, available as a [PDF](#), contains the body plus appendixes on legislation and regulations that govern federal statistics and the organization of the federal statistical system, with links to sections of the report and references. ***Printed copies are now available; the printed version contains the body only.*** Summing up *P&P*’s message:

Principles and Practices for a Federal Statistical Agency . . . is intended to support the invaluable role of widely available, trustworthy, relevant, accurate, and timely government statistics. Such statistics are essential not only for policy makers and program administrators at all government levels, but also for individuals, households, businesses, and other organizations to make informed decisions, and for scientists to add to knowledge. Even more broadly, the effective operation of a democratic system of government depends on the unhindered flow of impartial, scientifically based statistical information to its citizens on a wide range of issues. . . .

In the United States, federal statistical agencies . . . are the entities whose principal function is to compile, analyze, and disseminate information for such statistical uses as monitoring key economic indicators, allocating representation and funds, deciding on the location of services, evaluating programs, and conducting scientific research. Statistical uses encompass only descriptions of groups; they exclude interest in or identification of any individual person, institution, or economic unit. To facilitate understanding, statistical agencies may analyze their data to describe trends, make comparisons, and evaluate data quality, but never to advocate policies or take partisan positions. The work of these agencies is coordinated by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. . . .

Statistical agency decisions—managerial, programmatic, and technical—are guided by four well-established and fundamental principles: relevance to policy issues, credibility among data users, trust among data providers, and independence from political and other undue external influence.

Principles and Practices for Federal Program Evaluation: Proceedings of a Workshop, issued in prepublication format, July 7, 2017, summarizes the presentations and discussions at a workshop, October 27, 2016, chaired by Grover (Russ) Whitehurst (Brookings Institution) for the Administration for Children and Families and Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Institute of Education Sciences; U.S. Department of Labor; and OMB. It is available as a [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly. The scope of the workshop included evaluations of interventions, programs, and practices intended to affect human behavior, carried out by the federal government or its contractual agents and leading to public reports intended to provide information on impacts, cost, and implementation. Workshop participants commented on existing agency policies, which reference such principles as rigor, relevance, transparency, independence, and ethics, as well as objectivity, clarity, reproducibility, and usefulness. Participants also considered ways to strengthen existing practices and institutionalize the principles. The goal would be to bolster the integrity and protect the objectivity of the evaluation function in federal agencies—which is essential for evidence-based policy making. A [proceedings in brief](#) was issued for the workshop in March 2017.

Improving Motor Carrier Safety Measurement, released in prepublication format, June 20, 2017, is the final report of the Panel on the Review of the Compliance, Safety, and Accountability (CSA) Program of

the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), co-chaired by Joel Greenhouse (Carnegie Mellon University) and Sharon-Lise Normand (Harvard Medical School). The report is available in [PDF](#) and will be available in print shortly. The study was congressionally mandated and carried out jointly with the Transportation Research Board.

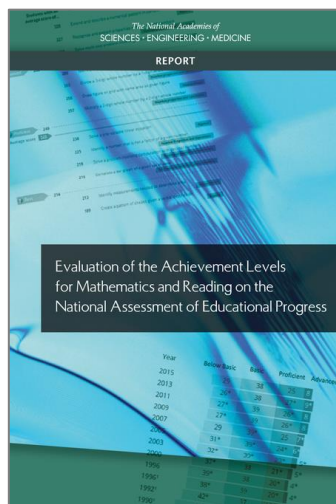
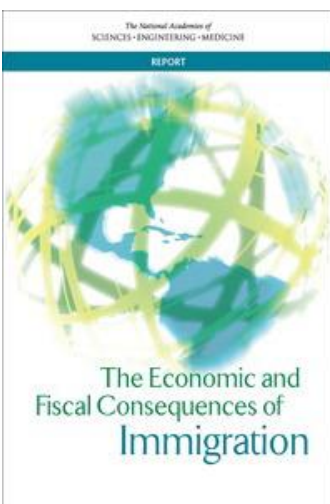
Every year roughly 100,000 fatal and injury crashes occur in the United States involving large trucks and buses. FMCSA, in the U.S. Department of Transportation, works to reduce crashes, injuries, and fatalities involving large trucks and buses. FMCSA uses information that is collected on the frequency of approximately 900 different violations of safety regulations discovered during (mainly) roadside inspections to assess motor carriers' compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, as well as to evaluate their compliance in comparison with their peers. Through use of this information, FMCSA's Safety Measurement System (SMS) identifies carriers to receive its available interventions in order to reduce the risk of crashes across all carriers. *Improving Motor Carrier Safety Measurement* examines the effectiveness of SMS, finding that its conceptual approach for assessing motor carrier safety culture is sound but recommending that its ad hoc model be replaced with a statistically principled item response theory (IRT) model. IRT models are used to evaluate safety and quality in other settings (e.g., health care). The report also recommends improvements in data for input to an improved model.

OTHER REPORTS PUBLISHED IN 2017 (available in printed form and as free PDFs)

[*The Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration*](#) (released in prepublication format, September 21, 2016)

[*Evaluation of Achievement Levels for Mathematics and Reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress*](#) (released in prepublication format, November 17, 2016)

[*Innovations in Federal Statistics: Combining Data Sources While Protecting Privacy*](#) (released in prepublication format, January 12, 2017)



Reminder: PDF versions of CNSTAT and National Academies reports are available for free download at *The National Academies Press* website, <http://www.nap.edu>. The download site asks for your e-mail and

a password. If you don't have an NAP account and don't want to have one, then provide your e-mail and click "I don't have an account;" on the next page click "accept NAP policies" and "log in as guest".

Reminder: Slides from previous CNSTAT public seminars are available on the CNSTAT [public seminars and symposia](#) page. Presentations from the May 2017 CNSTAT meeting public seminar, "CIPSEA at 15 Years: Benefits to Federal Statistics," are available [here](#).

Slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website. This page also includes a section on "[Multiple Data Sources Presentations](#)," which links to presentations from workshops and meetings for CNSTAT's [Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods](#).

CNSTAT Meetings

CNSTAT holds three regular meetings each year, with its spring and fall meeting dates following a set formula; our May meetings are always the Thursday–Friday preceding Mother's Day and our October meetings are always the second-to-last Thursday–Friday of the month. Here are the next three meetings:

CNSTAT's 134th meeting will be held **October 19-20, 2017**, at the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the **20th**, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads (members of the ICSP), followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 1:45 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm. The seminar will feature the report of the **Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking**, co-chaired by Katharine Abraham and Ron Haskins, and the final report of the CNSTAT **Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research**, chaired by CNSTAT chair Robert Groves. The seminar will honor **Connie Citro**, former director of CNSTAT, for her numerous contributions to the federal statistical system and the social science research community. Connie stepped down as director in July, and she now serves as a senior scholar at CNSTAT.

CNSTAT's 135th meeting will be held **February 9-10, 2018**, at the National Academies Beckman Center in Irvine, CA. It will be in retreat format; it will not have a public seminar or agency head luncheon.

CNSTAT's 136th meeting will be held **May 10-11, 2018**, at the **National Academy of Sciences Building** at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the **11th**, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads (members of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, ICSP), followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 1:30 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm.

Active PANELS & WORKSHOPS

[Listed by sponsor agency, beginning with federal departments. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are in Washington, DC, and include open sessions. For further information, contact the person listed as the study director or project assistant (e-mail addresses follow the formula of first initial plus last name as in oneword@nas.edu). Also see the CNSTAT [web site](#) under "Our Work."]

Department of Agriculture

Panel on Methods for Integrating Multiple Data Sources to Improve Crop Estimates

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014–March 2018

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Glenn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Publication planned: Final report is in response to review

Meetings: Fifth and final in-person meeting (closed) held May 30-31, 2017, in Irvine, CA

Panel on Improving Data Collection and Reporting about Agriculture with Increasingly Complex Farm Business Structures

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service and Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2015–September 2018

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Catherine Kling (Iowa State University)

Publication planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for September 11-12, 2017, in Washington, DC

Workshop on Model-Based Methods for Producing Estimates of Livestock with Appropriate Measures of Uncertainty

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2015–September 2019

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Department of Commerce

Panel to Reengineer the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: May 2015–May 2018

Study director: Glenn White; senior program officer: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Katharine Abraham (University of Maryland)

Publication planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final in-person meeting held June 8-9, 2017, in Washington, DC

Panel to Review and Evaluate the 2014 Survey of Income and Program Participation Content and Design

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2013–August 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Anthony Mann; research associate: Adrienne Bradford

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Publication planned: Final report is in response to review

Meetings: Fifth and final in-person meeting held October 10-11, 2016, in Washington, DC

Standing Committee on Reengineering Census Operations

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2014–September 2019

Study director: Daniel Cork; senior program officer: Michael Cohen; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann
Chair: Thomas Cook (Decision Analytics International)
Publications: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee has facilitated a consensus panel on reengineering the Census Bureau's annual economic surveys (see above) and may spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A [website](#) is maintained for the committee.
Upcoming meetings: Ninth meeting (closed) scheduled for August 24, 2017, in Washington, DC

Department of Education

Committee on Developing Indicators of Educational Equity (see listing under "The Atlantic Philanthropies et al." below)

Department of Health and Human Services

Committee on Building an Agenda to Reduce the Number of Children in Poverty by Half in 10 Years (joint with the Board on Children, Youth, and Families, which has the lead)

Sponsors: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; Doris Duke Charitable Foundation; Foundation for Child Development

Duration: October 2016–April 2019

Study director: Suzanne Le Menestrel (BCYF); senior program officer: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Rebekah Hutton (BCYF); project assistant: Pamella Atayi (BCYF)

Chair: Greg Duncan (UC Irvine)

Publication planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting (closed) scheduled for August 17-18, 2017, in Washington, DC; information-gathering session (open) scheduled for September 21, 2017, in Washington, DC, 1-5 pm; fourth meeting (closed) scheduled for October 12-13, 2017, in Irvine, CA

Workshop on Improving Health Research on Small Subpopulations (joint with the Health and Medicine Division)

Sponsor: National Cancer Institute

Duration: March 2017–July 2018

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Graham Colditz (Washington University, St. Louis)

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings

Upcoming meetings: November 30-December 1, 2017, in Washington, DC

Workshop on a Principles and Practices for Federal Program Evaluation

Sponsors: Administration for Children and Families and Office of the Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services); U.S. Department of Labor; Institute of Education Sciences (U.S. Department of Education); and U.S. Office of Management and Budget

Duration: September 2016–September 2017

Study director: Jordyn White; senior program officer: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Grover (Russ) Whitehurst (Brookings Institution)

Publications: Workshop proceedings in brief was released March 20, 2017, and is available as a [PDF](#) and in print; full proceedings report was released in prepublication format, July 7, 2017, and is available as a [PDE](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meeting: Workshop held October 27, 2016, in Washington, DC

Workshop on a Research Agenda for Longitudinal Studies

Sponsor: National Institute on Aging, Division of Behavioral and Social Research

Duration: September 2016–September 2017

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan and Russell Sage Foundation)

Publication: Workshop proceedings in brief was released August 2017, and is available as a [PDF](#) and in print; presentation slides from the workshop are available [here](#)

Meeting: Workshop held June 5-6, 2017, in Washington, DC

Department of Justice

Panel on Modernizing the Nation’s Crime Statistics (joint with the Committee on Law and Justice)

Sponsor: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation

Duration: September 2013–September 2017

Study director: Daniel Cork; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: Janet Lauritsen (University of Missouri–St. Louis)

Publications planned: First report, *Modernizing Crime Statistics—Report 1: Defining and Classifying Crime*, was released in prepublication format, May 16, 2016—printed copies and free [PDFs](#) are available; second report is being drafted

Meetings: Final in-person meeting held January 13-14, 2017, in Coral Gables, FL

Department of Transportation

Panel to Review the Compliance, Safety, and Accountability Program of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (joint with the Transportation Research Board)

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: March 2016–September 2017

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Michael Siri; off-site research associate: Jacob Spertus (Harvard)

Co-chairs: Joel Greenhouse (Carnegie Mellon) and Sharon-Lise Normand (Harvard Medical School)

Publication: Final report, *Improving Motor Carrier Safety Measurement*, was released in prepublication format, June 20, 2017, and is available in [PDF](#); printed copies will be available shortly

Meetings: Fourth and last meeting held February 16-17, 2017

National Science Foundation

Panel to Evaluate the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics Approach to Measuring the Science and Engineering Workforce

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–March 2018

Study director: Krisztina Marton; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Co-chairs: Rita Colwell (University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University) and James House (University of Michigan)

Publication planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting held July 6-7, 2017, in Washington, DC

Workshop on Transparency and Reproducibility in Federal Statistics

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: March 2016–March 2018

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: William Eddy (Carnegie Mellon University)

Publication planned: Workshop proceedings report is being drafted

Meeting: Workshop held June 21-22, 2017, in Washington, DC

The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Ford Foundation, the Spencer Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the W.T. Grant Foundation

Committee on Developing Indicators of Educational Equity

Sponsors: See above list

Duration: December 2016–December 2018

Study director: Judith Koenig; program officer: Jordyn White; project assistant: Kelly Arrington

Co-chairs: Christopher Edley, Jr. (The Opportunity Institute, Berkeley, CA); Lorraine McDonnell (UC Santa Barbara)

Publication planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second in-person meeting scheduled for October 2-3, 2017, in Washington, DC

The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Standing Committee on Creating the American Opportunity Study, First Phase

Sponsor: The Carnegie Corporation of New York

Duration: April 2015–March 2017

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Michael Hout (NYU)

Publications: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee facilitated a workshop, May 9, 2016, on research uses of the American Opportunity Study (AOS), which is being developed to measure intergenerational mobility by linking 1990 census records (after capturing the necessary information) with subsequent census records, American Community Survey records, and administrative records that become available. The result will be a facility for researchers to obtain extracts of linked files for analysis within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center network (formerly the Census Bureau RDC network). The First-Phase AOS is to address the challenges of capturing linking information for the 1990 census short-form and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A “workshop in brief” proceedings of the May workshop was released July 19, 2016, and is available for download as a free [PDF](#). Presentation [slides](#) from the May workshop are also available.

Upcoming meetings: Third meeting TBD

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Panel on Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods

Sponsor: The Laura and John Arnold Foundation

Duration: April 2015–December 2017

Study director: Brian Harris-Kojetin; research assistant: George Schoeffel; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown University)

Publications planned: Two reports; first report, *Innovations in Federal Statistics: Combining Data Sources While Protecting Privacy*, was released in prepublication format, January 12, 2017, and is available as a [PDF](#) and in print; second report is in review; a [website](#) is maintained for the committee.

Meetings: Seventh and final meeting held March 16-17, 2017, in Washington, DC

• **CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT** •

[effective July 8, 2017]

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– See our website for previous issues of *News from CNSTAT*, under “CNSTAT News” –

The Committee on National Statistics was established in 1972 at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to improve the statistical methods and information on which public policy decisions are based. The committee carries out studies, workshops, and other activities to foster better measures and fuller understanding of the economy, the environment, public health, crime, education, immigration, poverty, welfare, and other public policy issues. It also evaluates ongoing statistical programs and tracks the statistical policy and coordinating activities of the federal government, serving a unique role at the intersection of statistics and public policy. The committee’s work is supported by a consortium of federal agencies through a National Science Foundation grant, a National Agricultural Statistics Service cooperative agreement, and several individual agreements.