



NEWS from CNSTAT

— September 28, 2015 —

PEOPLE *News*

We congratulate the following winners of the *American Statistical Association (ASA) Founders Award*, presented at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, August 11, 2015:

- **James H. Albert**, professor of mathematics and statistics at Bowling Green University, for “outstanding leadership and efforts in statistical education and relationship building between academia and industry; for service as editor of *The American Statistician* and the *Journal of Quantitative Analysis of Sports* and as a member of the *Significance* editorial board; for major contributions as associate editor of several ASA journals; for chairing and participating in numerous ASA committees and councils devoted to statistics education, Bayesian statistics, and sports statistics; and for heightening interest in statistics through the use of sports examples and applications presented in papers, technical reports, lectures, blogs and books.”
- **David L. Banks**, professor of the practice of statistics at Duke University, for “outstanding leadership in the discipline, in its interfaces, and in the ASA; for consistent and varied professional contributions in areas of particular public interest, such as human rights, counterterrorism, immigration and public health; for editorial work and a commitment to modernizing our publications, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*, as editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and as publications representative on the ASA Board; for service in multiple sections, local chapters and committees; and for significant contributions on National Academies committees, to federal agencies and to the National Institute of Statistical Sciences and Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute.”
- **Sally C. Morton**, professor and chair of the biostatistics department in the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and former member of CNSTAT, for “sustained thoughtful leadership of the ASA as its 2009 president, as a representative to other organizations and as a member of the Development Committee; for commitment to maintaining the relevance of the ASA to applied statisticians, as evidenced by the development of the Conference on Statistical Practice and the ASA’s accreditation program; for serving on and chairing numerous ASA committees; for editorial service on several journals, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*; and for advancing statistical methodology through service on National Academies committees and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.”

We congratulate **Stephen Cohen**, senior fellow in the Center for Excellence in Survey Research at NORC at the University of Chicago, on receiving the **2015 Pat Doyle Award**, established by the Executive Committee of the ASA Government Statistics Section (GSS) in 2005 soon after her death as a tribute to Pat’s dedication to the statistical field and the GSS during her lifetime. Pat left her imprint on an astonishingly wide range of projects and activities in the U.S. federal statistical community. The award is given to a person who contributes to the GSS in a way that leaves a lasting impact on GSS and ASA.

Prior to joining NORC, Steve had a long career in federal statistics, including positions in the Bureau of Labor Statistics and as chief statistician with the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics. He has similarly been active in ASA for many years, serving terms as chair of GSS and also the ASA Survey Research Methods Section, as ASA representative to the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, and in other capacities. He is a fellow of ASA.

We congratulate **John Eltinge**, associate commissioner for the Office of Survey Methods Research at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, on receiving a **2015 Distinguished Service Award** from the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS). Nell Sedransk, newly appointed director of NISS, announced the awards on August 10, 2015. The NISS Distinguished Service Awards were established by the Board of Trustees in 2005 to recognize individuals who have given extraordinary service that significantly advances NISS and its mission. Eltinge received the award for bringing insight and implementing the vision for NISS as a multisector institute, especially through his leadership in the Affiliates Program. Before joining BLS, John served as associate professor in the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University, specializing in sample design, survey nonresponse, measurement error, small domain estimation, quantile estimation and time series analysis. From June 1999 to January 2004, he served as senior mathematical statistician in the BLS Office of Survey Methods Research. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, a member of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, an associate editor for *Survey Methodology* and the *Journal of Official Statistics*, and a former associate editor for the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and *The American Statistician*. He received a Ph.D. in statistics from Iowa State University, an M.S. in statistics from Purdue University, and a B.S. in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University.

We congratulate **Jennifer Madans**, associate director for science at the National Center for Health Statistics, on receiving the **2015 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics**. The award will be presented at a meeting of the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) on November 18, 2015, at 1:30 pm at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. Roger Herriot was the associate commissioner of statistical standards and methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) when he died in 1994. Prior to his service at NCES, he held several positions at the U.S. Census Bureau, including chief of the Population Division. Soon after his death, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of ASA along with WSS established an award in his name to recognize individuals who develop unique and innovative approaches to the solution of statistical problems in federal data collection programs. Jennifer's award recognizes her innovative contributions in many areas of federal statistics, including improved reporting, classification, and interpretation of health-related differences by race and ethnicity; and the development of internationally consistent definitions and measures of disability, including chairing two UN-sponsored international efforts—the Budapest Initiative on core measures of health status and the Washington Group on Disability Measurement, a collaborative effort that has involved over 60 countries over its 8-year history. Earlier in her career, she spearheaded the collection of longitudinal data in the NHANES I Epidemiologic Study and the National Nursing Home Followup Study. She has also led the development of linked data bases to enhance the analytical potential of NCHS's population-based surveys. Jennifer has a B.A. from Bard College and an M.Sc. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University. She is a fellow of ASA and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

On World Statistics Day, Tuesday, October, 20, 2015, at 11 a.m., the U.S. Department of Labor will induct BLS commissioners **Carroll D. Wright** and **Janet L. Norwood** into the **Labor Hall of Honor**. Carroll Wright was the first BLS commissioner, serving from 1885 to 1905. Janet Norwood, who passed away recently, was the first woman to serve as BLS commissioner and led the Bureau for 12 crucial years (1979-1991), modernizing it and raising the profile of its work. Both former commissioners ensured that BLS produced the high quality of statistics necessary to the proper functioning of a democratic

government. This will be the first time BLS commissioners will be inducted into the Labor Hall of Honor, which was established in 1988 to honor Americans whose distinctive contributions in the field of labor have elevated working conditions, wages, and over-all quality of life of America's working families. During their time as commissioner, Wright and Norwood each strongly emphasized the necessity of accurate data to help workers suffering from economic hardships.

We wish all the best to **Steven Cohen** on his retirement from the **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)**, as of September 30, 2015, to accept a position as vice president of the Division of Statistics and Data Science at RTI International. Steve has been director of the Center for Financing, Access, and Cost Trends at AHRQ since 2000 and served for 37 years with AHRQ. The Center conducts research and develops and sponsors large primary data sets, including the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), to support health care policy. Steve has authored over 100 journal articles and publications in the areas of biostatistics, survey research methodology, estimation, survey design, and health services research. He is co-author of the text, *Methodological Issues for Health Care Surveys*. He has also served as an associate professor at the Johns Hopkins University and the George Washington University and as a member of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology and is a fellow of ASA. He has a Ph.D. in biostatistics from Duke University.

We are pleased to learn from chief statistician Katherine Wallman that **Robert Sivinski** has joined the **Statistical and Science Policy Office at OMB**. Bob is to contribute to the development of government-wide statistical policy and coordinate interagency working groups designed to promote methodological development and collaboration within the decentralized statistical system. In addition, he will be working with Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) desk officers to ensure the quality and utility of statistical surveys submitted to OMB for approval pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act. Bob comes from the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), where he provided statistical consultation for a variety of research, statistical, and regulatory activities, including the design and implementation of nationally representative surveys. Most recently, he provided technical expertise to the redesign and modernization of NHTSA's large-scale annual crash data survey, the National Automotive Sampling System. Bob has an M.A. in statistics from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville and a B.A. in psychology from the University of Texas at Austin.

We note with sadness the just-received news of the passing of **Mary Grace Kovar**, who had a long career with the **National Center for Health Statistics**, on September 21, 2015. After retiring from NCHS, Mary Grace was associated with NORC at the University of Chicago. There will be a service for Mary Grace at 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 30, in the Auditorium at Collington Continuing Care Retirement Community, 10450 Lottsford Rd, Mitchellville, MD 20721.

We also note with sadness the death of **Barney Cohen**, at age 56, following a very brief illness, on September 19, 2015. Barney was a former colleague of ours in the Academies' Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. In 1992, Barney joined our sister **Committee on Population (CPOP)** as a staff officer. From 1998 to 2012, Barney served as director of CPOP. In August 2012, Barney was appointed chief of the Population Studies Branch and deputy director of the Population Division of the United Nations. Barney's work at the Academies encompassed a wide variety of domestic and international projects, including studies on fertility, morbidity, mortality, housing, urbanization, migration, aging, and HIV/AIDS. He also served as the liaison of the Academies to the Academy of Science of South Africa and the Ghanaian Academy of Arts and Sciences as part of a larger project aimed at supporting the development of academies of science in Africa. A memorial service for Barney will take place from 1:00–3:00 pm on Thursday, October 1, 2015, at the Columbus Club of Arlington, 5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207.

REPORT *News*

Reminder: PDF versions of CNSTAT and NAS reports are available for free download at *The National Academies Press* website, <http://www.nap.edu>. NOTE: 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; slides from several major workshops are available on the [presentations](#) page on the CNSTAT website.

EVENT & OTHER *News*

The *Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology* (FCSM) invites attendance at the **2015 FCSM Research Conference** hosted by the *Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics* (COPAFS). The conference will be held December 1–3, 2015, at the Washington Convention Center. Based on the preliminary agenda, the conference looks to offer dynamite sessions on innovative developments at many leading federal statistical agencies. According to the conference site: "The 2015 FCSM Research Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including: adaptive survey design, address-based sampling, administrative records, Bayesian statistical methods, coding, confidentiality and disclosure, crowdsourcing, data quality, economic statistics, editing, frame development, imputation, mobile devices, multi-mode and web data collection, nonresponse and measurement error, paradata and metadata, questionnaire and survey design, record linkage, small area estimation, survey redesign, variance estimation, and weighting." The keynote speaker is **Raj Chetty**, Bloomberg professor of economics at Harvard University, co-director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research, and editor of the *Journal of Public Economics*. His widely cited research on tax policy, unemployment, and education makes innovative use of IRS administrative data and other sources. [Registration](#) is now open. There is a registration fee.

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 128th meeting will be held **October 22–23, 2015**, in the *National Academy of Sciences Building* at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 23rd, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm. The seminar will include a tribute to the late BLS commissioner, Janet Norwood, and presentations and discussion on "**Reengineering the 2020 Census.**" Information about the seminar and how to register is attached. We hope to see you there!

CNSTAT's 129th meeting will be held *February 11–12, 2016*, at the *Keck Center of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine* at 500 Fifth Street NW, in Washington, DC. It will be a retreat meeting; there will be no agency head luncheon or public seminar.

CNSTAT's 130th meeting will be held *May 5-6, 2016*, in the *National Academy of Sciences Building* at 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC. On the 6th, the meeting will feature a luncheon with statistical agency heads, followed by a public seminar, beginning with light refreshments at 2 pm and ending with a reception at 4:30 pm.

NOTE: Presentations from the joint CNSTAT/NSF-Census Research Network (NCRN) set of workshops and public seminar at the May 8, 2015, CNSTAT meeting are available on the NCRN [site](#).

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 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–September 2017

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: Mary Ellen Bock (Purdue University)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for November 12-13, 2015, in Washington, DC

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 2014–September 2017

Study director: TBD; project assistant: TBD

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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

Sponsor: National Agricultural Statistics Service

Duration: September 2014– September 2017

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Workshop on Rationalizing Rural Area Classifications for ERS/USDA

Sponsor: Economic Research Service

Duration: September 2014–December 2015

Study director: Nancy Kirkendall; senior program officer: Gooloo Wunderlich; project assistant: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: David Brown (Cornell University)

Report planned: Workshop summary is in response to review

Meeting: Workshop held April 16-17, 2015, in Washington, DC

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: Mary Ann Kasper

Chair: Katharine Abraham (U. Maryland)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: First in-person meeting scheduled for October 29-30, 2015, 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–November 2016

Study director: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin; research associate: Adrienne Bradford

Chair: John Czajka (Mathematica Policy Research)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Fourth meeting scheduled for October 1-2, 2015, 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)

Reports: 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 will spin off workshops on central topics for 2020 census planning. A website for the committee is maintained at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Fifth meeting (closed) scheduled for January 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

Workshop on the Census Bureau's Concept of Operations for Reengineering the 2020 Census

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Michael Cohen; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American Community Survey

Sponsor: U.S. Census Bureau

Duration: September 2015–December 2015

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Department of Education

Committee on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Achievement Levels

Evaluation (joint with the Board on Testing and Assessment, which has the lead)

Sponsor: National Center for Education Statistics

Duration: September 2014–March 2016

Study director: Judith Koenig (BOTA); program officer: Jordyn White (CNSTAT); project assistant: Kelly Arrington (BOTA)

Chair: Christopher Edley, Jr. (University of California, Berkeley)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Seventh meeting (closed) scheduled for October 12, 2015 (teleconference)

Department of Health and Human Services

Standing Committee on Integrating New Behavioral Health Measures into SAMHSA's Data

Collection Programs (joint with the Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences and the Board on Health Sciences Policy)

Sponsors: Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Duration: August 2014–July 2016

Study director: Krisztina Marton; senior program officer: Jeanne Rivard (BBCSS); senior program officer: Adrienne Stith Butler (BHSP); project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: James Jackson (University of Michigan)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee is facilitating workshops on the topics of serious emotional disturbance in children (workshop summary is in review), specific mental illness diagnoses with any functional impairment, trauma, and recovery. A website is maintained for the committee at this [link](#).

Upcoming meetings: Workshop/fourth meeting on Trauma scheduled for December 17-18, 2015; Workshop/fifth meeting on Recovery scheduled for February 24-25, 2016 (all meetings in Washington, DC)

Workshop on Improving Data on Criminal Justice System Involvement in Population Health Data Collections

Sponsor: Office of Minority Health

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Jordyn White; senior program officer: Carol House; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Department of Homeland Security

Committee on Affordability of National Flood Insurance Program Premiums (joint with the Water Science and Technology Board, which has the lead, and the Board on Mathematical Sciences and Their Applications)

Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Duration: September 2013–September 2015

Study director: Jeffrey Jacobs (WSTB); CNSTAT director: Constance Citro; BMSA director: Scott Weidman

Chair: Leonard Shabman (Resources for the Future)

Reports planned: *Affordability of National Flood Insurance Premiums—Report 1* released in prepublication format, March 26, 2015; available in print and [PDF](#); second report being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Fifth and final meeting held May 6-7, 2015, in Irvine CA

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–December 2016

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

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

Reports planned: First report is being drafted; second report is being planned

Upcoming meetings: Tenth meeting (closed) scheduled for November 17-18, 2015, in Washington, DC

Department of Transportation

Panel on Research Methodologies and Statistical Approaches to Understanding Driver Fatigue Factors in Motor Carrier Safety and Driver Health (joint with the Board on Human-Systems Integration and Transportation Research Board)

Sponsor: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

Duration: September 2013–December 2015

Study director: Michael Cohen; senior program officer: Richard Pain; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; Board on Human-Systems Integration director: Poornima Madhavan; TRB Studies and Special Programs Division director: Stephen Godwin; project assistant: Agnes Gaskin

Co-chairs: Hal Stern (University of California, Irvine); Matthew Rizzo (University of Nebraska Medical Center)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Meetings: Sixth and final meeting (closed) held July 13-14, 2015, in Washington, DC

National Science Foundation

Forum on Open Science

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Duration: October 2013–October 2016

Study director: Hermann Habermann; project assistant: Michael Siri

Chair: David Ward (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Reports: Forums do not issue reports; they meet for discussion among a wide range of stakeholders; they can also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: Fourth and last meeting held March 27, 2015, in Washington, DC; follow-on activities to be scheduled

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

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: TBD

Standing Committee on the Future of Major NSF-Funded Social Science Surveys

Sponsor: Directorate on Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Duration: March 2011–June 2016

Study director: Cynthia Thomas; project assistant: Eileen LeFurgy

Chair: Barbara Entwisle (University of North Carolina)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they may also facilitate separate workshops or consensus panels. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: October 6, 2015 (teleconference by invitation)

Workshop on Prioritizing and Implementing Improvements to Innovation Indicators

Sponsor: National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics

Duration: September 2015–September 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: TBD

Report planned: Workshop summary

Upcoming meetings: TBD

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)

Reports: Standing committees do not issue reports; they meet for discussion; they also identify topics for separate workshops or consensus panels; this committee will facilitate workshops on the design and 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- and long-form records, to evaluate the likely quality of matches with other records, and to propose the next phase of work. A website will be maintained for the committee.

Upcoming meetings: First meeting scheduled for October 15, 2015, in Washington, DC

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Panel on the Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration

Sponsor: The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Duration: May 2013–March 2016

Study director: Christopher Mackie; associate program officer: Esha Sinha; project assistant: Anthony Mann

Chair: Francine Blau (Cornell University)

Report planned: Final report is being drafted

Upcoming meetings: Seventh and final meeting (closed) held September 11-12, 2015, in Washington, DC

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–September 2017

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

Chair: Robert Groves (Georgetown U)

Report planned: Final report

Upcoming meetings: Second meeting and first workshop scheduled for December 15-17, 2015, in Washington, DC (public workshop on the 16th)

• CONTACT INFORMATION for CNSTAT •

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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.