



## International Year of Statistics News

February 25, 2013

### Significance, RSS Young Statisticians Sponsoring Writing Competition

A writing competition, the second jointly sponsored by the Young Statisticians Section of the [Royal Statistical Society](#) (RSS) and *Significance* magazine, will celebrate The International Year of Statistics. The first competition, held in 2012, was hugely success with 24 entries; four were published in the magazine. Anyone is welcome to enter, regardless of membership or affiliation. The only stipulation is that you be “young” (in career terms, not necessarily in age); that is you must be a student or within the first 10 years of your career. Before sitting down to compose your article, we suggest that you can read [last year’s winning entry](#) and a [runner-up entry](#) plus [learn more about the writing competition](#) and what makes a submitted article stand out. In light of the success of last year’s competition, the sponsors are encouraging more young writers to put pen to paper—or fingers to keyboard! Entries should be submitted via email to [significance@rss.org.uk](mailto:significance@rss.org.uk) as a text or Word file or as a PDF. *Significance* is published jointly by the RSS and the [American Statistical Association](#) and is for anyone interested in statistics and the analysis and interpretation of data.

### Statistics2013 Video Contest Deadline This Week

The deadline for entries for the [Statistics2013 Video contest](#) is just three days away. There’s still time to create a video and submit it for the competition.

### Participation Passes 1,700-Mark

Statistics2013 participation last week surpassed the 1,700-participant mark. Currently, the count stands at 1,725. In addition, there are now 118 countries represented after Trinidad and Tobago’s Central Statistical Office joined the worldwide celebration of everything statistics. Check out the updated participant list at the [Statistics2013 website](#) .

If you know an organization interested in joining, please tell its representative to go to [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) and click on the “Join Statistics2013” icon on the right side of the homepage to become an official participating organization.

## U.S.'s Smithsonian Institution Joins Statistics2013

The Statistics2013 Steering Committee sends a hearty “Thank You!” to Dr. Lee-Ann Hayek, chief mathematical statistician, for persuading Smithsonian Institution leaders to join the International Year of Statistics. The Smithsonian is the world’s largest museum and research complex, with 19 museums, nine research centers and more than 140 affiliate museums around the world.

## New Event Submission Forms Now on Website

We have developed two new web-based forms that will make it easier for you to submit your organization’s Statistics2013 events as well as a summary and photos after the event is over.

The first form—called the “Event Submission Form for the Statistics2013 Activities Calendar”—provides you a quick and simple way to submit information about your organization’s planned Statistics2013 events. All you have to do is input into the form the requested information and press the “Submit” button. We’ll then take your information and post it to the Statistics2013 Activities Calendar. [You can access this form here.](#)

The second form—titled “Statistics2013 Post-Event Information & Photo Submission Form”—enables you to let us know about the success of your completed event and to submit up to two photos. On this form, you are prompted for information about your event and you also can input a brief summary (up to 1,750 characters). After you submit information about your organization’s event, we’ll run your photos and stories in this newsletter so others can see the creative and fun ways that your organization is promoting the International Year of Statistics. [Click here to access this form.](#)

## New Website Functionality

We have added a new search function to the [Statistics2013 Global Participants](#) page on the website. The seemingly endless list of Statistics2013 participants has been replaced with a quicker, convenient form that allows visitors to search for organizations by type, name or country. Take it for a test drive today [here!](#)

## Participating Organizations: News & Events

Here’s the latest news on upcoming and recently concluded Statistics2013 meetings and events hosted by participating organizations:

**International**—The International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC) announces a Data Analysis Competition as part Statistics2013. IASC is an association of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and aims to foster worldwide exchange of technical knowledge among statisticians, computing professionals, organizations, governments and the general public in order to convert data into information and knowledge. For the 2013 data competition, winners will be invited to present their results at the IASC Satellite Conference in Seoul, Korea, which will be held August 22 and 23 and to submit a manuscript for possible publication (following peer review) to IASC’s official journal—*Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*. [Click here for more information](#) about the competition.

**International**—The International Road Federation, a new Statistics2013 participating organization, is sponsoring a webinar titled “Data Collection & Statistical Practices to Support Road Safety Policies” March 7. The webinar will address the need to centralize road-accident data to facilitate effective road-safety analysis and monitoring at regional and/or country levels. [Learn more and register here.](#)

**Brazil**—In addition to celebrating Statistics2013, the National School of Statistical Sciences (ENCE) is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. ENCE is maintained in Rio de Janeiro by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), the country’s official statistical agency. IBGE’s bachelor-level degree in statistics is the oldest in Brazil. A special celebration will be held March 6, the day of ENCE’s anniversary. The highlight of the event will be a panel discussion featuring IBGE President Dr. Wasmália Barata Bivar, ENCE Coordinator Dr. Denise Britz do Nascimento Silva and former IBGE President Dr. Simon Schwartzman talking about ENCE’s past, present and future. Other celebrations of ENCE’s 60th year and the International Year of Statistics will take place throughout 2013.

**Spain**—Bloggers of FreshBiostats, an information exchange whose founders are striving to foster closeness among young researchers in biostatistics in Spain, recently presented a poster at the Spanish Biostatistics Network 2nd General Meeting. The poster included a special mention of the collaboration on the group’s [recent blog entry about careers in biostatistics](#) that was featured on the Statistics2013 website. [Click here to check out the complete poster.](#)



*FreshBiostats members show off their poster at the Spanish Biostatistics Network 2nd General Meeting. Note the Statistics2013 logo in the poster layout.*

**Canada**—The CASUL Committee at Laval University in Quebec is organizing its celebration of the International Year of Statistics. In a unique activity, students will be drawing the Statistics2013 logo on the walls of a high-traffic underground passage on campus. We'll share a photo with you in the future.

**Ethiopia**—A truly international celebration of the International Year of Statistics, with the theme “Statistics in Ethiopia: Emerging Opportunities, Challenges and Prospects”, will be held in this African country. Organizers of this event are the Ethiopian Statistical Association, the Statistics Department of Jimma University, and the Flemish Interuniversity Council—University Development Cooperation (Belgium). The event will be held March 24 at Jimma University in Jimma, Ethiopia. [More information will be posted here soon.](#)

**Germany**—This country's only independent faculty of statistics at TU Dortmund University recently celebrated the International Year of Statistics and its 40th anniversary during an event called “Dortmund Day of Statistics”. The event, held Feb. 6, featured a daytrip through national and international statistics.



*Students estimate the number of colored sweets in a jar at the Dortmund Day of Statistics.*

**Indonesia**—The Indonesian Statistical Forum for Higher Education (FORSTAT) is organizing two events in recognition of Statistics2013. Those are:

- [A Workshop on Statistical Education](#) is slated for April 12 through 14 at the University of Brawijaya in Malang. The workshop will be organized into four groups—Statistical Methods, Statistical Theory, Design of Experiment, and Sample Survey Groups—to discuss related topics

on the development of statistics education and new research. Workshop participants will be students from all university departments of statistics in Indonesia.

- [The International Conference on Applied Statistics 2013](#) is scheduled for September 16 through 19 at the Universitas Padjadjaran in Bandung, Indonesia. The primary goal of this conference is to provide an opportunity for statisticians and other professionals from various statistical and related fields to present research and build a strong personal network.

**Mexico**—Two leading statistical organizations will host the country’s “Statistics2013 Inaugural Event” at the UNIVERSUM Museum of Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). The event is being organized by Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) and Asociación Mexicana de Estadística (AME). [Click here for more information about this event.](#)

**United States**—The Department of Statistics at the University of Georgia recently conducted a Statistics2013 event titled “Statistics Education K-14: Appreciating the Past, Actuating the Present, and Anticipating the Future”. The Feb. 21 talk was presented by Richard Scheaffer, professor of statistics at the University of Florida. Scheaffer review the long history of statistics education at the high school level—a history that laid the foundation for the great possibilities of tomorrow. These possibilities can best be made realities through the concerted efforts of the entire statistics community, especially the academic community, in curriculum development and teacher education. You can read the [full abstract](#).

**United States**—The Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America will be celebrating Statistics2013 during an event appropriately titled “Special Session on the International Year of Statistics”. The event will be held March 15 and 16 at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. [Go to the conference website](#) to learn more.

### **National Statistical Organizations: News & Events**

Here’s the latest news on upcoming and recently concluded Statistics2013 meetings and events conducted by national statistical organizations (NSO):

**Cayman Islands**—The Economics and Statistics Office, which is the national statistical office in the Cayman Islands, is planning a three-and-half week celebration of the International Year of Statistics from March 7 through 31. The series of events kick off the first day with a seminar titled “Understanding Economic Statistics” by Statistics Office and Budget Management Unit staff at Cayman Prep and High School in George Town. The seminar will feature presentations on System of National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Government Financial Statistics, Consumer Price Index and Labor Force Surveys. Go to the [statistics office’s website](#) to learn more.

**United States**—The U.S. Census Bureau is promoting the International Year of Statistics to its national partners. In a recent direct communique, Census told its partners: “Did you know that 2013 is the *International Year of Statistics*? The Census Bureau is planning a host of activities to highlight this worldwide celebration of statistics. We plan to bring you in on this celebration by keeping you informed

throughout the year on Census Statistics2013 events ...” It ends by directing recipients to the [Statistics2013 website](#) and telling readers that more updates will be sent to them!

**International Statistical Institute**—ISI President Jae C. Lee, President-Elect Vijay Nair and Director Ada van Krimpen had the honor to meet with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at UN Headquarters in New York on Feb. 24. The ISI delegation is in New York to attend the 44th UN Statistical Commission meeting. The Secretary General was pleased to hear about the global initiative to celebrate 2013 as the International Year of Statistics. He stressed the importance of statistics for informed policy-making and for good functioning of our global society. President Lee provided a brief background of the ISI and described some of its activities. He noted that the ISI hopes to work more closely with the UN Statistics Division in the area of statistical capacity-building. President Lee also mentioned that, as a nongovernmental organization, the ISI is well-placed to raise concerns when there are breaches of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics around the world. These issues will be discussed in depth during the forthcoming ISI World Statistics Congress in Hong Kong.



*ISI President Jae C. Lee, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, ISI President-Elect Vijay Nair and ISI Director Ada van Krimpen meet at the UN Headquarters in New York.*

### **Check out Website for Activities & Ideas**

On an almost daily basis, we are adding new items to the [Activities Calendar](#) on the [Statistics2013](#) website. This list is an excellent place for finding activities in which you and your organization can participate to celebrate Statistics2013. It also is a great place to see what other organizations around the world are doing to mark the celebration and use those ideas as the starting point for your group to

brainstorm ideas of its own. Check out the Activities Calendar today and start planning your organization's event! And when your event's plans are finalized, go to the "[Event Submission Form for the Statistics2013 Activities Calendar](#)"—to submit key information about it to us and to let other participating organizations know what your group is doing to celebrate Statistics2013.

### **Statistics2013 Website is for You!**

Since the [Statistics2013 website](#) was launched, we have received numerous requests from participants seeking permission to link to the site and use its content—particularly the [posters](#) and the [downloadable flyer](#)—in their public promotional efforts.

The website is filled with information to educate the public about how statistics improves their lives, the work of statisticians as well as careers in statistical science. We invite and encourage all International Year of Statistics participating organizations to make use of these resources.

If you have not visited the site yet, take the time soon to peruse its public-oriented informational content, including these helpful resource areas:

- *What is Statistics?*—An explanation in layman's language
- *Stats2013AtSchool*—A statistics quiz for school students
- *Statistics2013 Video*—The informative two-and-a-half-minute video: [Why Statistics is Important to You](#)
- *Statistics as a Career*—Information about the work of statisticians and careers in statistics
- *Teacher Resources*—Primary and secondary school resources, a downloadable flyer and posters

There also is a section dedicated to participating organizations, titled "Statistics2013 Global Supporters", where you can access the roster of participating organizations, a comprehensive list of Statistics2013 activities, and the official Statistics2013 logos in various languages.

### **Use the Statistics2013 Video**

We encourage your organization and its members to use and share the International Year of Statistics video. Created by [SAS Institute](#), the video relates the many and varied ways that statistics impacts our lives. The video is accessible at [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org).

You can:

- view the video,
- post the video to your organization's website,
- e-mail the link to your members/employees,
- share it with your organization's stakeholders,
- promote it to the public, media and other external audiences in your area or country, and
- show it at your meetings and other events.

The video narration is in English. However, thanks to SAS and many Statistics2013 participants who are providing translations, subtitles are being added in other languages. Currently available languages are:

- Catalan
- Czech
- Dutch
- Euskara (Basque)
- English
- French
- German
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Portuguese (Portugal)
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Turkish

To access these subtitles, follow these easy instructions:

- Press “Play” on the video
- Click the “CC” button to see the list of subtitle options
- Click on the desired language (the subtitles will appear onscreen)

We will be adding other subtitled languages soon, so check the video frequently to see if your language is available.

If you want the video subtitled in your country’s language, please e-mail [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org) to request a copy of the script that you can translate.

### **Official Statistics2013 Logos**

With the recent move to the new public website, the link to the Statistics2013 logo and the various language-specific versions has changed. That new direct link is:

<http://www.statistics2013.org/iyos/logos.cfm>

Be sure to save the link in your web favorites.

You also can access the logos page by going to the “[Statistics2013 Global Supporters](#)” area of [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org) and then clicking on “[Resources](#)” in the pull-down menu. The link to the logos is listed first on the page.

### **Wiley Offers Statistics2013 Incentives**

Wiley, a strong supporter of the International Year of Statistics, has developed several ways in which people worldwide can experience and try out its statistics content throughout 2013. It has created a number of offers (including *Significance* magazine), which are presented on its new statistics information hub at [StatisticsViews.com](http://StatisticsViews.com).

There are several exciting *Significance* initiatives, each of which can be accessed from [www.wiley.com/go/iys](http://www.wiley.com/go/iys):

- *Free Access to the Significance Magazine App*. This app—available in both iOS and Android—offers free access to all 2013 issues of the magazine throughout the entire year. To get free access, visit [www.significancemagazine.org/view/SigAppnew.html](http://www.significancemagazine.org/view/SigAppnew.html) to register.
- *FREE Trial Access*. Wiley is offering a three-month free trial access (personal trials only) to all its statistics journals, including *Significance*. Content for the trial is from Wiley publications covering the period of January to June 2011.
- *Classic Journal Content*. Wiley has created a number of “Virtual Issues” featuring classic articles from across its portfolio. *Significance* is included in the Statistics Cluster Virtual Issue.
- *Classic Book Content*. *FREE* Access to 100 online book and eMRW chapters during 2013.

Also, the International Year of Statistics website homepage, [www.statistics2013.org](http://www.statistics2013.org), features original *Significance* content that will be updated regularly with magazine and [Significancemagazine.org](http://Significancemagazine.org) articles.

### Language-Specific Logos Available

The Statistics2013 logo is available in [34 languages](#) and we are ready create new ones for you. To have a version of the logo created in your language, please e-mail the following to [Jeffrey@amstat.org](mailto:Jeffrey@amstat.org):

- The interpretation of the phrase “International Year of Statistics” in the appropriate font in this format: International Year of Statistics=“The interpreted phrase”
- The interpretation of the phrase “Participating Organization” in the appropriate font in this format: Participating Organization=“The interpreted phrase”
- A high-resolution PDF document or a tif file of the interpretations of the phrases “International Year of Statistics” and “Participating Organization”. (This file will be used to compare against the font to ensure it was transmitted properly. If it doesn't compare accurately, we will use the image of the interpretations from the PDF or tif in the logo instead. This step will ensure accuracy of your logo.)

Once your language-specific logo is created, it will be posted to the Statistics2013 website [here](#) and we will send you an email to let you know the logo is available for download.

### Follow Us on Twitter, Facebook

Get the latest International Year of Statistics news and updates by following us on Twitter at @Statistics2013. Also, when you use Twitter to spread the word about Statistics2013, be sure to use the hashtag #STATS2013. You also can become a “friend” of Statistics2013 on our [Facebook](#) page.