Career Opportunities in Statistics

AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
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ASA
AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

ASA RESOURCES

Careers in Statistics Website
www.amstat.org/careers

Careers in Statistics PowerPoint Presentation
www.amstat.org/careers/presentation.cfm

Schools Offering Degrees in Statistics
www.amstat.org/education/sods

Statistical Sciences in Government
*www.amstat.org/careers/pdfs/
CareersinStatistics-Government.pdf*

Section on Government Statistics
www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt

Section on Health Policy Statistics
http://healthpolicystatistics.wordpress.com

Survey Research Methods Section
www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS

ASA JobWeb
www.amstat.org/jobweb

Amstat News Science Policy
www.amstat.org/outreach/scipolicycolumns.cfm

Placement Service—ASA Annual Meetings
www.amstat.org/meetings

Center for Statistics Education
www.amstat.org/education

Committee on Law and Justice Statistics
*www.amstat.org/committees/
commdetails.cfm?txtComm=CCNARS04*

GOVERNMENT

OTHER RESOURCES

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
www.copafs.org

Federal Statistics
www.fedstats.gov

Occupational Outlook Handbook, Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.bls.gov/ooh

Committee on National Statistics
www7.nationalacademies.org/cnstat

Jobs for statisticians are found in a variety of local, state, and federal government agencies. Statisticians hold positions in research, survey statistics, computing, survey methodology and design, quality assurance, operations research, and management. Future statisticians interested in government employment should study economics, finance, demography, and operations research, as well as statistics, mathematics, and writing.

FIELDS OF APPLICATION

LAW AND JUSTICE
Statisticians analyze data that can help the jury or judge decide whether someone is guilty of a crime. Types of evidence that may require statistical analysis include DNA tests, salary discrepancies, and consumer surveys.

FORESTRY
Forestry statisticians use a scientific process of measurement, analysis, and deduction to study the effects of climate, weather, animals, and atmospheric conditions. How trees grow, develop, propagate, and interact with other trees and their environments are just some of the issues of interest to the forest biometrician.

POLICY
Statistical methods are widely used in government regulation, including making rules for trading stocks, setting standards for pure air, and approving new drugs. Statistics are cited in court proceedings, congressional hearings, and lobbying arguments.

AGRICULTURE
Statisticians in agriculture work to solve problems concerning chemical pesticides, hydrogeology, veterinary sciences, genetics, and crop management. They work with data from a range of biological units, including small-scale organisms, plants, insects, animals, and humans.

NATIONAL DEFENSE
Statisticians work with other scientists, policymakers, and military personnel to address questions of defense and national security. Activities can be applied, involving collecting data, or theoretical, including developing methods and models.

ECONOMICS
Statisticians produce and analyze the federal government's key economic indicators. These include measures of unemployment, inflation, and market volumes. Because these indicators are based on sample survey data, skills in sampling and estimation techniques are highly valued.

ECOLOGY
Statisticians address questions about the Earth's natural environment, including animal populations, agricultural protections, and fertilizer and pesticide safety. Scientific researchers work with statisticians to design experiments that will answer questions about the effects of government policies on the environment.

DEMOGRAPHY
Through sample surveys and censuses, statisticians produce demographic and economic portraits of the nation. Statisticians carry out research on such topics as time series analysis, estimation, sampling frame comparison, treatment of nonresponse, and statistical approaches to maintaining confidentiality of respondent data.