

## IAOS Young Statisticians Prize 2014 (YSP)

### Technical Guidelines for Papers

The paper must be written in English.

The paper must be prepared as a Word file with the following characteristics:

Left justified text using one column – that is, two columns are not permitted;  
Font style and size must be Times New Roman, 12-point;  
Margins (side, top, and bottom) must be 1 inch (25.4 millimeters);  
Page numbers are not necessary.

Before submitting the paper, it must be converted to a PDF file with no security protection on the PDF file;

Both the original Word version AND the PDF file must be submitted.

The paper must comprise a maximum of TEN pages, including references and any supporting material such as tables and graphs.

A cover page (described below) must be submitted in addition to the paper.

Organize the paper as follows:

1. Cover page that includes:

- A heading indicating the paper is a “Submission for the 2014 Prize for Young Statisticians”;
- The title of the paper (at most two lines) in bold font;
- The name(s), job title(s), and email address(es) of each author;
- The name of the employing official statistics agency and its website address for each author;
- City and country of employment for each author;
- A contact author's e-mail address if more than one author; and
- An abstract of no more than 15 lines.

This information should be centered as indicated in the example at the end.

2. Body of the paper:

- Organize the paper in sections such as: introduction, intermediate sections, and conclusion.
- Graphics may be in black and white or in color.

3. References should preferably follow the style used in statistical journals as indicated in the example that follows:

Holmberg, Anders, 2012, Discussion on assessing quality of administrative data. *Statistica Neerlandica* Vol 66(1), p 34-40.

**Note: To have their papers considered, all authors must meet the Eligibility Criteria set out in the competition announcement:**

Under the age of 35 on February 3, 2014; and  
Employed by an official statistical agency between August 1, 2013 and  
February 3, 2014.

For specific details, go to the IAOS home page below and click on the YSP link:

<http://isi.cbs.nl/IAOS>

**Candidates who do not meet the Eligibility Criteria will be disqualified.  
Papers that do not strictly adhere to the Technical Guidelines will also be  
disqualified.**

An example of a good Cover Page is:

**The policeman and the statistician:  
On the quality of the raw data in official statistics**

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Unit for Legal Statistics  
Crime Prevention Council  
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**Abstract**

As state institutions are implementing increasingly sophisticated computerized systems, tremendous amounts of data are being constantly generated. This has opened up a wide range of possibilities for the production of statistics that are highly relevant to virtually all sectors of society. However, despite a large consensus regarding the importance of such statistics, little research examining the specific quality issues associated to administrative data is available. Here, we report the results of two studies conducted by the Swedish Crime Prevention Council evaluating the quality of the raw data used for the official crime statistics in Sweden. Our analyses revealed that the Police assigned in average 12% of the crime codes incorrectly, with severe consequences for the final statistics. Furthermore, different interpretations and over-usage of a particular code have rendered national statistics on police decisions nearly unusable. Based on our observations regarding the main causes of these errors, we include some recommendations. With official statistics being at the backbone of evaluations and strategic decisions, we believe that investigating and continuously improving the quality of the raw data is a must for all the national statistical agencies.