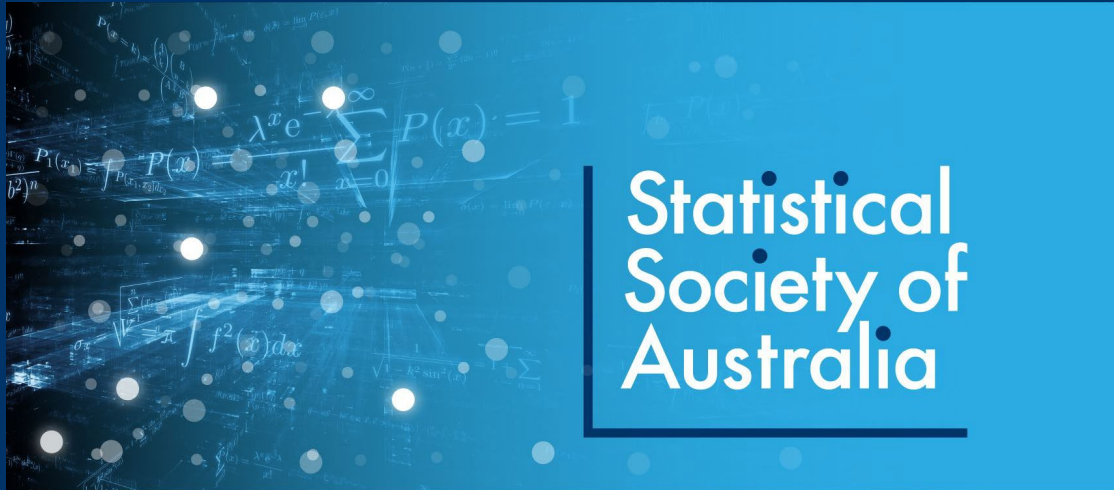


**From:** [Statistical Society of Australia](#)  
**To:** [Contact us](#)  
**Subject:** Stats Matters & Events  
**Date:** Thursday, 26 October 2023 1:52:36 PM



## STATS MATTERS & EVENTS

26 October 2023

Not long now until Halloween, so I thought it would be the perfect time to share an article by Chuck Brooks (Forbes) listing “Spooky cyber statistics and trends you need to know”.

In 2023, cybersecurity emerged as a top global risk, with both the scale and sophistication of cyber threats increasing exponentially. Legislation is shifting to hold senior management accountable for cyber risks, moving away from blaming only IT departments.

Some of the key statistics are:

- Over 87% of businesses view cyber threats as their primary financial risk.
- Cybercrime costs are projected to rise from US\$3 trillion in 2015 to US\$10.5 trillion in 2025.
- Cybersecurity investments are expected to reach US\$215 billion by 2024, up 70% from 2019.

Persistent threats remain:

- Malware and phishing continue to be dominant, accounting for 45.3% and 43.6% of all threats, respectively.

- Ransomware attacks have stabilised in frequency but have become more costly, with average payouts increasing from US\$812,380 in 2022 to US\$1,542,333 in 2023.
- Poor cybersecurity habits are more common among younger employees, with one in three believing their actions don't impact organisational security.

What lies ahead? Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning are becoming integral to both cyberattacks and cybersecurity measures. At the same time, Quantum computing is on the horizon, promising more challenges and solutions for cybersecurity.

The landscape for 2024 is expected to be fraught with both old and new cyber threats, making it a challenging year for data protection and global stability.

These are scary statistics, so what can we do to protect ourselves and our workplace? Chuck Brocks doesn't offer anything we don't already know: Given the escalating threats and evolving countermeasures, organisations and individuals must prioritise cybersecurity hygiene and investment to navigate this complex landscape. In this context it was great news this week when the Prime Minister announced that Microsoft is pledging A\$5 billion to enhance Australia's cyber defence against international digital dangers. Through the Cyber-Shield initiative, the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) and Microsoft aim to fortify their joint capacity to recognise, avert and tackle cyber threats.

You can read Brocks' full article [here](#).

[Marie-Louise Rankin](#)

Executive Officer



Image: Photo by Nick Fewings on Unsplash

Read newsletter in your [browser](#)

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**In this newsletter:**

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## **New global standards set at landmark labour statistics conference**

The 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) recently adopted new standards for measuring informal employment. Hosted at the International Labour Organization (ILO) headquarters in Geneva, the conference aims to help countries collect better data on the informal economy, which includes two billion workers worldwide. These workers often lack labour protections, social security and work under poor conditions. The new standards offer comprehensive definitions of key concepts, covering a wide range of work conditions, extending to unpaid work like volunteering and subsistence farming.

ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Hounbou emphasised that accurate data will help raise the profile of informal work and enable better policy formulation. Three other resolutions were also endorsed, updating existing standards to align with recent developments. These new standards address employment-related income, household income and expenditure as well as labour underutilisation. The conference also discussed future areas for study including labour migration, digital platform work and skills and care work.

The event was attended by about five hundred participants from around 140 countries, including government representatives, workers' and employers' organisations and various international and non-governmental observers.

Read more [here](#).

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## **Be a tech hero: Volunteer for ASC 2023 parallel session support**

We are looking for volunteers to help with tech support for parallel sessions during the 2023 ASC conference. The responsibilities include:

- To load slides for the session and run pre-talk check
- To provide computer support and to set up Zoom connection
- To control Lights and air conditioning when necessary
- To liaise with personnel in charge on the day if there is any problem

Training will be provided and volunteers will receive a token of appreciation for their contribution. We require that volunteers commit to a minimum of one full day of availability.

If you would like to express your interest, please send an EOI, including your availability to Pauline ([poshaugh@uow.edu.au](mailto:poshaugh@uow.edu.au)) by Friday 10/11/2023. If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please feel free to email Pauline. If you know someone else could be interested, please pass on this email.

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### The latest episode of The Random Podcast is out



In it, we focus on the Superstars of STEM program from Science and Technology Australia (STA). We talk to STA CEO Misha Schubert, CSIRO Data 61 Scientist Dr Muneera Bano and statistician and University of Adelaide Senior Lecturer Melissa Humphries.

Listen to the podcast [here](#).

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### Mentioned in previous newsletters:

#### SSA Mentoring Program: Applications are now open

Applications are now open and close on 30 October. The application form is available via the [SSA Mentoring website](#).

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### SSA Events

Surviving Grant Season: Lessons Learned & Practical Tips for NHMRC, MRFF and Investigator Grant development

14 Nov 2023, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (AEDT), online

The Biostatistics & Bioinformatics section will hold a lunchtime session discussing surviving grants.

Grant writing brings special challenges for statisticians; navigating collaborative dynamics, justifying a funded position within project teams, and presenting an atypical pictures of leadership when compared to clinical and epidemiological applicants. In this virtual lunchtime session two experienced analysts will share practical insights on a wide range of grant schemes, discuss some challenges particular to biostatisticians and bioinformaticians, and reflect on the extent to which we can continue to meaningfully refer to a 'grant season'

To register click [here](#).

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### **SSA WA November: Maintenance Policy for a Latent Degradation System (Dr Soudabeh Shemehsavar)**

14 Nov 2023, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM (AWST), Room 360.3.002 (Innovation Hub in Boola Katitjin), Murdoch University

Equipment availability plays an essential role in running an industrial plant with respect to production expectations. Every hour of component availability adds value to production and operations. Maintenance planning is vital to assure the ready availability of facilities. Optimization of maintenance planning schedules can generate significant benefits by providing a quality service and by ensuring service continuity and regularity. In this seminar we focus on deterioration modelling and condition-based maintenance planning for systems where the degradation phenomenon leading to failure is not directly observable or measurable. The system is monitored by tracking the evolution of a marker index that is correlated to the degradation and can be obtained through inspections. To model this configuration, a bivariate gamma process is used. Two condition-based maintenance policies are proposed and analysed to obtain their expected cost rates which are then applied for policy optimization. A numerical study is presented to demonstrate the implementation of the method and illustrate the utility of the preferred approach.

There will be cheese and wine and a dinner after for details click [here](#).

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### **NSW Branch: 2023 Annual Event: JB Douglas award, Annual lecture by Prof. Sally Cripps, Annual Dinner**

22 Nov 2023, 2:00 PM – 10:00 PM (AEDT), Cullen Room, The University of Sydney

Please join us for the NSW SSA branch annual event on **Wednesday 22nd November at the Cullen Room, The University of Sydney from 2pm**. The afternoon will start with presentations from PhD students from around NSW for the J. B. Douglas Awards. We are then proud to present our Annual Lecture by **Professor Sally Cripps** (details to follow) at 6pm, followed by the Annual dinner from 7pm.

To register click [here](#) and to register for the dinner click [here](#).

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### **WA Branch End of Year Function**

Members and guests are warmly invited to the WA Branch End of Year Function.

Tuesday, 28 Nov 2023, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM (AWST)

The Island Brewhouse, Elizabeth Quay, 1 Valdura Pl, Perth

Cost: \$10.00

This is our final event for 2023 and an excellent opportunity enjoy each other's company as the festive season approaches. We will be gathering informally over drinks and finger food, overlooking the beautiful Swan River.

The Branch is pleased to provide food platters with drinks available for purchase at the bar (no BYO).

Register [here](#).

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### **ECSSN and NZSA October Webinar: An academic journey in pursuing the art of statistics**

26 Oct 2023, 3:00 PM (AEDT), online

### **Integrating Large Language Models (LLMs) into the Data Science Workflow Speaker: Rohan Alexander**

27 Oct 2023, 9:00 AM (AEDT), Online

### **SSA Vic & Tas Hacky Hour - Building R packages**

30 Oct 2023, 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (AEDT), Online

## **SSA Vic & Tas Panel Discussion - Statisticians in Society**

21 Nov 2023, 6:00 PM (AEDT), RMIT Building 15, Level 3, Room 10, 124 La Trobe Street Melbourne or online via Zoom

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## **Statistical Consulting Network Monthly Meet-Up**

27 October 2023, 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM AEDT, held online

Come along with your thinking cap, maybe a problem, and some lunch!

The Statistical Consulting Network invites you to their monthly meet-up, a virtual lunchtime meeting where statisticians help each other out with problems that they aren't sure how to deal with. This virtual meeting is held on Zoom at lunchtime on the last Friday of each month, 12:30-1:30 PM (AEDT). We start each meet-up with announcements, or occasionally a special topic discussion, then discuss problems that attendees have brought along with them.

We also have a Slack workspace where members of the consulting network can communicate between meetings, or post problems or relevant materials they would like to discuss during a meeting.

[Zoom link](#)

Password: 660145

[Slack Workspace link](#)

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## **[Australian Statistical Conference \(ASC\) and Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics \(OZCOTS\)](#)**

Program available [here](#).

### **ASC and OZCOTS 2023 Social Events**

**[Early Career and Student Statisticians Network ASC Social](#)** on 12 December 2023, held at the Illawarra Brewery's outdoor terrace at WINN stadium. The ECSSN is organising a social get-together during the ASC2023! They are inviting students, early career and more senior statisticians to join them a lovely beach view and network with like-minded people you might not see very often, plus have some fun, nibbles, and drinks!

[Statistical Conference Dinner](#) on 13 Dec 2023, at the Grand Ballroom at the Sage Hotel. Just minutes from the beach, come and join us for a three-course dinner. (You register on the same page as the conference registration page)

[OZCOTS 2023 Social](#) on 14 Dec 2023, at Lucia's by the Sea, next to the Novotel Hotel. The OZCOTS committee invites you to come and join them for a lovely meal and catch-up at a beautiful beach front venue.

### **Childcare available at ASC&OZCOTS 2023, but you need to book ahead!**

We are offering low cost onsite childcare to anyone attending ASC&OZCOTS2023 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday through licensed childcare Abracadabra. The cost is \$60 per child per day or \$150 for all three days, the room is in building 11 (same as keynote presentations). There will be age appropriate activities for all children attending. Parents/guardians will need to pick up children for a brief lunch.

[Find out more.](#)

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### **Other events**

Free Webinar: By the Committee on Women in Statistics (CW-ISI)

**ISI WOMEN IN STATISTICS**

**#2** >> Value of Networking and Mentoring to Achieve Your Best  
>> Do you have to be a Superwoman to be Successful?

**SPEAKER**

  
Prof Ayse Aysin Bilgin

 International Statistical Institute  
Committee on Women in Statistics

**FREE WEBINAR**

Date > 8 November 2023 12:00 PM (UTC)

**Value of Networking and Mentoring to Achieve Your Best:**

**Do you have to be a Superwoman to be Successful?**

A free webinar, presented by the ISI Committee on Women in Statistics (CW-ISI) and proudly sponsored by SSA.

Register [here](#).



8 November 2023, 23pm-24:00 AEDT

Speaker: Professor Ayse Aysin Bilgin



4 - 7 January 2024  
Melbourne, Australia

### **IMS - Asia Pacific Rim Meeting 2024 - Melbourne, Australia**

Details: <https://ims-aprm2024.com/submissions/>

Register [here!](#)

We are still calling for Contributed Talks, please submit here. Deadline for abstract submission is 31 October.

Three Plenary Speakers: Ruth Williams (University of California – San Diego), Bin Yu (University of California – Berkeley), Jianqing Fan (Princeton University)



[Registrations now open!](#)

**[2023 International Biometric Society Australasian Region conference,](#)**

27 Nov 2023 – 1 Dec 2023, Bay of Islands, NZ

**[AMSI Summer School](#)**

8 January - 2 February 2023, Canberra

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**Current Vacancies in SSA's Career Centre**

**[0108297 Senior Research Officer/Data Analyst Population Child Health Research](#)**

New South Wales

The University of Sydney

Full time (part time considered), 2-year fixed ...

**[0108304 Research Fellow Biostatistician](#)**

New South Wales

The University of Sydney

Full time (part time considered), 2-year fixed ...

**[656155 Senior Teaching Fellow - Leadership and Executive Education \(LEE\)](#)**

Victoria

Senior Teaching Fellow - Leadership and Executive Education (LEE), Monash University

Senior Teaching Fellow Job No.: 656155 Location: ...

[View All Jobs](#)

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If you have news from the Australian statistical community to share in Stats Matters and Events, please get in touch [with us](#)! We love getting feedback too.

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[Unsubscribe](#)