

Innovations from a Global Pandemic: How is the Federal Statistical System coping with COVID-19?

Date: Thursday, April 22, 2021

Time: 1:00PM – 2:30PM

The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for the Federal Statistical System (FSS), disrupting the collection of timely, relevant, and accurate data. Consequently, agencies have had to quickly adapt to continue survey operations, stressing their capacities to produce routine, high quality, and useful statistical outputs. These experiences have hastened the need to modernize methods, develop processes more resilient to disruptions, and broaden FSS approaches to measuring people, the economy, natural resources, and infrastructure of the United States.

This panel discussion will feature insights from FSS leaders on priorities for statistical and economic research and methodological innovation to modernize the FSS. The panel members include:

1. Linda Young, Chief Mathematical Statistician and Director of Research and Development Division at the National Agricultural Statistics Service;
2. Jennifer Parker, Director of the Division of Research and Methodology at the National Center for Health Statistics;
3. John Eltinge, Assistant Director for Research and Methodology at the Census Bureau; and,
4. Spiro Stefanou, Administrator at the Economic Research Service.

Panelists will discuss ongoing and new activities within their respective statistical agencies pertaining to cross-cutting topics, such as new technologies for data collection, rapid response surveys, integration of survey and non-survey data, disclosure and confidentiality, and data access and dissemination.

Bob Sivinski from the Office of Management and Budget will moderate the discussion and conclude by summarizing the unifying themes and identifying the next steps within the FSS.

For more information, please contact the WSS Methodology Program Chair, [Jeffrey Gonzalez](#).

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