

Ben Harrap

Qualifications

2018 - Master of Biostatistics, University of Melbourne

2015 - Bachelor of Arts (Honours), University of Western Australia

2014 - Bachelor of Arts, University of Western Australia

Employment

Mar 2020 - Present, PhD Candidate, Indigenous Health and Epidemiology Group, University of Melbourne

My PhD project focuses on the health of Western Australian Aboriginal children in the context of the child protection system, using a data linkage of hospital admissions and emergency department presentations with child protection data, as well as several other data sources. I am examining the trends and variations in the child protection data from 2005 to 2019 and examining the health outcomes of children who enter the child protection system, contrasting their health with children who never enter the system.

Sep 2019 - Present, Research Assistant, Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity

As part of the International and Immigrant Health Group I provide statistical advice and analyses to the research team and contribute to the writing and submission of academic papers. While here I have also provided statistical education to my collaborators on the use of statistical tools such as p -values and confidence intervals. During my time here I also completed Cochrane systematic review training and led a systematic review of Type 2 Diabetes in resettled refugee and asylum seeker populations.

Apr 2018 - Present, Research Assistant, Centre for Health Policy, University of Melbourne

My role supports Emeritus Professor Lesleyanne Hawthorne in the examination of skilled migration to Australia. Much of my work revolves around sourcing data, understanding its complexities, and summarising it data to capture quantitative trends in skilled migration to Australia. Several ABS data products, including the census, have been used, as well as administrative data from the Department of Home Affairs, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, and the Occupational English Test. We have also been working on a comparison between Australia and Canada's migration programmes which has involved a great deal of matching between census variables to ensure comparability.

May 2019 - Feb 2020, Research Assistant, Melbourne Institute, University of Melbourne

In this short-term role my primary responsibility was preparing the final wave of the Medicine in Australia: Balancing Employment and Life survey for release. This involved data cleaning, consistency checking, and updating the user manual to reflect changes to the survey. I also worked as a data custodian, managing the secure transfer of data for research purposes.

Nov 2017 - May 2019, Biostatistician, Melbourne EpiCentre, Royal Melbourne Hospital

I worked as a statistical consultant providing support to clinicians engaged in medical research. The consulting process began with meetings to identify the clinicians' specific research questions and how they could be answered with data and statistical techniques, and concluded with the analysis and writing up of results suitable for publication. During my time here I also set up a REDCap database for the IMPETUS-D multi-centre randomised clinical trial and managed the integration of existing administrative data into the database.

Aug 2015 - Jun 2016, Project Officer, Volunteering WA

During my time working on the Volunteers in Sport program I organised and delivered several workshops on the topic of volunteer management to a variety of sporting organisations. I also improved the project's KPI tracking by implementing a Microsoft Access database to track our interactions and service delivery.

May 2015 - May 2016, Digital Support, Eduka Solutions

My main role was client support which generally involved writing HTML and CSS for our clients' websites and providing training on how to use the content management system. I also implemented advanced web traffic analytics and reporting using Google Analytics, and did some C# development to optimise the appearance of client websites in Google Search results.

Publications

Journal articles

Darvall, JN, Wang, A, Nazeem, MN, Harrison, CL, Clarke, L, Mendoza, C, Parker, A, Harrap, B, Teale, G, Story, D, & Hessian, E 2020, 'A pedometer-guided physical activity intervention for obese pregnant women (the fit MUM study): Randomized feasibility study' *JMIR mHealth and uHealth*, vol. 8, no. 5, p. e15112, doi: 10.2196/15112.

Eaton, S, Harrap, B, Downey, L, Thien, K, Bowtell, M, Bardell-Williams, M, Ratheesh, A, McGorry, P, & O'Donoghue, B 2019, 'Incidence of treated first episode psychosis from an Australian early intervention service and its association with neighbourhood characteristics' *Schizophrenia Research*, vol. 209, pp. 206–211, doi: 10.1016/j.schres.2019.04.017.

Other

Szawlowski S, Harrap B, Leahy A, Scott A. 2019. 'MABEL User Manual: Wave 11 Release', *Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, The University of Melbourne, Melbourne*

Presentations

Conferences

Hawthorne, L., Harrap, B. 2019, 'Health Workforce Migration to Australia - Trends and Issues 2008-2019', *International Metropolis Conference 2019*

Hawthorne, L., Short, S., Sampford, C., Breakey, H., Diocera, D., Marcus, K., Ransome, W., Harrap, B. 2018, 'Australia compared to Canada's level of reliance on skilled health worker migration - the latest policy developments', *International Metropolis Conference 2018*

Professional Development

Workshops

Dec 2020 - Data wrangling with R

Nov 2020 - Data visualisation with R

Oct 2020 - Semiparametric regression in R

Oct 2019 - Gaining skills in biostatistical consultancy

Conferences

Nov 2020 - International Population Data Linkage Network Conference

Oct 2018 - International Metropolis Conference

Aug 2018 - Joint International Society for Clinical Biostatistics and Australian Statistical Conference

Jul 2018 - useR! Conference

Volunteering

Oct 2020 - Present, Proof Reader, Ballarat East Community Newsletter

Prior to going to print, I proof read the community newsletter to ensure the text and design is error-free.

Jul 2020 - Present, Secretary, Early Career and Student Statistician Conference 2021

As part of the organising committee I organise the meetings, set the agenda, take minutes, distribute action items, and support the rest of the committee where I can.

Dec 2018 - Present, Secretary, Victorian Branch, Statistical Society of Australia

In addition to general secretarial duties I have been involved in several strategic planning committees to guide the direction of the Victorian branch. I helped lead initiatives such as developing a framework for running events and diversifying the range and location of events we offer. I also brought my volunteer management experience to the Victorian branch and overhauled the recruitment and management process, implementing position descriptions, induction processes, and exit interviews. My personal highlight was organising the 2020 Belz Lecture in conjunction with World Statistics Day 2020. The event had over 150 attendees and was well received by all those who attended.

Feb 2018 - Mar 2019, Data Volunteer, Asylum Seeker Resource Centre

I provided administrative support for users of the CRM software, wrote documentation and statistical reports, and was part of a working group identifying the ASRC's data requirements and developing a roadmap for the next few years.

Memberships and Accreditations

2020 - Present, Member, Australasian Epidemiological Association

2020 - Present, Member, International Population Data Linkage Network

2018 - 2026, Accredited Graduate Statistician, Statistical Society of Australia

2017 - Present, Member, Statistical Society of Australia