

Daphne H. Liu

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EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

December 2023

- PhD in Statistics
- Statistics in the Social Sciences track
- *Thesis*: Statistical Methods for the Analysis and Prediction of Hierarchical Time Series Data with Applications to Demography
- *Advisor*: Adrian E. Raftery
- *Honors*: Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences Blalock Fellowship 2016-2017

Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY

May 2016

- BA in Mathematics
- Minor in Asian American Studies
- Semester abroad at University College London
- *Honors*: *cum laude* in Mathematics, distinction in all subjects

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Bayesian statistics
- Statistical demography
- Predictive modeling
- Dynamics of education, family planning, and fertility

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Collaborator, United Nations Population Division

June 2023 – Present

Develop methods and software to create annual conditional probabilistic projections of fertility given a range of hypothetical policy intervention scenarios targeting women's education and access to family planning.

Survey Statistician (Intern), U.S. Census Bureau

December 2022 – Present

Conduct research in the Center for Economic Studies as part of the Economic Measurement and Research Internship program. Current projects include:

1. Development of methods for evaluation of sampling designs using simulation studies in R to support the Census Household Panel project.
2. Validation and comparison of different methods in Python and R for prediction of race and ethnicity for individual survey respondents when self-response is missing.

Consultant, University of Washington

2021 – 2023

Acted as an expert statistical consultant for a project with Dr. Junyi Ellen Zhang (Tsinghua University School of Public Policy and Management) examining the relationship between the labor market and female reproductive behavior in China in 1982–2015. Analyzed survey and census data using multilevel survival analysis. Addressed the client's missing data concerns using multiple imputation.

Research Assistant, University of Washington

2017 – 2023

1. Evaluated how women's education and access to family planning can impact fertility decline in high-fertility countries to improve current probabilistic projections of fertility. Used regression

and time series methods in R to evaluate quasi-causality and the possible effects of education and family planning policy outcomes on fertility.

2. Created a Bayesian hierarchical model for conditional probabilistic projections of fertility for five-year time periods, conditional on policy interventions targeting women's education and access to family planning. Estimated models using Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods and assessed model performance using out of sample validation.
3. Developed methods for multiple imputation of missing data in multilevel time series data with nonlinear relationships, using school enrollment rates as a motivating dataset.

Teaching Assistant, University of Washington

2019 – 2022

Led weekly discussion sections, graded homework, and held office hours for CESS/STAT/SOC 563 "Statistical Demography," which covered topics including modeling age-specific demographic rates, statistical modeling and forecasting of fertility, mortality, migration, and population, and reconstructing vital rates from imperfect data.

Student Trainee (Statistician), U.S. Census Bureau

Summer 2018

Analyzed American Community Survey paradata using SQL, Excel, and SAS at the Los Angeles Regional Office (LARO) through the Pathways Internship Program, focusing on letter request data and field representative performance adjustment data. Analyzed meeting evaluation data from the 2018 LARO field supervisor meeting using qualitative and quantitative methodologies. Compiled reports of all findings and presented to the regional office.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. (2020), How Do Education and Family Planning Accelerate Fertility Decline? *Population and Development Review*, 46: 409-441. DOI: [10.1111/padr.12347](https://doi.org/10.1111/padr.12347)

- Selected citations:
 - United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2021). [Global Population Growth and Sustainable Development](#).
 - United Nations Population Fund (2023). [State of World Population 2023](#).
- Media coverage:
 - *News Release*: Eckart, Kim for UW News (2020, September 8). [How birth control, girls' education can slow population growth](#).
 - *Newspaper Article*: Schenk, Zoe (2020, October 5). [Birth control: Empowering women and slowing population growth](#). *The Daily of the University of Washington*.

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. (In press), Bayesian Projections of Total Fertility Rate Conditional on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. *The Annals of Applied Statistics*.

PREPRINTS

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E., Multiple Imputation of Hierarchical Nonlinear Time Series Data with an Application to School Enrollment Data. [arXiv:2401.01872](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.01872).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. (2021, May 29). [Accelerating fertility decline through education and family planning](#). *N-IUSSP*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. "Assessing the Impact of Potential Policies on Fertility in High-Fertility Countries Using Granger Causality and Bayesian Hierarchical Models." In *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Austin, TX, April 2019. (Poster presentation)

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. "How Do Education and Family Planning Accelerate Fertility Decline?" In *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, virtual, April 2020.

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. "Bayesian Projections of the Total Fertility Rate for Improvements in Education and Family Planning." In *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, virtual, May 2021. (Poster presentation)

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. "Bayesian Projections of the Total Fertility Rate for Improvements in Education and Family Planning." In *IUSSP International Population Conference*, virtual, December 2021.

Liu, Daphne H. and Raftery, Adrian E. "Bayesian Projections of Total Fertility Rate Conditional on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals". In *Population Association of America Annual Meeting*, Atlanta, GA, April 2022.

SERVICE

Graduate Student Representative

2018 – 2019

Department of Statistics, University of Washington

Served as a liaison between graduate students and faculty. Planned new student orientation, prospective student visit days, and department social events. Attended weekly faculty meetings and relayed information to graduate students. Provided support, guidance, and resources for other graduate students.

Statisticians and Biostatisticians of Underrepresented Genders (SBUG) Officer

2017 – 2021

University of Washington

Planned events and meetings designed to highlight the contributions of and support women and non-binary students in Biostatistics and Statistics. Founding officer.

Diversity Committee Student Representative

2017 – 2020

Department of Statistics, University of Washington

Acted as a student liaison for issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion pertaining to the Department of Statistics. Founding member.