Rory Sarten

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My experiences have given me a versatile skill set built around strong analytical, technical and problem solving capabilities. I am currently the Technical Lead for the 2018 Census Processing and Evaluations project at Statistics New Zealand.

**Skills Profile**

Analytic and quantitative skills

I enjoy complex challenges that require robust analytical skills and give me opportunities to exercise my strong numerical intuition. I have an interest in formulating and implementing statistical methodologies that are relevant to their problem domain and context. I am capable of using a wide range of analytic tools to detect, examine, solve and communicate problems and findings.

Technical skills

I have a strong interest in programming, system architecture and solution design. As Technical Lead for census processing I have had frequent opportunities to advance my skills in these areas in a large-scale operational setting. I am comfortable working with several general and statistical programming languages, database types, API creation and use, and ETL software.

Communication/relationship skills

I enjoy team dynamics, planning, executing, and problem solving on collaborative projects and problems. In my roles I have actively worked to build and maintain relationships outside my team that give me ready access to advice, guidance and cooperation from those with relevant experience or specialist knowledge. Because of my broad skill set I communicate and collaborate well with developers, architects and other technical specialists, as well as methodologists and subject matter experts. I enjoy mentoring, training and learning from others.

**Relevant Work Experience**

Technical Lead 2018 Census Processing and Evaluations Jan 2018–ongoing

Statistics New Zealand

I have held the role of Technical Lead during the operational period for the Census 2018 Processing and Evaluations project. This involved:

* Responsibility for the running and maintenance of the processing system and coordination of the processing technical team work
* Communicating and coordinating with vendors and other project’s operational leads
* Leading and coordinating problem resolution plans

Statistical Analyst (level 2) 2018 Census Processing and Evaluations July 2015–Jan 2018

Statistics New Zealand

I worked on 2018 Census Processing and Evaluations for most of the project’s lifetime. From early investigative and Proof of Concept work, through to methodological development and system building, maintenance and running during the census. This role involved substantial time working in concert with developers in the Enterprise Processing Integrated Capabilities (EPIC) project to deliver census processing capabilities. In this role I have:

* Spent several months as acting Senior Analyst, working with other senior analysts to coordinate cross-programme strategies
* Developed and implemented coding, record linking, administrative data imputation, and manual work-item generation methodologies and solutions
* Worked closely with EPIC developers on requirements and UAT of solutions
* Built several R Packages for use in census processing, including implementation of unit-testing frameworks
* Worked with architects, contractors and methodologists to design and build data processing workflows

Statistical Analyst (level 1) Jan 2015–July 2015

Census 2013 Products and Services

Statistics New Zealand

I worked on producing some of the NZ.Stats tables for the 2013 Census. This gave me insight into the tools, methodologies and practices involved in disseminating quality data.

Research Analyst/Head of Research Mar 2009–Dec 2012

McGuinness Institute

I was a research analyst, and held the position of Head of Research for 2012, at the McGuinness Institute, a small, non-partisan public policy think tank. In this role I:

* Chiefly researched and wrote for print and web publication on a wide number of subjects
* Was responsible for the Institute’s websites and technology infrastructure
* Met regularly with external project partners and reviewers and gave numerous presentations, most notably at the World Future Society Conference in Vancouver in 2011.

Tutor 2005–2008

Victoria University of Wellington

During my time at Victoria University and afterwards I tutored Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology papers across all levels of undergraduate study.

**Technical Skills**

Microsoft Office.

Office products, particularly Excel, Word and Outlook, are essential to my daily working environment.

R.

I have particularly enjoyed developing my skills with statistical computing and graphical output in R, and aim to become familiar with other statistical languages.

Python and Java.

I have studied Java and taught myself Python. I build small programmes in these languages in my own time in order to develop my programming skills.

HTML.

I have been responsible for updating web content using HTML for two of my jobs using a number of different Content Management Systems.

**Education**

Bachelor of Science ongoing (2 years completed)

Majoring in Mathematics and Statistics

(2013) Victoria University Dean’s List – Sciences

Sociology (honours) 2006

Awarded First Class Honours

Bachelor of Arts 2005

Majoring in Sociology and Political Science

**Referees**

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