Gretchen Swabe

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Summary

Analyst and statistical programmer with 6 years of experience analyzing complex data to support decision making around interventions and policies in public health. I use a variety of programming languages, including SAS, R, Python, and SQL language native to each environment, to conduct analyses and communicate results to broad audiences.

Skills

SAS | SQL | R | Linux | GIS | Python | Health systems and claims (Medicare and private insurance) | Research and statistical analysis | Leadership, management, and mentorship | Scientific communication

Experience

RAND   **January 2023 - November 2025**
Statistical Research Programmer

Developed programs in SAS, R, and Python to gather complex data from CMS databases, websites, and RAND internal servers and provided analytical support to answer research questions to inform policy. Maintain data repositories with version control using Git. Prepare and follow quality assurance plans to deliver quality, reliable results. Communicate findings to RAND staff, government agencies, and sponsors. Examples of work include analytical support for identifying rebatable drugs under the Inflation Reduction Act, compiling samples and analyzing survey data for CMS's CAHPS surveys, and reporting statistics from a survey of military and veteran caregivers in the United States, which received a Gold Medal award for advancing RAND's mission.

University of Pittsburgh   **August 2018 - January 2023**

Data Analyst, August 2018 - January 2023

Analyzed claims data (Optum) to answer questions about the association of social determinants of health and health disparities with respect to cardiovascular diseases using claims data and primary clinical trial data. Developed analysis plans based on research questions and developed queries to efficiently process datasets. Compiled, interpreted, and explained results. Created graphs and figures for publications. Collaborated with interdisciplinary team members to publish manuscripts. Reviewed current literature and emerging statistical techniques.

Supervisor, Evaluation Institute, May 2019 - July 2020

Performed quality control protocols and provided feedback to interviewers to improve data collection quality and consistency. Managed study sample and prioritized interviewer time to ensure efficient use of resources and maximize response rates. Exported and organized daily progress reports.

Interviewer, Evaluation Institute, August 2018 - May 2019

Collected data for BRFSS surveys and for an evaluation of the Community Health Choices program. Explained study significance to participants. Assisted with questionnaire development and feedback.

Institute for Research, Education, and Training in Addictions (IRETA)   **November 2017 - April 2018**
Intern

Performed a systematic review to create evidence-based guidelines for management of alcohol withdrawal syndrome. Reviewed and assessed literature using Cochrane Risk of Bias criteria.

Education

Master of Science, Epidemiology   **2017 - 2019**
University of Pittsburgh

Thesis: *HDL and menopause in women: The contribution of inflammatory markers and estradiol*

Bachelor of Science, Biology, Psychology (minor)   **2011 - 2015**
Duquesne University

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Greater Pittsburgh Community Foodbank, Volunteer   **July 2025 - present**
Load grocery items into cars or bags at local distributions. Package produce, set up and break down the distribution area.

Allegheny County, Judge Of Elections   **November 2020 - present**
Know and enforce rules and regulations around elections and voter rights to operate a polling site. Manage fellow poll workers and delegate responsibilities on Election Day. Ensure votes are counted and delivered to Allegheny County.

University of Pittsburgh, Mentor   **May 2022 - August 2022**
Advised a prospective medical student through a University of Pittsburgh summer research program (PURDIP) for a project focused on distance from healthcare as a predictor of atrial fibrillation management and symptoms. Provided guidance on statistical analysis and software, data types, and science communication.

Oakland Catholic High School, Rowing Coach   **August 2016 - July 2019**
Assistant Coach, August 2016 - May 2018; Head Coach, May 2018 - July 2019
Mentored and advised athletes on balancing academics and extracurricular activities. Refined rowing technique and created training plans. Organized travel arrangements for races.