

GRETCHEN SWABE

swabegm@gmail.com | linkedin.com/gretchen-swabe

WORK EXPERIENCE

Statistical Research Programmer, RAND January 2023-November 2025

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.

Data analyst, University of Pittsburgh July 2020-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 use advanced 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, University of Pittsburgh Evaluation Institute May 2019-July 2020

Performed quality control protocols and provided feedback to interviewers to ensure high-quality, consistent data collection. Managed study sample and prioritized interviewer time to ensure efficient use of resources and maximize response rates. Tracked interviewer productivity and survey progress by exporting and organizing daily progress reports.

Interviewer, University of Pittsburgh 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.

Intern, Institute for Research, Education, and Training in Addictions (IRETA)

November 2017-April 2018

Performed a systematic review to create guidelines for management of alcohol withdrawal. Reviewed and assessed literature using Cochrane Risk of Bias criteria. Determined relevance of data based on risk of bias.

SKILLS

- Knowledge domains: SAS, SQL, R, Linux, GIS, python
- Health systems and claims (Medicare and private insurance)
- Research and statistical analysis
- Leadership, management, and mentorship
- Scientific writing and communication

EDUCATION

MS, Epidemiology. *University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health. August 2017-December 2019*

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

BS, Biology/ Minor: Psychology. *Duquesne University Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences. August 2011-May 2015*

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Greater Pittsburgh Community Foodbank: June 2025-present

Load grocery items into cars or bags at local distributions. Package produce, set up and break down the distribution area.

Judge of Elections, Allegheny County: 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.

Mentor, University of Pittsburgh: May-July 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.

Rowing Coach, Oakland Catholic High School, August 2016-May 2018 (Assistant Coach), June 2018-July 2019 (Head Coach)

Mentored and advised athletes on balancing academics and extracurricular activities. Refined rowing technique and created training plans. Organized travel arrangements for races.