
PREFACE

This is the fourth edition of a new set in the IRS Methodology Report series, now entitled *Special Studies in Federal Tax Statistics: 2004* (and formerly called *Turning Administrative Systems Into Information Systems*).

The papers included in this volume were presented at the 2004 Annual Meetings of the American Statistical Association (ASA) held in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and two other professional conferences--the Luxembourg Wealth Study Workshop in Perugia, Italy, and the Conference on Privacy in Statistical Databases in Barcelona, Spain.

◆ Content

This year's compilation has been divided into five areas of interest:

- ❑ The volume begins with a group of four papers on recent developments in Statistics of Income research;
- ❑ The second section includes five papers on quality assessment of administrative records data;
- ❑ The third section presents a paper on estimates of income and wealth from survey and tax data;
- ❑ The fourth section presents a paper on disclosure protection techniques;
- ❑ The final section contains a paper on some current theoretical research on multivariate analysis presented in a poster session at ASA.

◆ Basic Format

Ten of the articles in this volume were prepared by each author for publication in the 2004 Proceedings of the American Statistical Association. Therefore, the format conforms basically to that required by the ASA, with the exception that we have not imposed a strict page limitation. Hence, in some cases, additional explanatory material may be included that is not available in the Proceedings.

◆ Copy Preparation

The contents of the papers included here are the responsibility of the authors. They followed ASA's peer review guidelines for Proceedings papers and then sought additional comments from colleagues either within SOI Division or elsewhere within IRS. Also, during the compilation of this material, any major problems observed were brought to the attention of the authors. Minor editorial changes were considered the prerogative of the editors. In no sense, therefore, have the articles in this volume been "refereed."

◆ Acknowledgments

The editors of this collection, James Dalton and Beth Kilss, would like to thank Lisa Smith for her invaluable contribution in laying out all the papers in this volume.

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