Job Opening ID 311297

The Minnesota Population Center (MPC, www.pop.umn.edu) makes the world’s largest collection of individual-level population data freely accessible online. We are looking for smart, technically-minded people who enjoy working with data to join our growing team. With thousands of researchers using these data worldwide, a career at the MPC offers numerous ways to contribute to the development and enhancement of this public good.

The Center seeks a data analyst to join the diverse team of researchers and technical staff supporting and improving the world’s best dissemination systems for population and health data.

The focus of this search is a new project for the Food and Drug Administration that integrates tobacco-use data from multiple health and behavioral surveys. We expect to be working on National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), and Monitoring the Future (MTF). The FDA project is modelled on the existing suite of MPC census and survey data projects that includes IPUMS-USA, IPUMS-CPS, IPUMS-International, and IHIS. The hallmark of all MPC projects is the integration of discrete datasets into a single consistently coded and documented series that enables comparative analyses over time or space. The projects share common methods and infrastructure, and you may ultimately work on another project. The MPC environment is highly collaborative, and you will work closely with research scientists, data analysts, graduate research assistants, and software developers.

Responsibilities
You will potentially be involved in all stages of data and metadata production, including a web dissemination system. The range of work includes coding data, harmonizing codes across datasets, resolving comparability issues, documenting variables, exploring data quality, testing website functionality, adapting existing methods and tools to new purposes, and developing new approaches to address novel situations. The position may require supervising research assistants. The position may also involve public presentations on campus or at professional conferences to disseminate information about MPC projects. We are constantly pushing the boundaries of data processing and dissemination methods, and there is considerable opportunity for initiative and creativity by researchers at all levels.

Qualifications
Required Qualifications: A Bachelor’s degree; experience with at least one major statistical software package (e.g., SAS, Stata or SPSS); at least six months (or two semesters) of experience conducting data analysis. Excellent computer skills and experience with census or survey microdata using a major statistical package (SPSS, STATA, or SAS). Strong written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills.

Additional selection criteria include: Experience using one of the IPUMS databases or any other large-scale census or survey data; degree in a social science or health-related field; demonstrated ability to work independently and as a member of a diverse team; ability to learn new information technology as required; experience working with a programming language and/or Unix.

Please include in your cover letter how many years of data analysis experience you have (including relevant courses, internships and jobs).

Position for M.A./M.S. level researchers also open: see Job Opening ID 311298.
Application Procedures

Please apply using the University of Minnesota's online employment system; search job opening ID 311297. You will have the opportunity to complete an online application. Click apply and follow the instructions. You must attach a cover letter, resume, and contact information for three professional references to your online application.

Your cover letter should explain your interest in our position opening and highlight your relevant skills and abilities. Please include in your cover letter when you are available to start and how many years of data analysis experience you have (including relevant courses, internships and jobs). The search committee will begin its review of applications immediately upon receipt; the position will remain open until filled.

Any offer of employment is contingent upon the successful completion of a background check. Our presumption is that prospective employees are eligible to work here. Criminal convictions do not automatically disqualify finalists from employment.

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its program, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.