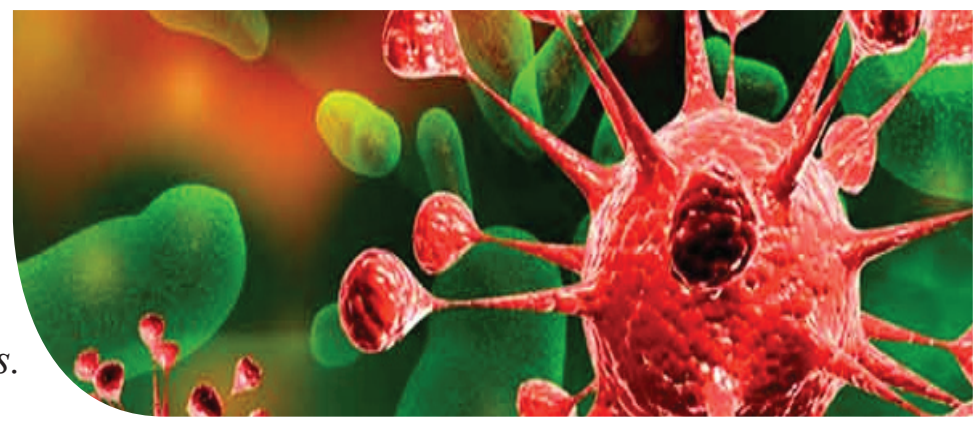
Career Spotlight

Biostatistician

Biostatisticians design research studies and analyze data related to human health, animals or plants. The healthcare, biomedical, and pharmaceutical fields employ biostatisticians who are responsible for analyzing genetic data, disease occurrence, and medical imaging data. These biostatisticians develop clinical trials to assess drug treatments. Other academic and government biostatisticians analyze data of populations exposed to environmental chemicals and conditions to understand their risks and effects.



EDUCATION

A bachelor's degree is sufficient for entering the field of Biostatistics as an assistant. However, most Biostatisticians have M.S. or Ph.D. degrees in Biostatistics, Statistics, or Applied Mathematics

MATH REQUIRED

- Algebra I and II
- Trigonometry
- Calculus I and II
- Applied Data Analysis
- Survey and Research Methods
- Mathematical Statistics
- Biostatistics

WHEN MATH IS USED

Biostatisticians collaborate with researchers as they design studies, helping them find the best approach to data gathering given the question the researchers are trying to answer. These statisticians provide advice on such topics as sample size and data collection (what methods will be used to gather the data).

Low-end Salary: $51,635/yr
Median Salary: $75,853/yr
High-end Salary: $87,353/yr

POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS

Biostatisticians may be hired by a number of different employers. For instance, they may work at universities or large health care institutions. They may be employees of federal or state government agencies, such as the Department of Health and Human Services. Or they may work in private companies' research and development groups.

FACTS

Biostatisticians research topics that stem from the latest and most relevant findings in science. For example, a biostatistician may research the association between a psychotropic drug and weight gain or the relationship between heart disease and smoking.

CITATIONS

http://www.ehow.com/facts_5220899_average-salary-biostatistician.html
http://www.ehow.com/about_5387157_biostatistician-job-description.html