

Research Project Manager
Building organizational value by assisting with public health research and analysis

CAREER SUMMARY

Highly motivated research project manager offering 15+ years of experience in public health research and analysis; familiar with SAS, SAS Enterprise Guide, SPSS, and SQL analytical software technologies with a commitment to continuous learning.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Epidemiological Research | Data Collection | Data Entry | Data Management | Statistical Analysis | Strong Writing Skills | Report Generation | Communication and Presentation | Injury-Based Surveillance | Infectious Disease Surveillance | DNA-Based Molecular Analysis | Team Building & Leadership | Mentoring/Guidance | Training/Instruction | Training Manuals | Community Outreach | Event Planning | Administrative Support

TECHNOLOGY COMPETENCIES

Windows (XP) | Structured Query Language (SQL) | SAP Business Intelligence (BI) | Statistical Analysis System (SAS) | SAS Enterprise Guide | Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) | STATA | R | Python | TABLEAU | Stat/Transfer | OpenEpi | Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Access, Publisher, Outlook, Teams, Planner) | SharePoint | Citrix Receiver | UltraEdit | Notepad | EndNote 21 | Adobe Acrobat | Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application (AHLTA) | Composite Health Care System (CHCS) | Military Health System Data Repository (MDR) | The Military Health System Management Analysis and Reporting Tool (MHS MART/M2)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH PROJECT MANAGER | Rutgers Center for State Health Policy | NJ Medicaid Office of Business Intelligence | New Brunswick/Trenton, NJ 10/2025-present

- Assist in the development, staffing, and operations of the NJ Medicaid Office of Business Intelligence (OBI), expanding the current data analytic capabilities of Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS) and enabling the rapid identification of emerging trends in enrollment, eligibility, service utilization, and other information needed to gain actionable intelligence on ways to improve the quality and efficiency of health care services delivered to clients within the NJ FamilyCare, the state's Medicaid program.
- Perform highly complex expert data science, statistical analysis, and project.
- Develop and oversee the implementation of project workplans to carry out analyses of data and provide technical advice to colleagues within Medicaid.
- Extensive scope for independent judgment in assuming responsibility for high-level professional work, including special project management.
- Provide the highest level of technical guidance, and ultimately office adoption and implementation of an entirely new IT/data solutions for the OBI, which is the nerve center of Medicaid analytics.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER | The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School | New Brunswick, NJ 3/2025-1/2026

- Conducted research aimed at addressing disparities in language and social-emotional skill acquisition through literacy promotion in primary care settings.
- Cleaned and manipulated the "Connecting NJ" data to transform it into a usable format for analysis.
- Merged datasets with survey and needs assessment data to facilitate comprehensive analysis.
- Performed descriptive and inferential statistical analyses to evaluate research outcomes.
- Delivered comprehensive mixed methods findings, incorporating both quantitative statistical analysis and qualitative thematic analysis to the project research team.
- Facilitated discussions regarding the implications of the research outcomes and identified potential future directions for investigation.
- Research Project Abstract: <https://reporter.nih.gov/search/OF3stFJPy02QMtb3PLlwoQ/project-details/10886495>.

BUSINESS ANALYST / HEALTHCARE DATA ANALYST | Defense Health Agency | Falls Church, VA 2/2023-6/2025

- Directed the design, development, implementation, and management of comprehensive data analyses for operational studies utilizing public health surveillance data, with a focus on mitigating adverse health outcomes across multiple

military divisions.

- Developed and implemented innovative solutions to address highly complex situations requiring sound judgment.
- Collaborated in the management of military health information data retrieval and integration, delivering data in a usable format for internal and external stakeholders.
- Prepared and drafted comprehensive reports, documents, and presentations on research and data analysis status, ensuring compliance with deadlines and standards.
- Accessed, validated, and analyzed information about the Military Health System (MHS) population by developing, validating, and linking various medical, safety, environmental, occupational, and personnel databases.
- Aggregated and analyzed population health data to respond to questions from the various Congressional inquiries, Department of Defense (DoD) senior leaders, Service-specific Headquarters agencies, and the Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs).
- Conducted research and performed analysis to support a variety of clinical practice initiatives focused on the improvement of clinical operations.
- Identified, troubleshooted, and conducted data import, analysis, and display errors from multiple data sources.
- Supported the Government as the lead clinical and business information resource in the documentation, planning, design, build, implementation, and maintenance of clinical and business information systems for the DHA and its internal/external customers.

SAS PROGRAMMER | Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center | Portsmouth, VA

1/2022-1/2023

- Established data requirements from a non-technical customer, wrote the applicable programs, and delivered the results in a comprehensible format.
- Extracted military healthcare claims data from large tables.
- Provided SAS programming and technical expertise on statistical analysis, methods, and techniques for epidemiological or research studies.
- Constructed SAS programs.
- Reviewed SAS programs others have written for correctness and efficiency.
- Formulated analysis and data collection plans.
- Developed and debugged SAS programs to enhance data analysis and reporting efficiency.

SENIOR DATA ANALYST | Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai | NYC, NY

2/2020-1/2022

- Analyzed, summarized, and visualized data from a variety of sources in epidemiological surveillance and routine reporting efforts; assisted faculty and staff with queries, statistical analyses, reports, and technical difficulties related to data retrieval and usage.
- Implemented best practices in data management to ensure integrity and quality of data and processes; delivered analyzable or analyzed data to internal and external researchers/clients of the Medical Center.
- Translated, merged, cleaned, and mapped data into conceptual, logical, and physical data models; documented, maintained, and recommended methods to improve data processing, distribution, and flow procedures.
- Oversaw all activities related to data cleaning, data quality, and data consolidation using appropriate standards and processes.
- Trained staff with varying degrees of knowledge to effectively use the database system.
- Redeployed to assist Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital personnel with general duties in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SENIOR DATA ANALYST/EPIDEMIOLOGIST | U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine | WPAFB, OH

9/2015-1/2020

- Imported, cleaned, transformed, validated and/or modeled data with the purpose of understanding or making conclusions from the data for decision making and public health purposes.
- Assisted in making data accessible to epidemiologists, scientists, physicians, programmers, and other end users.
- Tested data to identify data integrity issues, made recommendations, and coordinated with the data manager to plan solutions.
- Troubleshoot problems concerning database records and communicated with co-workers and end users of the system.
- Responsible for weekly data pulls from the Air Force Complete Immunization Tracking Application (AFCITA) to obtain influenza vaccination status; responsible for providing vaccine data to epidemiologists for inclusion in weekly influenza surveillance reports and influenza vaccine effectiveness analyses.
- Created training manual on weekly data pulls for vaccine matching information and trained essential junior personnel on the process to serve as a designated backup.
- Programmed ad hoc reports in CHCS and pulled laboratory data for specimens submitted to USAFSAM's Epidemiology Laboratory for respiratory surveillance; imported extracted data into SAS, combined with influenza patient questionnaire and vaccine data, cleaned master file, performed analyses, compiled results into weekly or monthly influenza surveillance reports; disseminated final report through The Epidemic Information Exchange (Epi-X); presented results (i.e., respiratory disease updates) at Epi-Chiefs teleconference during routine and special surveillance session.
- Responsible for supporting Air Force specific requests through weekly participation in AFHSB's Request Approval Process (RAP) Meeting and Data Discussion teleconference.
- Responsible for sending weekly Army-related influenza data to U.S. Army Public Health Center (APHC) via the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) Web Application to support their

influenza reporting.

- Conducted Influenza 2016-2017 Mid-Season Training for participating sentinel sites via Defense Collaboration Services.
- Conducted Influenza 2017-2018 & 2019-2020 Pre-Season Training for participating sentinel sites via Defense Collaboration Services.
- Designated as backup to application engineer; performed daily questionnaire imports and weekly influenza dashboard updates in the absence of application engineer.
- Updated codebook for the 2017-2018 flu season; codebook serves as a reference for the Epidemiology team's analytical data sets.
- Updated Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Program's Continuity Binder with current documents on the program's data processes and training procedures for sentinel sites.
- Conducted briefing on the "Outpatient Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI) Surveillance Project" at the AFHSB's Epidemiology and Analysis Section's Mini-Conference for DoD Satellite sites (i.e., Air Force, Army, Navy/Marine Corps).
- Conducted 2018-2019 Respiratory Illness Season briefing at Annual Influenza Breakfast and Learn Session on the DoD Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Program for USAFSAM's respiratory pathogen surveillance team and epidemiology lab personnel.
- Conducted an influenza vaccine effectiveness (VE) study utilizing a test-negative case-control study design with a multivariable logistic regression analysis to summarize the 2018-2019 influenza season; findings were shared with AFHSB for inclusion in their oral presentation, "Influenza Surveillance and Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates for the 2018-19 Season within Populations of DoD Interest" at the Military Health System Research Symposium (MHSRS) and included in The Global Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness (GIVE) Collaboration Report compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Influenza.
- Wrote manuscript on 2018-2019 Influenza Season VE analysis that was published in the military health journal, *Medical Surveillance Monthly Report (MSMR)*.
- Conducted briefing for the AFHSB's Analyst Didactics entitled, "SAS Functions: An Overview" for DoD Satellite sites (i.e., Air Force, Army, Navy/Marine Corps).
- Presented 2019 Epidemiology Technical Surveillance Training to train preventive medicine personnel (i.e., preventive medicine physicians, community health nurses, public health nurses, and epidemiology technicians) on disease identification, outbreak reporting, and surveillance techniques.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST | U.S. Army Public Health Center | APG, MD

11/2012-9/2015

- Wrote SPSS syntax to perform extensive data management and manipulation of large electronic databases.
- Conducted literature reviews, determined injury incidence, monitored, and tracked injury rates, identified trends and injury patterns, and causes of injury for deployed Army soldiers.
- Utilized routine casualty and safety surveillance data to determine the causes of fatal non-battle injuries among Army soldiers deployed in support of Operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.
- Reviewed patient histories within the medical air evacuation database to obtain casualty type, injury cause, trauma class, and place of injury occurrence; extracted data was coded in accordance with the coding scheme outlined in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Standardization Agreement No. 2050, 5th Edition, Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.
- Assisted senior personnel by responding to data requests and preparing presentations for informational briefing sessions on deployment injury surveillance topics.
- Examined the medical air evacuation database to determine the incidence of serious fall-related non-battle injuries of Army soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Investigated falls from elevation as a cause of non-battle injuries among Army soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Researched the leading causes of non-battle injuries sustained by male and female Army soldiers requiring medical air evacuation from Iraq and Afghanistan with a special focus on sports and physical training injuries.
- Participated as a field investigator in the joint U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and U.S. Army Public Health Command's Baseline Soldier Physical Readiness Requirements study to generate physical fitness and injury data necessary for the creation of a new Army Physical Fitness test; assisted with the data collection process and responsible for injury history surveys.

STUDENT ASSISTANT | Rutgers School of Public Health | Piscataway, NJ

1/2012-5/2012

- Collaborated with hosting organization, Morris Regional Public Health Partnership to conduct a community health status assessment and updated the 2006 *Community Health Improvement Plan* for use by health and human services organizations serving Morris County.
- Gathered available state, county, and local municipality level health data from the Center for Health Statistics to create a community profile of key health status indicators of Morris County residents.
- Designed and created tables consisting of updated statistical health indicators in Microsoft Word and Excel for inclusion in

the *Community Health Improvement Plan*.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT | Health Research & Educational Trust of New Jersey | Princeton, NJ 5/2011-5/2012

- Collaborated with HRET to design, plan and conduct epidemiological research
- Reviewed and critiqued epidemiologic scientific literature of public health problem; prepared and maintained bibliographies
- Assisted in formulation of specific hypotheses, research study's protocol, design, and analysis plan
- Compiled and processed hospital discharge data (UB-92/UB-04) obtained from the New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System in an organized fashion in preparation for data exploration and analysis
- Coded and managed data for electronic data processing
- Used epidemiological statistical techniques in SPSS and Excel to quantitatively assess the quality of patient race and ethnicity data collected and reported by New Jersey acute care hospitals and identify areas that need data quality improvement
- Evaluated the impact of HRET's 2007 educational campaign/intervention and training programs
- Analyzed and interpreted epidemiologic data and submitted written analysis and interpretation of research results for use in updating the report, Patient Race and Ethnicity: Improving Hospital Data Collection and Reporting
- Communicated and presented relevant study findings to scientific community at the Rutgers SPH's Dean's Review of Presentations

RESEARCH CO-INVESTIGATOR | Rutgers School of Public Health | Piscataway, NJ 1/2011-11/2012

- Assisted principal investigator with design, conduct, and analysis of environmental epidemiological investigation
- Reviewed and critiqued epidemiologic scientific literature of public health problem; prepared and maintained bibliographies
- Assisted in formulation of specific hypotheses, research study's protocol, design, and analysis plan
- Conducted data processing and SAS programming
- Used epidemiological statistical techniques to provide secondary data analysis and interpretation of data
- Prepared results for review and reported key study findings to principal investigator
- Complied with ethical guidelines for scientific and human subjects research

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | Health Research & Educational Trust of New Jersey | Princeton, NJ

6/2010-8/2010

- Provided complete support to the HRET administrative staff with the 2006-2010 Community Outreach Hospital Awards Project
- Liaised with HRET team for suggestions / opinions and communicated to management
- Built and maintained relationships with healthcare professionals (HRET)
- Assisted the HRET staff with data cleaning / consolidating

RESEARCH INVESTIGATOR | Rutgers School of Public Health | Stratford, NJ

7/2010

- Involved in primary data collection through administration of self-completed questionnaires distributed to patrons at the Crystal Springs Family Aquatic Center during melanoma/skin cancer screening registration process
- Collaborated with participants to ensure integrity of the consent/agreement process for use of risk data in public health research
- Adhered to state and federal compliance policies regarding ethical conduct of human subjects research

VALIDATION TECHNICIAN / CLINICAL LAB TECHNICIAN | Medical Diagnostic Laboratories | Hamilton, NJ

4/2005-11/2005

- Examined and analyzed body fluids, and other microorganisms
- Prepared specimens for examination and looked for abnormal cells in blood and body fluids
- Automated equipment and computerized instruments capable of performing several tests simultaneously
- Performed DNA-based molecular analysis and identification of a variety of chronic and infectious diseases through the utilization of polymerase chain reactions (conventional & real-time) gel electrophoresis & pyro-sequencing assays

NURSING UNIT SECRETARY | St. Peter's University Hospital | New Brunswick, NJ

8/2004-4/2005

- Greeted and communicated with hospital staff, patients, and visitors
- Transcribed physician order sheets to medical administration records (MARS) and Kardex
- Updated Kardex for review by nurses, allowing them to provide patient care and to give and receive reports on patient status
- Entered physician orders into the computer using the hospital patient management system
- Prepared and sent specimens to the laboratory, picked up medicine from the pharmacy and equipment from central supply
- General office duties including typing, answering phones, filing, faxing, photocopying
- Conducted 1:1 observation of patients

EDUCATION

Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) | Rutgers School of Public Health | 2023-present
Master of Public Health in Epidemiology | Rutgers School of Public Health | May 2012
Master of Biomedical Sciences | Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences | March 2011
Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, minor in Nutrition | Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey | January 2005

CERTIFICATIONS

Building Expertise in Administration and Management (BEAM) Certified Professional | February 2025
National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE) Certification in Public Health (CPH) | June 2017 (NBPHE number: 13801)
SAS® Certified Advanced Programmer for SAS®9 | March 2017
SAS® Certified Base Programmer for SAS®9 | January 2016

HONORS / AWARDS

- **Academic Excellence:** Dean's List: Fall 2002, Spring 2003, Fall 2004; National Dean's List: 2002-2003, 2003-2004, 2006-2007
- **Academic Scholarships:** Hamo Hachnasarian Scholarship (Cook College): 2002-2003; Middlesex County Fair Scholarship (Cook College): 2004-2005
- **Honorable Mention Award** for research project entitled, *Surveillance of Causes of Fatal Non-Battle Injuries among Army Soldiers Deployed for Operations Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn (Iraq), 2001-2012* (U.S. Army Public Health Command, December 2014)
- **Certificate of Appreciation Award** for Army Institute of Public Health Science Showcase Poster Presentation (U.S. Army Public Health Command, December 2014)
- **Community Service Award:** Rotarian of the Year Award 2014-2015 (Rotary Club of Towson, June 2015)
- **Commander's Excellence Team Awards:** DoD Global, Lab-based, Influenza Surveillance Team; DHA Transition Team (USAFSAM/PH, December 2015)
- **MidWest SAS® Users Group (MWSUG) 2017 Junior Professional Scholarship Program:** MWSUG Special Junior Professional Grant (MWSUG, September 2017)
- **SAS® Global Forum 2019 Awards and Scholarships:** SAS Professional Award (SAS, February 2019)

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE S

- **Poster Presenter:** APHA's 141st Annual Meeting, *Think Global, Act Local* - Boston, November 2013
- **Poster Presenter:** American College of Epidemiology 2014 Annual Meeting, *Making Epidemiology More Consequential* - Silver Spring, September 2014
- **Consultant & Rapporteur:** United Nations Association's Maryland Inter-Generational Consultation on the Post 2015 Millennium Development Goals - Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, November 2014; compiled consultation notes included in the Health, Wellness, Hunger, Food, Nutrition, and Food Security section of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area's report, *Towards the United Nations Post 2015 Development Agenda: Working Together for the World We Want*; final consultation report presented to UN Secretary General and U.S. Department of State; accessible at <http://www.unanca.org/what-we-do/programs/post-2015-mdgs>
- **Poster Presenter:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's 6th Annual National Occupational Injury Research Symposium, *Advancing Occupational Injury Research through Integration and Partnership* - Kingwood, May 2015
- **Attendee & Grant Recipient:** 2017 MidWest SAS® Users Group (MWSUG) Conference - St. Louis, October 2017
- **Attendee & CINSUG Board Volunteer:** The Greater Cincinnati Area SAS Users Group (CinSUG) Meeting - *Working with Sparse Matrices in SAS® and An Introduction to SAS® Arrays* - Mason, November 2018
- **Attendee & Award Recipient:** SAS Global Forum 2019 - Dallas, April 2019
- **Attendee & Conference Committee Member:** Ohio SAS Users Conference - Loveland, May 2019

PUBLICATIONS

- Kersellius, G., Taylor, B., Hauret, K., & Jones, B. (2014). Fall-Related Injuries: A Leading Cause of Injury among Army Soldiers Deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan [Abstract]. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 24 (9), 692. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.annepidem.2014.06.051>.
- Jessie R. Chung, MPH; Brendan Flannery, PhD; Christopher S. Ambrose MD, MBA; Rodolfo E. Bégué3, MD; Herve Caspard MD, ScD; Laurie DeMarcus, MPH, Ashley L. Fowlkes, MPH; Geeta Kersellius, MPH, MBA; Andrea Steffens, MPH; Alicia M. Fry, MD, MPH, for the Influenza Clinical Investigation for Children Study Team, the Influenza Incidence Surveillance Project, the US Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Network. Live Attenuated and Inactivated Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness. *Pediatrics*. 2019;143(2):e20182094
- Kersellius GD, Gruner WE, Fries AC, DeMarcus LS, Robbins AS. Respiratory Pathogen Surveillance Trends, and Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness Estimates for the 2018–2019 Season Among Department of

Defense Beneficiaries. *MSMR*. 2020; 27(1):17-23.

- Acknowledgement: Senay, Emily MD, MPH; Byrne, Dawn RN, BS, BA; Mattson, Christina AGPCNP-BC; Shukla, Gauri MPH; Crowley, Laura MD Telehealth for COVID-19 in World Trade Center Responders, *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*: September 17, 2021 - Volume - Issue - doi: 10.1097/JOM.0000000000002385

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA) | 2005-present
- American Public Health Association (APHA) | 2010-present
- New Jersey Public Health Association (NJPHA) | 2010-present
- New Jersey Society of Public Health Education (NJSOPHE) | 2010-2012
- New Jersey SAS User Group (NJSUG) | 2010-2012
- Washington D.C. SAS User Group (DCSUG), U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics | 2015
- The Greater Cincinnati Area SAS Users Group (CinSUG) | 2015-2020
- Ohio Public Health Association (OPHA) | 2016-2019
- Air Force Satellite Lead for AFHSB's Analyst Didactics/SAS User Group | 2018-2019
- CinSUG Board Member (President) | 2019-2020
- American Statistical Association | 2020-present
- The National Association for Doctors of Public Health | 2023-present