

Job Description

About Kidsights. We provide state and community partners with valid information to evaluate the development and wellbeing of the locality's young children (birth to age five) and their caregivers. We accomplish our mission by specializing in population measurement. We work with partners to generate data on child development and family characteristics within a population such as a state or city that can answer their research, policy, or programmatic questions; we provide recommendations to recruit caregivers to complete an online survey based on desired sampling characteristics; we ensure that the highest psychometric standards for valid measurement on children's wellbeing and development are met; and we promote and strengthen the generalizability of the findings to the underlying population. We believe that population measurement is the foundation for effective data-driven decision-making to improve the outcomes of children and their families.

Duties and Responsibilities. A list of responsibilities includes, but is not limited to, the following :

- *Design and monitoring.* Before data collection, the successful applicant will use their knowledge of survey statistics to provide recommendations on critical design decisions, including goals for data generation and corresponding sample size determinations. During data collection, the successful applicant will provide routine feedback to partners on recruitment progress.
- *Analysis.* After data collection, the successful applicant will employ post-hoc statistical techniques (e.g., rereighting) to strengthen claims of generalizability. The successful applicant will also lead the analysis to achieve goals for data generation and provide technical assistance to team members and external partners.
- *Data management.* The successful applicant will procure, update, and wrangle a database with publicly available datasets from the U.S. Census Bureau and Health Services and Resources Administration for comparative analysis to strengthen the generalizability of findings. Additionally, the successful applicant will produce and document an analytic dataset from the Kidsights survey to internal and community partners.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities. The successful applicant will demonstrate the following knowledge, skills, and abilities.

- Demonstrated proficiency and experience with survey statistics, including techniques to promote the generalizability of samples to populations, procedures to attain valid inferences using appropriate procedures (i.e., jackknife, bootstrap replicate weights, etc.), and methods for treating nonresponse.
- Demonstrated understanding of causal inference and missing data theory such as ignorability, self-selection bias, balancing scores, and imputation.

- Experience in data management, including producing reproducible code to clean, recode, join, append, label, and reformat real-world data sets.
- Effective communicator, with a demonstrated ability to accurately and concisely describing analytic procedures and findings in peer-reviewed publications or technical reports, as well as skilled at presenting technical concepts to non-technical audiences.
- Experience or interest in conducting secondary analysis with large-scale governmental surveys (e.g., American Community Survey and National Center for Children’s Health), including extraction from tools such as IPUMS.
- Proficient in R and able to work with data files in SPSS and STATA.
- Team player who prioritizes building positive relationships with subject matter experts in non-technical fields (i.e., child development, pediatrics, public health policy, and philanthropy).
- Interest in social disparities and inequalities in children’s development and health.
- Flexible problem solver and able to devise practical solutions to new issues as they are discovered.

Location and type of working arrangement open to discussion for qualified candidates.

Meeting deliverables will require a 15 hours per week commitment, on average. Some weeks will be busier than others, but decisions on which weeks will require more than 15 hours per week will be made in coordination with the candidate’s schedule.

Position opens immediately and is funded through June 30, 2024, with the possibility of continuing dependent on future funding.

Interested in the position? Send an email along with an up-to-date CV to Marcus Waldman, marcus.waldman@unmc.edu.