

STATISTICAL PRACTICES: WHAT DO STATISTICIANS DO?

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The demand for statistical skills is growing in many different fields and sectors, and the employment of statisticians is expected to increase drastically. However, the transition from learning to practicing statistics is challenging (Gibbons & MacGillivray, 2014) because professional statisticians are developing ways of reasoning and practices that grow out of experience (Pfannkuch & Wild, 2000). In order to investigate statistical practices that are developed at the workplace, statisticians were solicited to reflect on their experience. Each statistician sorted and identified prevailing practices performed at the workplace. The analysis revealed predominant and newly developed statistical skills. This identification of skills from the perspective of the statistical practitioners helps inform how to better promote an authentic experience of statistical practices throughout education.