

Curriculum Vitae – Geoffrey Charles (Geoff) Sims

Personal

Full Name Geoffrey Charles Sims
Citizenship Australian
Ethnic origin Not of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Business

Position Director/Principal Consultant
 Geoff Sims Consulting Pty Ltd
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Qualifications

Bachelor of Commerce in Statistics (Second Class Honours, Division 1)
University of New South Wales.

Graduation Date: 29 April 1969.

Graduate Diploma in Population Health
Australian National University.

Graduation Date: 29 July 2004.

Graduate Certificate in Biostatistics
University of Sydney

Graduation Date: 1 May 2009

Membership of professional associations

- Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association
- Health Services Research Association of Australia and New Zealand
- Australasian Health and Research Data Managers Association
- Australian Population Association
- European Cystic Fibrosis Society

Work experience

Overview

Geoff Sims has sound work experience in administration of national health statistics programs. From 1996 to 2002 he was Head of the Health Division at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, with responsibility for national statistical programs including hospital morbidity, mental health, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, the national death index and public health.

From 1988 to 1995 Geoff was senior executive manager of the social statistics program at the Australian Bureau of Statistics, where he managed development and outputs for national health, disability, mental health and nutrition surveys, private hospital statistics, national mortality data processing, demography and a range of social statistics programs outside the health field.

Geoff Sims has worked with statistics on subjects including public finance, prices, earnings, community services, crime and justice, culture and recreation. During his early career Geoff was a senior statistical consultant (ABS outpost) in the Department of Social Security and was Deputy Commonwealth Statistician and State Government Statist in South Australia.

In early 2002, Geoff Sims established Geoff Sims Consulting Pty Ltd and has worked since that time as a consultant in the health statistics field. His specialty is clinical registries.

Details of experience follow.

Managing national statistics programs

- Managed Australian Bureau of Statistics' South Australian office, 1983-87, with 200 staff working across a wide range of economic and social statistics.
- Managed ABS social statistics national program 1988-95 including the topics health, welfare, demography, crime and justice, culture and recreation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander statistics and social statistics standards and classifications.
- Established and managed ABS centres for causes of death coding and private hospital establishments (both in ABS Brisbane office), crime and justice (Melbourne), culture and recreation (Adelaide) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics (Darwin).
- Managed content development and statistical outputs for ABS national interview surveys: Health 1989 and 1995, Time Use 1992, Disability and Ageing 1993, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 1994, Nutrition 1995 and Mental Health and Wellbeing 1997.
- Managed AIHW Health Division 1996-2002. Oversaw production of biennial reports Australia's Health 1998 and 2000 and numerous regular and ad-hoc health reports, including Australian Hospital Statistics (annual), Mental Health Services in Australia (annual), Cancer in Australia (annual), Chronic Diseases and Associated Risk Factors in Australia 2001, Australia's Children: Their health and wellbeing (1998 and 2002), National Drug Strategy Household Surveys (1998 and 2000).
- Conducted senior management negotiations and oversaw management arrangements for AIHW inter-agency contract work in health statistics. Overall AIHW earnings for contract work expanded from \$5.3m in 1995-96 to \$10.3m in 2000-01.
- Managed AIHW's interests in its external collaborating units, particularly the Dental Statistics and Research Unit at the University of Adelaide and the National Injury Surveillance Unit at Flinders University.
- Member of National Health Information Management Group (NHIMG) from its establishment in 1993 (while at ABS) and continuing through his period as Health Division manager in AIHW, until 2002.

Experience with national statistics infrastructure

- Established ABS social statistics classifications and standards program 1980.
- Chair of National Health Data Committee 1996 to 2002 – overseeing preparation of 5 editions of the National Health Data Dictionary and consideration of many National Minimum Data Set proposals.
- Member of National Health Performance Committee. Participant in development of its national health performance indicator framework and harmonisation with international (particularly Canadian) frameworks.
- Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council, National Public Health Partnership, National Health and Medical Research Council – represented the AIHW Director on multiple occasions over the period 1996 to 2002.
- AIHW representative on the National Public Health Information Working Group to 2002
- Australian representative at International Standards Organisation's Health Informatics Technical Committee TC215 and sub-committees on standards for a health performance indicator framework and a standard health information architecture 2000 and 2001.
- Oversaw review of National Health Information Model, 2002.
- Member of General Practice Coding Jury 2001.
- Member of Australian delegation to SNOMED International, Chicago 2001 – investigating suitability of SNOMED for Australia's requirements for a standard medical terminology.
- Member of National Health Information Standards Advisory Committee 2001.
- Participant in advising the Privacy Commissioner on health research and statistics aspects of private sector privacy legislation 2001.
- Editor of NHIMG's 'Minimum Guidelines for Health Registers for Statistical and Research Purposes', September 2001.
- Principal author/ editor of NHIMG Health Information Priorities, 2002.

Private consulting

Current and completed consulting projects include:

- Cystic Fibrosis Australia - Data management and reporting for Australasian Cystic Fibrosis Data Registry, mid 2002 to present and ongoing. Liaison with developers for new web-based registry

- management system, 2005-2007. Negotiations for international data registry connections 2008-11.
- YMCA of Canberra – methodological advice for ACT Sport and Recreation pilot study of exercise in older people, mid 2002 to 2005
 - ACT Health – Investigation and advice relating to care type for admitted patient episodes, completed June 2003
 - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare – coordinating editor for *The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population 2003*, completed August 2003
 - Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing – Co-authorship of data chapter for *General Practice in Australia 2004*, completed February 2004
 - Australian National University – Adviser to Social Protection Facility, coordinating AusAID funded training programs for four Asian countries, October 2003 to June 2004
 - National Centre for Classification in Health – Consultations with jurisdictions and providing advice to the Department of Health and Ageing for development of a National Minimum Data Set for Outpatient Care, June to December 2004
 - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare – stakeholder consultation and preparation of a national report on sentinel events in hospitals – January 2005 to December 2006.
 - Health Policy Analysis Pty Ltd – consolidation and editing of statistical material and commentary for *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Report 2006*, with principal focus on health determinants chapter – April to October 2006.
 - Commonwealth Grants Commission – team coordination, research and reporting for CGC's *Inquiry into the Finances of Norfolk Island 2006* – March to September 2006.
 - Health Policy Analysis Pty Ltd – consolidation and editing of statistical material and commentary for *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Report 2008*, with principal focus on health determinants chapter – January to October 2008.
 - Council of Australian Governments (contracted through the Department of the Chief Minister, Northern Territory) – scoping paper for a clearinghouse on evidence for closing the gap in Indigenous life outcomes – November 2007 to June 2008.

- Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council (contracted through Territory Health Services, NT) – report on indicators for measuring cultural competence in health services – from March 2008 (ongoing).
- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (contracted through Grosvenor Management Consulting Pty Ltd) – evaluating and testing of draft *Operating Principles and Technical Standards for Australian Clinical Quality Registries* – December 2008 to December 2009.

Publications/Reports

Individual authorship has not been attributed for most publications and reports to which Geoff Sims has contributed in both his official statistics and consulting careers. Examples of publications and reports to which Geoff made significant contributions (see annotations) follow:

Australian Bureau of Statistics (1980). *Social Indicators No. 3 1980*. Canberra: ABS Cat. No. 4101.0. (managing editor and principal author of Chapter 3, Health)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2000). *Australia's Health 2000*. Canberra: AIHW Cat. No. 19. (managing editor, also for *Australia's Health 1998*)

Minimum Guidelines for Health Registers for Statistical and Research Purposes, September 2001. Canberra: AIHW on behalf of the National Health Information Management Group. (editor and contributing author)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2002). *Chronic diseases and associated risk factors in Australia, 2001*. Canberra: AIHW. (managing editor)

Australian Bureau of Statistics and Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2003). *The Health and Welfare of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population 2003*, Canberra: AIHW and ABS. (coordinating editor)

Sims G and Bolton P (2005). *The supply and distribution of general practitioners, in General Practice in Australia: 2004*. Canberra: Department of Health and Ageing.

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare & Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (2007). *Sentinel events in Australian public hospitals 2004–05*. Cat. no. HSE. 51 Canberra: AIHW. (analysis and presentation of national data)

Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (2008). *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework Report 2008*, AHMAC, Canberra. (health determinants chapter, also for HPF 2006 report)

Cystic Fibrosis Australia (2011). *Cystic Fibrosis in Australia 2011: 14th annual report from the Australian Cystic Fibrosis Data Registry*. North Ryde: CFA. (principal author/editor, also for ACFDR annual reports from 2000 to 2010)