

- Mission:** NISS is dedicated to strengthening and serving the national statistics community, most notably by catalyzing community members' participation in applied research driven by challenges facing government and industry.
- Formation and Evolution:** NISS is an institute created by and serving the US and international statistical sciences community. It was formed in 1991 with the initial vision to identify, catalyze and foster high-impact, cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences. Since then, cross sector research addressing critical interfaces between industry, government and academia has become increasingly central to the NISS portfolio.
- Structure:** NISS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit North Carolina corporation, with ten owners.* Governance is vested in a 20-member Board of Trustees, currently chaired by James Landwehr of Avaya Labs Research.
- Facilities:** NISS owns its headquarters building, which is located on the TUCASI campus in Research Triangle Park (RTP), NC, and shared with its sister institute, the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI). The original 16,000 square foot building, recipient of a Design Award from the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, was constructed in 1997 with funds from the State of North Carolina. The 12,000 square-foot addition will be occupied in October 2008. NISS also holds office space in Washington, DC.
- Personnel:** NISS has a total of approximately 12 full-time employees, including postdoctoral fellows, located in RTP and Washington. More than 50 members of the national statistics community currently participate in NISS projects and task forces. The senior scientific leadership consists of Alan F. Karr, director, who is also Professor of Statistics & Operations Research and Biostatistics at UNC, Nell Sedransk, associate director, who is also Research Professor of Statistics at NCSU, and Stanley Young, assistant director for bioinformatics.
- Research:** NISS performs applied, high-impact research on important national issues for government and industrial clients, among which are the Hamner Institutes for Health Research, Eli Lilly, GlaxoSmithKline, Merck, the National Cancer Institute, the National Center for Education Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics and the National Science Foundation (NSF). NISS is a partner with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) and RTI in operation of the Education Statistics Services Institute—Statistics and NAEP Education Statistics Services Institute.
- The products of the research include scientific insights that inform both future research and policy, software that implements scientific advances, and strongly positive career impact on those who participate in the research.
- Affiliates:** Approximately 60 government agencies, corporations and university departments belong to the NISS Affiliates and NISS/SAMSI University Affiliates programs, which conduct activities targeting research, information dissemination, human resources and networking. The programs were honored with the 2005 Statistical Partnerships among Academia, Industry and Government (SPAIG) award of the ASA.
- Career Development:** More than 200 senior researchers from the statistical sciences, as well as such other disciplines such as applied mathematics, civil engineering, computer science, environmental science, materials science, psychometrics, software engineering and transportation, have participated in NISS projects.
- The NISS postdoctoral program, one of the oldest, largest and most successful in statistics, has provided strong impetus to more than 60 early career researchers.
- SAMSI:** NISS, Duke, NCSU, UNC and NSF, constitute the consortium that created and manages SAMSI. NISS shares scientific interests, staff and its RTP building with SAMSI. The NISS– SAMSI relationship is extraordinarily synergistic for both institute.

* Five statistics societies—the American Statistical Association (ASA), Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS), Eastern and Western Regions (ENAR and WNAR) of the International Biometric Society, Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) and Section U of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and five North Carolina organizations—Duke University, North Carolina State University (NCSU), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC), RTI International (RTI), and the Triangle Universities Center for Advanced Studies, Inc. (TUCASI).