Statistical excellence in journalism – 2013 winners

The 2013 awards recognise work first published or broadcast in the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2013.

Work published in print

Winner – Daniel Finkelstein
Fink Tank column – The Times

The judges felt that this was an excellent and accessible example of statistical modelling used as a vehicle to explain broadly applicable statistical concepts in an entertaining manner.

Work published online

Winner – Kathryn Torney
Piece examining integration in Northern Ireland's schools – The Detail

The judges were impressed by its use of Google Maps and felt its key strength was in enabling the reader to get beyond a conventionally presented story to find out relevant local data. This was done in a way that demonstrated how data can be used to go beyond political point-scoring.

Broadcast

Winner – BBC Radio 4's More or Less programme Tim Harford (presenter), Richard Knight (producer) Richard Vadon (editor)

The judges considered this to be a really informative exploration of the contentious issue of waiting times at UK borders during the Olympics and the contrasting estimates of different agencies. They particularly highlighted how choice of data can have a big impact on the story that is told.

The More or Less team also won the award in the broadcast category in 2010 and 2012 and commended in 2011.

Dr Jenny Freeman, honorary officer for our external relations work, said: 'This year saw the second largest number of entries to our awards for statistical excellence in journalism. There were many which showed good use of statistics and data. This presented the judges with the challenging task of deciding overall winners.

'Our congratulations go to those who have been successful, and our thanks to all those who submitted entries. It is very pleasing to see such a breadth of interest in using data and statistics by the journalist community.'