

Making an Ally Out of Statistics: Program Advocacy and Patron Success



Photo: Carol Highsmith

Statistics can be an ally for developing mission-critical library and information center programs. Library patrons also need assistance in understanding and applying statistics appropriately in their research. This two-day course will clarify the range of economic statistics, their properties, and sources so that participants will

- Interpret statistical data and see through misleading statistical presentations
- Be able to assist patron in finding and using economic statistics appropriately
- Utilize statistical analysis to improve their own reports and presentations

Date

Thursday, April 20 - Friday, April 21, 2006

Time

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. There is no entrance to the Library of Congress prior to 8:30 a.m.)

Place

Mumford Room, 6th floor, Madison Building, The Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540

Metro

Capitol South (Orange and Blue Lines)

Sponsor

FLICC Education Working Group

Information

Call FLICC (202) 707-4813; TTY (202) 707-4995

Registration

\$275 (charge to FEDLINK Training Account/FT)
\$296 (for all other transactions)
Limited to 35 participants.

To register online, visit the FLICC Educational Programs Web site at <http://www.loc.gov/flicc/feveform.html>, or complete and fax the form below to (202) 707-4825.

Request ADA Accommodations five business days in advance at (202) 707-6362 TTY or ada@loc.gov.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be called into the FLICC office (202-707-4813) 48 hours prior to the start of an educational program or the full fee will be charged.

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3/15/06

Register online at <http://www.loc.gov/flicc/feveform.html> or fax the form below to FPE Registration (202) 707-4825.

Name _____ Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____ Fax () _____ Email _____

Payment Method:

Bill the \$275 registration fee to my agency's FEDLINK Education/Training (FT) account. To establish an FT account or add funds to an existing account, contact the FEDLINK Fiscal Hotline at 202-707-4900.

FEDLINK ID _____ OCLC Symbol _____

Attached is a standard government training form (e.g. SF182 or DD1556) or other billable document for the registration fee of \$296. The Library of Congress will bill my agency based on this document. Originals of these forms must be submitted onsite at registration.

Charge the \$296 registration fee to my agency's government credit card. (Do not include the account number; FEDLINK will contact the credit card holder listed below.)

CARD HOLDER _____ PHONE _____

Registrations are not complete until your FT account balance has been verified or other appropriate documentation is received.

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Program Highlights

U.S. Statistical System

- Decentralization
- Range of information available
 - Administrative data
 - Census data
 - Survey data
- Non-government data

Statistical Properties and Principles

- Averages
- Distributions
- Seasonal adjustments
- Annualized rates
- Currency, timeliness, revisions
- Change, real and nominal
- Survey design, standard error

Presenting data

- Tables
- Charts
- Content
- Organization
- Statistical Reports

Identifying the right statistic

- Classification issues
- Definitions
- Time periods
- Historical trends
- Most current
- Forecasts
- Geography

Interpreting and using statistics

- Avoiding the misuse of statistics
- Sample size and whether it is representative
- Source – independence and possible bias
- Comparison to other statistical yardsticks

Displaying data in chart

- Using charts to convey data, interpret data

Review of Major Statistical Series

- Social and Demographic
- Vital statistics (births, deaths, etc.)
- Industry
- Economic indicators
- Prices and Inflation
- Compensation
- Occupations