Before you start searching
Analyze your data needs. Decide on:

- **Topic**
- **Geography**
- **Time frame**
- **Data vs. Statistics**

Where do I find the statistics?
Understand the big picture: different layers of data sources

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Available Online</th>
<th>Available in Library</th>
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| **GOVERNMENT AGENCY**
  i.e. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics. Products: data files, reports, working papers, data portals (i.e. American factfinder). | |
| **ACADEMIC RESEARCH INSTITUTION**
  i.e. Climate Change Institute (the University of Maine), Urban Institute Products: books, articles, working papers, reports, data portals (i.e. ICPSR). | |
| **TRADE ASSOCIATION/ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**
  i.e. American Hospital Association, American Public Health Association. Products: books, journals, trade publications, fact sheets, reports, or working papers. | |
| **STATISTICAL DATABASES**
  Collect data from government agencies, research institutions, trade associations and/or private sectors. Products: Statista, Mergent Online. | |
| **LIBRARY CATALOG**
  Provide access to books or full text articles/index from research, scholars, or professionals. Products: databases such as Business Source Complete, Econlit, etc. | |
| **LIBRARY& LIBRARIANS**
  We collect resources and create library guides to help you find these resources! | |

Worksheet adapted from Grace Liu, University of Maine
Start with the Business Research library guide that provides resources/strategies for your research topic.

Use the guide to find the statistical databases available in your library.

Targeted online search via Google and other search engines.

Use Google Advanced .gov domain search to locate statistical products from related government agencies.

Conduct literature search in library catalogs, Google Scholar or journal/index databases to find the source of the statistics used in the literature.

Use Google .edu or .org search to locate statistical products from academic/research institutions, trade associations or nonprofit organizations.

Don't hesitate to ask for help!

Roadmap for Finding Statistics

Searching is a Strategic Exploration

Worksheet adapted from Grace Liu, University of Maine