

## ASA LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO REBUILD PUBLIC TRUST IN FEDERAL STATISTICS

*Count on Stats will educate the public about the critically important nature of federal data*

ALEXANDRIA, VA, January 30, 2018 – The American Statistical Association (ASA), in partnership with organizations in the statistical community, today launched a campaign to advance the federal statistical system and awareness of its significant work. [Count on Stats](#) is a public outreach initiative, which will enhance understanding and appreciation of the importance, reliability, and trustworthiness of government statistics.

“I am pleased to partner with the ASA in increasing the awareness and support for high quality federal statistics,” said Count on Stats partner John Thompson. Thompson, executive director of COPAFS and former head of the Census Bureau, continued, “The Federal Statistical Agencies face a number of challenges and our support is critical to their success.”

This campaign is designed to educate and inform the public about the critically important nature of federal data, but also to counter attacks against the system. The [Count on Stats](#) initiative will consistently reaffirm the value of the important work undertaken by U.S. federal statistical agencies.

“Federal data are used to inform decision makers from Wall Street to Main Street to the halls of Congress and beyond,” said Ron Wasserstein, executive director of the American Statistical Association. “The agencies comprising the United States federal statistical system conduct essential work that is critically important to the functions of our economy, society, and democracy.”

Partners of the initiative include the American Association for Public Opinion Research, American Educational Research Association, Association of Public Data Users, American Sociological Association, Bipartisan Policy Center, Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics, and National Association for Business Economics.

Stay up-to-date on news and information from Count on Stats [@CountonStats](#) on Twitter.

### **About the American Statistical Association**

The American Statistical Association is the world’s largest community of statisticians and the second-oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. Its members serve in industry, government and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the ASA website at <http://www.amstat.org/>.

**For more information or to request an interview with an ASA spokesperson:**

Elaine Joseph

Office: (202) 223-4933

Direct: (202) 851-2475

Email: [EJoseph@stantoncomm.com](mailto:EJoseph@stantoncomm.com)