Resources for Finding Useful Data and Statistics

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SimplyMap is a Web-based mapping and reporting tool that incorporates thousands of demographic, business and marketing variables. This data is very useful when conducting a needs assessment, writing situational statements, and developing impacts. To use this application, you must have a GatorLink username and password. Off-campus users should use <u>UF VPN</u>. First time users will need to click on 'Create Personal Workspace' to create their account. Save your SimplyMap username and password as it is not the same as your GatorLink. If you have any problems logging into <u>SimplyMap</u>, contact <u>Peter McKay</u> (352-273-2634) of the UF Business Library. Before getting started, check out their web page that houses several <u>tutorials</u>. We encourage you to use them to see the depth and breadth of information available to you through this powerful tool.

In addition to providing access to SimplyMap, the **University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries** [*http://www.uflib.ufl.edu*] offer research assistance from library faculty and staff, plus access to thousands of journals and unpublished UF theses/dissertations. Not sure where to start? Use the <u>Ask a Librarian</u> chat feature. We also have a dedicated IFAS librarian, <u>Valrie</u> <u>Davis</u>, who created a Web page that shows various <u>databases by our Extension strategic goals</u> – agriculture and natural resources; Florida environment; youth programs; ornamental, turf and sustainable landscapes; individual and family development; sustainable living; and, professional development.

The University of Florida **Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR)** [http://www.bebr.ufl.edu] has a wealth of information about Florida's population and economy, including:

- **Florida Statistical Abstract** contains the largest collection of state and county statistics on demographic, social and economic conditions of Florida and useful for comparing the state or county to other areas of the country (\$25; typically available in December for the current year);
- **Florida Estimates of Population** contains the official population estimates for Florida's cities, counties and unincorporated areas (\$25);
- **Consumer Confidence Index** (free) is based on the Florida Consumer Attitude Survey conducted each month by BEBR, and compares consumer attitudes over time by gender, age, and income (free);
- **Florida Focus** is a series of in-depth articles on timely topics published periodically throughout the year (free).

To order these and other document, go to http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/reports/and/data.

MyFlorida.com [http://myflorida.com] is the official portal of the State of Florida and provides numerous links to state and national statistics on a wide range of topics. Look for the Research & Statistics page under the Floridian section [http://myflorida.com/taxonomy/floridian/research% 20&%20statistics].

Other useful databases that are not listed in the UF Libraries' Databases by Extension Goals page include:

The USDA **National Agricultural Statistics Service** [http://www.nass.usda.gov] has very timely and comprehensive information about agriculture, including:

- **Quick Stats** database that can be queried by commodity, state, county, and year.
- **Census of Agriculture**, taken every five years, is a total count of farms and ranches in the US and includes data on land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures, etc.

The Labor Market Statistics Center (LMS) in the Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation [http://www.labormarketinfo.com] collects data through several state and federal sources, including the Quarterly Census of Employee Wages (QCEW), Current Employment Statistics (CES), Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS), Mass Layoff Statistics (MLS), Occupational Employment Statistics and Wages (OES, and Employment Projections (EP).

The **National 4-H Headquarters** [*http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov*] collects 4-H youth and volunteer enrollment data annually from each state and has a lot of good information in general. **Florida 4-H** statistical information is more up to date and available at [*https://4h.ifas.ufl.edu/FacultyStaffOnly/Reports_ES-237/index.htm*].

For a more expanded search, use the *Finding Databases* service provided through the Smathers Libraries.