Anguilla Statistics Department
Ministry of Economic Development, Industry, Commerce, Lands, Planning, Water, Natural Resources
Government of Anguilla
The Valley, ANGUILLA, B.W.I.

PRESS RELEASE

International Statistical Literacy Day: Building a More Logical, Analytical and Informed Society

The Valley, November 17, 2026
For Immediate Release

On International Statistical Literacy Day, we are reminded that statistical literacy is not just a mathematical skill; it is an essential life skill that benefits individuals, communities and society as a whole.

In an increasingly data-driven world, the ability to understand, interpret and use statistical information is critical. Statistics influences many aspects of our daily lives, from education, healthcare and business to public policy, national development and personal decision-making. Therefore, strengthening statistical literacy must be a shared priority across our society.

Developing strong statistical and mathematical foundations in our schools is an important starting point. Through collecting data, analysing information, interpreting graphs, recognising patterns and drawing conclusions, students develop logical reasoning, critical thinking and problem-solving skills. These abilities help build confidence in mathematics while preparing young people to engage meaningfully with the world around them.

However, the importance of statistical literacy extends well beyond the classroom. As citizens, we are constantly exposed to figures, percentages, surveys, reports and claims presented through traditional and social media. Understanding how to interpret this information, question its reliability, distinguish facts from assumptions and recognise misleading statistics enables us to become more responsible and informed participants in society.

A statistically literate society is better positioned to strengthen evidence-based decision-making. Whether at the individual, organisational or national level, reliable data and sound statistical interpretation help us make informed choices, identify challenges, measure progress and guide development priorities. Decisions grounded in evidence rather than assumptions or opinions contribute to greater accountability, better planning and more effective use of resources.

As we mark this important day, let us recognise that building statistical literacy is a collective responsibility. We must continue to **promote mathematics and statistics education**, **encourage curiosity** and **critical thinking**, and **foster a culture in which data is understood, questioned and used responsibly**.

Our vision should be a society that does not simply consume information but understands it; a society that reasons logically, thinks critically and makes decisions supported by evidence. Statistics is more than numbers. It is a foundation for informed citizens, sound decisions and a stronger society.

"Statistical thinking will one day be as necessary for efficient citizenship as the ability to read and write."
— H.G. Wells

"Sound Statistics for Sustainable Development"
Tele: (264) 497-5731
E-mail: statistics@gov.ai | Webstie: http://statistics.gov.ai/
P. O. Box 60
The Valley, Anguilla
Tele (264) 497-2451 Ext 1860