

# **CHARTER OF THE BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS SECTION**

**Section Chartered: 1950**

**Charter Revised: 1992, 2001, 2010, 2012, 2016, 2022**

## **Article I. NAME**

The name of this organization is the Business and Economic Statistics Section (hereafter called the Section) of the American Statistical Association (hereafter called the Association).

## **Article II. SCOPE AND PURPOSE**

The principal fields of interest of the Section shall be the relation of statistical techniques and philosophy to:

1. Official statistics and other measures of gross domestic product, flow of funds, input-output, national income and wealth; industrial and agricultural production; construction, transportation, communication and distribution; population, labor force, employment and unemployment; productivity, wages, costs and prices; money, credit, and fiscal developments; international trade and finance; and other economic factors.
2. Internal administrative analytics valuable in the conduct of business or in reaching decisions on business policy.
3. Statistical analysis of the relation between various business, economic, social, and other pertinent factors.
4. Improvement in the quality of statistical data used by businesses and government.
5. Forecasts of business and economic activity, commodity prices, costs, employment, income, and other economic variables.
6. Methods of surveying, collecting, and processing statistical data, and presentation of data and analytical results.
7. Statistics of consumer and market research and their relation to the production and distribution of goods and services.

## Article III. FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Business and Economic Statistics Section will be:

1. To plan, in cooperation with the Association's Program Committee, appropriate sessions on business and economic statistics at the Annual Meeting of the Association.
2. To stimulate the preparation of articles dealing with business and economic statistics for publication under Association auspices. In particular, to lend support to the Journal of Business & Economic Statistics.
3. To aid the general development of the Association, including expansion of the membership.
4. To assist in the development of special meetings and training opportunities as interests may suggest.
5. To seek to make awards periodically for noteworthy contributions to the profession and for the encouragement of promising young professionals.
6. To establish and maintain liaison with related professional societies (e.g., the American Economic Association, National Association for Business Economics, and Econometric Society), and with other sections of the Association (e.g., the Government Statistics, Social Statistics, and Survey Research Methods sections).
7. To promote the professional development of its members.

## Article IV. ORGANIZATION

### ***A. Membership***

Any member of the Association may become a member of the Section by paying dues to the Section. The membership year for each member of the Section shall coincide with that member's membership year in the Association. Section dues shall be set by the Section Officers and may be altered annually in consultation with the Treasurer of the Association.

### ***B. Officers and Representative(s) to the Council of Sections***

The Section Officers and Representatives, their selection, and their roles shall be as follows:

1. The Section shall elect the **Section Chair**, who shall be the chief officer of the Section and shall preside at all meetings of the Section and the Executive Committee. The Chair, with the approval of the voting members of the Executive Committee, may designate committees or individuals to carry out functions of the Section. The Chair shall coordinate the work of the officers and committees of the Section and shall review the regular financial reports provided by the Association's central office.
2. The Section shall elect the **Section Chair-elect**, who shall preside over meetings of the Section and the Executive Committee in the absence of the Chair. The Chair-Elect shall work with the Chair and the Secretary/Treasurer to prepare the

budget of the Section for the year in which the Section Chair-elect will be Chair.

3. The Section shall elect the **Program Chair**, who shall be responsible for developing and coordinating the Section's sessions and other program events at national and regional meetings of the Association. The Program Chair serves as a member of the Association's Program Committee.
4. The Section shall elect the **Program Chair-elect**, who shall assist the Program Chair. They shall also work on developing the Section's program for the Joint Statistical Meetings of the following year when they will be the Section's Program Chair.
5. The Section shall elect the **Secretary/Treasurer**, who shall be responsible for the minutes of all meetings of the Section and the Executive Committee. The Secretary/Treasurer shall also assist the Chair-elect in preparing the annual budget, shall monitor the Section's dues collections and expenditures, and shall prepare an annual report on the financial condition of the Section.
6. The Section shall elect a number of **Representatives to the Association's Council of Sections**, such number to be determined by the Council of Sections Governing Board. The Representatives to the Council of Sections shall serve as members of the Executive Committee and shall represent the interests of the Section and its members on matters that come before the Council of Sections.
7. The Section Chair shall appoint the **Webmaster and Communications Officer(s)**, who shall coordinate activities within the Section related to publications and announcements, including administration of the Section website.

### ***C. Executive Committee***

The elected Section Officers and the Representative(s) to the Council of Sections shall constitute the voting members of the **Executive Committee of the Section**. The Webmaster and Communications and Officer(s), who shall be appointed by the Section Chair (not elected), shall act as non-voting members of the Executive Committee. As the need arises, the Section Chair may appoint other Section members to be non-voting members of the Executive Committee with the approval of the voting members of the Executive Committee. All members of the Executive Committee shall be Section members.

### ***D. Terms of Office***

The term of office for Section Officers shall be one year, except for the Secretary/Treasurer, whose term shall be two years. No officer shall be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office except the Secretary/Treasurer. The Section Chair-elect and the Program Chair-elect shall automatically succeed the Section Chair and the Program Chair, respectively, at the annual change of officers, which shall occur on January 1.

The term of office for the Representative(s) to the Council of Sections shall be as specified in the Charter of the Council of Sections. No such Representative shall be eligible for immediate re-election to the same office.

There is no predefined term for the Webmaster and Communications Officer(s). As this is

an appointed position, the Officer(s) shall serve at the discretion of the Section Chair, or until they decide to withdraw from the position.

If the office of Section Chair becomes vacant, the Section Chair-elect shall become the Chair, the term extending through the following year. Other vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the Section Chair, with the approval of the voting members of the Executive Committee.

### ***E. Method of Nomination and Election***

Each year the Section Chair shall submit to the Secretary of the Association at least two candidates for each position to be filled. All candidates shall be Section members. The Association's general deadline for submission of nominations shall apply. The candidates shall be announced to the members soon after they are submitted to the Association. These nominees are to be included in the Association's annual election ballot. All balloting procedures for Section elections shall conform to those used in balloting for Association officers.

Additional nominations may be made by submitting a petition, signed by at least 25 members of the Section, to the Section Chair and the Secretary of the Association. Such a petition must be submitted as soon as feasible after the date of the announcement to the Section members of the candidates submitted by the Section Chair.

### ***F. Other Committees and Functions***

The Section Chair may establish such other committees and functions as are deemed necessary to carry out the work of the Section. The Section Chair shall appoint members and chairs of any such committees and individuals to carry out functions, and specify their terms. All committee chairs shall be members of the Section. The Section Chair shall not establish committees that overlap in responsibility with committees led by elected chairs.

### ***G. Conduct of Business***

The Annual Business Meeting of the Section shall be held during the Annual Meeting of the Association and shall be announced in the program of that meeting. Between Annual Business Meetings the Section Chair and Executive Committee shall manage the business of the Section.

## **Article V. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this Charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee of the Section, or by a petition signed by at least 25 members of the Section and submitted to the Executive Committee. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the members of the Section for their vote at the time of the next annual election of officers. If approved by a majority of the members of the Section voting, any amendments shall take effect immediately. A copy of the amendments shall be filed with the Secretary of the Association.