National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences
National Science Foundation
What does the Evidence Act mean to Federal Statistical Agencies?

...A platform for communicating value
The Foundation of Federal Statistical Agencies

116 STAT. 2962
PUBLIC LAW 107–347—DEC. 17 2002

(b) TITLES III AND IV.—Title III and this title shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

TITLE V—CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION PROTECTION AND STATISTICAL EFFICIENCY

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.
This title may be cited as the “Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002”.


A Notice by the Management and Budget Office on 12/02/2014
The Evidence Act embodies governing laws and principles to signal the importance of agency collaborations around data.

- Paperwork Reduction Act
- Information Quality Act
- Office of Management and Budget: Memo M-13-13, Open Data Policy, Managing Data as an Asset
- President’s Management Agenda: Cross-Agency Priority (CAP) Goal 2
The Federal Statistical System aligns with The Evidence Act

• Strengthens statistical policy directives

• Presumption of access to data for statistical purposes
  
  The term ‘evidence” means information produced as a result of statistical activities conducted for a statistical purpose (Section 3561 of title 44)

• Evidence includes foundational fact finding, performance measurement, policy analysis, and program evaluation
The Federal Statistical System aligns with The Evidence Act

A collaborative, gradual, tailored, strategic approach to leverage existing resources and enhance federal government capabilities to:

- build and use evidence
- collect, protect, and release data
The Federal Statistical System is a champion of the Evidence Act

- Supporting data privacy and confidentiality protection activities
- Serving as Statistical Official
- Identifying data that can be used for evidence-building activities
- Increasing use of data linkages while maintaining protections
- Playing leading role in ensuring data access across secure platforms
# Highlights of key Evidence Act requirements

## Evaluation officer (EO)
**Title I**

- Evidence-building plan or learning agenda
- Capacity assessment
- Evaluation plan

## Chief Data Officer (CDO, chair)
**Title II**

- Agency data inventory
- NSF data available on open data platform (data.gov)
- Data access and use within and across agencies

## Statistical Officer (SO)
**Title III**

- Regulations for federal agencies to access data
- Data quality standards for statistical products
- Expanded availability of CIPSEA data sets

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**Participate in interagency councils**

- Useful Evidence
- Robust Data Infrastructure
- Specialized Workforce
The Evidence Act 101

• Shifts to a paradigm of open access to data

• Provides a framework for communicating value

• Builds community around using high-quality data to inform policies