



PRACTICAL ANALYTIC TECHNIQUES AGENDA August 30, 2019

The aim behind analysis should be to provide insight to help shape the conversation and make decisions and not just to calculate the right numbers. In this class, we will cover a number of practical techniques suitable for use in local government to help elevate our analysis. Class will include both discussion of techniques but also demonstrations for how to use Excel to implement these analyses.

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|---|---|
| 9:00-11:45am

(break around 10:30) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What's average?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Central Tendency – What is typicalb. Dispersion – What is the distribution?2. How do I understand variation?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. The problem with common comparison strategiesb. Understanding variationc. Plot the dotsd. Process behavior charts for analysis3. What if the assumptions or key variables change?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Basic Sensitivity Analysisb. Excel What If Tools - Goal Seek, Data Tables, Scenarios4. Is there a relationship that helps explain variation?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Correlations and regression5. Can I forecast what the future might look like?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Straight line regressions for forecasting6. What needs to be random? |
| 11:45 am – 12:45pm | Lunch |
| 12:45 – 4:00pm

(break around 2:30) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Do we have the right amount of resources?<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Work standardsb. Staffing factor calculationsc. UHUsd. Demand analysise. Optimization8. What does it cost?<ol style="list-style-type: none">f. Cost of riskg. Inflationh. Cost of capitali. Full cost accountingj. Go away costsk. Life cycle costs9. Thinking Analytically |