

2014 ENBIS Challenge by JMP: Call for Contributions

ENBIS, in cooperation with JMP, is inviting students and young professionals interested in business and industrial statistics, and everybody who likes turning data into knowledge, to take part in the 2014 ENBIS Challenge by JMP.

The 2014 ENBIS Challenge by JMP is based on the UK Nationwide Consumer Confidence Index. This index was first used by the Nationwide Building Society (note that a building society is like a bank) in May 2004. The data was last collected in May 2012. The Challenge participants have access to the whole data set and also to a subset which shows the full data collection method. With the 2008 financial crisis, the dataset covers an interesting period of recent history in the UK, and in fact the whole world.

There are four indices of consumer confidence in the attached Excel file's sheet *Weighted Indices*. Challenge participants should centre their analysis on these indices, using all other data in the Excel file as a background. **Only the data provided in the framework of the 2014 ENBIS Challenge should be used to answer the following questions:**

1. Is consumer confidence linked to months in the year, for example, is there a holiday effect in August or December?
2. At what date did the crisis begin?
3. When did the first signs of the crisis show?
4. At what point in time do consumers start to think the situation is improving whereas in reality the situation is not improving?
5. Can we predict any of the indicators, or aspects of their performance, into the future?

Also: Create the best chart or assembly of multiple charts which separates what is common in the evolution of the four indices and what distinguishes them.

Any statistical software can be used in the 2014 ENBIS Challenge by JMP. If you would like to use JMP, please first check with your organization if you can get hold of a JMP license. If not, you have the following options:

- Individual users or teams can get short-term access by using the 30-day trial version available at www.jmp.com.
- For longer-term use in courses and for other requests please contact Volker.Kraft@jmp.com (allow four weeks lead time).

Please submit your solution per e-mail to enbis-challenge@enbis.org on or before June 30th, 2014, as a ZIP file named '2014 ENBIS Challenge_<YourFamilyNameHere>.zip'.

The submitted ZIP file should contain:

1. A Word or PDF file with your personal information (name, address, affiliation, e-mail) and the following details:
 - Name of software used for data exploration, statistics and modelling.
 - Self-assessment of software user proficiency (“Novice”, “Proficient”, “Expert”).
 - Frequency of software usage (“Several times a day”, “Several times, a week”, “Several times a Month”).
2. A Word or PDF report of **five to ten pages** detailing your findings. The report should be written in English and should answer all five questions, indicate the methods used and contain screenshots of key outputs (including charts).

The Challenge winners will be announced on July 30th, 2014. Certificates of participation will be awarded to all Challenge participants.

The Challenge Winner gets free attendance to ENBIS-14 in Linz (Austria) and will be reimbursed for ENBIS-14-related travel and accommodation costs of up to EUR 1,500.

The Second Prize is a book voucher of EUR 150.

The Third Prize is a book voucher of EUR 100.

Additional prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the ENBIS Challenge Committee.

ENBIS Permanent Office

A note for everyone who teaches the beauty of statistics and data analysis: please consider making the 2014 ENBIS Challenge by JMP part of your course and encourage your students to submit their reports in the competition. We would also be happy to accept small (2 or 3-people) team submissions!