**Daily Website Visitors**

**About Dataset**

**Context**

This file contains 5 years of daily time series data for several measures of traffic on a statistical forecasting teaching notes website whose alias is [statforecasting.com](http://statforecasting.com/). The variables have complex seasonality that is keyed to the day of the week and to the academic calendar. The patterns you you see here are similar in principle to what you would see in other daily data with day-of-week and time-of-year effects. Some good exercises are to develop a 1-day-ahead forecasting model, a 7-day ahead forecasting model, and an entire-next-week forecasting model (i.e., next 7 days) for unique visitors.

**Content**

The variables are daily counts of page loads, unique visitors, first-time visitors, and returning visitors to an academic teaching notes website. There are 2167 rows of data spanning the date range from September 14, 2014, to August 19, 2020. A visit is defined as a stream of hits on one or more pages on the site on a given day by the same user, as identified by IP address. Multiple individuals with a shared IP address (e.g., in a computer lab) are considered as a single user, so real users may be undercounted to some extent. A visit is classified as "unique" if a hit from the same IP address has not come within the last 6 hours. Returning visitors are identified by cookies if those are accepted. All others are classified as first-time visitors, so the count of unique visitors is the sum of the counts of returning and first-time visitors by definition. The data was collected through a traffic monitoring service known as StatCounter.