



2024 SMT® DATA CHALLENGE

SMT DATA CHALLENGE 2024

A unique feature of Major League Baseball is the incorporation of minor league teams into a multi-level farm system. Farm systems are used in myriad ways, such as rehab, player development (both internally and for trades), strategy testing etc.

This year's dataset will consist of multiple teams within a single farm system. We want you to consider a situation that compares players, teams, and/or game play at two or more levels. As with last year, we expect you to **frame your analysis as a story**. Show us how your work informs and contributes to others' knowledge of and appreciation for the game.

| NEW FOR 2024

- MLB TEAMS ARE USING THE DATA CHALLENGE TO RECRUIT NEW HIRES, AND WILL RECEIVE YOUR PROJECTS UPON SUBMISSION. **IF YOU WANT TO STAND OUT AS A POTENTIAL HIRE, NOW'S THE TIME!**
- SOME MLB TEAMS HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN HIRING PEOPLE WITH UI DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE. **PARTICIPANTS ARE THEREFORE ENCOURAGED TO DO PROJECTS THAT INCLUDE USER INTERFACES.**

| REGISTRATION (Due May 24)

[REGISTER HERE](#) or using the QR Code below.

Teams of up to four will compete in HS/Undergrad or Graduate Divisions.

NEW: OPTIONS TO HELP INDIVIDUALS FIND TEAMMATES!

Data will be made available on or after May 27.

| ELIGIBILITY

The Data Challenge is open to **STUDENTS ONLY**, who must be enrolled for the Fall 2024 semester. Participants must be at least 18 years of age.

| SUBMISSION (Due Aug 9)

- A narrative paper on your study in PDF format (max: 2000 words)
- Analysis code
- CSV containing results

REGISTER



(DUE MAY 24)

| JUDGING

A panel of people from academia, industry, journalism, and sports (including team executives, players, umpires, scouts etc.) will judge your submissions based on the following criteria:

- How rich and textured is the question being asked?
- How applicable is the analysis?
- How appropriate were the methods used?
- How specific and narrative was the topic of investigation?
- How well did you communicate your findings? This includes both written text and visualizations. How did the use of facts, data-supported narratives, anecdotes, visual aids, etc. buttress storytelling?

| FINALISTS (Announced Oct 7)

Three finalists from each division will present their work at a conference TBD.

| **QUESTIONS?** CONTACT SMT.DATACHALLENGE@SMT.COM

| IMPORTANT DATES

MAY 24: REGISTRATION DEADLINE

DATA AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER MAY 27.

AUG 9: SUBMISSION DEADLINE

OCT 7: FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

FINALIST PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCE TBD.

OPTIONAL ANALYSIS DEMO/Q&A SESSIONS:

- JUNE 5
- JUNE 19
- JULY 10

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS AVAILABLE:

MAY 28 – AUG 8