

## Lab – Explore a Large Dataset

### Objectives

Explore a sample dataset to view the power of Big Data.

### Background / Scenario

Before data can become meaningful information, it needs to be processed.

### Required Resources

- PC with access to the Internet

#### Step 1: Locate a large, free, searchable database.

- a. Click [here](#) to access the United States Department of Agriculture Statistics Service database.
  - b. Select: Quick Stats (Searchable Database)  
Notice the status in the top right hand corner. How many records are currently in the database?
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#### Step 2: Select Categories

- a) From the categories select:

Program: Census  
Sector: Animals & Products  
Group: Poultry  
Commodity: Ducks  
Category: Inventory  
Data Item: Ducks – Inventory  
Geographic Level: State  
State: Alaska

Next, select: Get Data

What was the inventory of ducks in Alaska in 2012?

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Select the Back button and change the state to Hawaii. Ensure that the year is still 2012.  
What was the inventory of ducks in Hawaii in 2012?

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- b) If you owned a company that required ducks, how would this database be of use to the company?
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