

Understanding the Role of Evidence Across the Federal Government



Mission:

To assist the President in meeting policy, budget, management, and regulatory objectives and to fulfill the agency's statutory responsibilities.

History:

OMB was originally established in 1921 as the Bureau of the Budget (BOB) within the Department of the Treasury. It functioned under the supervision of the President. In 1939, the office was transferred to the newly created Executive Office of the President (EOP). BOB was redesignated in 1970 as OMB.

Speakers:



Diana Epstein is the Evidence Team Lead at the OMB. She earned her Ph.D. in policy analysis at the Pardee RAND Graduate School and has been at the OMB for seven years. She was previously a research and evaluation manager at the Corporation for National and Community Service, and a program evaluator and policy analyst at Abt Associates, the American Institutes for Research, and the RAND Corporation.



Erica Zielewski is a Senior Evidence Analyst at the OMB. She obtained her Master's in Public Policy from Georgetown University and has been at the OMB for six years. Prior to OMB, she held various roles at the Administration for Children and Families in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Director of the Division of Data and Improvement and Employment and Training Team Lead, and began her career at the Urban Institute.

OMB Background Information



The OMB Evidence Team produces and uses evidence to evaluate individual federal agencies. By collaborating with each agency to coordinate and support data collection, the OMB Evidence Team aims to improve operational decision-making and translate research evidence to practice and policy.

The Evidence Act

Passed in 2018, the Evidence Act designates personnel to ensure evidence and evaluation are incorporated into federal agencies' budget, policy, and management decisions and federal dollars are directed to the most effective programs to improve the well-being of communities across the country.

Podcast

The OMB Evidence Team on Evidence-Based Policymaking and Federal Evaluation

FABBS Activities



Federation of Associations in
Behavioral & Brain Sciences

- FABBS response to OMB RFI on Race and Ethnicity Standards in Data
- CNSF Letter to OMB and OSTP on NSF Funding for FY25
- FABBS held annual meeting with budget examiners from NIH and NSF