

## **Statistics and Internet in Italy: CIRDIS Website and CIRDIS Teaching Materials**

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CIRDIS is an Italian Interuniversity Research Centre for Statistical Education located at the Universities of Padova, Palermo, Perugia and “Roma la Sapienza”. The Centre, constituted on 1991, has the general objective of promoting the development of research on statistical education in Italy, especially at the undergraduate level. For this purpose the Centre: carries out research on statistical education; develops teaching materials; carries out statistical training courses for school teachers.

The Centre has recently renewed its internet site (<http://cirdis.stat.unipg.it>) to meet teachers’ increasing demand for an effective teaching of statistics in Italian schools. The site, which has been visited since April 2003 about 8.000 times, is an environment from which teachers and students can find information on Centre’s activities and can get a valuable support to motivate and improve the learning of statistics, by accessing to a wide variety of resources and links.

The site contains materials to help teaching statistics in an active way, with a multidisciplinary approach, so showing the importance for every citizen of being statistically literate.

The section “Teaching/learning resources” aims at providing real datasets and teaching materials from a variety of subjects, in order to give teachers interesting examples for their statistics course. Many of the teaching resources available on the site have been developed by CIRDIS researchers.

The poster will show a general description of the CIRDIS website and a detailed description of a selection of teaching materials:

- Antropometric data: a data set from a survey carried out in a Italian school since 1994;
- “Aspects of everyday life: a school survey to learn statistics”, a teaching guide for developing an introductory statistics course at the upper secondary schools. The guide had been written for a large experimentation carried out within the national research project “New strategies for learning statistics at school”;
- “Data handling”, a series of teaching units for teaching statistics at elementary and lower upper secondary school level;
- “CIRDISIM”, a computer simulation for understanding statistical sampling concepts;
- “Beyond the formula: understanding the normal curve with Excel”.
- “The Galton Board: an interactive experience”, a hypertext to learn the Normal Distribution through its history”.

A more detailed description will be given in the poster presentation. A demo of the materials still under development will be organized, for those interested to them.