

FFC/2025: The 26th Federal Forecasters Conference

- Date:** Thursday, October 9, 2025
- Location:** Elliott School of International Affairs, The George Washington University, Washington, DC
(Registration details to follow)
- Schedule:** 9:00 am–4:30 pm
(Plenary and concurrent session schedule to follow)
- Abstract Submissions Due:** Monday June 16, 2025 to ericsson@gwu.edu
(PDF submissions only, please).
- Additional Information:** <https://cer.columbian.gwu.edu/federal-forecasters-consortium>

Conference Theme: Risks and Opportunities of AI and ML in Forecasting

Forecasters rely increasingly on AI and machine learning to navigate rapidly evolving environments with complex and uncertain events. From global pandemics and geopolitical conflicts to shifting trade dynamics, economic crises, and natural disasters, these events present both challenges and opportunities for forecasting. AI and machine learning offer powerful tools to enhance predictive accuracy, identify emerging trends, and integrate vast and unconventional data sources. However, they also may introduce new risks, biases, and difficulties in the interpretability of the results. The 2025 Federal Forecasters Conference will explore how forecasters are leveraging AI and machine learning to improve forecasting in dynamic, rapidly changing environments. Can these methodologies decrease forecast errors and enhance decision-making? What best practices ensure transparency, reliability, and replicability for AI-driven forecasts? How can AI-generated insights be effectively communicated to policymakers?

FFC/2024: The 25th Federal Forecasters Conference

CALL FOR PAPERS

The FFC Board invites you to present a paper at one of the afternoon concurrent sessions. Please note, papers are not restricted to the official conference theme and may cover any subject relating to forecasting or estimation. Presentations will be in person only. Individual presentations will be limited to 15 to 20 minutes in length. Please send your abstract of 100 or fewer words **as a PDF** to Neil R. Ericsson (FFC chair) at: ericsson@gwu.edu with the subject "FFC Abstract Submission" by Monday June 16, 2025. Decisions on submissions will be sent to authors by the end of June.

Suggested Presentation Topics for the Afternoon Sessions

- **Scenario analysis as forecasts in policy-making**
- **Forecast evaluations**
- **Case studies: Using forecasts in policy decision making**
- **Forecast methodologies**
- **Forecast process: How can it be improved?**
- **Forecasting with limited resources**
- **Federal forecasters and their customers**
- **General topics in forecasting**

FFC Forecasting Contest

Stay tuned for more details about the FFC forecasting contest, including a link to the submission form. The contest is open to everyone. For more information contact: Sloboda.Brian.W@dol.gov.

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The George Washington University: H.O. Stekler Research Program on Forecasting, AI Economics Program, Department of Economics, and Institute for International Economic Policy, Elliott School of International Affairs

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