



Granite State Newsletter – April 2026

CONTENTS

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT	1
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR.....	1
MEETING AND EDUCATION SUMMARY CALENDAR	2
GRANITE STATE MEMBER MEETINGS	2
NEARBY SECTION EVENTS	3
ASQ CONFERENCES.....	4
GRANITE STATE MEMBER CERTIFICATIONS.....	4
ASQ CERTIFICATION EXAM SCHEDULE ...	4
GRANITE STATE MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR PAPERS.....	5
THE MARCH 2026 SLT MEETING	5
THE 2026 SLT	5
CALL FOR SLT MEMBERS	6
SECTION METRICS.....	6
SECTION DEMOGRAPHICS.....	6
CALL FOR SPEAKERS.....	7
CALL FOR AUTHORS.....	7
QUALITY QUESTION	7
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	8
SECTION METRICS INFORMATION.....	11

SECTION MISSION STATEMENT

To be recognized as the primary source for information and education in the Quality Sciences in the States of New Hampshire and Maine.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

March saw our first membership meetings for the year, one in New Hampshire and one in Maine. We have speakers for the April and May meetings in both New Hampshire and Maine. See the Granite State Member Meetings section below.

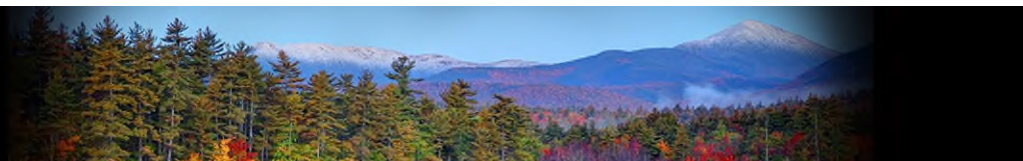
Collaboration with others is important, so we are working with other sections and with ASQ divisions. We have a joint meeting scheduled in May with Merrimack Valley.

We are planning our next installment of the Granite State Quality Reading Group where we pick one article from Quality Progress and invite a discussion on myASQ.

The section continues to announce on-line events from other sections and divisions. This gives our members opportunities to earn RUs without having to travel. If you know of an ASQ on-line event of interest to members let us know by contacting the Chair.

There are many opportunities to get involved. We need people to speak at Membership Meetings, present at Educational Events, and write Professional Development articles for the newsletter. To become involved please contact Dan O’Leary, the Section Chair, at doleary@memberleader.asq.org

Dan O’Leary CMDA, CQA, CQE, CRE, CSSBB
Chair, Granite State Section



MEETING AND EDUCATION SUMMARY CALENDAR

Date	Topic	Section	Method
April 15, 2026	Root Cause Investigation for CAPA	Merrimack Valley	On-line
April 16, 2026	Your World is Not Red or Green – Best Practices in Data Display	Granite State Meeting Maine	In-person
April 16, 2026	How to Define the Right KPIs for Your Supply Chain and Escape the KPI Paradox	Worcester	On-line
April 21, 2026	Upcoming Changes to ISO 9001 Standard & How It Affects Your Organization	Granite State Meeting New Hampshire	In-person
April 30, 2026	North Jersey Spring Quality Conference 2026, with the theme "The Human Side of Artificial Intelligence"	North Jersey	On-line Full Day
April 30, 2026	Rhode Island Mini-conference	Rhode Island	In-person Full Day
May 14, 2026	AI in Action: Enhancing Risk Based Audit Planning	Granite State Meeting Maine	In-person
May 21, 2026	Root Cause Analyses (RCA) and Corrective and Preventive Actions (CAPA)	Worcester	On-line
May 26, 2026	Use of AI in QMS (agentic AI)	Granite State Meeting Joint with Merrimack Valley	In-person
June 18, 2026	Transition to ISO 9001	Worcester	In-person
October 22, 2026	VQ2026 conference.	Vermont	In-person Full Day

GRANITE STATE MEMBER MEETINGS

Thursday April 16, 2026

Meeting in Maine

Your World is Not Red or Green – Best Practices in Data Display by Rip Stauffer

Venue: Hilton Garden Inn Portland Airport

145 Jetport Blvd

Portland, ME 04102

Networking: 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Presentation: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration: <https://mp.gg/hw8dkp9tys>

Tuesday April 21, 2026

Meeting in New Hampshire

Upcoming Changes to ISO 9001 Standard & How It Affects Your Organization by Laura Halleck

Venue: Puritan Backroom – Canotas Room

245 Hooksett Rd

Manchester, NH 03104

Networking: 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Presentation: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration: <https://mp.gg/gl6ynl91>



Thursday May 14, 2026

Meeting in Maine

AI in Action: Enhancing Risk Based Audit Planning by Laura Halleck

Venue: Hilton Garden Inn Portland Airport

145 Jetport Blvd

Portland, ME 04102

Networking: 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Presentation: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration: <https://mp.gg/ficrfzavp>

Tuesday May 26, 2026

Meeting in New Hampshire

Case Study: Engineering Safety for AI-Enabled Medical Applications by Attrayee Chakraborty

Venue: Lenzi's Catering & Function Facility

810 Merrimack Ave

Dracut, MA 01826

Networking: 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Dinner: 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Presentation: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration: <https://mp.gg/ssxvwgrbo>

NEARBY SECTION EVENTS

Merrimack Valley Section

Date: April 15, 2026 on-line section meeting from 6:30 to 8:00 PM Eastern time

Topic: Root Cause Investigation for CAPA

Presenter: Rob Weaver, the president of Weaver Consulting

Registration: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/evafk0R0REi0AagLefQQiW>

North Jersey Section

SQC 2026 a free one-day on-line conference on Thursday April 30th, 2026, from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. For more information go to <https://www.asqnorthjersey.org/products/spring-quality-conference/>

Rhode Island Section

The Rhode Island section will hold its Mini-Conference on Thursday, April 30, 2026.

The cost is \$199 and includes both breakfast and lunch.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/riasq1>

Vermont Section

VQ2026 a one-day in-person conference on October 22, 2026 in South Burlington, VT.

The call for speakers closes on May 1, 2026. For a submission form contact doleary@memberleader.asq.org



Worcester Section

Date: April 16, 2026, Time: 12 PM to 1 PM EST

Topic: How to Define the Right KPIs for Your Supply Chain and Escape the KPI Paradox

Presenter: Manickavasagam Natarajan Quality & Manufacturing Expert | Digital Transformation Advocate |
LinkedIn Global Influencer

ZOOM link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/my/qpsinc>

ZOOM MEETING ID: 7906904984

For questions, contact Jay P Patel: jayp@qpsinc.com

Date: May 21, 2026, Time: 12 PM to 1 PM EST

Topic: Root Cause Analyses (RCA) and Corrective and Preventive Actions (CAPA)

Presenter: Steven S Prevette, ASQ Fellow, Lecturer at Southern Illinois University

ZOOM link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/my/qpsinc>

ZOOM MEETING ID: 7906904984

For questions, contact Jay P Patel: jayp@qpsinc.com

ASQ CONFERENCES

World Conference on Quality & Improvement

May 17 - 20, 2026

Orlando, FL – In Person

2026 Audit Division Conference

September 23 – 24, 2026

Rosemont, IL – In Person

For more information on these events go to <https://asq.org/events>

GRANITE STATE MEMBER CERTIFICATIONS

If you recently received a new ASQ certification, please let us know. The Section would like to congratulate you in the newsletter. Send your name, the new certification, and your current certifications to Dan O’Leary doleary@memberleader.asq.org.

Congratulations to **Laura Halleck** who recently earned a CQA!

ASQ CERTIFICATION EXAM SCHEDULE

Certification: CQT, CQI, CRE, CFSQA, CMDA, CMQ/OE, CSSBB, CSSYB, CSQP

Testing Window	Application Deadline
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May 1 - 31, 2026	April 13, 2026
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July 1 - 31, 2026	June 8, 2026
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September 1 - 30, 2026	August 10, 2026
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Certification: CQA, CQE, CQIA, CSQE, CSSGB, CQPA, CCT, CPGP, CCQM

Testing Window Application Deadline

June 1 - 30, 2026 May 11, 2026

August 1 - 31, 2026 July 13, 2026

October 1 - 31, 2026 September 14, 2026

To apply, go to <https://www.asq.org/cert/dates>

Download the *ASQE Candidate Handbook and Application Process* from

<https://p.widencdn.net/j5hi1o/Certification-Candidate-Handbook>

GRANITE STATE MEMBER PRESENTATIONS OR PAPERS

If you recently published a paper, made a presentation, or spoke at a professional society meeting, please let us know. The Section would like to congratulate you. Send your name, and the information about your accomplishment to Dan O'Leary doleary@memberleader.asq.org.

THE MARCH 2026 SLT MEETING

Granite State members are welcome to participate in the Section Leadership Team, SLT, meetings and to join the SLT. Contact Dan O'Leary doleary@memberleader.asq.org.

The Granite State SLT met on March 10, 2026.

- The section's account balance is \$11,326.62.
- We welcomed Peter Heang, the Program Chair for Maine. He is the first SLT member from Maine.
- The discussion included:
 - 3 spring membership meetings in NH
 - 3 spring membership meetings in ME
 - The spring education program (courses and webinars)
 - Continue the quarterly Quality Reading Group

THE 2026 SLT

The 2026 Section Leadership Team, SLT, is:

Chair	Dan O'Leary
Secretary	Sarah Matloff
Treasurer	Charles Killam
Arrangements	Dan O'Leary
Database	Dan O'Leary
Education	Dan O'Leary
Member at Large	Scott Neal
Member at Large	Chris Carr
Membership	Dustin Dulac



Newsletter	Dan O’Leary
Nominating Committee	Bharat Arora
Program Chair - NH	Sai Ranjith Ramakrishnan
Program Chair – ME	Peter Heang
VoC Chair	Dan O’Leary

CALL FOR SLT MEMBERS

Granite State is looking for members who would like to join the Section Leadership Team, SLT. It is a volunteer position to help manage the section. SLT members are involved in the planning and operation that make the section a success.

Members who live in Maine are particularly welcome as we work to support that geography.

If you are interested in joining the SLT, please contact the Chair by e-mail at doleary@memberleader.asq.org. Volunteers can earn recertification units, RUs, for membership on the SLT.

SECTION METRICS

The Section metrics help measure success against the plans for 2026. The results are in a Red/Yellow/Green format scorecard. Information on the metrics is in the last section of the newsletter.

Cells have no fill until the first scheduled event. Sparklines provide the trend.

Metric	Target	Sparklines	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Members	150 or more		208	201	208	191								
Member Retention Rate	Percentage ≥ 95%		88.9%	94.7%	100.0%	88.0%								
Account Balance	\$10,000 or more		\$11,716.93	\$12,244.27	\$11,326.62	\$11,175.77								
Meetings Held - NH	6 or more				Yes									
Meetings Held - ME	6 or more				Yes									
Event with another section or division	1 or more events													
Event with another professional society	1 or more events													
Chair's Message	One each month		Yes	Yes	Yes									
Newsletters Published	8 or more			Yes	Yes									
Full-day workshops in NH	1 or more workshops													
Full-day workshops in ME	1 or more workshops													
On-line courses held	1 or more courses													
Webinars held	3 or more													

SECTION DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics from the April membership list are below.
Members by State (US only)

State	Count	Percent
NH	127	66.5%
ME	39	20.4%
MA	16	8.4%
VT	3	1.6%



NM	2	1.0%
WI	2	1.0%
AR	1	0.5%
FL	1	0.5%
Total	191	100.0%

Members by membership type

Member Type	Count	Percent
Professional Membership	134	70.2%
Senior Membership	38	19.9%
Retired Senior Membership	15	7.9%
Retired Professional Membership	2	1.0%
Student Membership	2	1.0%
Total	191	100.0%

CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Granite State is planning its in-person membership meetings for 2026 and seeks presenters.

If you are working on a project, have an interesting case study, developed an exciting approach to a quality tool, implemented an AI application, are experienced with a standard, or knowledgeable about some quality topic, then your Granite State colleagues are interested in learning about it. If you would like to present at a meeting please contact Dan O’Leary at doleary@memberleader.asq.org (or dan_judie@msn.com).

CALL FOR AUTHORS

Granite State members are invited to write a Professional Development article for our newsletter. Submit your draft article to doleary@memberleader.asq.org.

In addition to recognition by other section members, writing an article can refine your skills and may support your ASQ certification. Become a recognized subject matter expert and showcase your knowledge.

QUALITY QUESTION

This area of the newsletter responds to quality questions from Granite State members. The question could be about best practices, implementing a method, using a statistical technique, *etc.* Submit your quality question to Dan O’Leary, doleary@memberleader.asq.org.

Question: At a recent Granite State meeting the speaker mentioned the ISO 10000 series. Can you provide more information?

Response: The ISO 10000 Series extends the ISO 9000 series. The ISO 10000 series covers many aspects of quality management. The series also applies to other management standards such as ISO 13485:2019 for medical devices. The standards in the series are:



ISO 10001:2018 Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for codes of conduct for organizations

ISO 10002:2018 Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for complaints handling in organizations

ISO 10003:2018 Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for dispute resolution external to organizations

ISO 10004:2018 Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidelines for monitoring and measuring

ISO 10005:2018 Quality management - Guidelines for quality plans

ISO 10006:2017 Quality management - Guidelines for quality management in projects

ISO 10007:2017 Quality management - Guidelines for configuration management

ISO 10008:2022 Quality management - Customer satisfaction - Guidance for business-to-consumer electronic commerce transactions

ISO 10012:2026 Quality management — Requirements for measurement management systems

ISO/TR 10013:2001 Guidelines for quality management system documentation

ISO 10014:2021 Quality management systems - Managing an organization for quality results - Guidance for realizing financial and economic benefits

ISO 10015:1999 Quality management - Guidelines for training

ISO 10017:2021 Quality management - Guidance on statistical techniques for ISO 9001:2015

ISO 10018:2020 Quality management - Guidance for people engagement

ISO 10019:2005 Guidelines for the selection of quality management system consultants and use of their services

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Linear Regression

Dan O'Leary CMDA, CQA, CQE, CRE, CSSBB

Certified Quality Engineer BoK

VI. Quantitative Methods and Tools

E. Relationships Between Variables

1. Linear Regression



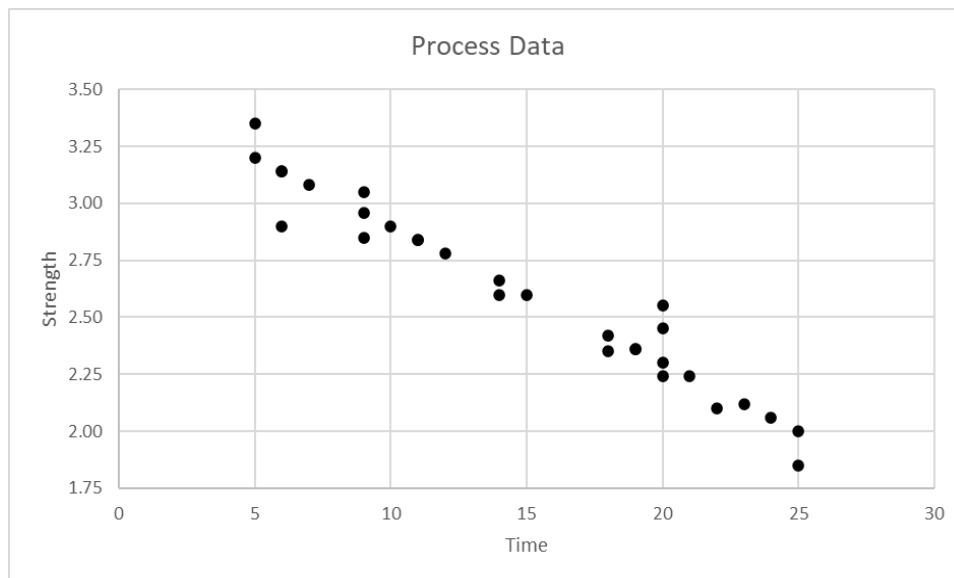
Calculate simple linear regression models. Illustrate hypothesis tests for regression statistics. Use linear regression models for estimation and prediction.

Regression is a broad category of tools to help understand the relationship between two or more variables. The variables could be related by a quadratic equation, an exponential equation, a linear equation, *etc.* In linear regression a straight line (linear equation) describes the relationship. In simple linear regression there are only two variables involved. One is the independent variable, usually denoted by x , and the other is the dependent variable, usually denoted by y . The concept is that the independent variable “controls” the dependent variable.

Start with a scatter plot, to determine the type of regression to use. If the points seem to line up around a straight line, then simple linear regression is a good candidate.

Brigid is a Quality Engineer investigating the relationship between processing time and strength in a production process. She has this data set and wants to try regression analysis as one element in her investigation. To help decide she makes a scatter plot using Excel.

Time	Strength	Time	Strength	Time	Strength
11	2.84	9	2.85	25	1.85
5	3.20	5	3.35	6	3.14
22	2.1	14	2.60	9	2.96
23	2.12	18	2.35	20	2.30
20	2.55	6	3.14	14	2.66
20	2.24	9	3.05	19	2.36
10	2.90	24	2.06	21	2.24
19	2.36	25	2.00	7	3.08
15	2.60	12	2.78	11	2.84
18	2.42	6	2.90	20	2.45



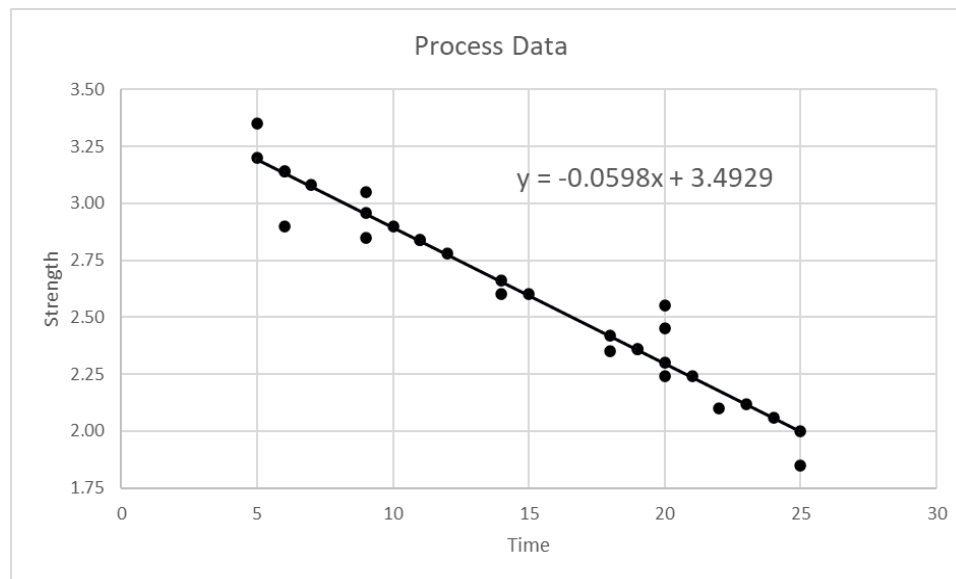


Looking at the scatter plot she decides to use linear regression. Because there are two variables, it is a simple linear regression.

The next step is to determine the equation of the straight line. Excel uses the least squares method, which is the common approach. The method calculates the difference between the predicted value and the actual value based on a straight line. It squares each error and adds them. The coefficients of the straight line give the smallest (least) sum of these squares. Excel handles all the underlying equations and gives the results.

The equation for a straight line is often written as $y = mx + b$, where m is the slope of the line and b is the intercept (where it crosses the y-axis). In a more statistically oriented setting the equation is written as $y = b_0 + b_1x$.

Excel can draw the linear regression line on the scatter plot and add the equation.



Brigid would like to predict strength with a processing time of 3 and 17.

While the parameters of the straight line are on the graph, they are not in cells to use in calculations. However, Excel provides functions to compute them.

Slope

Returns the slope of the linear regression line through data points in known_y's and known_x's.

SLOPE(known_y's, known_x's)

Notice the order of the variables.

Intercept

Calculates the point at which a line will intersect the y-axis by using existing x-values and y-values.

INTERCEPT(known_y's, known_x's)

Notice the order of the variables.

Using the calculated slope and intercept, Brigid makes the following predictions:

Time	Strength
3	3.31
17	2.48

SECTION METRICS INFORMATION

Members – The number of members in the section based on the monthly membership list.

- Green 150 or more members
- Yellow 125 to 150 members
- Red fewer than 125 members

Member Retention Rate – The number of retained members for the month divided by the total number of members for the prior month, expressed as a percentage.

- Green 95% or greater
- Yellow 92% to 95%
- Red less than 92%

Account Balance – The Bill Highway account balance at the beginning of the month.

- Green \$10,000 or more
- Yellow \$8,500 to \$10,000
- Red less than \$8,500

Meetings Held-NH – The number of in-person meetings held in NH. Joint meetings with another section, division, or professional society count regardless of the location.

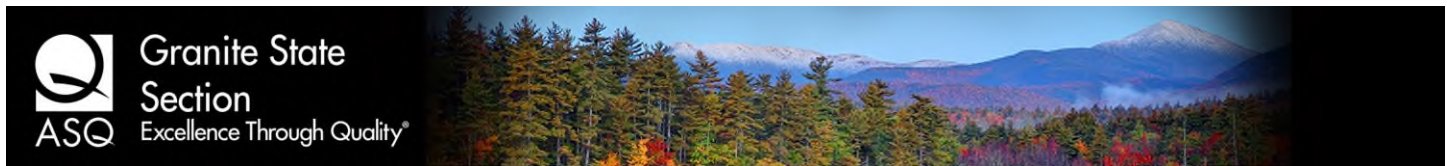
- Green 4 or more meetings
- Yellow 3 meetings
- Red 2 or fewer meetings

Meetings Held-ME – The number of in-person meetings held in ME. Joint meetings with another section, division, or professional society count regardless of the location.

- Green 4 or more meetings
- Yellow 3 meetings
- Red 2 or fewer meetings

Event with another section or division – The number of joint events with another part of ASQ.

- Green Event held
- Red No event held



Event with another professional society – The number of joint events with an organization outside ASQ.

Green Event held

Red No event held

Chair's message – Chair's message posted on myASQ and included in the newsletter when it is published.

Green 12 months

Yellow 10 or 11 postings

Red 9 or fewer postings

Newsletters Published – The number of Granite State newsletters published

Green 8 or more newsletters

Yellow 7 or 6 newsletters

Red 5 or fewer newsletters

Full day workshops in NH – The number of full-day workshops held in NH

Green 1 or more workshops held

Red No workshops held

Full day workshops in ME – The number of full-day workshops held in ME

Green 1 or more workshops held

Red No workshops held

On-line courses held – The number of on-line courses held

Green 1 or more on-line courses held

Red No courses held

Webinars held – The number of webinars held

Green 3 or more webinars

Yellow 1 or 2 webinars

Red 0 webinars