



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
AND BUDGET

**STATISTICAL
PROGRAMS
OF THE
UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT**

FISCAL YEAR

2016



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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

September 30, 2015

The Honorable John A. Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing to transmit Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2016 report, which is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The report can be found at https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/assets/information_and_regulatory_affairs/statistical-programs-2016.pdf; a published print copy of the report will follow.

The data provided by our Federal statistical sources provide critical support for policy-making, program management, and evaluation. By placing evidence-driven decisions at the heart of its agenda, the Administration is underscoring the role that Federal statistics play in the policymaking process. As the Administration aims to tackle longstanding challenges in an era of scarce resources, it is especially critical that support for these relevant, accurate, and objective data is reflected in budgetary decisions. Having access to quality, unbiased data allows the Federal Government to make reasoned, disciplined decisions about where to target our resources to get the biggest possible return on our investment.

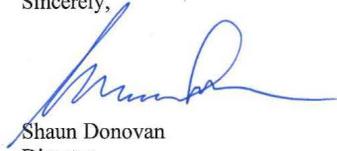
The share of budgetary resources spent on supporting Federal statistics is relatively modest, but that funding is leveraged to inform crucial decisions in a wide variety of spheres. Federal data are used to drive and measure activities ranging from shaping monetary policy at the Federal Reserve (the Federal Reserve relies on employment and price change data as well as other economic indicators to set monetary policy) to influencing program design and allocation mechanisms (many Federal programs rely on data such as population estimates, the Consumer Price Index, and Federal poverty thresholds) to informing the economic and risk-assessment research used in regulatory policy and benefit-cost analyses. The 127 statistical programs described in this report are "building new knowledge" in support of the Administration's evidence-building efforts. These agencies span the continuum-from setting national benchmarks through official Federal statistics to performing the cost-benefit analyses used for policy making and budget planning and the evaluation of programs needed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Federal programs.

In this constrained fiscal environment, 19 percent of the statistical programs described in this report were appropriated less funding than was requested in the President's FY 2015 budget. So, too, actual funding in FY 2014 decreased among 16 percent of statistical programs, compared to requested amounts. To accommodate reduced funding levels while preserving core information products, these programs have reduced or postponed statistical activities, and have cut staff hiring

and training. Should these cuts continue, agencies' long-range plans for modernizing Federal statistical programs to improve the accessibility and timeliness of information may be affected adversely.

The Office of Management and Budget looks forward to working closely with the Congress to build a 21st Century system of statistical measurement for our Nation and to preserve the availability of relevant, accurate, and objective data on which Americans depend to inform their decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shaun Donovan", is written over the typed name and title.

Shaun Donovan
Director

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to The President of the Senate

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INTRODUCTION

Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2016 outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's Budget.

This report fulfills a responsibility of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(2)) to prepare an annual report on statistical program funding. The annual report provides Congress with a consolidated source for key budgetary and programmatic information about the Federal statistical system.

The report has four chapters. Chapter 1 discusses the value of Federal statistics, describes the structure of the Federal statistical system, and provides a summary of the budget for statistical programs, including purchases and reimbursements, for FY 2014-2016. Chapter 2 provides details about principal statistical agency programs, highlights the effect of congressional action on FY 2014 and 2015 budget requests, and identifies major program changes planned for FY 2016. Chapter 3 describes other significant statistical programs of Federal agencies and identifies major program changes anticipated in FY 2016. Chapter 4 describes ongoing efforts to maintain and improve Federal statistical programs, including the development and periodic revision of statistical standards and guidelines, selected interagency initiatives to improve the quality and usefulness of the Nation's statistical products, and various collaborations among Federal statistical agencies to promote efficiencies in statistical production. The appendices include information on the staffing levels for the principal statistical agencies, and a list of acronyms for departments and agencies featured in this report.

This report is available in electronic form. The electronic version can be accessed on the Internet through the OMB web site: www.WhiteHouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/. Users also may access editions of the *Statistical Programs* report from prior years. Suggestions to improve the electronic accessibility of this report may be sent to BlueBook@omb.eop.gov.

Please direct any inquiries regarding report content or policy to Katherine K. Wallman, U.S. Chief Statistician, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. 20503.

CHAPTER 1: OVERVIEW OF THE FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM AND STATISTICAL PROGRAM BUDGETS

This chapter describes the value of Federal statistics as a public good, the structure of the Federal statistical system, and the budget for major Federal statistical programs for fiscal years (FY) 2014-2016. It highlights the effects of congressional action on the President's FY 2015 budget request and anticipated differences in proposed funding for FY 2016. The chapter concludes with a description of statistical work performed by agencies on a reimbursable basis and agency purchases of statistical services and products.¹

THE VALUE OF FEDERAL STATISTICS

Statistical activities span a wide range of tasks. At their core, *statistical activities* include the collection, processing, or tabulation of statistical data for publication, dissemination, research, analysis, or program management and evaluation.² The share of budget resources spent on supporting Federal statistical activities is relatively modest—about 0.04 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in non-Decennial Census years and roughly double that in Decennial Census years. Yet, the data provided by Federal statistical programs provide critical support for both public and private-sector policymaking, program management, and program evaluation.

A sense of this value can be obtained in some instances by comparing the dollars spent on providing key statistics to the dollars that such statistics drive in the economy and society. For example, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' prices and cost-of-living programs—including the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the Producer Price Index, the Consumer Expenditure Survey, and related activities—had an estimated budget authority of \$206.0 million enacted for FY 2015.³ Output from the CPI component of the program is used for annual cost-of-living adjustments to payments for retirees and other beneficiaries under Social Security. Social Security provided \$72.5 billion in benefits to 59.4 million people in April 2015⁴. Eligible Social Security payments increased in January 2015 by 1.7 percent, based on the cost-of-living adjustment using 2014 CPI data. Annual changes in the CPI also affect changes in commercial and residential rents, public and private-sector wages, and components of the Federal income tax code. Reports of monthly changes in the CPI are a major input for Federal Reserve Board decisions in setting short-term interest rates and to financial decisions throughout the public and private sectors. There are other such examples of consequential statistics throughout government and the economy.

¹ The FY 2016 budget information described here is drawn from the President's budget as submitted to the Congress and does not reflect actual appropriations.

² Statistical activities described in this report also include planning of statistical surveys and studies, including project design, sample design and selection, and design of questionnaires, forms, or other techniques of observation and data collection; training of statisticians, interviewers, or data processing personnel; publication or dissemination of statistical data and studies; methodological testing or statistical research; data analysis; forecasts or projections that are published or otherwise made available for government-wide or public use; statistical tabulation, dissemination, or publication of data collected by others; construction of secondary data series or development of models that are an integral part of generating statistical series or forecasts; management or coordination of statistical operations; and statistical consulting.

³ See <http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2016/PDF/CBJ-2016-V3-01.pdf>.

⁴ See http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts/stat_snapshot/index.html.

Some statistical programs may lack such clear links to public and private-sector financial outlays, but they nonetheless serve other key purposes. These statistical programs provide information to inform policymakers and the public about the social and economic health of the Nation, States, Tribes, territories, and localities. For example, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) provides estimates of GDP not only for the Nation each quarter, but also for these smaller geographies each year. The Census Bureau's American Community Survey provides critical economic, social, demographic, and housing information for every community in the U.S. every year. The information is used to help determine how more than \$400 billion in Federal and State funds are distributed each year.⁵ Local governments use the information to plan community development projects, to determine where services and programs are needed, and for transportation planning. Businesses use the information to determine where to locate or expand.

Other statistical programs provide empirical evidence for developing and evaluating Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, local, and private-sector programs. For example, the American Housing Survey, sponsored by the Office for Policy Development and Research in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and conducted by the Census Bureau, provides valuable data on housing conditions and housing finance which inform housing policy. The Commercial Buildings and Residential Energy Consumption Surveys, sponsored by the Energy Information Administration, provide critical data for public and private-sector policymaking on end uses of various types of energy for heating, cooling, and information technology.

Still other statistical programs provide estimates of key variables for essential social science research that then informs the public and policymakers. For example, the National Long Term Care Survey, funded by the National Institute on Aging, produced unexpected findings of declining disability rates for older Americans over time, which have had implications for understanding work-to-retirement transitions and the need for medical care for the elderly.

In sum, Federal statistics yield relevant, accurate, and objective information upon which government and private decisions are made. Absent the Nation's relatively modest investment to produce Federal statistical products, both public and private decision makers would have significantly less quantitative evidence on which to base their choices.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

The U.S. has a highly decentralized statistical system, spanning 127⁶ agencies⁷ spread across the Government, all of which are engaged, to some degree, in collecting data and producing statistics.

Principal Statistical Agencies

A Federal *statistical agency* is an agency or organizational unit of the Executive Branch whose activities are predominantly the collection, compilation, processing, or analysis of in-

⁵ See http://www.census.gov/acs/www/about_the_survey/american_community_survey/.

⁶ This count is based on current records, and may not reflect newly emerging statistical programs that meet inclusion criteria described in this section, and of which we are not yet aware.

⁷ Compared to the FY 2015 report, this volume omits two Federal agencies (National Institute of Standards and Technology and Veterans Administration Board of Veterans' Appeals) that no longer meet the inclusion criteria of \$500,000 in estimated or direct funding for statistical activities in the forthcoming or either of the past two fiscal years. Two additional agencies (National Institute of General Medical Services and Veterans Administration Office of Inspector General) now meet the inclusion criteria and have been added.

formation for statistical purposes.⁸ A substantial portion of our official statistics is produced by the 13 agencies that have statistical work as their principal mission. Excluding funding for the Decennial Census (\$919.3 million requested for the Decennial Census for FY 2016), approximately 38 percent (\$2,486.9 million of the \$6,486.6 million total proposed for FY 2016 in the President’s budget request) of overall funding for Federal statistical activities provides resources for these 13 agencies. The principal statistical agencies are: Bureau of Economic Analysis; Bureau of Justice Statistics; Bureau of Labor Statistics; Bureau of Transportation Statistics; Census Bureau; Economic Research Service; Energy Information Administration; National Agricultural Statistics Service; National Center for Education Statistics; National Center for Health Statistics; National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics; Office of Research, Evaluation and Statistics (SSA); and Statistics of Income (IRS).

Other Statistical Programs of Federal Agencies

The remaining 62 percent of total resources for statistical work is allocated to some 114 programs in the Executive Branch that conduct these activities in conjunction with another program mission, such as providing services (for example, medical care benefits for the elderly and the poor) or enforcing regulations (for example, with respect to the environment, transportation, or occupational safety). These statistical programs are housed in components within a Federal department or other agency. Thus, a broad set of centers, institutes, and organizations are represented in this report in addition to the 13 principal statistical agencies.

There are other Federal agencies whose statistical activities are excluded from this annual compilation because they are not part of the Executive Branch. These agencies include the Congressional Budget Office, which develops and applies projection models for the budgetary impact of current and proposed Federal programs; the Federal Reserve Board, which compiles the widely used Flow of Funds report and other statistical series, and periodically conducts the Survey of Consumer Finances; and the U.S. Government Accountability Office, which uses statistical data in evaluations of government programs.

The Office of Management and Budget

In addition to other responsibilities under the PRA, the OMB Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) coordinates the Nation’s decentralized Federal statistical system. The 1995 reauthorization of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 and other legislation give OMB the authority to approve all agency information collection requests, including all those for surveys and other statistical information. OIRA’s Statistical and Science Policy (SSP) Office, headed by the U.S. Chief Statistician, promotes the quality of Federal statistical and scientific information that facilitates evidence-based policies and programs. To achieve this goal, SSP coordinates the activities of the Federal statistical system to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the system, as well as the relevance, accuracy, objectivity, and confidentiality of information collected for statistical purposes.⁹ SSP accomplishes this by establishing statistical policies and standards, identifying priorities for improving programs, evaluating statistical agency budgets, reviewing and approving Federal agency information collections involving statistical methods, and coordinating U.S. participation in international statistical activities.

⁸ Title V of the E-Government Act of 2002. Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIP-SEA), PL 107-347, Section 502(8).

⁹ The work of Federal statistical agencies is guided by Statistical Policy Directive No. 1: *Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units* [<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-02/pdf/2014-28326.pdf>], which is consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations Statistical Commission, adopted January 29, 2014 by the United Nations General Assembly (with sponsorship by the U.S.), and reflects long-standing, established U.S. Federal law, regulations, policy, and practice.

The U.S. Chief Statistician also promotes integration across the Federal statistical system by chairing the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy¹⁰ (ICSP), whose 13 member principal statistical agencies span nine cabinet departments and two other agencies (denoted by underlined and italicized entries in Table 1). Some of these agencies report directly to the secretary or other high-level official of their cabinet department; others are one, two, or even more layers further down in the hierarchy. Several of these agencies have Federal-State cooperative statistical programs that produce some of the Nation’s most important statistics, such as national birth and death rates from vital records maintained by State registrars and estimates of employment from wage records maintained by State employment security offices. ICSP began operating informally in the late 1980s and was authorized by statute in 1995.

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, the U.S. Chief Statistician’s office annually issues this report. It also prepares the chapter, “*Strengthening Federal Statistics*,” in the annual Analytical Perspectives volume of the President’s budget. That chapter provides a cross-cutting analysis of the budget requests for the principal statistical agencies. Additionally, over the past several years, SSP has collaborated with OMB’s Office of Economic Policy to prepare two other chapters in Analytical Perspectives that also feature official Federal statistics: “*Social Indicators*” and “*Building Evidence with Administrative Data*.”¹¹

AN OVERVIEW OF STATISTICAL PROGRAM BUDGETS

Statistical programs differ in organizational structure and in the means by which they are funded. Some statistical programs, such as those producing labor force or energy statistics, are carried out by principal statistical agencies (the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Energy Information Administration, respectively). For the majority of principal statistical agencies, funding is a line item in the President’s budget. In other cases, agencies have statistical programs that support their program planning and evaluation functions, or that are an outgrowth of their administrative responsibilities. In these cases, the budget for statistical activities is included in the total appropriation for that agency, including an allocation of the salaries and operating expenses for the statistical program. In addition, a statistical program is not always executed by the agency that sponsors it. In these instances, the work is done on a reimbursable basis by another Federal agency or by a State, Tribal, or local government or a private organization under contract.

In some cases, funding for statistical activities may increase or decrease as a result of the cyclical nature of surveys. Such increases or decreases should not be interpreted as changes in agency priorities, but rather as the normal consequences of the cyclical nature of the programs. Agencies also experience increases or decreases in their budgets because they conduct one-time surveys or studies in a particular fiscal year. In other cases, changes in an agency’s funding for statistical activities can affect which surveys an agency maintains in its portfolio, the breadth of topics and the sample size of a particular survey, and the accuracy and precision of statistical aggregates estimated from data.

This section describes direct funding, reimbursements, and purchases of Federal statistical activities in FY 2014-2016. This description is limited to agencies that have direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in FY 2014, or estimated direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in either FY 2015 or FY 2016. Using these criteria, the report includes the budgets for statistical programs and activities for 13 principal statistical agencies and 114 other agencies (inclusive of organizational units that in official nomenclature are institutes, centers, services, and offices) that carry out statistical activities in conjunction with

¹⁰ See Chapter 4 for more information on the ICSP.

¹¹ See the complete report, <https://www.WhiteHouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2016/assets/spec.pdf>.

other program missions, such as providing services, managing and evaluating programs, or enforcing regulations. For purposes of this report, programs meeting these criteria are termed *statistical programs*.

Direct Funding

Whether statistical work is performed inside or outside the agency, the direct funding reflects the level of statistical activities in support of the agency's mission. Table 1 presents direct program funding for FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016 for statistical programs, by department and agency.

For FY 2014, the actual direct funding for Federal statistical programs was \$6,430.9 million (\$5,968.5 million, excluding Decennial Census)—within 1 percent of the estimated appropriation reported for FY 2014 and within 2 percent of the FY 2013 funding received. Of the 127 statistical programs, 20 (16 percent) experienced decreases of 5 percent or more in actual FY 2014 funding received, 22 (17 percent) received more funding than requested, and 85 (67 percent) experienced less than a 5 percent difference, positively or negatively, between the FY 2014 funding requested and the funding actually received.¹²

For FY 2015, Federal statistical programs were appropriated funding of \$6,586.1 million (\$6,010.7 million excluding Decennial Census), an overall 5.9 percent decrease from the President's budget request of \$7,000.8 million (\$6,311.8 million, excluding Decennial Census). Seventy-six agencies (60 percent) experienced no significant change¹³ between the President's FY 2015 budget request and the appropriation; 24 (19 percent) agencies were appropriated less than was requested, and 27 (21 percent) were appropriated more than was requested in the budget. Among the 13 principal statistical agencies, five were appropriated less than the President's requested FY 2015 budget, while the other eight had essentially equivalent funding. Across all Federal statistical programs, many of the agencies receiving increased funds plan to implement statistical activities that had been postponed and to bolster staffing levels that had been curtailed in prior years. Agencies who faced budget cuts accommodated the reduced funding levels in a variety of ways including postponing statistical activities, delaying hiring of new staff, and limiting staff training and professional meetings. The estimated impact of these postponements, delays, and cuts to FY 2015 statistical activities are described in Chapter 2.

For FY 2016, Federal statistical programs requested \$7,406.0 million in the President's budget (\$6,486.6 million, excluding Decennial Census), a 12.4 percent increase over the FY 2015 appropriation. Approximately \$25.0 million of this appropriation, however, would be directed for payment of General Services Administration moving costs or rental costs that would be decentralized and transferred to agencies.¹⁴ In this budget request, 70 (55 percent) of the agencies would receive essentially equivalent funding in FY 2016 as in FY 2015, 15 (12 percent) would receive less funding, and 42 (33 percent) would receive more funding. Of the 13 principal statistical agencies, the FY 2016 budget requests for eight exceed FY 2015 appropriated levels, four budgets are essentially the same, and one agency has a proposed budget decrease. Across all Federal statistical programs, many of the agencies appropriated more funds than requested in FY 2015 would resume implementation of previously postponed statistical activities, as well as field new data collection efforts deemed necessary to inform Federal policy.

Chapters 2 and 3 describe statistical program planning in greater detail for FY 2015 and 2016.

¹² The term 'consistent' refers to changes of less than 5 percent. Changes discussed in this report are based on unrounded numbers.

¹³ In this context, significant means a change of more than 5 percent in absolute value.

¹⁴ See Chapter 2 for details.

Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2014–2016
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2014 Actual Funding Received	FY 2015 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2016 Budget Request
AGRICULTURE			
Agricultural Research Service	6.6	6.3	6.4
<i>Economic Research Service</i>	<i>78.1</i>	<i>85.4</i>	<i>86.0</i>
Food and Nutrition Service	41.5	49.3	41.9
Foreign Agricultural Service	23.0	23.0	23.0
Forest Service	66.8	70.0	83.0
<i>National Agricultural Statistics Service 1</i>	<i>161.2</i>	<i>172.4</i>	<i>180.3</i>
Natural Resources Conservation Service	135.9	136.3	141.1
Risk Management Agency	4.0	4.0	4.0
World Agricultural Outlook Board	4.5	4.6	4.7
COMMERCE			
<i>Bureau of Economic Analysis</i>	<i>95.4</i>	<i>96.3</i>	<i>110.0</i>
<i>Census Bureau</i>	<i>944.0</i>	<i>1,086.4</i>	<i>1,498.4</i>
Current	273.9	268.6	277.9
Periodic	670.1	817.8	1,220.6
Decennial Census	462.5	575.4	919.3
Economics and Statistics Administration	3.6	3.7	3.9
International Trade Administration	6.9	7.2	9.4
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	124.5	124.7	115.5
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service ...	64.0	64.2	54.4
National Marine Fisheries Service	60.5	60.5	61.1
Patent and Trademark Office	3.2	2.8	2.6
DEFENSE			
Army Corps of Engineers ²	5.5	5.5	5.5
Defense Health Agency ³	0.8	0.8	0.8
Defense Manpower Data Center ⁴	9.0	9.0	20.1
EDUCATION			
Institute of Education Sciences	320.3	322.0	404.4
<i>National Center for Education Statistics</i> ⁵	<i>305.0</i>	<i>303.4</i>	<i>381.5</i>
Institute of Education Sciences (excluding NCES)	15.3	18.6	23.0
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE) ⁶	2.3	2.4	2.4
Office for Civil Rights	1.3	2.2	3.7
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	24.5	20.0	13.8
Office of Innovation and Improvement	6.0	5.1	6.4
Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development ⁵	1.8	1.8	1.9
Office of Postsecondary Education	10.7	12.7	44.5
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	21.5	21.5	18.9

Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2014–2016—Continued
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2014 Actual Funding Received	FY 2015 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2016 Budget Request
ENERGY			
<i>Energy Information Administration</i>	117.0	117.0	131.0
Environment, Health, Safety and Security	12.8	12.8	12.8
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
Administration for Children and Families ⁷	75.5	72.4	74.7
Administration for Community Living ⁸	7.8	10.3	5.7
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	182.8	165.7	165.8
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	503.2	533.6	537.1
<i>National Center for Health Statistics</i>	155.2	155.4	160.4
CDC (Excluding NCHS)	347.9	378.2	376.7
Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry	0.6	1.2	1.2
Center for Global Health ⁹	3.2	3.3	3.5
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities	24.4	26.3	26.3
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	62.0	62.0	62.0
National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases	12.9	13.8	15.8
National Center for Environmental Health	19.0	21.0	21.0
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Tuberculosis Prevention	158.8	183.7	183.8
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases	18.9	19.4	19.4
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control	2.3	2.3	2.3
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	26.4	25.8	22.0
Office of Public Health Scientific Services	19.4	19.4	19.4
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	43.9	45.0	50.9
Health Resources and Services Administration	24.7	23.5	33.0
Indian Health Service	5.5	5.4	5.5
National Institutes of Health	1,090.2	1,022.3	1,015.6
National Cancer Institute	114.7	114.7	114.7
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine	11.4	11.6	11.6
National Eye Institute ¹⁰	0.7	0.9	0.9
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	228.7	207.6	207.6
National Human Genome Research Institute ¹¹	5.9	6.1	6.0
National Institute on Aging	6.9	7.0	7.0
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	6.5	6.9	6.9
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	183.7	183.7	183.7
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	5.1	5.1	5.1
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	162.2	162.7	166.6
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	9.7	8.8	7.1
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	1.0	1.1	1.1
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases ¹²	72.1	72.1	73.7

Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2014–2016—Continued
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2014 Actual Funding Received	FY 2015 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2016 Budget Request
National Institute on Drug Abuse	99.3	99.1	102.2
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences	104.1	104.1	104.1
National Institute of General Medical Sciences ¹³	0.2	0.6	0.9
National Institute of Mental Health	2.8	7.2	6.2
Office of the Director	75.3	23.1	10.2
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	18.4	19.0	18.9
Office of Population Affairs	1.9	3.2	3.6
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	155.0	155.5	157.0
HOMELAND SECURITY			
Citizenship and Immigration Services	2.0	1.6	2.0
Coast Guard	0.5	0.4	0.6
Customs and Border Protection	23.6	25.6	26.6
Federal Emergency Management Agency	6.7	7.5	7.2
Office of Immigration Statistics	2.2	2.0	2.9
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT			
Office of Housing	5.5	5.7	5.8
Office of Policy Development and Research	41.3	39.9	47.5
Office of Public and Indian Housing	9.3	13.1	10.0
INTERIOR			
Bureau of Land Management	2.1	2.1	2.1
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	2.8	2.7	3.0
Bureau of Reclamation	11.6	11.9	12.7
Fish and Wildlife Service	7.0	7.1	9.6
Geological Survey	493.4	506.4	568.8
National Park Service ¹⁴	2.0	2.0	2.0
Office of Natural Resources Revenue	4.5	4.7	4.8
JUSTICE			
<i>Bureau of Justice Statistics</i>	52.2	49.7	70.1
Bureau of Prisons	10.8	10.9	11.1
Drug Enforcement Administration	5.6	5.7	5.7
Federal Bureau of Investigation	17.1	14.8	14.2
National Institute of Justice ¹⁵	0.8	0.9	0.8
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	4.0	4.0	4.0
LABOR			
<i>Bureau of Labor Statistics</i>	592.2	592.2	632.7
Employment and Training Administration	52.2	62.0	57.8
Mine Safety and Health Administration	2.5	2.6	2.6
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	34.3	34.3	38.8

Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2014–2016—Continued
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2014 Actual Funding Received	FY 2015 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2016 Budget Request
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs	1.0	1.3	1.5
Wage and Hour Division	5.4	5.5	5.7
STATE			
Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator	3.0	3.2	3.2
TRANSPORTATION			
<i>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</i>	26.0	26.0	29.0
Federal Aviation Administration ¹⁶	7.5	9.3	9.4
Federal Highway Administration	21.0	19.5	23.8
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	7.5	6.9	7.9
Federal Railroad Administration	5.6	6.2	6.0
Federal Transit Administration	5.1	5.1	5.2
Maritime Administration	0.4	0.4	0.5
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	37.7	34.7	48.2
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	4.9	5.6	17.8
TREASURY			
<i>Statistics of Income (Internal Revenue Service)</i>	37.1	36.2	37.9
VETERANS AFFAIRS			
National Cemetery Administration	1.0	0.9	0.9
Office of Inspector General	0.7	0.7	0.7
Office of Policy and Planning	5.2	5.1	5.2
National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (NCVAS)	4.1	4.1	4.2
Office of Policy and Planning (excluding NCVAS)	1.1	1.0	1.0
Veterans Benefits Administration	12.3	12.1	13.4
Veterans Health Administration	92.2	95.1	100.0
OTHER AGENCIES			
Broadcasting Board of Governors	11.8	11.8	11.8
Consumer Product Safety Commission	21.1	23.4	23.9
Environmental Protection Agency	37.1	37.3	36.7
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	1.6	1.8	1.7
Institute of Museum and Library Services	1.8	1.8	1.8
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	10.7	10.8	11.0
National Science Foundation	181.0	187.5	193.6
<i>National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics</i>	47.1	58.3	62.0
National Science Foundation (Excluding NCSSES)	133.8	129.2	131.5
Office of National Drug Control Policy	0.0	2.4	2.0
Small Business Administration	0.7	0.4	0.7
Social Security Administration	64.6	79.6	140.5
Office of Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support	31.1	43.6	107.3

Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2014–2016—Continued
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2014 Actual Funding Received	FY 2015 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2016 Budget Request
<i><u>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics</u></i>	26.9	29.6	26.9
Office of Retirement Policy	6.6	6.3	6.3
U.S. Agency for International Development	99.5	85.0	78.2
TOTAL	6,430.9	6,586.1	7,406.0
Total minus Decennial Census	5,968.5	6,010.7	6,486.6

NOTE: Figures shown in Table 1 have been provided by the agencies and are derived from “total budget authority” shown in the program and financing schedule for these agencies in the President’s FY 2016 Budget. The names of certain agencies are indented in the table to indicate that the agency is a component of the larger organizational unit listed above it; its budget figures are included in the figures reported for the larger unit. Principal statistical agencies appear in underlined italics for ease of reference. Component amounts may not sum to the larger organizational unit amount because of rounding.

¹ NASS totals include \$44.5, \$47.8, and \$45.7 million in FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016, respectively for conducting the periodic Census of Agriculture.

² ACE’s statistical activities were under the Department of Civil Works.

³ DHA’s accounting practices changed to exclude statistical activity that is conducted solely to monitor or manage programs for internal agency purposes.

⁴ In FY 2015, the Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) transitioned into DMDC and at the beginning of FY 2016 the Joint Advertising, Market Research and Studies (JAMRS) will also transition to DMDC. These organizational changes account for the significant increase in direct funding.

⁵ The organizational unit in charge of EDFacts moved from OPEPD to NCES. Costs associated with EDFacts are reported under NCES in FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016.

⁶ This agency was formerly the Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

⁷ The difference between ACF’s estimates in last year’s report and the current report reflect a correction in the coverage of activities included.

⁸ The FY 2015 estimate in last year’s report did not include costs for two ACL program evaluations, new systems design, and an evidence-based program review process, as well as the costs of data collection, systems design, and program evaluations for programs transferred from the Department of Education to ACL.

⁹ FY 2013 and FY 2014 budget estimates reported in last year’s volume included only one division; the current volume reports estimates for two divisions of CGH.

¹⁰ NEI’s previously reported FY 2015 request estimate did not reflect a contract with NCHS to support the National Health Interview Survey and a reduction in statistical program staff. The estimate has been corrected.

¹¹ Based on review of the definition for statistical funding, NHGRI has determined that a larger portion of its grant portfolio should be considered statistical activities and therefore included in this report.

¹² The FY 2014 and FY 2015 estimates are lower than previously reported estimates due to a narrower interpretation of statistical activity.

¹³ The Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation (OPAE) collects and disseminates statistical data in-house. In FY 2015 there was a reorganization of this office including additional staffing costs extending into FY 2016.

¹⁴ Changes in prior year estimates result from updated calculation methods rather than major program changes.

¹⁵ The differences between the FY 2014 estimates published in last year’s volume and the amounts entered here reflect a correction in the coverage of activities included.

¹⁶ The FY 2014 requested level did not take into account the funding realignment within FAA’s Office of Aviation Safety that was realized during FY 2013. The temporary decrease in FY 2014 funding caused by the realignment of FY 2013 funding does not continue into FY 2015.

Reimbursable and Purchase Programs

Agencies whose missions are primarily or entirely statistical often perform statistical work for others on a reimbursable basis. These reimbursements come from other agencies within the same department or from other Federal agencies, State, Tribal, territorial, local governments, and occasionally the private sector or foreign governments. Sometimes data collected by one agency for its programmatic purposes can be used for a different programmatic purpose in another agency. Further, some agencies have reimbursable programs but do not necessarily perform all the statistical work (for example, the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services). Rather, they use part of the reimbursable program money to purchase statistical work from other Federal agencies.

Agencies may also contract for statistical services with other Federal agencies; State, Tribal, territorial, and local governments; or private sector organizations. When a contract is a transfer of funds to another Federal agency, it is a direct program obligation in the budget of the purchasing agency, and is part of the reimbursable program of the agency providing the service. Agencies such as the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), for example, may purchase more than their direct funding for statistics allows, because they receive the difference from other Federal agencies under their reimbursable programs.

Reimbursable Programs

During FY 2016, Federal agencies covered by this report would be reimbursed an estimated \$875.3 million in statistical services, approximately 3 percent greater than FY 2015 estimated reimbursements. Similar to FY 2015 estimates, 84 percent of this reimbursable income would come from other Federal agencies.

Census anticipates the largest reimbursable program in FY 2016, estimated at \$267.7 million, about a 15 percent decrease from FY 2015. Most of this work (\$262.7 million) involves data collection and preparation of tabulations for other Federal agencies. In particular, Census expects to perform approximately \$88.6 million of reimbursable work for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to conduct the Consumer Expenditure Survey, the Current Population Survey, the Demographic Survey Sample Redesign, the American Time Use Survey, the Telephone Point of Purchase Survey, and other tabulations and surveys. Additionally, Census expects to perform work on the following surveys: for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the Private Schools Survey, the School and Staffing Survey, and the intercensal estimates of poverty; for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the National Health Interview Survey, the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, and the National Hospital Discharge Survey; for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the American Housing Survey and the Housing Sales Survey; for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the National Crime Victimization Survey and the National Prisoner Statistics Program; for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement; for the Energy Information Administration (EIA), the Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey; and for the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES), the National Survey of College Graduates. Census also receives funds from other Federal agencies, foreign government agencies, and international organizations to conduct demographic, geographic, and socioeconomic studies, and to strengthen statistical practices around the world through technical assistance, training, and software products.

The Geological Survey (GS) anticipates the next largest reimbursable statistics program in FY 2016, estimated at \$280.2 million,¹⁵ which is consistent with FY 2015 amounts. Almost

¹⁵ This amount includes \$2.5 million from foreign governments, not shown in Table 2.

60 percent of this reimbursable income is from other Federal agencies. Reimbursable activities include research projects to inform land and resource management decisions, to maintain long-term monitoring networks, and to develop tools to make geologic and hydrologic information available for decision making.

Most of the reimbursable statistical work anticipated to be performed by NCHS (\$78.1 million) would be done for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This represents a decrease of 2.6 percent compared with FY 2015 estimates. The National Death Index will continue to receive reimbursement from both CDC and non-Federal sources. Reimbursable work funded by non-Federal entities will also support the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey and the National Health Interview Survey. NIH anticipates \$62.2 million in reimbursable statistical work, 50 times higher than in FY 2015. The majority (\$61.0 million) of NIH's reimbursable work will be handled by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), which will collaborate with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health study.

BJS anticipates receiving \$27.5 million in reimbursable funds for research, evaluation, and statistical services for the Office of Justice Programs. In FY 2016, BLS anticipates a reimbursable program of \$26.8 million (an 8.5 percent increase from the FY 2015 level) which includes funds provided by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to support the continued development of occupational statistics for use in the SSA's disability programs.

Intradepartmental agreements support most of the reimbursable work conducted by the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) agencies. Consistent with FY 2015 estimates, 90 percent of the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) estimated \$24.9 million in total reimbursable work is anticipated to support other agencies within USDA in FY 2016. Specifically, NASS would support work with: the Economic Research Service (ERS) for the Agricultural Resource Management Survey; the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) for the Conservation Effects Assessment Program; the Farm Service Agency for estimates of prices received by farmers, and county level cash rental rates; the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) to assist foreign countries with agricultural statistical services; the Risk Management Agency (RMA) for county estimates of commodity production and yield; and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for the animal health monitoring system. NASS also would work with the Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA) to produce agricultural labor statistics.

Similarly, intradepartmental transfers support much of the \$22.8 million reimbursable statistical work of IES and NCES. IES anticipates receiving \$13.2 million to conduct evaluations for other agencies in the Department of Education (ED), including the TRIO Upward Bound, GEAR-UP, Comprehensive Assistance Center, and Investing in Innovation programs as well as an impact evaluation of support for principals and an evaluation of the impact for the DC Choice Opportunity Scholarship program. NCES anticipates receiving \$9.6 million in FY 2016 for reimbursable statistical work for other agencies. This includes funds from Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) to provide funding to Census for intercensal estimates of poverty and for the National Indian Education Study; and from the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) for work on the Civil Rights Data Collection. In addition, NCES anticipates reimbursable statistical work from HHS co-sponsors of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Kindergarten Class of 2011.

Purchases of Statistical Services

Agencies may also purchase statistical services from other Federal agencies, State, Tribal, and local governments, or private sector organizations.

When a contract is a transfer of funds to another Federal agency, it is a direct program obligation in the budget of the purchasing agency, and is part of the reimbursable program of the agency providing the service. Agencies such as IES, for example, may purchase more than their direct funding for statistics allows, because they receive the difference from other Federal agencies under their reimbursable programs.

During FY 2016, Federal agencies covered by this report anticipate purchasing an estimated \$2,571.6 million in statistical services, a decrease of about 5 percent from FY 2015. Consistent with FY 2015, about 60 percent of these services would be purchased from the private sector.

Agencies that expect to purchase more than \$100.0 million in statistical services in FY 2016 are NCES (\$349.0 million), Census (\$317.5 million), CDC (excluding NCHS) (\$222.4 million), GS (\$201.8 million), BLS (\$190.0 million), the National Science Foundation (NSF) (excluding NCSES) (\$139.9 million), and NCHS (\$136.5 million). The Social Security Administration (SSA) had purchases totaling \$118.8 for its three agencies, of which \$99.4 million are by Office of Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support (ORDES).

The largest purchasers of statistical services from the State, Tribal, and local governments are CDC (excluding NCHS) (\$163.1 million), BLS (\$84.0 million), NCES (\$72.3 million), ETA (\$43.7 million), NASS (\$38.7 million), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) (\$27.5 million), and NCHS (\$24.3 million).

Purchases of statistical services vary in scope. CDC funds cooperative agreements with localities to report incidence of disease in communities and schools, to collect school-based data on youth risk behaviors, to support cancer registry program and tobacco control efforts, and to administer the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Program. BLS funds support the cooperative labor force statistics program. NCES provides funds to State educational agencies to support development and implementation of Statewide longitudinal data systems for collecting and reporting education data. States may also receive funding if they participate in a pilot Program for International Student Assessment study. ETA funds grants to States to collect and analyze labor market information on growth industries and occupations; to catalogue knowledge, skills and abilities required for standard occupations; and to support an electronic network of career information. NASS supports cooperative agreements with local governments and universities as part of its County Estimates Survey program. The National Marine Fisheries Service in NOAA funds data collection activities used for monitoring total fishing effort, catch, economic value, and socioeconomic impacts in domestic commercial and recreational fisheries in all regions. NCHS purchases vital statistics data on births and deaths from States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.¹⁶

Table 2 shows reimbursements and purchases for statistical activities covered in this report.

¹⁶ The U.S. territories covered are America Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2016

(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	Reimbursements				Purchases			
	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
AGRICULTURE								
Agricultural Research Service	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.6
<i>Economic Research Service</i>	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	13.6	0.1	5.1	8.4
Food and Nutrition Service	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Foreign Agricultural Service	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
Forest Service	7.8	4.1	0.9	2.8	15.7	7.1	7.3	1.3
<i>National Agricultural Statistics Service</i>	24.9	2.4	0.0	22.5	45.7	38.7	0.0	7.0
Natural Resources Conservation Service	5.5	0.7	0.0	4.8	4.9	3.4	0.5	1.0
Risk Management Agency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	0.0	3.9	0.0
World Agricultural Outlook Board	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
COMMERCE								
<i>Bureau of Economic Analysis</i>	3.0	0.0	0.4	2.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7
<i>Census Bureau</i>	267.7	0.0	5.0	262.7	317.5	0.0	315.8	1.7
Economics and Statistics Administration	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.9	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
International Trade Administration	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	6.9	0.0	6.6	0.3
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	4.9	0.0	0.8	4.1	32.1	27.5	4.6	0.0
Patent and Trademark Office	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DEFENSE								
Army Corps of Engineers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.4	0.5
Defense Health Agency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.0
Defense Manpower Data Center	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
EDUCATION								
Institute of Education Sciences	22.8	0.0	0.0	22.8	382.8	72.3	298.2	12.4
<i>National Center for Education Statistics</i>	9.6	0.0	0.0	9.6	349.0	72.3	264.3	12.4
Institute of Education Sciences (excluding NCES)	13.2	0.0	0.0	13.2	33.8	0.0	33.8	0.0
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	1.8	0.5
Office for Civil Rights	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0	3.1
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.6	0.0	4.9	8.7
Office of Innovation and Improvement	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4	0.0	0.4	6.1
Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development	2.3	0.0	0.0	2.3	2.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
Office of Postsecondary Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	41.0	0.0	35.8	5.2
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.8	0.0	17.8	0.0

Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2016—Continued

(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	Reimbursements				Purchases			
	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
ENERGY								
<i>Energy Information Administration</i>	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.3	2.0	0.2	0.1	1.7
Environment, Health, Safety, and Security	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES								
Administration for Children and Families	9.6	0.0	0.0	9.6	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
Administration for Community Living	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	5.6	0.0	5.6	0.0
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	64.6	0.0	54.6	10.0
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	78.9	0.0	3.4	75.5	359.0	187.4	118.3	53.2
<i>National Center for Health Statistics</i>	78.1	0.0	3.4	74.8	136.5	24.3	62.7	49.5
CDC (Excluding NCHS)	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	222.4	163.1	55.6	3.7
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.4	0.0	50.3	0.1
Health Resources and Services Administration	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	11.1
Indian Health Service	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Institutes of Health	62.2	0.0	0.0	62.2	74.2	0.2	45.6	28.3
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	4.6	0.0	1.0	3.6
Office of Population Affairs	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	8.7
HOMELAND SECURITY								
Citizenship and Immigration Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	2.5	0.5
Coast Guard	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.0
Customs and Border Protection	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Emergency Management Agency	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office of Immigration Statistics	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT								
Office of Housing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.0	2.2	0.0
Office of Policy Development and Research	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	47.5	0.0	5.2	42.3
Office of Public and Indian Housing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	10.0	0.0
INTERIOR								
Bureau of Land Management	2.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bureau of Reclamation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.2	0.0	4.3
Fish and Wildlife Service	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Geological Survey	280.2	94.1	21.9	164.2	201.8	0.0	37.6	164.2
National Park Service	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.1
Office of Natural Resources Revenue	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2016—Continued
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	Reimbursements				Purchases			
	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
JUSTICE								
<i>Bureau of Justice Statistics</i>	27.5	0.0	0.0	27.5	68.0	5.3	23.0	39.7
Bureau of Prisons	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.2	7.2	0.0	0.0
Drug Enforcement Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Bureau of Investigation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Institute of Justice	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
LABOR								
<i>Bureau of Labor Statistics</i>	26.8	0.0	0.5	26.3	190.0	84.0	16.0	90.0
Employment and Training Administration	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	46.4	43.7	2.7	0.0
Mine Safety and Health Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Occupational Safety and Health Administration ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wage and Hour Division	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	2.0	0.5	0.0
STATE								
Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator	3.2	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRANSPORTATION								
<i>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</i>	6.1	0.0	0.0	6.1	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2
Federal Aviation Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Highway Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9	3.0	1.1	3.8
Federal Railroad Administration	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.9	0.0	3.9	0.0
Federal Transit Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	3.9	1.2
Maritime Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	34.2	0.0	34.2	0.0
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TREASURY								
<i>Statistics of Income (Internal Revenue Service)</i>	2.6	0.0	0.1	2.5	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.1
VETERANS AFFAIRS								
National Cemetery Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0
Office of Inspector General	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office of Policy and Planning	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.9
National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (NCVAS)	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.9
Office of Policy and Planning (excluding NCVAS)	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2016—Continued

(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	Reimbursements				Purchases			
	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	TOTAL	State/Local/ Tribal Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
Veterans Benefits Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.1	0.0	12.1	0.0
Veterans Health Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8
OTHER AGENCIES								
Broadcasting Board of Governors	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Consumer Product Safety Commission	3.5	0.0	0.0	3.5	5.9	0.2	5.7	0.0
Environmental Protection Agency	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.3	19.7	10.0	8.6	1.2
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.7	0.8
Institute of Museum and Library Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Aeronautics and Space Administration ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Science Foundation	10.2	0.0	0.0	10.2	182.9	0.0	172.8	10.2
<i><u>National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics</u></i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>43.1</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>32.9</i>	<i>10.2</i>
National Science Foundation (excluding NCSES)	8.4	0.0	0.0	8.4	139.9	0.0	139.9	0.0
Office of National Drug Control Policy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Small Business Administration	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Social Security Administration	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.5	118.8	0.0	89.6	29.2
Office of Research, Demonstration, and Employment Support	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.4	0.0	77.1	22.4
<i><u>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics</u></i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.5</i>	<i>15.6</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>12.4</i>	<i>3.1</i>
Office of Retirement Policy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.1	3.7
U.S. Agency for International Development	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	75.6	0.0	66.3	9.3
TOTAL	875.3	103.7	36.2	735.3	2,571.6	493.0	1,490.7	587.9

NOTE: The names of certain agencies are indented in the table to indicate that the agency is a component of the larger organizational unit listed above it; its figures are included in the figures reported for the larger unit. Principal statistical agencies appear in underlined italics for ease of reference. Component amounts may not sum to total amounts due to rounding.

CHAPTER 2: PRINCIPAL STATISTICAL AGENCY PROGRAMS

The programs that provide essential statistical information for use by governments, businesses, researchers, and the public are carried out by agencies spread across every department and several independent agencies.

This chapter presents brief descriptions of the 13 principal statistical agencies covered in this report, followed by highlights of the programmatic impact of FY 2015 congressional appropriations. FY 2016 Presidential budget requests are then presented with a summary of anticipated major program changes for FY 2016.¹⁷

Of note, the budgets shown here reflect the funds available to principal statistical agencies to meet their responsibilities to disseminate relevant and timely information; conduct credible, accurate, and objective statistical activities; and ensure the confidentiality and exclusive statistical use of the responses of information providers. Complying with these responsibilities requires continuous modernization of data systems to maintain and extend data interoperability and access while ensuring confidentiality of statistical data. So, too, to ensure the credibility and accuracy of their statistics, agencies must hire, develop, and retain staff with a high level of expertise. For both staff development and information dissemination, time and funding must be devoted for staff engagement with colleagues in other Federal agencies, academic centers, and the private sector to discuss available statistics, including their strengths and limitations, and to pursue methodological improvements. Ensuring objectivity and protecting confidentiality, such as maintaining a statistical publication schedule and review process independent from policy interests, need not be costly. But other means to promote these responsibilities, such as retaining statistical agency authority to manage confidential data on secure servers, can be expensive, especially for smaller statistical agencies and units.

BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS (BEA)

[*BEA*](#), of the Department of Commerce (DOC), is a principal source of Federal economic statistics. BEA is responsible for the preparation, development, and interpretation of the Nation's economic accounts. National economic accounts cover GDP and related accounts. International economic accounts involve balance-of-payments data critical to monetary, trade, investment, exchange rate, and financial policies. BEA's direct investment programs (foreign and domestic) are required by law and are critical to understanding the impact of U.S. and foreign multinational companies on the U.S. and world economies. Other BEA programs include the regional economic accounts, the basis for virtually all States' spending and revenue forecasts, and industry economic accounts, which provide the infrastructure for other BEA accounts and many other key government statistics, such as BLS' Producer Price Index.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$96.3 million was \$10.9 million less than the President's budget request. This FY 2015 appropriation enables BEA to maintain core programs that produce statistics that feed into the estimation of GDP and related statistics, are required by law, or are required for the administration of Federal programs. The lower than requested appropriation for FY 2015 limits the extent to which BEA could implement its Small Business initiative. In addition to funding normal operations, BEA's FY 2015 appropriation covers FY 2015 costs associated with plans to move its location to join the Census Bureau at the Federal complex in Suitland, Maryland. Co-locating BEA and Census will reduce renovation and annual rent

¹⁷ See Appendix A for supplemental information on the staffing levels of the principal statistical agencies.

costs, and facilitate greater collaboration between BEA and the Census Bureau's Economic Directorate.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's FY 2016 budget request of \$110.0 million would allow BEA to continue to improve the relevance, accuracy, and timeliness of the Nation's economic accounts and to keep BEA's statistics in pace with the ever-changing U.S. economy. Base funds would be used for work outlined in the BEA Strategic Plan, which provides a detailed plan for maintaining and improving those accounts. These activities include preparing and releasing GDP and National Income and Product (NIPA) statistics. The requested \$13.7 million in additional funds would support four projects. First, BEA plans to develop a Small Business Satellite Account to track the overall growth and health of America's small business sector. These data would assist State, Tribal, and local leaders in understanding their regional economic dynamics and guiding investment decisions. Second, BEA would develop an Energy Satellite Account to improve monitoring and analysis of U.S. energy production and prices, its global supply chain, investments in direct and indirect energy-related technology and infrastructure, and the use of energy goods and services by consumers and businesses. Third, BEA proposes to expand and improve the data it publishes on traded services by (1) publishing additional detail on a quarterly rather than just an annual basis; and (2) providing greater geographic detail regarding the destination of U.S. service exports and the source of U.S. imports. Fourth, BEA would use \$8 million to fund its move to the Federal complex in Suitland, Maryland.

BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS (BJS)

BJS, of the Department of Justice (DOJ), is a principal source of Federal crime and justice statistics. BJS collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates statistical information on all aspects of the criminal justice system; assists State, Tribal, and local governments in gathering and analyzing justice statistics; and disseminates high value information and statistics to inform policymakers, researchers, criminal justice practitioners and the general public. BJS' current statistical portfolio comprises about fifty separate data collections composed of ongoing annual and periodic collections. Additionally, the statistical operations are complemented or supported by nearly two dozen ongoing research and development projects or activities. The suite of collections and other projects form an ongoing statistical information infrastructure that supports the production of timely, relevant national statistics. These statistics provide an evidence base for informing critical criminal justice decision making at all levels of government.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The previously reported estimate for FY 2015 BJS funding was \$62.6 million, of which \$55.4 million was requested for the Criminal Justice Statistics Program, and an additional \$7.2 million was requested for salaries and expenses. The estimate for salaries and expenses has since been revised upward to \$9.2 million to reflect the expected impact of lifting DOJ's hiring freeze in mid-FY 2014. The FY 2015 enacted appropriation total of \$49.7 million is \$12.9 million less than the President's request. Further, the enacted appropriation did not include the requested increase from 2 to 3 percent of the set aside from Office of Justice Program funds for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and BJS to use for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes. The reduced appropriation, together with the 2 percent set aside, permits BJS to continue to collect and analyze statistical data on all aspects of the criminal justice system; assist State, Tribal, and local governments in collecting and analyzing justice statistics; and disseminate quality information and statistics. However, to accommodate the reduced appropriation, BJS is: 1) eliminating or scaling back planned statistical collection projects, such as

the planned National Survey of Public Defenders; 2) delaying some projects, such as supplemental work on Federal White Collar Violations Statistical Series; and 3) seeking alternative sources of support for others, such as helping fund the National Crime Victimization Survey through the Offices for Victims of Crime and of Violence Against Women.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's FY 2016 budget requests \$70.1 million, of which \$61.4 million would support the Criminal Justice Statistics Program, representing an increase of \$20.4 million above the FY 2015 enacted level. This level of funding would allow BJS to maintain principal statistical programs, such as National Prisoner Statistics, Annual Jail Survey, Annual Probation and Parole Census, Jails in Indian Country, National Corrections Reporting Program, National Crime Victimization Survey, Capital Punishment and Sentencing statistics, and deaths in custody statistics. The additional funds requested would support studies on the recidivism of State prison releasees, convicted felons, juvenile offenders, and first time arrestees. BJS also would support special projects, such as analysis of data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program; studies of the justice and regulatory systems response to white collar crime; analyses describing crime and justice on Tribal lands; criminal justice employment and expenditures; and the delivery of indigent defense services. BJS' analytical research centers would receive funding to support usability testing, dynamic data analysis, and visualization enhancements; content display and search function improvements; hosting activities; and publication and dissemination activities, such as the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data and the National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

The President's FY 2016 budget also requests an increase from 2 to 3 percent of the OJP set aside for BJS and NIJ, which would be used to support new and ongoing projects including a multi-year evaluation plan, assessment of all OJP statistical programs, expansion of the national crime statistics exchange, implementation of the law enforcement index, and creation of a database linking historical data.

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS)

[BLS](#), of the Department of Labor (DOL), is a principal source of Federal labor, price, and safety statistics. BLS is responsible for measuring labor market activity, working conditions, and price changes in the economy. BLS collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates data on: employment and unemployment; projections of the labor force and employment by industry and occupation; prices and inflation at various levels of the economy; consumer expenditures; wages and employee benefits; occupational injuries and illnesses; and productivity and technological change in U.S. industries.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$592.2 million for BLS was almost \$17.9 million below the FY 2015 President's request. In order to maintain current production and core programs with this funding level, BLS is curtailing planned improvements and development and research projects temporarily. The FY 2015 appropriation did not include any of the program increases included in the President's request, such as adding an annual supplement to the Current Population Survey (CPS) to fill data gaps on particular important topics (e.g., contingent workers, workplace flexibility, and work-family balance). Also included in the FY 2015 budget request, but not funded, was an initiative for the Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey Program to modify the CE Survey to support the Census Bureau in its development of a supplemental poverty measure. The supplemental poverty measure takes into account the effect of government programs in calculating the poverty rate; CE Survey updates are necessary to produce these statistics.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 budget request of \$632.7 million is \$40.5 million above the FY 2015 appropriation. This level includes funds for inflationary costs not provided in FY 2014 and FY 2015, as well as \$4.7 million for the restoration of the International Price Program Export Indexes in FY 2016 and beyond. The FY 2016 request also includes a program increase of \$1.6 million to fund the annual CPS supplement described above, and \$2.5 million to fund the CE initiative for the supplemental poverty measure. In addition, the FY 2016 request includes a \$6.5 million enhancement for the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) to better understand U.S. labor market dynamics. The JOLTS enhancement would enable the expansion of the JOLTS sample to provide State level data and greater industry detail; the addition of questions on labor market issues; and the release of JOLTS data at the same time as The Employment Situation, thereby allowing for contemporaneous analysis of the change in U.S. payroll jobs each month.

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a primary source of data on characteristics of the labor force and emerging trends and changes in employment and unemployment among various groups of workers. The current collection allows BLS to produce high quality estimates; however, BLS cannot provide information on particular important subgroups, such as contingent workers, without support for CPS supplements. As a result, the demand for data on labor force trends is not being met fully. BLS proposes meeting this data need by conducting two additional CPS supplements, each conducted on alternating years. The Contingent Work Supplement (CWS) (in FY 2017) would provide important information on contingent work and alternative work arrangements. During alternate years (starting in FY 2018), BLS will conduct other supplements relevant to its mission. For example, a Work Schedules Supplement (WSS) would provide additional information on the availability of flexible work schedules, shift work, work at home, and other related topics to allow analysts to study flexible working arrangements by occupation, age, sex, and race. These work schedule data also would help analysts study the possible impact of flexible work arrangements on earnings. This initiative would provide BLS with the resources to develop new supplements on emerging topics, such as entrepreneurship.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS (BTS)

[*BTS*](#), of the Department of Transportation (DOT), is a principal source of Federal transportation statistics. BTS compiles, analyzes, and disseminates information on the Nation's transportation systems, including the extent, use, condition, performance, and consequences of those systems. Programs address topics such as freight and travel statistics, transportation economics, geospatial information systems, and airline transportation statistics. BTS administers the National Transportation Library, which maintains and facilitates access to statistical and other information needed for transportation decision making. BTS enhances the quality and effectiveness of DOT's statistical programs research, development of guidelines, and promotion of improvements in data acquisition and use.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation level for BTS was \$26.0 million, which was consistent with the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) authorization. As a reimbursement, BTS also received \$5.0 million from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Airline Transportation Statistics Program; \$2.0 million from the Federal Railroad Administration for the Confidential Close Calls Reporting Systems Program; and reimbursements from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and the Department of the Interior. At this funding level, BTS supports critical travel, freight, and safety statistics programs, as well as work in geospatial transportation economics, and the information dissemination services of the National Transportation Library.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's budget request for FY 2016 is \$29.0 million. At this level, BTS would maintain its priority core programs. With \$3.0 million of these funds, the Travel Data Initiative Three would be established to address the most critical data gaps in passenger travel and vehicle fleets. BTS would also expand its Close Calls Reporting Program through reimbursable agreements with agency partners who seek better statistics on conditions that contribute to safety risks. In addition, BTS anticipates receiving \$4.0 million in reimbursable funds from FAA to collect and disseminate airline financial, traffic, performance, and operational data from 130 U.S. airlines. The agency would expand work on performance measures with operating administrations throughout DOT to establish performance measures and provide statistics that support major transportation decisions and inform DOT investment strategies. BTS also would continue to develop and disseminate products from the 2012 Commodity Flow Survey, and identify opportunities to integrate and improve safety data across transportation modes and support collection of data on passenger travel.

CENSUS BUREAU (CENSUS)

The [*Census Bureau*](#), within the Department of Commerce (DOC), is a principal source of Federal current and periodic demographic and economic statistics. Census measures and disseminates information about the Nation's ever-changing economy, society, and institutions. The statistical products provided by Census foster economic growth, advance scientific understanding, and facilitate informed decisions.

Census' major demographic programs include the 2020 Decennial Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), and the Intercensal Demographic Estimates. Fiscal Year 2016 is the second year of a four year phase focused on completing research and content testing, while also beginning operational design, development, and system testing for the 2020 Census. ACS is an ongoing survey providing updated demographic, social, economic, and housing data for every U.S. community every year. The Intercensal Demographic Estimates program develops updated population estimates in years between Decennial Censuses for areas such as States, counties, metropolitan statistical areas, and governmental units. These estimates are used in funding and planning, including the distribution of Federal program funds, as denominators for various Federal time series, as population controls for major household surveys, and for planning local transportation and health care services. The Current Demographic Statistics Programs include household surveys and population and housing analyses, which provide reliable social and economic data and historical perspectives on many current issues.

Census' economic statistics include two periodic censuses conducted every 5 years, covering the years ending in two and seven. The Economic Census is integral to BEA estimates of GDP and industry inputs and outputs. The Economic Census provides core information on virtually all non-farm businesses and related data on business expenditures, commodity flows, minority and women-owned businesses, and other topics. The Census of Governments collects State and local data on public finance, public employment, and governmental organization. It is the only source of comprehensive and uniformly categorized data on the economic activities of approximately 90,000 State and local governments, which account for about 12 percent of GDP and 15 percent of the U.S. workforce. The Current Economic Statistics (CES) programs provide public and private data users with relevant, accurate, and timely national statistical profiles for every sector of the U.S. economy, including manufacturing, mineral industries, construction industries, retail and wholesale trade, service industries, and transportation industries. The CES program significantly influences financial markets.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$1,086.4 million is \$153.4 million less than the President's budget request of \$1,239.9 million. Although the lower appropriation will curtail key portions of the operations and systems tests associated with the 2020 Decennial Census, the appropriated level will allow the Census Bureau to proceed with four critical tests planned for FY 2015. These include a nationwide test to inform decisions about reengineered address validation innovations, two critical site tests to evaluate proposed cost-saving innovations, and a national test designed to inform decisions related to the content of the 2020 Decennial Census questionnaire. Census also will fund the enhancement of technology and systems for data collection and processing services. These enhancements will enable critical cost-savings for the 2020 Census.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 President's budget request of \$1,498.4 million is an increase of \$412.0 over the FY 2015 appropriation. The major activity proposed in FY 2016 would be a \$316.8 million increase in the 2020 Decennial Census to fund the development of production systems and operational implementation needed to conduct a successful Census in 2020. The development of interoperable production systems must be largely conducted in FY 2016 and completed by FY 2017 to be ready for a 2018 Operational Readiness Test.

Additional program proposals include: an increase of \$7.4 million to support the second year of the Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing initiative that would deliver an integrated, standardized, and therefore, more efficient system of data collection and processing systems. Other activities would include a \$10.0 million increase to the Administrative Records Clearinghouse for Census to reuse existing administrative data for additional projects; a \$21.4 million increase to acquire address and road data from government partners for the Geographic Support Systems Initiative (including incorporating additional address data into the MAF/TIGER System); and an increase of \$12.8 million to the Economic Census which would be used to publish and disseminate the 2012 Survey of Business Owners products and continue planning for a robust 2017 Economic Census.

In addition, funds are requested for modernization of post-collection data systems, such as editing work necessary for a robust and interoperable North American Product Classification System, as well as other changes to replace outdated software and develop better tools for the analysts. A \$15.2 million increase to the American Community Survey would be used to strengthen production efficiency, conduct research focused on reducing respondent burden, and conduct ACS Content Review to ensure production of relevant statistics.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE (ERS)

[ERS](#), of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), is a principal source of Federal agriculture statistics. ERS provides economic and other social science research and analysis to inform public and private decision making on agriculture, food, natural resources, and rural America. ERS is a primary source of statistical indicators that gauge the health of the farm sector (including farm income estimates and projections), assess the current and expected performance of the agricultural sector (including trade), and provide measures of food security here and abroad. ERS provides evidence-based policy-relevant findings through its statistics, indicators, and research that inform USDA decision making.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$85.4 million exceeded the FY 2015 President's budget request of \$83.4 million. The augmented appropriation enables ERS to fully fund GSA rent and DHS

security costs that were decentralized and transferred to the agency, while maintaining its core program of research. Core programs include: drivers of changes in domestic and international markets; an assessment of the prevalence and intensity of global food insecurity in key developing countries, with projections to the year 2025; research on alternative policies and programs designed to assist farmers with managing risks and to improve the understanding of producer response to changes in crop insurance programs; research on low income household food purchases using the new National Food Acquisition and Purchase Survey; estimates of farm income, assets and debt, published for public use on ERS' web site; and research on the effects of the Food Safety Modernization Act across the fresh produce supply chain, including the guidance issued by FDA as it relates to the development of a risk-based food safety system. In addition to continuing ERS' core program of research, data analysis, and market outlook, ERS enhanced the 2014 program, Research Innovations for Improving Policy Effectiveness. Through the initiative's support, ERS expanded internal expertise, supported collaboration with USDA program agencies, and formed partnerships with extramural researchers to: fund experiments that incorporate concepts from behavioral economics, identifying high (and low) performing options without the costs associated with new program implementation; and created and evaluated unique merged administrative data systems by linking multiple sources, assessing statistical properties, and analyzing the merged data for policy-relevant research.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's Budget requests \$86.0 million for FY 2016, consistent with the FY 2015 appropriation. This level of funding would provide support for ERS' highest priority core programs. Topics of the core programs would include: how investments in rural people, businesses, and communities affect the capacity of rural economies to prosper in a changing global marketplace; economic issues related to developing natural resource policies and programs that respond to the need to protect the environment and the challenges of climate change while enhancing agricultural competitiveness; production agriculture, domestic and international markets, trade, and Federal farm policies, to understand the U.S. food and agriculture sector's performance in the context of increasingly globalized markets; the Nation's food and nutrition assistance programs, to study the relationships among factors that influence food choices and health outcomes, including obesity, and to enhance methodologies for valuing societal benefits associated with reducing food safety risks. In addition to continuing these core programs of research, funding would be used to initiate an analysis of linkages between shifting water supplies, farming practices, and food production using enhanced agricultural-environmental models to better understand farm-level water use, responses to drought risk, and how drought resilience affects productivity growth and food prices. Finally, ERS would initiate an analysis of barriers to entry for beginning farmers and ranchers to understand how USDA programs may help reduce those barriers. The funds for the initiatives would be partially offset by reductions in both extramural research and in lower priority intramural program research.

ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION (EIA)

[EIA](#), of the Department of Energy (DOE), is a principal source of Federal energy statistics. EIA collects, analyzes, and disseminates independent and impartial energy information to promote sound policymaking, efficient markets, and public understanding of energy and its interaction with the economy and the environment.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$117.0 million for EIA was level with the FY 2014 appropriation and \$5.5 million below the FY 2015 President's Budget request. This funding maintains

EIA's core energy information program and continues the modernization of EIA's data infrastructure to introduce new processing efficiencies. Further, it permits EIA to address evolving customer needs to improve the capability to report on domestic oil and gas production; operate the expanded State Heating Oil and Propane Program to collect winter fuels prices for 14 additional States; and pilot more targeted and timely building consumption data through the Residential Energy Consumption Survey cities initiative. EIA also plans to release the Drilling Productivity Report on a monthly basis to provide indicators of oil and natural gas production trends in key producing regions; conduct in-depth analysis of crude oil import and export trends, such as the new Crude Oil Import Tracking Tool; and model changes to the electric grid, including effects of energy efficiency and carbon regulations. In addition, EIA plans to build new data platforms for the Annual Energy Outlook and International Energy Statistics; make EIA data series available through Application Programming Interfaces; and provide Excel add-ins to allow energy analysts to automatically update tables using EIA data. These activities would improve the accessibility of EIA statistics.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 President's Budget request of \$131.0 million for EIA represents an increase of \$14.0 million over the FY 2015 appropriation. This funding would enable EIA to conduct a data collection program covering the full spectrum of energy sources, end uses, and energy flows; generate short- and long-term domestic and international energy projections; and perform timely, informative energy analyses. Specifically, the funding would enable EIA to: (1) address critical energy data gaps including developing survey and other data on the determinants of personal vehicle transportation; monthly movements of crude oil by rail; monthly estimates of electricity generation by distributed renewable energy sources; and the use of energy for treatment and pumping in agricultural and potable water systems; (2) expand domestic energy data and analysis including serving markets and policymakers by providing new information such as near-real-time data on regional and national electricity flows and monthly oil production data; projecting three to five year mid-term energy trends; and collecting more granular data on energy use in buildings through a voluntary crowd-sourcing approach; and (3) increase Integration of EIA Energy Data with Canada and Mexico through collaboration with those countries' agency counterparts to improve the quality and transparency of North American energy data through reconciliation of data on energy trade flows among the three countries; extension of energy mapping capabilities (building on EIA's existing platform); and development of common terminologies. The counterparts also would share views to enable improved, forward-looking projections and outlooks for within-region energy flows.

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS)

[NASS](#), of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), is a principal source of Federal agricultural statistics. NASS collects, summarizes, analyzes, and publishes data on the number of farms and land in farms; acreage, yield, production, and stocks of crops; inventories and production of livestock, including eggs and dairy products; prices received by farmers for products, prices paid for commodities and services, and related indexes; agriculture production and marketing data; cold storage supplies; agricultural chemical use; and other related areas of the agricultural economy. On a reimbursable basis with DOL funds, NASS conducts the Farm Labor Survey, which provides estimates of the number of hired workers; average hours worked, and wage rates at national, regional, and selected State levels. NASS conducts the Census of Agriculture every five years. The census provides comprehensive data on the agricultural economy, including farm size, characteristics of farm operators, current agricultural industrial reports, land ownership, aquaculture, horticulture, organics, local foods, and farm irrigation practices at the national, State, and county levels.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$172.4 million was an increase of \$11.2 million over the FY 2014 appropriation. However, over 72 percent of this net increase covers GSA rent and DHS security costs that have been decentralized and transferred to NASS. In fact, the FY 2015 appropriation was 4 percent below the FY 2015 President's budget request. With this funding level, NASS reduced funding for the Agricultural Estimates program, but restored the following FY 2013 suspended activities: the Milk Production Report, including Milk Disposition and Income reports; all Non-Citrus Fruit, Nut, and Vegetable Forecasts and Estimates; Chemical Use; all Catfish and Trout Reports, including Catfish Feed Deliveries and Catfish Processing; Potato Stocks Reports; the July Cattle Report; the June Rice Stocks Reports; all Hops and Hops Stocks Estimates; and the Mink Report. FY 2015 funding also enabled expansion of NASS' honeybee program estimates to provide improved data on the prevalence and extent of Colony Collapse Disorder. Work to conduct the annual Census of Agriculture Current Agriculture Industrial Reports; the Census of Horticulture Specialties study; and the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey follow-on to the Census of Agriculture also continued.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 President's budget request of \$180.3 million reflects a net increase of \$7.9 million over the FY 2015 appropriation. At this level of funding, NASS would conduct essential Federal Principal Economic Indicator surveys; introduce new baseline data on Combatting Antimicrobial Resistant Bacteria; enhance the current satellite-based monitoring program to improve the estimation of local level climate change on crop production; restore the floriculture report; restore County Estimates, Fruit & Vegetables In-Season, and Chemical Use reports back to the 2010 level; and enable further analysis of the honeybee colony loss to better understand Colony Collapse Disorder. Additionally, due to the increased demand from the Pulse Crop Industry, NASS would incorporate estimates for dry peas, lentils, and chickpeas as part of NASS' Stocks Reports. NASS would continue the cyclical preparatory work for its censuses; conduct the annual Census of Agriculture Current Agriculture Industrial Reports, a new Farm Structure Follow-on Survey; and conduct the Local Foods Special Study.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS (NCES)

[*NCES*](#), of the Department of Education (ED), is a principal source of Federal education statistics. NCES collects, analyses, and disseminates education statistics at all levels, from preschool through postsecondary and adult education, including statistics on international education. NCES collections include the Common Core of Data, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, the National Postsecondary Student Aid Survey, the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study, and the Program for International Student Assessment. The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is NCES' primary tool for assessing what American elementary and secondary students know and can do in academic subjects. NCES also administers the Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems program, which provides grants to the States for the management and analysis of individual student data to improve student academic performance and close achievement gaps.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$303.4 million included \$274.8 million for the Statistics, Assessment, and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) programs, representing \$50.2 million less than the President's budget request for these three programs. This funding level allows NCES to collect comprehensive data on public elementary and secondary schools and

districts; a survey of private elementary and secondary schools; the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), a comprehensive collection system that collects information on postsecondary institutions; the National Postsecondary Student Aid Survey (NPSAS); the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Kindergarten Class of 2010–2011; and work on international assessments, including the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). FY 2015 funding also provides support for NAEP reading, mathematics, and science assessments in 4th, 8th, and 12th grades. Funds from the appropriation also supported the SLDS program to improve student achievement. Because NCES did not receive its requested level of funding for FY 2015, it was unable to implement a pilot State-level PISA, collect more frequent NPSAS data regarding student financial aid, or provide additional support to States to improve early childhood data, expand data usage, improve information linkages between secondary and postsecondary institutions, or develop linkages to workforce data.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President’s budget request for FY 2016 of \$381.5 million is \$78.1 million above the FY 2015 appropriation. The majority of the budget request (\$352.1 million) is to fund the Statistics, Assessment, and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) programs and 99 percent of the requested increase would be used for these three programs. Funding also is requested, as part of the program administration request, for salaries and expenses for NCES staff and ED Facts.¹⁸ A \$21.7 million increase in the Statistics program would allow ED to collect critical and timelier information on a wide range of high-priority policy issues, including postsecondary educational costs and student progress, school crime and safety, and early childhood education. Specifically, the increase would fund the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study: Birth Cohort; an early childhood education study; the collection of administrative data every two years on student loan repayments and defaults for the NPSAS; statistical work on the My Brother’s Keeper initiative; and school crime data collections. The request for the Assessment program of \$157.4 million provides support for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB). This level of funding would allow for the 2017 4th and 8th grade national and State assessments in reading and math to transition to a digital-based platform, the expansion of the Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) to an additional 10 urban school districts, and the administration of assessments in U.S. history, civics, and geography in 8th and 12th grades in 2018. The requested \$70.0 million for Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems includes funding for \$35.8 million in new grant awards, \$28.5 million to support continuation costs of State grants awarded in 2012 and 2015, and \$6.0 million to support activities to improve data coordination, quality, and use for all States. In addition, approximately \$8.4 million in reimbursements from other agencies will be used for intercensal estimates of poverty, the National Indian Education Study, enhancements to the Early Childhood Longitudinal Survey: Kindergarten Class, and the Civil Rights Data Collection.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS (NCHS)

[NCHS](#), of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is a principal source of Federal health statistics. NCHS is responsible for the collection, maintenance, analysis, and dissemination of statistics on the nature and extent of the health, illness, and disability of the U.S. population; the impact of illness and disability on the economy; the effects of environmental, social, and other health hazards; health care costs and financing; family formation,

¹⁸ In 2014, as part of a reorganization, NCES assumed management of ED Facts, an initiative to collect, analyze, report on, and promote the use of kindergarten through grade 12 performance data for use in education planning, policy-making, and management and budget decision making. ED Facts is funded from ED’s Program Administration funds.

growth, and dissolution; and vital events (births and deaths). NCHS has also placed emphasis on improving health and health care data systems and enhancing internationally comparable measures of disability.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriated amount of \$155.4 million is level with FY 2014 and consistent with the FY 2015 President's budget request. This amount includes funds for the CDC Working Capital Fund for business services; in the past, these services were funded centrally at CDC. In FY 2014 about \$15.3 million of the Health Statistics appropriation went to the Working Capital Fund. The funded level allows NCHS to: conduct the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) to provide data for monitoring trends in illness and disability and to track progress toward achieving national health objectives; maintain full field operations for the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) to provide nationally representative data on the health and nutritional status of adults and children, including prevalence of diagnosed and undiagnosed conditions; collect a full 12-months of birth and death records from States and territories to provide the Nation's official vital statistics; conduct selected components of the National Health Care Surveys to reflect changing patterns of health care delivery; research and evaluate statistical methods for use by NCHS and the broader scientific community; and enhance the quality and usability of data access tools.

NCHS did not receive requested funds from the FY 2015 Prevention and Public Health Fund. Funds would have continued additional NHIS content on health insurance and health care use and access and enabled the expansion of NHIS' sample to obtain additional State health insurance estimates. Funds would also have been used to expand the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) sample size to expand to permit State-level estimates. Without these funds, NHIS and NAMCS sample size increases and additional NHIS content would have ceased in 2016 if CDC had not provided one-time only funds to continue some of the survey enhancements.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 request of \$160.4 million for health statistics is \$5.0 million above the FY 2015 appropriation. With this increase, NCHS would expand electronic reporting of deaths by the States to provide faster, better quality data on deaths of public health importance, including prescription drug overdose-related deaths. This increase includes funding for the CDC Working Capital Fund. The FY 2016 budget request maintains NCHS' capacity to monitor key health indicators by supporting its ongoing, seminal health and healthcare surveys and data collection systems, using personal interviews, healthcare records, physical examinations, diagnostic procedures, lab tests, and vital event registrations. In FY 2016, NCHS will launch a new, more efficient NHIS sample that incorporates information on population demographics from the Decennial Census and provides a more nimble platform for responding to changes in funding. Additionally, NCHS would test and implement modules to the NHANES to address the growing need for information on infectious and chronic health conditions. NCHS continues to integrate data collected from three hospital surveys into one survey called the National Hospital Care Survey (NHCS). The NHCS integrates inpatient data formerly collected by the National Hospital Discharge Survey; emergency department (ED) and outpatient department (OPD) data including ambulatory surgery, collected by the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Survey; and data on substance-involved ED visits formerly collected by SAMHSA's Drug Abuse Warning Network. NCHS is transitioning from manual data collection to electronic data collection for the National Health Care Surveys, which is expected to improve both timeliness and quality of data. NCHS would continue to investigate ways to incorporate administrative data and electronic health record information into the family of health care pro-

vider surveys. The role of the National Vital Statistics System in disease surveillance would continue to be developed as increased use of electronic reporting systems has dramatically improved timeliness of mortality reporting. With its requested budget, NCHS would continue to explore ways to improve data availability for small populations, including innovative sampling methods and research on small area estimation techniques. The value and usability of NCHS data would be optimized through online tutorials which provide analytic guidance, linkage with other data sets, and the development and improvement of online access systems.

Additionally, the FY 2016 proposal includes a request of about \$12.0 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund for NCHS activities to better monitor use of and access to the health care system, including at the State-level. Proposed activities include the continuation of additional NHIS content to monitor changes in the provision and use of health care and increased sample sizes for NHIS and NAMCS to support State estimates.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING STATISTICS (NCSES)

[NCSES](#), of the National Science Foundation (NSF), is a principal source of Federal statistics about the science and engineering enterprise and serves as the central Federal clearinghouse for the collection, interpretation, analysis, and dissemination of objective data on science, engineering, technology, and research and development. NCSES is called on to support the collection of statistical data on research and development trends, the science and engineering workforce, U.S. competitiveness, and the condition and progress of the Nation's science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education; to support research using the data it collects and on methodologies in areas related to the work of the Center; and to support the education and training of researchers in the use of its own and other large-scale, nationally representative data sets. NCSES designs, supports, and directs a coordinated collection of periodic national surveys and performs a variety of other data collections and research, providing policymakers, researchers, and other decision makers with high quality data and analysis on research and development (R&D), innovation, the education of scientists and engineers, and the science and engineering workforce.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriated amount of \$58.3 million represents an increase of \$11.2 million over the FY 2014 appropriation. These amounts includes salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated. At this level of funding, NCSES is able to maintain and enhance ongoing programs that provide the science policy community and researchers relevant, accurate, and timely information on the science and engineering enterprise. The majority of the increase, \$7.5 million, allows enhancement of the Survey of Doctorate Recipients by expanding and recasting the survey sample to collect data and develop estimates for employment outcomes by STEM subfield, race, and gender. It also allows for developing and testing of measures to address data gaps related to understanding the relationship between graduate education and outcomes. The remainder of the increase supports a variety of projects including developing a survey of research and development funding and performance by nonprofit organizations; expanding the scope of administrative record sources; significantly redesigning the production and presentation of Science and Engineering Indicators to promote accessibility of data; and expanding access to NCSES' data repository and data systems.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's budget request of \$62.0 million for FY 2016 represents a 6.4 percent increase over the FY 2015 appropriation. Funding at this level would maintain NCSES' core program-

matic activities and support selected improvements in NCSES' statistical and analytic programs. The increase would allow NCSES to begin to bridge existing data gaps and improve measures, including development and testing of questions to improve international comparability on measures of business sector innovation and on the STEM workforce; to collect new enrollment data on terminal master's degree students; to research new data sources including administrative sources or unstructured data, thereby improving the timeliness and efficiency of statistical products; to research new methods and techniques for confidentiality protection; to support NSF evaluation activities; and to improve efficiencies in the delivery of data and information including improving editing and processing techniques for surveys, converting to 'born-digital' products, and expanding NCSES' data repository and data systems.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, EVALUATION, AND STATISTICS (ORES)

[ORES](#), of the Social Security Administration (SSA), is a principal source of Federal labor, health, economic, and current demographic statistics. ORES performs demographic and socioeconomic research to assess the impact of program changes or alternatives. SSA also collects, tabulates, and publishes data on the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance program; the Supplemental Security Income programs and their beneficiary populations; and earnings for people in employment covered under Social Security and Medicare.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$29.6 million is consistent with the FY 2015 funding level request. ORES continued to fund two Disability Research Centers, through the Disability Research Consortium, to conduct disability-related research, focusing on collaborative efforts with other government agencies and interagency groups. The agency also continues to fund retirement-related research through the Retirement Research Consortium. ORES is also funding design, development, testing, and data collection for an SSA-funded supplement to the re-engineered Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The FY 2016 request for \$26.9 million is 9.3 percent lower than the FY 2015 appropriation, and would enable ORES to continue its core extramural research functions, including the second year of an initiative to develop and implement a business intelligence platform for research and data development. The FY 2016 request is a decrease of \$2.8 million compared to the FY 2015 appropriation. This decrease results from the two year funding of SIPP, discussed above. Otherwise, ORES would continue its core extramural research functions in FY 2016, including research and training through the Disability Research and Retirement Research Consortia; supporting the Health and Retirement Study; collecting and coding data for the re-engineered SIPP; and publishing Social Security Programs throughout the World as part of a cooperative effort between ORES and the International Social Security Association.

STATISTICS OF INCOME (SOI)

[SOI](#), of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which resides in the Treasury Department, is a principal source of Federal income statistics. SOI collects, analyzes, and disseminates information on the Federal tax system. In support of this mission, SOI annually conducts more than 100 different projects that involve data from tax returns and information documents. Three of SOI's largest projects produce annual income, financial, and tax data collected from individual, corporate, and partnership returns. Tax data reflecting U.S. and international eco-

conomic activities are also collected annually from a number of other tax returns with smaller filing populations, including estate, gift, and excise tax returns. In addition, data are collected from information returns filed by tax-exempt organizations, issuers of tax-exempt government bonds, and fiduciaries of split-interest trusts, as well as from a wide range of information documents, such as Forms W-2 and 1099. The statistical data gathered, analyzed, and published by SOI are used by other Federal agencies, the White House, Congress, academics, researchers, and the general public to analyze tax policy, project tax revenues, and estimate the overall impact of tax law changes on the economy and the U.S. budget.

Congressional Action on the President's FY 2015 Budget Request

The FY 2015 appropriation of \$36.2 million was \$1.1 million less than the President's FY 2015 request. With the appropriated funds, SOI continues to support its critical base program requirements and provides all data files and other outputs to its primary customers. Specifically, SOI began work on the Joint Statistical Research program, selecting 12 participants for this program, which pairs external experts with SOI staff on projects related to tax administration. SOI continues to improve access to its statistics, including developing statistical data visualizations, and expanding its programs to include information collected under the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act. Further, SOI continues to evaluate its sample to ensure the designs are efficient and provide sound estimates of key population parameters. SOI also continues to modernize its data collection applications.

Highlights of the FY 2016 Budget Request and Major Program Changes

The President's budget request of \$37.9 million for FY 2016 is slightly higher than the FY 2015 appropriation. At this level of funding, SOI would maintain current levels of service as well as support expanded statistical program requirements resulting from changes in the tax laws. The agency would further integrate existing administrative data with edited data, expanding the amount of statistical data it makes available. This would also allow for improved data linkages, providing opportunities to study tax administration and economic issues across tax filing populations. Increased use of administrative data would reduce the number of transcribed fields, lessening data processing costs. Additionally, SOI would develop richer datasets on complex corporations and collect additional data provided in compliance with the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act and the Affordable Care Act. To support innovative research with the potential to impact tax administration, SOI would continue to sponsor a robust research program, working with experts within and outside government. SOI would use a portion of its budget to upgrade its information technology infrastructure and deploy virtualization throughout the agency. It would also increase its capacity to provide custom tabulations on a cost-reimbursable basis. These efforts should improve security and reduce costs. Finally, SOI would continue to modernize its data dissemination practices, developing more web-based products designed for wider audiences to increase the public's understanding of the tax system.

CHAPTER 3. OTHER FEDERAL STATISTICAL PROGRAMS, BY DEPARTMENT

In addition to the 13 principal statistical agencies, there are approximately 114 other programs throughout the Federal Government that were engaged in statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in FY 2014, or estimated annual budgets of that amount in either FY 2015 or FY 2016. This chapter presents brief descriptions of these other statistical programs and a summary of major FY 2016 programmatic changes organized by department or independent agency.¹⁹

Appendix B provides a glossary of agency abbreviations and their departments.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In addition to two principal statistical agencies (ERS and NASS, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Agriculture*](#) (USDA) has seven other agencies that maintain statistical programs. USDA produces current demographic; soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands; agriculture; and labor statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Agricultural Research Service*](#) (ARS) monitors and assesses U.S. food consumption by conducting surveys and providing information for food and nutrition-related programs and public policy decisions.

The [*Food and Nutrition Service*](#) (FNS) conducts surveys, program evaluations, and studies to evaluate the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; the Child Nutrition Programs; the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program; and other programs it administers.

The [*Foreign Agricultural Service*](#) (FAS) maintains a worldwide agricultural market intelligence and commodity reporting service to provide U.S. farmers and traders with information on world agricultural production and trade for use in adjusting to changes in world demand for U.S. agricultural products. Reporting includes data on foreign government policies, analysis of supply and demand conditions, commercial trade relationships, and market opportunities. In addition to survey data, crop condition assessment relies heavily on computerized analyses of satellite, meteorological, agricultural, and related data.

The [*Forest Service*](#) (FS) conducts the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, which is the only program that collects, compiles, archives, analyzes, and publishes State, regional, and national inventory information on all ownerships for forest land in the U.S. FIA is mandated to improve the understanding and management of our Nation's forests by maintaining a continuous, comprehensive inventory of the status, condition, and trends in the health and diversity of the country's forest ecosystems. FIA also monitors urban forests using special field surveys and primary wood using facilities through statistical samples and develops statistical techniques to query private forest landowners about their resource objectives and management strategies.

¹⁹ This volume omits two Federal agencies (National Institute of Standards and Technology and Veterans Administration Board of Veterans' Appeals) included in the FY 2015 report that no longer meet the inclusion criteria of \$500,000 in estimated or direct funding for statistical activities in the forthcoming or either of the past two fiscal years. Two additional agencies (National Institute of General Medical Services and Veterans Administration Office of Inspector General) now meet the inclusion criteria and have been added.

The [*Natural Resources Conservation Service*](#) (NRCS) provides information on the status, condition, and trends of the Nation's natural resources. NRCS conducts soil surveys to help predict the impact of climate change on worldwide agricultural production and water supply forecasting to provide the western States and Alaska with information to inform water resource conservation practices. It also assists with the implementation of natural resource conservation practices and systems that meet established technical standards and specifications. NRCS assesses, acquires, develops, interprets, and disseminates land use patterns, agricultural practices, soil erosion rates, and natural resource issues.

The [*Risk Management Agency*](#) (RMA) conducts actuarial analysis for Federal crop insurance programs. The Strategic Data Acquisition and Analysis (SDAA) unit plays an integral role in the Agency's strategic goals to enhance and ensure the integrity of the Federal Crop Insurance program. SDAA directly supports RMA program units that are responsible for ensuring the program's product development, underwriting guidelines, and oversight activities are in accordance with the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended.

The [*World Agricultural Outlook Board*](#) (WOAB) serves as USDA's focal point for economic intelligence and the commodity outlook for U.S. and world agriculture. WOAB coordinates, reviews, and approves the monthly World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates report, which provides USDA's comprehensive forecasts of supply and demand for major U.S. and global crops and U.S. livestock. WOAB also houses the Joint Agricultural Weather Facility, which monitors the weather and assesses its likely impact on crops around the world.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

FNS' FY 2016 budget request reflects the conclusion in FY 2015 of two one-time evaluations of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children. In response to the 2014 Farm Bill (PL 113-79, Sec. 8301) FS would instruct FIA to revise its Strategic Plan to conduct an inventory of interior Alaska, improve forest carbon accounting, enhance land use and land cover monitoring, and monitor urban forest coverage. NRCS would fully implement the Soil Data Joint Re-correlation Project. This project would include accelerating the collection of soil carbon samples, mapping and digitizing soil surveys, and measuring use-dependent soil properties to enable land users to predict how each kind of soil would respond to use, management, and treatment. NRCS would also develop and issue water supply forecasts.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

In addition to two principal statistical agencies (BEA and Census, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Commerce*](#) (DOC) has four other agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOC provides current and periodic economic; national accounts; current and periodic demographic; environment; soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Economics and Statistics Administration*](#) (ESA) provides oversight and management of the Census Bureau (Census), the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), and the Office of the Chief Economist. Through these efforts, ESA produces in-depth reports, fact sheets, and briefings on economic policy issues and current economic events. Topics range from foreign direct investment in the U.S., the digital economy and trade, and broadband availability in the workplace.

The [*International Trade Administration*](#) (ITA) collects and disseminates data on imports, exports, production, prices, and foreign direct investment in the U.S., as well as other economic

data to analyze domestic and foreign market situations. ITA also tracks data on international inbound arrivals and U.S. outbound air travel supplemented with spending data on Canadian and Mexican travelers to the U.S. The National Travel and Tourism Office (NTTO) in ITA maintains a web site to provide statistical data to U.S. companies on international travel to and from the U.S., and projections of international arrivals to the U.S.

The [*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*](#) (NOAA) gathers worldwide environmental data about the oceans, earth, air, space, and sun and their interactions to describe and predict the state of the physical environment. In fulfillment of this mission, NOAA's [*National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service*](#) (NESDIS) maintains national data centers that preserve and disseminate the agency's climatic, oceanographic, and geophysical data and selected environmental information collected by other agencies. NOAA's [*National Marine Fisheries Service*](#) (NMFS) sponsors a broad program of statistical activities to support its mission of environmental stewardship. These activities include the design and implementation of statistical surveys to collect data, produce estimates, and disseminate statistics of total fishing participation, fishing effort, catch, and economic impacts in domestic commercial and recreational fisheries.

The [*Patent and Trademark Office*](#) (PTO) compiles statistical information on patent activity by geographic origin, technological subject matter, ownership, and other characteristics; samples patent and trademark cases to measure quality aspects in the processing of applications; and undertakes customer survey activities.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

ITA would increase the sample size of the Survey of International Air Travelers (SIAT) to improve coverage and precision in estimates as mandated by the Travel Promotion Act. Improved estimates on the economic contribution of international travel and tourism would be possible by surveying a greater number of smaller States and cities. ITA's efforts are in response to The President's 2012 National Travel & Tourism Strategy calling for additional metrics and market intelligence to support the National Export Initiative. The increase for NESDIS's National Centers for Environmental Information's Big Earth Data Initiative would allow for maximization of interoperability with partner agencies; support easy, open, and standardized access to specific data sets; ensure full compliance with U.S. Open Data Policy requirements; and allow preparation of additional datasets for the NOAA Big Data Partnership.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The [*Department of Defense*](#) (DOD) has three agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOD is a source of Federal current demographic, economic, health, and transportation statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Army Corps of Engineers*](#) (ACE) acquires, processes, distributes, and archives statistical data on domestic and U.S. foreign waterborne commerce and vessel operations on inland waterways and in ports of the U.S., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Statistical functions are handled by the Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center (WCSC), an element within the U.S. Army Institute for Water Resources Navigation Data Center. WCSC uses these data to produce monthly, quarterly, and annual calendar and fiscal year statistics summarized by port and by inland waterway. Additionally, WCSC produces a U.S. foreign waterborne transportation database by matching manifest-based data to the Customs and Border Protection vessel movement file for U.S. foreign traffic.

The [*Defense Health Agency*](#) (DHA) evaluates TRICARE's health plan and perform design, data collection, and analysis of statistical surveys; prepares forecasts and projections; and develops statistical models for publication, research, and program management. DHA also collects and analyzes data from military hospitals and clinics to identify system-wide outcome measures, proven practices, and innovative methods for financing high quality health care.

The [*Defense Manpower Data Center*](#) (DMDC) maintains the largest archive of personnel, manpower, and training data in DOD. DMDC has a family of analytical centers that provide a central source for personnel surveys, market research, cognitive testing, assessments, and research to support the decision making needs within DOD. Of these, DMDC's Research, Statistics, and Surveys Center is DOD's largest personnel survey program. DMDC's other statistical activities include market research; applied research to improve personnel suitability and reliability policies and operations; and calibration and quality control for vocational testing programs.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

ACE would enhance its information systems to accept real time domestic electronic data in order to improve accuracy of domestic and foreign transportation statistics. ACE would also expand its water transportation data connection with landslide movements, and improve navigation information architecture to support national multimodal freight policy. ACE would collaborate with Customs and Border Protection to improve data communications systems to better target delinquent shippers for Harbor Maintenance Tax audits. DMDC would reorganize to include the Personnel and Security Research Center (PERSEREC) and the Joint Advertising, Market Research and Studies (JAMRS) within DMDC as a means to achieve efficiencies.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

In addition to one principal agency (NCES, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Education*](#) (ED) has eight other agencies that maintain statistical programs and provide education and health statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Institute of Education Sciences*](#) (IES) conducts education research and evaluations. Its National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance (NCEE) conducts large scale evaluations of education programs and practices supported by Federal funds; provides research-based technical assistance to educators and policymakers; and supports the synthesis and the widespread dissemination of the results of education-related research and evaluation throughout the U.S. The IES National Center for Education Research (NCER) supports rigorous research that addresses the Nation's most pressing education needs from early childhood to adult education. IES' National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) supports surveys and research to expand the knowledge and understanding of the educational needs of infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.

The [*Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education*](#) (OCTAE) (formerly called the Office of Vocational and Adult Education) administers programs that are related to adult education and literacy, career and technical education, and community colleges. OCTAE provides funding to help States implement the Adult Education State Grant program's data collection and accountability system.

The [*Office for Civil Rights*](#) (OCR) supports the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC), formerly called the Elementary and Secondary School Survey (E&S Survey), which collects data on key education and civil rights issues in our Nation's public schools. CRDC collects a

variety of information, including student enrollment and educational programs and services, disaggregated by race and ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency, and disability.

The [*Office of Elementary and Secondary Education*](#) (OESE) supports evaluations of the implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Titles I and II, the National Indian Education Study, an evaluation of the Comprehensive Assistance Centers, and an impact evaluation of principal support. In addition, OESE handles the Migrant Student Information Exchange, the technology that allows States to share educational and health information on migrant children who travel from State to State and who, as a result, have student records in multiple States' information systems.

The [*Office of Innovation and Improvement*](#) (OII) manages programs that fund evaluations conducted by IES, including an evaluation of Investing in Innovation Fund. In addition, OII supports technical assistance to improve data quality.

The [*Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development*](#) (OPEPD) develops long term cost estimates for the Federal student aid programs, using such data as the Pell Grant applicant file, the National Student Loan Data System, Census data, and a range of longitudinal surveys conducted by NCES. In addition, it oversees the Data Quality Initiative, an on-going project to improve data on elementary and secondary program performance.

The [*Office of Postsecondary Education*](#) (OPE) formulates Federal postsecondary education policy and administers programs to increase access to quality postsecondary education. OPE collects participant data to assess the effectiveness of TRIO Upward Bound, a program to prepare low income elementary and secondary students for postsecondary education. In addition, OPE collects and analyzes performance data for a variety of other programs, including those designed to help low income, first generation students enter and complete college.

The [*Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services*](#) (OSERS) supports a number of statistical activities. The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) supports technical assistance to States to improve data collections that provide information on students with disabilities. The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), another component of OSERS, supports national data centers that coordinate data collection activities on burn injury, traumatic brain injury, and spinal cord injury. It also provides statistical assistance on data collection methodology. In addition, NIDRR funds Rehabilitation Research Training Centers in demographics and statistics, employment policy, and measurement.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

IES would continue the Special Education Studies and Evaluation program, which funds studies to assess the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The program also funds studies to assess the effectiveness of State and local efforts to provide special education and early intervention programs to infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities. The reduction in OESE funds for statistical activities proposed for FY 2016 reflects, in large part, the planned reservation of funds under the ESEA pooled evaluation authority. These funds appear in FY 2016 budget request under OPE, which provides funds to other agencies within ED to conduct program evaluations. The uses of these funds, which will likely include additional statistical activities, will be determined through a Congressionally-approved evaluation planning process to be conducted in FY 2016.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

In addition to one principal agency (EIA, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Energy*](#) (DOE) has one additional agency that maintains statistical programs. DOE is a source for energy, minerals, and health statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security*](#) (OEHSS) conducts epidemiological studies of the health effects of exposure to radiation and other hazardous substances. The Office's Former Worker Screening Programs provide medical screening to help ensure the continuing health and safety of former workers who were exposed to hazards while they worked at DOE facilities. The U.S. Transuranium and Uranium Registries help ensure that radiological protection standards and workplace control measures for occupational exposures to plutonium, uranium, and other long-lived radioactive materials are protective of worker health. The Radiation Effects Research Foundation conducts epidemiologic studies of atomic bomb survivors and gathers valuable health effects information. The Russian Health Studies Program was developed to assess working and public health risks from radiation exposure resulting from nuclear weapons production activities in the former Soviet Union.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

No major program changes are expected.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

In addition to one principal agency (NCHS, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Health and Human Services*](#) (HHS) has 11 additional agencies that maintain statistical programs. These agencies include [*NIH*](#) and its 18 institutes, offices, and centers; and [*CDC*](#) and its 11 centers and offices. HHS is a source for health and current demographic statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Administration for Children and Families*](#) (ACF) collects information to monitor and evaluate its programs for children, youth, families, and communities such as Head Start, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, child support enforcement, adoption assistance, foster care, child care, and child abuse programs.

The [*Administration for Community Living*](#) (ACL) collects data to assess the quality, impact, and effectiveness of its programs, including long-term services and support for older adults and programs for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The [*Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality*](#) (AHRQ) produces and disseminates information about the cost, quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of health care. AHRQ's Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS) provides public and private sector decision makers with timely national estimates of health care use and expenditures; private and public health insurance coverage; and the availability, costs, and scope of private health insurance benefits. AHRQ analyzes changes in behavior as a result of market forces or policy changes on health care use, expenditures, and insurance coverage; develops costs and savings estimates of proposed changes in policy; and identifies the impact of changes in policy for key subgroups of the population.

The [*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*](#) (CDC) promote health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability. CDC provides data on morbidity, epidemiologic surveillance of infectious diseases, chronic diseases, occupational diseases and injuries, vaccine efficacy, and safety. In addition to NCHS, 11 programs under CDC conduct significant statistical work.

- The [*Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry*](#) (ATSDR), Division of Health Studies, conducts health investigations, surveillance, and registries to describe the relationships between the presence of hazardous substances in the environment (particu-

larly at hazardous waste sites) and public health status. The analysis for statistical significance of human disease, biomarkers, and other health outcomes in the presence of environmental contamination is the primary use of statistics by the agency.

- The [*Center for Global Health*](#) has three divisions engaged in statistical work globally. The Division of Global HIV/AIDS (DGHA) supports data-driven decision making that aligns with the evolving characteristics of the HIV/AIDS epidemic across resource-constrained countries. DGHA provides global technical leadership, capacity building, technical assistance and other support in statistical and epidemiologic methods to agencies, countries, and staff involved in the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The Global Immunization Division (GID) supports data-driven decision making to align with the evolving epidemiologic scope of vaccine preventable diseases. GID provides global technical leadership, capacity building, technical assistance and other support in statistical and epidemiologic methods to guide programs and policies for global polio eradication, measles elimination, and strengthening of routine immunization systems. The Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria conducts global surveillance, investigations, and studies of parasitic diseases to define disease etiology, mode of transmission, and populations at risk and to develop effective methods for diagnosis, prevention, control, and elimination.
- The [*National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion*](#) (NCCDPHP) develops models to determine prevalence and cost of diseases and conditions through predicted incidence rates, mortality rates, and birth rates. NCCDPHD also conducts longitudinal studies designed to help families, health care providers, schools, and communities develop effective policies and programs to improve the health of youth. The agency also examines the effectiveness and cost efficiency of approaches to improve quality of care, quality of life, and health status. NCCDPHD produces and disseminates State and national data in support of broader initiatives, such as the National Program of Cancer Registries.
- The [*National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases*](#) (NCEZID) supports a number of statistical activities from four of its divisions. Activities carried out by division programs and branches include: statistical, surveillance, and data management to support research and epidemiology; adaptation of existing methodology and creation of new techniques for statistical application; data analysis and statistical modeling; advising, training, and collaborating with investigators on study design, analysis, and dissemination of epidemiology; and coordinating and maintaining access to long-term national and international data related to infectious diseases.
- The [*National Center for Environmental Health*](#) (NCEH) studies the relationship between human health and the environment to develop national public health programs and policies to prevent disease. NCEH investigates disease outbreaks and environmental threats related to noninfectious exposures in the U.S. and internationally. NCEH collects and analyzes child blood levels for surveillance and adult asthma prevalence at the State level. It supports the development of the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network and the National Asthma Control Program.
- The [*National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Tuberculosis Prevention*](#) (NCHHSTP) provides statistical support in the design and analysis of data from epidemiologic and behavioral intervention studies; provides statistical support in estimating the prevalence and incidence of HIV infection in a variety of survey populations; develops statistical models describing changes in the prevalence and incidence of HIV infection over time; analyzes trends in HIV/AIDS surveillance

data by different demographic and patient risk characteristics; reviews statistical methods in manuscripts; produces standardized statistical reports and data analysis of HIV/AIDS reported morbidity and mortality; and creates mathematical models to project the incidence of infection, the efficiency of HIV transmission and the incubation time for AIDS. The National Center also captures State-level STD morbidity data; assesses STD burden and trends; and develops and conducts surveillance of STDs and STD adverse outcomes that provide a foundation for the annual STD Surveillance Report. NCHHSTP also develops models of tuberculosis (TB) transmission dynamics in order to assess and project the impact of intervention efforts and to prevent and control TB in the U.S. NCHHSTP also has statistical programs to monitor six types of health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and adults and assess school health policies and practices.

- The [*National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases*](#) (NCIRD) is responsible for preventing disease, disability, and death from vaccine-preventable diseases and other respiratory, enteric, and related diseases. As part of these efforts, NCIRD divisions conduct statistical, epidemiologic, and laboratory studies aimed at defining disease burden, associated hospitalizations, and deaths; characterizing disease strains; estimating vaccine effectiveness; determining cost effectiveness of vaccines; and evaluating other control measures for non-vaccine preventable diseases. Assessment of vaccination coverage levels is another critical component of the national immunization program.
- The [*National Center for Injury Prevention and Control*](#) (NCIPC) conducts and funds a range of statistical activities, including the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, and provides access to statistical data on fatal, nonfatal, and violence-related injuries. NCIPC conducts four studies with the Consumer Product Safety Commission: the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System-All Injury Program, Self-Inflicted Injury, Firearm Injury Surveillance Study, and Assault Special Studies.
- The [*National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities*](#) (NCBDDD) supports State surveillance programs aimed at determining the causes of developmental disabilities; provides major surveillance and research programs for both birth defects and developmental disabilities; and coordinates the National Birth Defects Prevention Study, a nationwide case control study aimed at determining the preventable causes of major birth defects, as well as the SEED Case Control Study and the ADDM surveillance network.
- The [*National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health*](#) (NIOSH) develops surveillance programs on occupational injuries and illnesses; provides funding for the collection of occupational injuries and illness data; develops scientific collaborations to assist in the dissemination of new measurement technologies for clinical and epidemiological studies; and designs, conducts, and analyzes experimental and observational research.
- The [*Office of Public Health Scientific Services*](#) (PHSS) transfers funding for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to NCCDPHP to administer the program. BRFSS is a nationwide health survey collecting State-specific information on the health status, risk behaviors, preventive health practices, and access to health care of adults 18 years and older.

The [*Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services*](#) (CMS) collect, analyze, and disseminate statistical data on the Medicare and Medicaid programs and the quality of care delivered by those programs. CMS also sponsors the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey to obtain longitudinal and cross-sectional information on health care utilization and expenditures, including expenditures not covered by Medicare; the sources of health care coverage and payment;

and the assets, income, health, functional status, work history and family support systems of the Medicare population. Statistical databases and ongoing statistical tabulations include: the beneficiary population and subgroups; characteristics of providers of service; person-based utilization data; service location utilization data; procedure-specific data for physicians and suppliers; longitudinal data on beneficiaries, characteristics, and service utilization; and tabulations of financial and statistical data from all Medicaid-certified hospitals and hospital and health care complexes.

The [*Health Resources and Services Administration*](#) (HRSA) collects data on general health services, the health professions workforce, and resource issues related to access, equity, quality, and cost of care. HRSA maintains the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients, the National Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry. HRSA also supports the HIV Research Network, a longitudinal proprietary database containing HIV care and treatment information for over 20,000 patients. HRSA supports the NEXT Longitudinal Survey, a 4 year study of a representative sample of U.S. 10th grade children to describe change over time in adolescent health and health behaviors. Additionally, HRSA supports the National Survey of Children's Health to assess the health status, health care needs, health care utilization, and health behaviors of children.

The [*Indian Health Service*](#) (IHS) provides health statistics concerning vital events, demography, and morbidity of American Indians and Alaska Natives who reside in the IHS service areas. IHS publishes these statistics in two monograph series: Trends in Indian Health and Regional Differences in Indian Health. It also publishes reports on life expectancy, health status objectives, and focused areas related to specific health programs. IHS also provides health care utilization management, patient care, and epidemiologic statistics regarding American Indians and Alaska Natives who receive healthcare from IHS. IHS participates in AHRQ's National Health Disparities Report interagency workgroup, providing Prevention Quality Indicators (PQI) measures calculated from its medical records repository data.

The [*National Institutes of Health*](#) (NIH) supports a variety of statistical activities that help advance its mission. NIH supports epidemiological studies, clinical trials, and other types of research efforts that involve significant data collection and analysis. Further, NIH supports surveys of health and health-related topics conducted by other Federal agencies, industry, State and local governments, and non-profit organizations. NIH also sponsors or co-funds data collections about the scientific workforce that inform policy, program development, and implementation. As described below, 18 institutes and centers within the NIH conduct or fund statistical activities that support their research priorities and inform their operations.

- [*National Cancer Institute*](#) (NCI) supports biometric research on cancer incidence, survival, and mortality by conducting clinical trials of cancer prevention, screening, and treatment; providing statistical consultation and support to research investigators; and adopting or developing statistical methods. NCI establishes and supports nationwide surveys and gathers statistical information in many areas of surveillance research, such as: cancer incidence, mortality, morbidity, survival, patterns of cancer care, cancer risk factors and health practices, cost of care, health systems operations applied to cancer control, and monitoring of progress in cancer diagnosis and treatment.
- [*National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine*](#) (NCCAM) conducts and supports research on complementary and alternative medicine, disseminates authoritative information to the public and professionals on the safety and efficacy these modalities, and trains researchers in this field.
- [*National Eye Institute*](#) (NEI) carries out studies of the causation, prevention, and treatment of eye diseases and vision disorders. The Division of Epidemiology and Clinical

Applications (DECA) plans, develops, and carries out human studies concerned with the causation, prevention, and treatment of eye diseases and vision disorders. This includes studies of incidence and prevalence in defined populations, prospective and retrospective studies of risk factors, natural history studies, clinical trials (Phases 1, 2, and 3), genetic studies, and studies to evaluate diagnostic procedures. DECA also carries out a program of education in biometric and epidemiologic principles and methods for the vision research community, and provides biometric and epidemiologic assistance to NEI scientific staff.

- The most prominent statistical activities of the [*National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute*](#) (NHLBI) are the Data Coordinating Centers (DCCs) that perform clinical trials related to heart, lung, and blood disease. DCCs conduct efficacy studies to determine whether specific interventions improve disease outcomes under rigorously controlled and ideal circumstances, effectiveness studies to determine whether specific interventions result in positive outcomes in more applied settings, and translational studies that test interventions to improve the delivery of proven approaches in clinical or public health settings. NHLBI supports research on temporal trends and population patterns in the prevalence, incidence, morbidity and mortality from these diseases; risk factors for the development and progression of subclinical and clinical disease; and design and analysis of long-term observational studies. NHLBI supports research and training in bioinformatics approaches to improve access to and use of data. NHLBI also supports registries to create databases that can be analyzed for specific research questions.
- The [*National Human Genome Research Institute*](#) (NHGRI) conducts a wide range of studies, such as analyses of genetic variants associated with human disease in different populations; integration of genetic information into clinical care; methods for disease risk quantification and prevention based on genetics; and data collection to understand perceptions towards return of genetic results.
- [*National Institute on Aging*](#) (NIA) conducts research on aging and age-associated diseases and conditions, including physical and cognitive functioning, by using population-based epidemiologic and biometric methods.
- [*National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism*](#) (NIAAA) conducts epidemiologic and statistical research in the extramural Division of Epidemiology and Prevention Research (DEPR). DEPR conducts national surveillance of trends in annual per capita alcohol consumption as well as alcohol-related morbidity and mortality, and other alcohol-related topics. DEPR monitors legislative activity with the Alcohol Policy Information System (APIS), which was upgraded to include the monitoring of taxation policies for alcoholic beverages. APIS, in conjunction with other datasets in the Alcoholic Epidemiologic Data System, is used to study the effects of State alcohol policies on commonly experienced problems related to alcohol consumption.
- [*National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases*](#) (NIAID) provides biostatistical data management and logistical support for the analysis of HIV/AIDS clinical trials; and monitors and coordinates the numerous sites conducting HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases clinical trials.
- [*National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering*](#) (NIBIB) provides funds for research in scientific fields where statistical analyses are essential tools in data analysis methods. These fields include bioinformatics, image processing, and computational modeling and simulation.
- [*National Institute of Child Health and Human Development*](#) (NICHD) directs epide-

miological and statistical programs that include research on risk factors of adverse pregnancy outcomes, clinical trials for the evaluation of obstetric management and neonatal intensive care, and data to understand recent trends in indicators of maternal and child health. NICHD also manages the National Children's Study (NCS). The statistical program mission is accomplished through in-house efforts of NICHD's Division of Intramural Population Health Research; through the support of extramural grants and contracts to coordinate data collection and analysis; and through interagency agreements to support epidemiological and statistical data relevant to Institute programs.

- [*National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders*](#) (NIDCD) supports epidemiological studies about the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech and language. NIDCD also provides consultation services in the design of intervention studies; develops and applies statistical methods as needed for epidemiological and biometric research studies; and maintains data systems based on health examination and interview surveys or medical records information of relevance to NICHD.
- [*National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research*](#) (NIDCR) supports studies of oral health and disparities and provides support to NCHS for the Oral Health Component in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).
- [*National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases*](#) (NIDDK) focuses on statistical studies of diabetes and digestive diseases and their complications, and the analysis of epidemiologic data related to major chronic kidney and urologic diseases.
- [*National Institute on Drug Abuse*](#) (NIDA) supports research in ways to improve the validity of self-reported drug use on surveys (e.g., biological measures and improved survey methodologies), as well as supporting the addition of some of these methodologies to already existing data collections. NIDA also encourages and supports secondary analysis of data from prior drug abuse studies, as well as the collection of common data through the use of standardized measures. NIDA continues to support the National Addiction & HIV Data Archive Program which acquires, preserves, and makes available an easily accessible library of electronic data on drug addiction and HIV, allowing the scientific community to conduct secondary analysis of these multiple datasets.
- [*National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences*](#) (NIEHS) conducts a variety of statistical activities in support of its mission to understand how the environment affects human health. These activities include studies in environmental epidemiology; design and analysis of animal carcinogenicity experiments; statistical studies in genetic toxicology; mathematical modeling of molecular phenomena; risk assessment methodology development; statistical and bioinformatics support of environmental genomics studies; and a training program and consulting service.
- [*National Institute of General Medical Sciences*](#)' (NIGMS) Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation (OPAE) is responsible for providing statistical services across NIGMS' six divisions. OPAAE provides statistical advice on project conceptualization, study design, methodology, data management, and interpretation of results.
- [*National Institute of Mental Health's*](#) (NIMH) mission is to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illness through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure. NIMH data seek to provide a complete picture of mental health indicators such as prevalence, service use, and economic burden.
- The [*Office of the Director*](#) (NIH/OD) supports data collections and analysis of populations training for and participating in medical research, as well as biological and medi-

cal sciences instrumentation and research facilities. To that end, NIH/OD supports a number of annual NSF surveys of graduate students, postdoctoral students and early career doctorates, and medical-college faculty. The annual NSF-NIH surveys collect information on individuals receiving research doctoral degrees from U.S. universities, their work activities, patterns, and professional development trajectories. NIH/OD, along with NSF and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, are partnering on a multi-agency venture, Science and Technology for America's Reinvestment: Measuring the Effect of Research on Innovation, Competitiveness and Science (STAR METRICS).

The *Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation* (ASPE) serves as the principal policy advisor to the Secretary of HHS providing direct support for the Secretary's initiatives. Statistical activities are aimed at improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the health system through adoption of health information technology and include a variety of independent policy research and evaluation activities across the spectrum of HHS' programs, with particular attention to strategic, evaluation, legislative, and policy planning. ASPE supports projects that maintain and enhance the collection of nationally representative health data, as well as microsimulation modeling and actuarial analysis for policy development.

The *Office of Population Affairs* (OPA) serves as the focal point to advise the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Health on a wide range of reproductive health topics, including adolescent pregnancy, family planning, and sterilization, as well as other population issues.

The *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration* (SAMHSA) provides statistics on health problems related to the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol (the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention); substance abuse treatment (the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment); the mental health condition of the population (the Center for Mental Health Services); and the prevalence and incidence of substance abuse and its medical impact (the Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality).

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

ACL would complete several one-time projects: the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Evaluation, the Elderly Nutrition Service Program Evaluation, the State Health Insurance Assistance Programs Evaluation, as well as the Program Planning and Performance Reporting system's development. Accordingly, ACL's FY 2016 budget request is significantly lower than its FY 2015 appropriations estimate.

CDC's ATSDR would continue a multi-year project to collect and analyze data regarding the incidence of various cancers for a population of residents of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

CMS would re-launch the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey. In addition, CMS would modernize and improve the accessibility of information systems used to support the Chronic Condition Warehouse.

NIDCR would support the Oral Health Component in the 2014-2015 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, including the detection of enamel fluorosis using quantitative imaging methods for surveillance purposes; assessment of periodontal disease prevalence and severity for surveillance purposes; assessment of dental caries prevalence and severity for surveillance purposes; and testing of home water fluoride levels. NIDA would expand research to improve the validity of self-reported drug use on surveys (e.g., biological measures and improved survey methodologies), and apply some of these methodologies to already existing data collections. NIH-OD and NICHD would continue dissolution activities of the National Children's Study pilot study (the "Vanguard Study"),

and focus efforts on maintaining access to the data and information generated by the Vanguard Study.

HRSA would fund the National Survey of Children's Health and its public release of data in 2017; analyze the impact of the Affordable Care Act on the numbers and characteristics of clients served by the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) and the effect of enrollment on the health outcomes of clients; examine the extent to which clinicians in RWHAP-funded medical care clinics provide primary care and preventive medical services; support statistical activities by the Division of Transplantation; and continue the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis.

OPA would continue development and implementation of an electronic health records-based system to collect utilization and performance data on the Title X family planning program.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The [*Department of Homeland Security*](#) (DHS) has five agencies that maintain statistical programs. DHS is a source of Federal safety, crime and justice, current demographic, and current economic statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Citizenship and Immigration Service*](#) (CIS) conducts surveys of new immigrants to assess assimilation, education, health, quality of life, and other characteristics of new immigrants to the U.S. over time. CIS collects and maintains current demographic statistics from administrative data gathered through the E-verify program, which allows employers to verify the legal work status of employees. CIS also performs statistical analysis to evaluate the E-verify program's overall effectiveness and its ability to identify impacts on employers and employees.

The [*Coast Guard*](#) maintains detailed annual statistics on all reportable recreational boating safety accidents and incidents throughout the U.S. and its territories. The Boating Accident Report Database (BARD) contains data on recreational boating accidents whenever a vessel is involved in an accident that results in loss of life, personal injury which requires medical treatment beyond first aid, damage to the vessel and other property exceeding \$500, or complete loss of the vessel. The National Recreational Boating Survey collects national and State-level data on boating participation and boat ownership. This survey is used to create the ratio of the number of boating fatalities per 100 million exposure hours.

[*Customs and Border Protection*](#) (CBP) collects entry data on aliens entering and denied admission to the U.S. These data are used by other agencies to monitor the status of nonimmigrant visitors for economic and enforcement purposes. CBP also produces statistical methods to address trade compliance issues, identify questionable import activity, and identify importers for auditing purposes.

The [*Federal Emergency Management Agency*](#)'s (FEMA) statistical activities include evaluation of disaster victims' satisfaction with emergency relief services received and the manner in which they were provided. FEMA's U.S. Fire Administration provides statistics on fires in the Nation, analyzes fire incidents data to describe the national fire problem, and reports on special topics such as firefighter fatalities.

The [*Office of Immigration Statistics*](#) (OIS) produces information on immigrants, refugees, temporary visitors (nonimmigrants), persons naturalized, and aliens apprehended or removed to assess the effects of immigration on the U.S.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

The Coast Guard would begin preliminary work on the National Recreational Boating Survey, which had been postponed due to budget decreases in FY 2013 and FY 2014. OIS would begin hiring additional employees to fill positions left open by previous hiring freezes and attrition, thereby better enabling their production of timely, relevant, and accurate statistics.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The [*Department of Housing and Urban Development*](#) (HUD) has three agencies that maintain statistical programs. HUD is a source of current Federal economic statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Office of Housing*](#) (Housing) maintains and analyzes statistics on housing and property improvement loans and on housing or property insured or rehabilitated under HUD mortgage insurance programs, including the inventory of HUD-held mortgages or HUD-owned properties.

The [*Office of Policy Development and Research*](#) (PD&R) provides data on the volume, characteristics, price, quality, and suitability of housing in the U.S. In addition, PD&R maintains statistics on the construction and permanent financing required to achieve a smoothly functioning housing market and on the status of the existing housing stock.

The [*Office of Public and Indian Housing*](#) (PIH) conducts data collection and analysis projects in support of its mission to administer and monitor public housing and housing assistance programs, and to provide accurate information on fair market rents to families eligible to receive assistance.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

With the requested FY 2016 funding increase, PD&R would be able to fully fund its housing surveys, including the American Housing Survey. PD&R would also provide statistical evaluation of the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Demonstration, Multi-disciplinary Research Team, and Pre-Purchase Counseling Demonstration.

PIH's Office of Field Operation would use HUD's Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Notice of Funding Availability to procure data research and analysis service contracts to support the recovery and sustainable performance of troubled, substandard or near-troubled public housing agencies. Previously, PIH handled this process itself.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Department of the Interior (DOI) has seven agencies that maintain statistical programs. [*DOI*](#) is a source of Federal energy and minerals; environment; and soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Bureau of Land Management*](#) (BLM) publishes the "Public Land Statistics" annual report, which includes information about activities and associated workloads in managing public lands, the commodities produced, and the revenue collected and paid as a result of use of public lands.

The [*Bureau of Ocean Energy Management*](#) (BOEM) is charged with managing the Nation's offshore resources in a balanced way that promotes efficient and environmentally responsible

energy and mineral development through oil and gas leasing, renewable energy development, marine mineral leasing, and a commitment to rigorous, science-based environmental review and study. BOEM plays an important role in advancing President Obama's "all-of-the-above" approach to expanding responsible development of domestic energy resources as part of a broad effort to secure the Nation's energy future, benefit the economy, and create jobs.

The [*Bureau of Reclamation*](#) (BoR) collects and analyzes data to monitor water, land, and hydropower operations of BoR-developed water supply projects throughout the 17 western States. The data collected are used to analyze the effectiveness of water management activities and hydropower generation and improve water use practices to meet growing and changing demands for water.

The [*Fish and Wildlife Service*](#) (FWS) conducts annual surveys to monitor the fish and migratory bird populations, track diseases of cultured and wild fish, measure the changing status of waterfowl and game bird populations, and evaluate harvests by fishermen and hunters. It also conducts surveys of the U.S. public on recreation associated with fish and wildlife activities and periodic satisfaction surveys of visitors to the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The [*Geological Survey*](#) (GS) conducts applied research on the environment. The Ecosystem Mission Area conducts research and develops decision support systems for animals, plants, and the ecosystems that sustain them. The Climate and Land Use Change Mission Area provides scientific information on the impacts of climate and land use change on Earth and human systems to support land and resource managers in their decision making. The Energy and Minerals and Environmental Health Mission Area conducts research on the location, quantity, and quality of mineral and energy resources, including the economic and environmental effects of resource extraction and use. It also conducts research on the environmental impacts of human activities that introduce chemical and pathogenic contaminants into the environment and threaten human, animal (fish and wildlife), and ecological health. The Natural Hazards Mission Area supports applied research to provide policymakers and the public with a clear understanding of potential threats, social vulnerability to these threats, and strategies for achieving resilience to natural hazards, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis. The Water Resources Mission Area monitors and assesses the quantity and quality of the Nation's freshwater resources, assesses sources and behavior of contaminants in the water environment, and develops tools to improve management and understanding of water resources. Within the Core Science Systems Program, the Science Synthesis, Analysis, and Research Program improves access to scientific data and information used by USGS scientists and the DOI resource managers, decision makers, and others. The National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program's STATEMAP supports geologic mapping studies conducted by 45 State geological surveys. The National Geospatial Program conducts research to find innovative solutions for the National Map, the National Spatial Data Infrastructure through its Center of Excellence in Geospatial Information Science.

The [*National Park Service*](#) (NPS) monitors natural resources to inform resource stewardship decision making. Areas monitored include air quality, water quality, ecological health, flood hazards, and forest geomorphology.

The [*Office of Natural Resources Revenue*](#) (ONRR) uses survey collection and statistical modeling techniques to plan and evaluate its work as it collects, reviews and disburses revenues from energy and mineral leases and other monies owed for the use of public resources on Federal, Tribal, and Outer Continental Shelf lands. ONRR serves as a trustee of the royalty asset from Indian trust properties and as an advocate for the interests of Indian mineral owners, ensuring fulfillment of the Federal Government's Indian trust responsibility.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

BoR would fund the Basin Study Program. FWS, through an interagency agreement with Census, would collect data for the updated National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. GS would increase research and development funding to advance priorities in science-based resource management and protection of public health and safety from hazards.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

In addition to one principal statistical agency (BJS, discussed in Chapter 2), the [Department of Justice](#) (DOJ) has five agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOJ is a source of Federal crime and justice statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [Bureau of Prisons](#)' (BOP) Office of Research and Evaluation (ORE) determines the prevalence of mental health conditions among the inmate populations; evaluates the effects of job training, drug treatment, and sex offender treatment programs for prisoners on their post-release outcomes; and studies the potential effects of proposed policy and legislation on the prison population. The National Institute of Corrections, within BOP, focuses its research on areas of emerging interest and concern to corrections practitioners.

The [Drug Enforcement Administration](#) (DEA) collects and maintains data on arrests, dispositions, drug removals, and work hours, as well as drug networks. DEA maintains and updates the publicly accessible National Clandestine Laboratory Register that contains data on clandestine laboratory seizures.

The [Federal Bureau of Investigation's](#) (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) collects criminal acts data from over 18,000 local, State, Tribal, and Federal law enforcement agencies nationwide. Statistical programs include: National Incident-Based Reporting System, Summary Reporting System, Federal Crime Reporting, Hate Crime Statistics, and Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted. UCR produces statistics on murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. UCR also collects data on arrests, monetary values of stolen and recovered property, supplemental homicide data, line of duty officer deaths (felonious and accidental) and assaults, incidents of bias-motivated crimes, and other factors relevant to criminal activity.

The [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) provides evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenge of criminal justice, particularly at local and State levels. NIJ's research and evaluation programs aim to answer basic research questions and develop practical, applied solutions to crime. The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act instructs NIJ to conduct research on violence against Indian women living in Indian Country and in Alaska Native villages. As part of these efforts, NIJ is focusing on analyzing dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, stalking, and murder, and evaluating the effectiveness of responses to those violations.

The [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. As part of its mission, OJJDP collects and publishes data on the juvenile population in the area of criminalization, arrests, victimization, probations, corrections, re-entry, and care after treatment. The agency's primary statistical activity is the collection of data from juvenile residential facilities regarding the offender population and the operation of facilities.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

FBI's UCR would continue to implement comprehensive improvements to the timely collection, analysis, production and public access of its crime data. NIJ would continue its Violence Against Indian Women (VAIW) program, including the National Baseline Study (NBS). NBS, the first national study in Indian Country and Alaska Native Villages, would be conducted in geographically-dispersed Tribal communities across the U.S. to provide a national victimization rate of violence committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In addition to one principal statistical agency (BLS, discussed in Chapter 2), the [Department of Labor](#) (DOL) has five agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOL is a source of Federal labor and safety statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [Employment and Training Administration](#) (ETA) in DOL supports the collection and dissemination of local, State, and national occupational, wage, and other labor market information, as well as the production of Unemployment Insurance (UI) information, for the administration of employment, training, and UI programs. ETA conducts research and evaluation activities to inform development of workforce investment policies and guidance through research and evaluation. ETA also funds the annual National Agricultural Workers Survey which provides data on migration history, type of crops worked, unemployment, benefits, housing, health care, and use of public programs. ETA's statistical activities are funded through Training and Employment Services' annual set aside for research and evaluations of employment and training programs.

The [Mine Safety and Health Administration](#) (MSHA) collects and analyzes current information on employment, production, and accidents, injuries, and illnesses in the mining industry. The data provide current accident, injury, and illness information to MSHA's enforcement personnel, and to engineering, education, and training staff.

The [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) (OSHA) has overall responsibility for the national injury and illness recordkeeping system, which is based on employer records, and is used to provide the frame from which sample cases are selected in the annual BLS Occupational Safety and Health Survey. OSHA also maintains the OSHA Information System, a web-based application hosting detailed data on occupational injuries from employers that are inspected or receive consultation.

The [Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs](#) (OFCCP) assists Federal contractors in meeting their equal employment opportunity and affirmative action obligations. Statistical activities include supporting the use of statistical methodology in agency desk audits, onsite inspections, and compliance evaluations; and advising partners on statistical matters relating to reconciliation, settlement, and litigation of cases.

The [Wage and Hour Division](#) (WHD) in DOL supports surveys of occupational wages in selected industries. Data are used to determine prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits for service occupations in Federal procurement activity.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

ETA's somewhat lower budget request in FY 2016 for statistical activities is due to project management issues in evaluations and research of employment training programs. The new evaluation set aside funding process (Training and Employment Services, ETA) creates in-

creased fluctuations in the projects and funding amounts that can be projected and scheduled in advance. OSHA would maintain and improve upon its recent real-time data system, the OSHA Information System (OIS), as well as consolidate databases to make the agency's data more compatible with DOL's operating environment. OSHA's increase would also be used for a new Data Analytics Unit focused on improving the planning, targeting, implementing, and evaluation of the agency's enforcement and compliance assistance activities. OFCCP would prioritize its hiring goals for statistical personnel.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The [*Department of State*](#) has one office that maintains statistical programs. It is a source of Federal health statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator*](#) (OGAC) in the Department of State is responsible for assuring accountability of The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. OGAC is also responsible for the development and communication of knowledge-based practices to improve program performance, as well as the systematic definition, collection, storage, analysis, and reporting of information about the Emergency Plan's progress in reaching its goals and the impact of programmatic activities funded to reach these goals.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

No major program changes are expected.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

In addition to one principal statistical agency (BTS, discussed in Chapter 2), the [*Department of Transportation*](#) (DOT) has eight other agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOT is a source of Federal transportation statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*Federal Aviation Administration*](#) (FAA) collects, analyzes and disseminates data and statistics on a wide range of aviation airline and airport performance metrics, including information on aviation accidents, incidents and investigations; airlines and airports; airmen and aircrafts; aircraft activity; and aviation forecasts. FAA also manages the Aviation Safety Reporting Program (ASRP), which compiles and analyzes safety-related reports and sends out Safety Alerts to FAA, airport authorities, manufacturers, airlines, repair stations, and others for the purpose of identifying safety hazards and promoting corrective action to prevent accidents and incidents.

The [*Federal Highway Administration*](#) (FHWA) collects, analyzes, and disseminates data on the Nation's highway system, including financing, travel, fuel consumption, vehicle registrations, highway system extent and safety, drivers licenses, and personal travel characteristics.

The [*Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration*](#) (FMCSA) collects and analyzes data on motor carriers and on commercial vehicle drivers and crashes.

The [*Federal Railroad Administration*](#) (FRA) collects and disseminates data on the railroad system, including traffic, safety, and accident reports, such as intermodal safety data for the geographic information system, and information on grade crossings and inspections.

The [*Federal Transit Administration*](#) (FTA) maintains the primary database for statistics on the transit industry, known as the National Transit Database (NTD). NTD collects

financial, operating and capital asset data from more than 700 transit systems operating in urbanized areas, and from over 1,300 transit systems operating in rural areas. The Drug and Alcohol Management Information System (DAMIS) collects annual drug and alcohol data from all FTA grantees and their contractors to determine the national random testing rate and candidates for compliance audits. The Transit Safety and Security Statistics Report and Analysis project collects, analyzes, and disseminates transit safety and security data.

The [Maritime Administration](#) (MARAD) collects, maintains, and disseminates data on domestic and international trade, vessel port calls, and U.S.-flagged vessel data, along with maritime employment numbers. Additionally, MARAD occasionally conducts attitudinal and other primary research on topical maritime issues.

The [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration](#) (NHTSA) collects, analyzes, and disseminates information on motor vehicle traffic crashes as well as on vehicle and highway safety programs. NHTSA maintains primary crash databases, including the National Automotive Sampling System and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System. NHTSA publishes and distributes annual traffic safety assessment and national occupant protection use data as well as analytical reports on a wide range of traffic safety topics at the national and State levels. NHTSA also provides leadership in promotion of improvements in the quality and effectiveness of States' statistical programs through research, development of guidelines, and traffic records assessments.

The [Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration](#) (PHMSA) collects data to monitor transportation of hazardous materials.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

With the requested FY 2016 funding, FHWA would collect statistical information for the Long-Term Bridge Performance Program and the Long-Term Pavement Performance Program to inform bridge and road repair and replacement decisions, respectively. FHWA would also modernize the LTPP Information Management System.

FMCSA would expand analytical capabilities to improve data quality, enlarge the suite of analytical tools, and conduct analyses of key safety issues. FRA would implement and enforce upcoming safety regulations, including new data collection and management requirements for the Railroad Safety Information System (RSIS). MARAD would add a full-time equivalent (FTE) devoted to statistical duties. With additional funding, NHTSA would support additional data collection sites for its Crash Investigation Sampling System and Crash Report Sampling System, statistical analyses, and dissemination of data collected from the modernized systems. In addition, NHTSA would continue its data modernization project to improve its primary crash databases, including the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the National Automotive Sampling System. PHMSA would implement a National Pipeline Information Exchange Program that will standardize taxonomies, establish data quality attributes, identify metrics to monitor and report data quality performance, and create meta-data to support the interpretation of data. PHMSA also would conduct an assessment and develop an action plan and timeline to improve the collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data related to accidents and incidents involving hazardous materials.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

The [*Department of Veterans Affairs*](#) (VA) has five agencies that maintain statistical programs. The VA is a source of Federal current demographic and health statistics.

Statistical Programs

The [*National Cemetery Administration*](#) (NCA) uses projected veteran death statistics to estimate future demand for burial space and other memorial benefits. NCA uses projected living veteran statistics to estimate the number of veterans residing in areas considered served by national and State veterans' cemeteries as well as the estimated number of unserved veterans in areas considered for development of new national and State veterans' cemeteries. NCA also conducts annual surveys of customer satisfaction with National Cemeteries, State and Tribal Veterans Cemeteries, and Memorial Programs Products and Services, as well as periodic surveys of veterans regarding their preferences related to burial and memorial benefits.

The [*VA Office of Inspector General*](#) (VAOIG) provides detailed analysis, planning, and coordination of statutorily required audits, evaluations, and inspections of VA programs and facilities throughout the Nation.

The [*Office of Policy and Planning*](#) (OPP) has two agencies conducting statistical activities. First, the Office of the Actuary (OACT) provides Advanced Modeling and Actuarial Services to VA. OACT provides official veterans population projections for VA planning and budgeting; develops corporate predictive modeling and forecasts to support decision making about VA capital investments and future demand for VA services and benefits; and provides actuarial estimation for VA liability (such as Compensation, Pension, and Burial benefits, and for Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses, Medical Malpractice and Other Tort Claims). Second, the [*National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics*](#) (NCVAS) coordinates with other VA offices to collect, validate, analyze, and disseminate official statistics on the veteran population and VA programs.

The [*Veterans Benefits Administration*](#) (VBA) supports continuing analyses of veterans and VBA beneficiaries. The analyses cover VA compensation and pension, education, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and employment services, and insurance programs. Priority statistical programs include the ongoing collection, improvement, and analysis of core data in areas such as disability, income, economic security, homelessness, and poverty.

The [*Veterans Health Administration*](#) (VHA) performs research on health services and medical conditions, including studies on veterans' care in VA health care facilities. VHA performs statistical activities in support of patient safety, clinical outcomes analysis, research oversight, dental care, health administration, and other business activities. VHA also conducts research in traumatic brain injuries, burn injuries, pain, and post-deployment mental health of veterans who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom. VHA uses statistical analysis and statistical methods to measure characteristics of patient flow through emergency departments and inpatient settings to enhance access to care and minimize delays.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

VAOIG would continue its statistical evaluations and analysis of VA programs and facilities. VBA would implement analytics tool enhancements that were postponed during FY 2015 due to the reprioritization of analytics funds. VHA would implement the Survey of Healthcare Experiences of Patients program. This program would address requirements of the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act (VACAA) to comprehensively assess veterans' experiences with VA care and community care (covered by VA).

OTHER STATISTICAL PROGRAMS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES

The [*Broadcasting Board of Governors*](#) (BBG) is a source of Federal social and demographic statistics. BBG oversees and coordinates the research and statistical functions for all broadcasting entities under its purview, including the Voice of America, Office of Cuba Broadcasting, Radio Free Asia, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and the Middle East Broadcasting Networks. BBG consolidates its research function into a centralized International Audience Research Project so that all entities and broadcasters can be assured of current, reliable, and statistically-valid market and audience research on a periodic basis.

The [*Consumer Product Safety Commission*](#) (CPSC) is a source of Federal safety statistics. CPSC conducts data collection, analysis and dissemination activities on consumer product-related hazards and potential hazards. As part of its statistical program, CPSC maintains the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System that provides national consumer product-related injury statistics based on reporting from a sample of hospital emergency rooms. CPSC collects data for non-consumer product-related injuries for other Federal agencies. CPSC's new public database, authorized under the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 and implemented in March 2011, collects consumer reports of potentially unsafe consumer products and provides businesses with an opportunity to comment on those reports. Further, the database can be used to aggregate cases for analysis and view consumer reports and business responses for the public to use when making consumer-product related decisions.

The [*Environmental Protection Agency*](#) (EPA) is a source of natural resources, energy, and environment statistics. EPA monitors the quality of air; drinking, surface, and ground water; ecosystem status; and use and release of toxic or hazardous substances. Projects include State and local programs to report ambient air quality levels of pollutants and estimated emissions of pollutants from major stationary sources, and projection of future air quality levels through models that take into account past air quality monitoring data and emission data. Other statistical activities develop methods to document the distribution and determinants of exposure to pollutants experienced by the population, and methods to measure the potential effects of pollutants on human health and ecosystems. The Gulf of Mexico Program engages in a variety of statistical activities to inform restoration of the ecological and economic health of the Gulf of Mexico.

The [*Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*](#) (EEOC) is a source of current Federal demographic statistics. EEOC collects workforce demographic composition data from public and private employers, and membership composition data from union and labor organizations. These data are used to carry out EEOC's enforcement activities under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and are also used by other Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies charged with enforcement of equal employment opportunity laws.

The [*Institute of Museum and Library Services*](#) (IMLS) is a source of Federal education statistics. IMLS supports the collection and analysis of data about the public use of libraries, museums, and online resources to support lifelong learning. Projects include an annual survey of public library collections, programs, and finance, and a household survey to examine the use of library and museum services across the Nation. The research is designed to identify national needs for and trends in museum, library, and information services; to measure and report on the impact and effectiveness of library services throughout the Nation; and to strengthen national, State, Tribal, local, regional, and international communications and cooperative networks.

The [*National Aeronautics and Space Administration*](#) (NASA) is a source of Federal environment statistics. NASA collects remotely-sensed data to improve understanding of and contribute to improved predictive capability for climate, weather, and natural hazards. NASA's

Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO) conducts research and development activities to maximize the impact of satellite observations. GMAO supports the National Climate Assessment (NCA) by providing tools that synthesize and integrate the existing satellite (and conventional) data streams to enable an ongoing, permanent assessment capacity and capability.

The [*National Science Foundation*](#) (NSF) supports all fields of fundamental science and engineering, except for medical sciences. Accordingly, NSF is a source of Federal education, economic, health, and current demographic statistics. In addition to the work of NCSES (discussed in Chapter 2), NSF is tasked with keeping the U.S. at the leading edge of discovery in a wide range of scientific areas, ranging from astronomy to geology to zoology. The Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) in NSF maintains biological science research databases that include scientific information used in the health sciences such as genetic map data, data on the anatomy and circuitry of the nervous system, and three dimensional maps of the human brain integrated with neuroscience information. The Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) in NSF supports the Project and Program Evaluation (PPE) program for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education program evaluation. The EHR Directorate conducts program evaluations to assess the quality and impact of its programs; supports international assessments of student knowledge and curriculum; and oversees contextual studies and indicators that monitor progress under NSF educational programs. The Social and Economic Sciences (SES) in NSF supports basic research on survey measurement, data collection procedures, and statistical issues related to survey design. The surveys, and other statistical products supported in SES, are national resources for research, teaching, and decision making and have become models for similar undertakings in other fields and in other nations.

The [*Office of National Drug Control Policy*](#) (ONDCP) in the Executive Office of the President is a source of Federal social and demographic statistics. ONDCP uses primary and secondary information collections to produce statistics that inform its management and evaluation of the Drug Free Communities (DFC) program.

The [*Small Business Administration*](#) (SBA) is a source of Federal economic statistics. SBA supports the production of employer firm size data, including the Census Bureau's Statistics of U.S. Businesses and Business Dynamics Statistics; conducts policy, economic, and statistical research on issues of concern to small business; and publishes statistics on small business characteristics and contributions.

The [*Social Security Administration*](#) (SSA) is a source of Federal health and current demographic statistics. In addition to the work of the principal statistical agency, ORES (discussed in Chapter 2), SSA collects, tabulates, and publishes data on the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance, and the Supplemental Security Income programs and their beneficiary populations. SSA also conducts in-depth statistical analyses to inform policymaking relevant to retirement and the economic security of older Americans.

The [*U.S. Agency for International Development*](#) (USAID) is a source of Federal health and current demographic statistics. USAID uses standardized surveys to collect information across countries to measure key indicators including infant and child mortality, fertility, family planning use, maternal health, child immunization, and malnutrition levels. Additionally, USAID supports capacity building in statistical offices in developing countries. USAID funds Famine Early Warning Systems Network, which brings together local, regional, and international partners from the government, private sector, and academia to provide early warning data on food security issues. Data are used to inform national and sector-level health strategies.

Major Program Changes for FY 2016

BBG would continue to integrate its digital metrics practice into the Office of Strategy and Development Research and Assessment (ORA), combining both traditional (radio, TV) and digital metrics in the same office to achieve efficiencies and to present all entities with a unified research program for all distribution platforms. The costs associated with this activity would be offset by BBG's reduction in statistical programs through extending the time between research studies and by replacing some full BBG surveys with smaller and more cost-efficient assessments built into third-party surveys,

As required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA would determine whether or not to regulate at least five contaminants on the current Contaminant Candidate List 4 by refining preliminary findings, and later in the year, conducting analyses to respond to public comments on the proposed list.

EEOC would conduct the annual EEO-1 Survey of Private Industrial Sectors and the biennial EEO-3 Survey of Local Referral Union and EEO-5 Survey of Elementary-Secondary School Staff.

NSF (other than NCSES) would provide additional administrative oversight for the EHR Directorate's activity in evaluation, monitoring, and related research activities. The Promoting Research and Innovative Methodologies for Evaluation (PRIME) activity within PPE would support research projects to improve STEM education evaluation.

SSA's [*ORDES*](#) would increase funding for the Early Intervention Initiative. In particular, the increased support would be used for the design and development of the first of three early intervention demonstrations to test innovative strategies to help people with disabilities remain in the workforce. One planned study would identify a targeted population, provide them with vocational services, and test whether the services affect the likelihood of receiving Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income benefits, the level of annual earnings, and other impacts.

The decrease in USAID's FY 2016 budget request is attributable to the conclusion of several periodic information collections conducted for USAID through reimbursable contracts.

CHAPTER 4: STATISTICAL STANDARDS, INTERAGENCY GROUPS, AND COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIONS

This chapter is organized into three sections. The first section provides brief descriptions of legislation, directives, statistical standards, and guidelines for statistical activity within the U.S. Federal Government. Given their nature, these items are revised only periodically. The next section describes various interagency groups and their efforts to improve the quality and utility of the Nation's statistical products. The final section describes ongoing and new collaborations among the Federal statistical programs to promote innovations and efficiencies in the production of Federal statistics.

STATISTICAL POLICY DIRECTIVES, STANDARDS, AND GUIDANCE

Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units

Trust in the accuracy, objectivity, and reliability of Federal statistics is essential to the ongoing and increasingly complex policy and planning needs of governmental and private users of these products. These data must be objective and free of bias in their presentation and available to all in forms that are readily accessible and understandable. As part of an ongoing effort to improve the relevance, timeliness, accuracy, objectivity, and integrity of information collected and disseminated by the Federal Government, OMB has published a new Federal Statistical Policy Directive.

[*Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units*](#) affirms the fundamental responsibilities of Federal statistical agencies and recognized statistical units in the design, collection, processing, editing, compilation, analysis, release, and dissemination of statistical information. Prepared in response to requests from agencies across the Federal Statistical System, the directive is intended to provide a unified, concise framework for governance of official statistics. Throughout the directive, connections between the directive, existing OMB policy, and related professional guidance are underscored. The directive was published in the Federal Register on December 2, 2014. Federal departments hosting a Federal principal statistical agency or recognized statistical unit responded to an OMB Policy Memorandum, [*Department Support for Implementation of Statistical Policy Directive No. 1: Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units*](#), describing how they support achievement of these responsibilities by their relevant agencies. These responses are under review with the aim to identify best practices, new challenges, and areas in need of future support.

Statistical Standards and Guidance on Agency Survey Collections

In 2006, OMB issued revised [*Standards and Guidelines for Statistical Surveys*](#), which provide guidance for designing, conducting, and disseminating statistical surveys and studies sponsored by Federal agencies. The standards and guidelines are intended to ensure that surveys and studies produce reliable data as efficiently as possible and that methods are documented and results presented in a manner that makes the data as accessible and useful as possible.

To assist agencies in preparing their information collection requests (ICRs) under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), OMB has also issued guidance on agency survey and statistical information collections. This document, entitled [*Questions and Answers When Designing*](#)

[*Surveys for Information Collections*](#), is intended for a broad audience of personnel who prepare ICRs but may not be familiar with some survey and statistical concepts. The guidance provides answers to a host of frequently asked questions about the OMB clearance process and expectations for key elements in the design and documentation of Federal statistical surveys. More information regarding OMB's statistical standards and guidance is available at http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/.

Directives on the Release and Dissemination of Statistical Products

[*Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators*](#), most recently updated in 1985, provides for the designation of statistical series that provide timely measures of economic activity as Principal Federal Economic Indicators, and requires prompt but orderly release of such indicators. The intent of the directive is to: strike a balance between data timeliness and accuracy, preserve the time value of the economic indicators, prevent early access to information that may affect financial and commodity markets, preserve the distinction between the policy-neutral release of data by statistical agencies and their interpretation by policy officials, and provide for periodic evaluation of each indicator.

To further support the quality and integrity of Federal statistical information, in 2008 OMB published [*Statistical Policy Directive No. 4: Release and Dissemination of Statistical Products Produced by Federal Statistical Agencies*](#) that is designed to preserve and enhance the objectivity and transparency, in fact and in perception, of the processes used to release and disseminate the Government's statistical products. Directive No. 4 covers Federal statistical products that are not covered by [*Statistical Policy Directive No. 3: Compilation, Release, and Evaluation of Principal Federal Economic Indicators*](#); these include products that statistical agencies release in such areas as crime, education, health, and transportation.

Statistical Confidentiality and Statistical Data Sharing

[*The Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002*](#) (CIPSEA) establishes a uniform set of safeguards to protect the confidentiality of individually identifiable information acquired from the public for statistical purposes, and imposes strong criminal penalties for inappropriate disclosure of such information. The legislation reaffirms that pledges of confidentiality will be honored and gives additional weight and stature to policies that statistical agencies have pursued for decades, assuring respondents who provide statistical information that their responses will be held in confidence and will not be used against them in any government action. CIPSEA also authorizes the sharing of business data among BEA, BLS, and Census. Thus, CIPSEA provides a framework to enhance the efficiency of the Federal statistical system by reducing reporting burden on the public and strengthening the quality and usefulness of the Nation's Federal statistics.

A companion legislative proposal would make complementary changes to provisions set forth in the "Statistical Use" section of the Internal Revenue Code. These changes would represent the first major revision of these policies in decades, reducing the amount of sensitive tax information that will change hands to support statistical programs while substantially increasing the effectiveness of that support. A legislative proposal to accomplish these aims was developed by BEA, BLS, and Census in collaboration with OMB's Statistical and Science Policy Office; endorsed by the Treasury Department; and submitted to the Congress.

To assist agencies in implementing the confidentiality provisions of CIPSEA, OMB issued implementation guidance in the Federal Register on June 15, 2007 (entitled, [*Implementation Guidance for Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and*](#)

[Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 \(CIPSEA\)](http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/)). The guidance is available on OMB's web site at http://www.WhiteHouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/.

The Interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC), which operates under the auspices of the [Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology](https://fcsm.sites.usa.gov/committees/cdac/) (FCSM), considers common issues involving data access, confidentiality, and disclosure limitation. The group has several products that are available on its web site (<https://fcsm.sites.usa.gov/committees/cdac/>), including best practices for disclosure limitation. CDAC sponsors seminars and members conduct tutorials on confidentiality under the auspices of the Washington Statistical Society and other organizations to promote discussion of techniques and issues related to the protection of confidential data.

Classification of Data on Race and Ethnicity

OMB's [Standards for Data on Race and Ethnicity](#), issued in October 1997 provide a minimum set of categories for use when Federal agencies are collecting and presenting such information for statistical, administrative, or compliance purposes.²⁰ The standards do not preclude the collection and presentation of more detailed categories for statistical, administrative, or compliance purposes, provided that the detailed categories can be aggregated into the minimum set to permit comparisons.

Following the adoption of the 1997 standards, OMB worked with its interagency committee to develop [Provisional Guidance on the Implementation of the 1997 Standards for the Collection of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity](#). This guidance focused on three areas: collecting data using the 1997 standards, tabulating data collected under the 1997 standards, and building bridges to compare data collected under the 1997 standards and the earlier 1977 standards.

In response to requests from agencies responsible for monitoring and enforcing civil rights laws, OMB also led an interagency group that developed more specific guidance for agencies that collect or use aggregate data on race. The product of this interagency group, [OMB Bulletin No. 00-02](#), addresses the allocation of multiple race responses for use in civil rights monitoring and enforcement. OMB Bulletin No. 00–02 provides guidance to agencies as they continue to monitor compliance with legal protections for those who historically have experienced discrimination, and to minimize reporting burden for those providing aggregate data to Federal agencies.

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Delineations

OMB delineates Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Metropolitan Divisions, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, Combined Statistical Areas, and New England City and Town Areas for use in Federal statistical activities. To ensure their continued usefulness and relevance, the standards for defining areas are reviewed and, if necessary, revised in the years preceding their application to new Decennial Census data. Between Decennial Censuses, OMB issues periodic updates of the areas based on Census Bureau population and commuting data.

The most recent metropolitan and micropolitan statistical area delineations were published in [Bulletin No. 15-01](#). These 2015 delineations reflect the application of the [2010 OMB Standards for Delineating Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas](#) to 2012 and 2013 Census population data and 2006-2010 American Community Survey journey-to-work data.

The 2015 delineations include the following current statistical areas in the United States and Puerto Rico: 389 Metropolitan Statistical Areas, including 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas

²⁰ In October 1997, OMB issued [Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity](#), which superseded the standards originally adopted in 1977 (62 FR 58781–58790).

that have a total of 31 Metropolitan Divisions; 556 Micropolitan Statistical Areas; 174 Combined Statistical Areas; 39 New England City and Town Areas; and 7 Combined New England City and Town Areas. Approximately 94 percent of the U.S. population falls within this classification—about 85 percent in Metropolitan Statistical Areas and about 9 percent in Micropolitan Statistical Areas.

North American Industry Classification System

The [*North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)*](#) represents a continuing international effort by Statistics Canada; the Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía (INEGI) of Mexico; and the United States, through OMB’s Economic Classification Policy Committee (ECPC), to foster comparability in the industrial statistics produced by the three countries. In 1997, NAICS replaced the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification and a process was established to ensure comparable implementation across all three countries. NAICS has been adopted by Federal statistical agencies that collect or publish data by industry. Like its predecessor, NAICS also is widely used by State agencies, trade associations, businesses, and other organizations.

NAICS is scheduled for review and, if necessary, update every 5 years. NAICS’ 2012 revision included changes focusing on clarifications for outsourcing and classification of establishments providing logistics services. In addition, industry level detail in the manufacturing sector was modified to reflect the dynamic nature of the sector’s structure. A complete list of the final changes for 2012 is available on the [*NAICS web site*](#).

OMB initiated the scheduled review of NAICS for 2017 with a [*Federal Register notice on May 22, 2014*](#). The notice solicited public comment and proposals on changes to the 2012 NAICS including updating the structure of the oil and gas industries and continuing research on the identification of manufacturing units that outsource, known as Factoryless Goods Producers (FGPs). However, in July 2014, the ECPC reported to OMB that results of preliminary research on the effectiveness of survey questions designed to identify FGPs showed inconsistent results. These results indicated that questions tested in the 2012 Economic Census failed to yield responses that provide accurate and reliable identification and classification of FGPs. The ECPC advised that additional research, testing, and evaluation are required to find a method for accurate identification and classification of FGPs, and that this process could take several years.

Given these initial research results and the large number of public comments submitted on the topic of FGPs, OMB announced in a Federal Register notice on August 8, 2014, that the FGP recommendation would not be implemented in 2017. Without the deadline imposed by the 2017 NAICS revision, the relevant statistical agencies now have the opportunity to complete the additional research, testing, and evaluation needed to determine the feasibility of developing methods for the consistent identification and classification of FGPs that are accurate and reliable.

The ECPC has completed its review of the comments and proposals received and has developed recommendations to OMB for the 2017 NAICS revision. OMB will publish these recommendations for public comment in the Federal Register this summer. [PLEASE NOTE: We will update this text during the clearance period for this publication.] After any comments received are evaluated and discussed with the ECPC, INEGI, and Statistics Canada, OMB plans to publish a Federal Register notice with OMB’s final decisions for the 2017 NAICS United States revision in the spring of 2016.

Just as NAICS has facilitated comparisons of economic activity among its North American partners, there is also significant value in fostering comparability of industrial statistics from

a variety of international, regional, and national classifications. Concordances provide a valuable tool for such comparisons. A working group, including the ECPC, Eurostat, INEGI, Statistics Canada, and the United Nations Statistics Division, developed concordances among NAICS United States 2002, the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Union (NACE Rev. 1.1), and the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev. 3.1). NAICS, NACE, and ISIC were all revised in 2007. Continuing to build on the initial work, a concordance between NAICS United States, 2012 and ISIC Rev. 4 is complete and available at NAICS' [web site](#).

North American Product Classification System

In recognition that a production-based industry classification system does not meet all of the varying needs of business data users, in 1999 OMB proposed an initiative to develop a comprehensive classification system for the products produced by NAICS industries. Like NAICS, this initiative is a joint effort by Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The long-term objective of the [North American Product Classification System \(NAPCS\)](#) is to develop a market-oriented system for products that is not industry-of-origin based; can be linked to NAICS' industry structure; is consistent across the three NAICS countries; and promotes improvements in the identification and classification of products across international classification systems, such as the Central Product Classification system of the United Nations.

BEA, BLS, and Census worked together to ensure that product data solicitations in the Economic Census are collectable, meet the needs of business and academic users, and also meet the needs of the Producer Price program and the National Accounts. Provisional NAPCS products were included on Economic Census questionnaires for all service industries in 2007. The 2012 Economic Census included provisional NAPCS products for manufactured goods, wholesale trade services, and retail trade services. The Census Bureau is planning to implement NAPCS products for all sectors covered by the Economic Census in 2017.

Work on this initiative continues. The United States has prepared an initial listing of potential NAPCS products within a broad, demand-based aggregation structure. Once the final aggregation structure for NAPCS is determined, each product will carry a common title, definition, and product code across all industries that produce it, and the aggregation structure will group products (regardless of industry of production) in a manner that reflects how products are used from a demand-side perspective. The resulting classification will enhance analyses of market share, demand for goods and services, import competition, and similar studies.

Standard Occupational Classification System

The [Standard Occupational Classification \(SOC\)](#) is a system for classifying all jobs in the economy into occupational categories based on the work performed and, in some cases, on the skills, education, or training needed to perform the work at a competent level. The 2010 SOC classifies jobs in the private sector, public sector, and military into 840 occupations organized into 23 major groups. The SOC provides a means to compare occupational data across agencies and over time. It is designed to reflect the current occupational structure in the U.S. and to cover all occupations in which work is performed for pay or profit.

OMB chartered the SOC Policy Committee (SOCPC)²¹ to conduct SOC revisions for 2000, 2010, and 2018, and to support SOC users between revisions, ensuring that the SOC remains

²¹ The SOCPC includes members from the Department of Commerce (Census Bureau); Department of Defense (Defense Manpower Data Center); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics); Department of Health and Human Services (Health Resources and Services Administration); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics; Employment and Training Administration); Department of Transportation (Bureau of Transportation Statistics); Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; National Science Foundation (National Center for Science

relevant and meets the needs of individuals and organizations. The next revision is scheduled for release in 2018; work on the 2018 SOC began in FY 2013. The SOCPC began soliciting public comment through the Federal Register on May 22, 2014.

After reviewing the comments received, the SOCPC prepared its recommendations to OMB during the summer of 2015. OMB published these recommendations for public comment in the Federal Register in fall 2015. Subsequently, OMB and the SOCPC will review and evaluate comments received. Final decisions for the 2018 SOC revision would then be published by OMB in the spring of 2016. The planned 2018 SOC implementation follows the 2017 NAICS revision and coincides with the beginning year of the American Community Survey's set of surveys that surround the 2020 Decennial Census. After the SOC's revision for 2018 is complete, OMB intends to consider revisions of the SOC every 10 years thereafter. Information about the SOC, including updates on the revision process for 2018, is available at <http://www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm>.

INTERAGENCY GROUPS

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

An explicit statutory basis for OMB's council of statistical agency heads was provided in 1995 by the [Paperwork Reduction Act](#) reauthorization (44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(8)). Known as the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), this group enables OMB to obtain more direct participation from the agencies in planning and coordinating Federal statistical activities. Chaired by the U.S. Chief Statistician, the members of ICSP currently include the heads of the principal statistical agencies, as described in Chapter 1 of this report, plus the head of the statistical unit at the Environmental Protection Agency. Because the members have management responsibility for statistical programs in their respective agencies, their advice and cooperation are essential for effective implementation of OMB statistical policy decisions and for planning improvements in Federal statistical programs.

ICSP is a vehicle for coordinating statistical work, particularly when activities and issues cut across agencies; for exchanging information about agency programs and activities; and for providing advice and counsel to OMB on statistical matters. In the past year, agenda topics included, among others: statistical confidentiality and cybersecurity (e.g., Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Einstein 3A Cybersecurity Memorandum of Agreement with other Federal Agencies: Incorporating Statistical Confidentiality Provisions; and Federal IT Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) and its implementation guidelines); data systems modernization (e.g., the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Big Data Subcommittee; Open Data Initiative; Statistical Uses of Administrative Records; the Ryan Commission and the Federal Statistical System; and training and development of Federal statisticians); statistical guidelines and their communication (e.g., Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units; the Common Rule; and preparing legislative briefings regarding Federal statistics); and efficiencies in statistical production (e.g., joint funding of statistical activities, which resulted in [OMB Policy Memorandum M-15-15: Improving Statistical Activities through Interagency Collaboration](#); and Research Data Center partnerships).

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

The [Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology](#) (FCSM), established in 1975, is dedicated to improving the quality of Federal statistics and the efficiency and effectiveness of statisti-

and Engineering Statistics); Office of Personnel Management; and *ex officio*, Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs).

cal practice among Federal agencies. Members are selected by OMB's Chief Statistician and include Executive Branch statisticians, economists, and statistical program managers.

The mission of FCSM is to inform and advise OMB and ICSP on methodological and statistical issues that affect the quality of Federal data; compile, assess, and disseminate information on statistical or survey methods and practices for Federal statistical agencies and components; provide recommendations on issues of statistical methodology (including measurement, analysis, survey methods, survey errors, data collection methods and technologies, record linkage, disclosure limitation, and dissemination of information) that affect Federal statistical programs and improve data quality, including timeliness, accuracy, relevance, utility, accessibility, and cost effectiveness; provide a forum for statisticians in different Federal agencies to discuss issues affecting Federal statistical programs; and promote and support cooperative research across agencies on issues relevant to Federal statistics.

FCSM carries out a broad agenda of activities. It hosts subcommittees on a variety of topics, such as Confidentiality and Data Access, survey nonresponse, adaptive design, and statistical uses of administrative data to facilitate agency discussions and development in these areas. Over the past year, the FCSM chartered new groups on Use of Official Statistics in Big Data and Geospatial Methods for Federal Data; its subcommittee on Questionnaire Evaluation Methods developed two reports designed to support OMB guidance; and its Research Subcommittee undertook a systematic effort to identify Federal Statistical agency statistical and methodological research priorities as a tool to enhance collaboration across agencies, with relevant directorates of the National Science Foundation, and with researchers beyond the Federal Government.

Over the years, FCSM has published a series of Statistical Policy Working Papers as well as proceedings from FCSM seminars and conferences, which are available through FCSM's web site (<http://fcsm.sites.usa.gov>). In December 2014, FCSM held its twelfth Statistical Policy Seminar on "Official Statistics in a Changing Society—Making Choices and Balancing Tradeoffs." The proceedings from that conference are available on the web site. In December 2015, FCSM will hold its ninth Research Conference. FCSM's statistical policy seminars alternate with the biennial research conferences.

Statistical Community of Practice and Engagement

Increased sharing of statistical protocols and tools for the collection, processing, analysis, integration, storage, dissemination, and visualization of statistical data will provide opportunities for improving data quality, information security, and operating efficiency through improvements in data interoperability and reductions in duplication of efforts among the principal statistical agencies. Such collaboration can ultimately increase the value of Federal statistics by reducing unnecessary differences in definitions, formats, and means of access. It can also increase information security by pooling scarce personnel skills and IT resources across the participating statistical agencies.

To demonstrate the potential of this approach, the principal statistical agencies initiated a Statistical Community of Practice and Engagement (SCOPE) that has undertaken several cooperative projects of widespread interest to the Federal statistical community. These include researching issues for statistical agencies in moving to a cloud environment; establishing a pilot virtual statistical dissemination facility in the "cloud"; assessing current practice and alternative approaches for making statistical products more accessible to the disabled in compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act; developing a joint statistical community response to implementation plans for Executive Order 13526 on Controlled Unclassified Information; monitoring cybersecurity legislation for challenges to continuing the statutory protection of confidential statistical data; developing a consensus

metadata data dictionary; and identifying agency initiatives on mobile applications and Application Programming Interfaces (API) that can be shared and harmonized. Over the longer term, SCOPE will permit the Federal statistical community to more easily identify and share best practices for Federal statistical activities, resulting in significant data quality, security, and operating efficiency and productivity gains in the statistical activities of our Nation.

Interagency Committees for the American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS) surveys a small percentage of the population each year to collect timely demographic, housing, social, and economic data. These data previously were collected only every 10 years in conjunction with the Decennial Census.

The content of the ACS is based on the needs and requirements of Federal agencies and is periodically reviewed to ensure that it is providing maximum utility and that the burden on the public is being minimized. To facilitate communication and collaboration among the more than 20 Federal agencies that use data from the ACS for their programs, Census and OMB jointly chair the Interagency Committee for the ACS.²²

In addition, the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) formed a Subcommittee for the ACS in August 2012. The subcommittee provides advice to the Director of the Census Bureau and the U.S. Chief Statistician on how the ACS can best contribute to the portfolio of household surveys conducted across the Federal statistical system, with a focus on maximizing data utility and reducing respondent burden. Both the Interagency Committee for the ACS and the ICSP Subcommittee for the ACS were involved with the 2014 ACS Content Review, which expanded the understanding and documentation of known uses of the survey questions, and led to proposing changes to the 2016 ACS questionnaire. Both committees worked closely with the Census Bureau in developing revised questionnaire content for the 2016 ACS Content Test, by advising on the results of cognitive testing and the development of question wording for field testing in 2016.

Interagency Council on Agricultural and Rural Statistics

The Interagency Council on Agricultural and Rural Statistics (*ICARS*), established in 2010, is the effort of the U.S. Federal government's statistical agencies in support of the [*Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics*](#), which was developed under the United Nations Statistical Commission. The impetus for the Global Strategy was the recognition that agriculture and rural statistics are declining across the globe at the same time as new data requirements are emerging. ICARS brings together experts from economic, demographic, environmental, and agricultural agencies that maintain statistical programs and from natural resource agencies to improve the coordination and production of national statistics related to agriculture, food, natural resource, and rural data. ICARS has issued reports on biofuels, land use and land cover estimates, and food-related data, which are available through its website.

²² The Interagency Committee on ACS includes members from the Department of Agriculture; Department of Commerce (Bureau of Economic Analysis and Census Bureau); Department of Health and Human Services (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention); Department of Education; Department of Energy (Energy Information Administration); Department of Homeland Security; Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service); Department of Justice; Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics); Department of Transportation; Department of Veterans Affairs; Environmental Protection Agency; Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Federal Communications Commission; Federal Reserve Board; National Science Foundation; National Telecommunications and Information Administration; Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs); and Social Security Administration.

Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics

The Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics,²³ established in 1986 by the National Institute on Aging in cooperation with NCHS and Census, fosters collaboration among Federal agencies that produce or use statistical data on the older population. The Forum played a key role in improving aging-related data by encouraging cooperation and information sharing among agencies, furthering professional collaboration across disciplines, and compiling aging-related statistics in a centralized location. In 1998, the Forum was reorganized and expanded to its present membership of more than 15 Federal agencies. The Forum continues to maintain its web site (http://www.agingstats.gov/agingstatsdotnet/main_site/default.aspx). There, data users can find the current and previous editions of the Forum's flagship chart book, *Older Americans: Key Indicators of Well-Being*, and other Forum reports, tables, and information on Forum agencies.

During 2014 and 2015, the Forum conducted a review of the *Older Americans* indicator framework, data measures, and data sources included the report. The Forum also completed a pilot research project assessing current measures of informal caregiving, and continued efforts to improve the measurement of pensions and benefits received by older Americans. This produced a set of recommendations to maintain and enhance the relevance and accuracy of Federal aging statistics presented in *Older Americans*; these recommendations will be considered by Forum members in September 2015. It is anticipated that the next edition of *Older Americans* (expected in 2016) will feature the results of these efforts.

Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics

The *Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics*,²⁴ initially convened in 1994, fosters coordination, collaboration, and integration of Federal data on child and family concerns and conditions. In April 1997, the Forum was formally established through *Executive Order No. 13045* to develop priorities for collecting enhanced data on children and youth, improve the reporting and dissemination of information on the status of children to the policy community and the general public, and produce more complete data on children at the State and local levels. To broaden outreach efforts, the Forum maintains its web site, childstats.gov, responding to thousands of requests for data on child and family well-being that cut across the domains of its member agencies. The web site includes previous *America's Children: Key*

²³ The Forum on Aging-Related Statistics includes members from the Department of Commerce (Census Bureau); Department of Health and Human Services (Administration on Aging, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, National Center for Health Statistics, National Institute on Aging, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency); Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employee Benefits Security Administration); Department of Veterans Affairs; Environmental Protection Agency; Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs); and Social Security Administration (Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics).

²⁴ The Forum on Child and Family Statistics includes members from the Department of Agriculture (Economic Research Service); Department of Commerce (Census Bureau); Department of Defense (Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics); Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, National Institute of Mental Health, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Office of Adolescent Health, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency); Department of Housing and Urban Development (Office of Policy Development and Research); Department of Justice (Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Institute of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics and Women's Bureau); Department of Transportation (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration); Environmental Protection Agency (Office of Children's Health Protection); and Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs).

National Indicators of Well-Being reports, detailed downloadable tables, general information about the Forum and a “What’s New” feature, pointing to other Forum agency reports and agency highlights. Additionally, the Forum convenes a “Speaker Series” for Federal and non-Federal stakeholders who are interested in sharing timely and relevant topics.

The Forum’s most recent publication, *America’s Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2015*, includes key indicators of family, physical, and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical safety, behavior, education, and health.

Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment

Education and training beyond high school are increasingly important for securing jobs in the U.S. Opportunities to obtain such education and training are provided both within and outside of traditional postsecondary education and are offered by a wide variety of public and private providers. This education and training also results in several kinds of credentials that may have labor market value, including industry-recognized certifications, occupational licenses, and educational certificates. Because of this complexity, it remains important to collect data on the training and credentials of out-of-school youth and adults through individual, rather than institutional, surveys. Until recently, no Federal surveys of adults captured this range of occupational training and credentials.

In late 2009, the Council of Economic Advisers and OMB’s Statistical and Science Policy Office began an interagency collaboration with NCES, BLS, and Census to develop new survey items for Federal data collections to enumerate and describe education and training credentials. An Interagency Working Group on Certificates and Certifications oversaw this work. In 2012, the group’s scope expanded to include Federal statistical measures of participation and enrollment in work-related education and training and its name changed to the *Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment*²⁵ (GEMEnA). GEMEnA comprises senior representatives from initial member agencies, plus the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics and the Office of the Undersecretary for Postsecondary Education. NCES provides staff and budget support for the group’s survey development efforts. GEMEnA’s multi-faceted, multi-year goal is to apply best-practice survey development principles to develop valid national measures of the participation in and credentialing of education and training for work, and to build government-wide consensus for the adoption of these measures.

The first official Federal statistics on the prevalence of certifications and licenses were released in January 2014 by the Census Bureau. *Measuring Alternative Educational Credentials: 2012* is based on a module included in the 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation. In 2015, the Current Population Survey and the National Survey of College Graduates began collecting data on certifications and licenses. In 2016, NCES will field an Adult Training and Education Survey for the first time as part of the National Household Education Survey (NHES). NCES is also incorporating the new measures into its longitudinal surveys of students as they enter adulthood. These new data sources will provide detailed data on the prevalence and key characteristics of non-degree credentials in the U.S. adult population. For more information about GEMEnA, including NHES questionnaires and the SIPP report, visit <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/gemena/>.

²⁵ GEMEnA includes members from the Council of Economic Advisers; Department of Commerce (Census Bureau); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics and Office of the Under Secretary); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics); National Science Foundation (National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics); Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs).

Interagency Working Group to Improve Federal Survey Measurement of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Population

Federal statistics describing the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) population can inform policymaking in powerful ways. Some Federal surveys have collected information describing the LGBT population for well over a decade. However, some aspects of sexuality and gender identification have been more routinely measured, collected, and extensively studied than others. Accordingly, in April 2015, the Office of Management and Budget established an Interagency Working Group to Improve Federal Survey Measurement of the LGBT Population (LGBT Working Group).

Chaired by the Statistical and Science Policy Office at OMB, the group includes representatives from Federal agencies currently collecting information on these populations and agencies interested in doing so.²⁶ The LGBT Working Group will explore survey measurement of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations, considering multiple different dimensions of sexuality (such as, sexual orientation, sexual attraction, and sexual behavior) and gender (such as gender identity and gender nonconformity). Further, the Working Group will prepare recommendations to OMB and other Federal agencies for the development and use of questions to more accurately describe the LGBT populations. During FY 2015, the Working Group's inaugural year, agenda topics included: the current practices of the Federal agencies for collecting, editing, and reporting data regarding the LGBT populations; the functioning of current measures, including item nonresponse rates, survey break offs, and (mis)use of "don't know" responses; and methodological research on the impact of different survey question phrasing.

Interagency Working Group on Measuring Relationships in Federal Household Surveys

The Interagency Working Group on Measuring Relationships in Federal Household Surveys²⁷ (MRFHS) was established by the Statistical and Science Policy Office in 2010 to address the long-term challenges in measuring household relationships, including same-sex couples.

²⁶ The LGBT Working Group includes members from the Department of Agriculture (Economic Research Service); Department of Commerce (Bureau of Economic Affairs and Census Bureau); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics); Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families, Administration for Community Living, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, National Center for Health Statistics, National Institute for Child Health and Human Development, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration); Department of Housing and Urban Development (Office of Policy Development and Research); Department of Justice (Bureau of Justice Statistics); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics); Department of Transportation (Bureau of Transportation Statistics); Department of Veterans Affairs; Federal Reserve Board; National Science Foundation (National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics); Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs); and Social Security Administration (Office of Research Evaluation and Statistics).

²⁷ MRFHS includes members from the Department of Agriculture (Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service); Department of Commerce (Bureau of Economic Analysis and Census Bureau); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics); Department of Energy (Energy Information Administration); Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, National Institutes of Health, and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation); Department of Housing and Urban Development; Department of Justice (Bureau of Justice Statistics); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics); Department of Transportation (Bureau of Transportation Statistics); Department of the Treasury (Statistics of Income of the Internal Revenue Service); Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Federal Reserve Board; National Science Foundation (National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics); Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs); Office of Personnel Management, and Social Security Administration.

Because any major change to a fundamental measurement item such as household relationship would impact virtually all Federal surveys and have possible implications for policy, MRFHS was created to ensure that the full range of affected agency “users” and “producers” of household relationship data would be represented in discussions to identify the issues and possible action strategies moving forward. The Working Group includes approximately 30 representatives from a variety of Federal agencies involved in the collection, dissemination, or use of household relationship data.

In 2014, the MRFHS Working Group released a report, [*Improved Measurement of Household Relationships in Federal Surveys*](#), summarizing its initial work, which has focused on the measurement of same-sex married and unmarried couples living in the same household. A systematic review of the current measurement of relationships in Federal household surveys and the use of the resulting statistics by Federal agencies was supplemented by a series of qualitative and quantitative methodological tests to evaluate the robustness of current measures. Through its review of current measures, data uses, and research on measurement strategies, the MRFHS Working Group arrived at several suggestions for improved measurement of same-sex household relationships. Since the issuance of the 2014 report, these preferred measures of same sex married and unmarried couples have been incorporated in several Federal surveys, including the American Housing Survey, SIPP, ACS, and CPS.

Interagency Working Group for Research on Race and Ethnicity

In October 1997, OMB issued [*Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity*](#), which superseded the standards originally adopted in 1977 (62 FR 58781–58790). Most, if not all, Federal agencies have implemented the 1997 standards in their population-based study designs.

Since that time, several Federal agencies have conducted methodological research to better understand how use of these standards informs the quality of Federal statistics on race and ethnicity. Much has been learned about the implementation of these standards since they were issued approximately two decades ago. Accordingly, in 2014, OMB formed an Interagency Working Group for Research on Race and Ethnicity to exchange research findings, identify implementation issues, and collaborate on a shared research agenda to improve Federal statistics on race and ethnicity.

Chaired by the Statistical and Science Policy Office at OMB, the Working Group includes representatives from eight cabinet departments and two other agencies²⁸ engaged in the collection or use of Federal race and ethnicity statistics. Topics discussed during FY 2015 included research on the use of separate Hispanic origin and race questions compared with the use of a combined race and ethnic origin question; testing of a distinct category for respondents of Middle Eastern or North African heritage; plans for testing the use of write-in categories and checkboxes to collect data on detailed ethnic groups; impact of survey question phrasing and terminology for the concepts of race, ethnicity, and origin; and the format of online survey instruments through Census’ National Content Test (NCT). The Census Bureau will conduct the

²⁸ The IWG for Research on Race and Ethnicity includes members from the Department of Agriculture (Economic Research Service and National Agricultural Statistics Service); Department of Commerce (Census Bureau); Department of Education (National Center for Education Statistics); Department of Energy (Energy Information Administration); Department of Health and Human Services (National Center for Health Statistics, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration); Department of Justice (Bureau of Justice Statistics); Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics); Department of Transportation (Bureau of Transportation Statistics); National Science Foundation (National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics); Office of Management and Budget (Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs); and Social Security Administration.

NCT late summer 2015, and results will be shared and discussed with the Working Group over the course of the year. Additional research under way at Census and at other Federal agencies is coordinated through the Working Group.

COLLABORATIVE INNOVATIONS

Statistical Uses of Administrative Data

Leaders within and outside the Federal statistical system recognize the vast, largely untapped, potential of many datasets held by program, administrative, or regulatory agencies. Such data are often precisely those that are difficult to collect accurately and affordably, or with acceptable respondent burden, via sample surveys. Their use can increase the quality, coverage, or analytical texture of statistical data series. These Federal datasets can also assist statistical agencies to inform Federal policy and program officials and the public about complex policy questions and the interactions and effects of Federal programs. The statistical system's ability to inform societal and public policy matters in an environment of rising survey costs and constrained Federal budgets hinges to a large degree on its ability to access and use such data to a much greater degree than before.

In February 2014, OMB issued M-14-06, [*Guidance for Providing and Using Administrative Data for Statistical Purposes*](#). The goal of this Memorandum is to help both program and statistical agencies and components (including evaluation and analysis units) better utilize administrative data in a manner that fully respects privacy and protects confidentiality. Specifically, this guidance helps program agencies manage their administrative data with statistical purposes in mind by: identifying statistical agencies and components as stakeholders of key datasets; making explicit connections between Federal access for statistical purposes and existing Open Data policy efforts; and providing best practice tools (such as the FCSM data quality assessment tool and the M-14-06 model interagency agreement) to facilitate the provision and use of administrative data. In 2015, agencies will report to OMB on their continued progress to identify and acquire datasets useful for statistical purposes; to build ongoing collaborations within and across agencies; and to implement good data stewardship practices related to the management of their administrative data and data quality efforts. OMB, working with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), will continue to support agencies as they implement the guidance and will work to address common and pervasive barriers to access.

The FY 2016 President's Budget includes a package of proposals to improve access to administrative data and invest in infrastructure to further advance work in this area. One of OMB's top priorities is to more fully integrate evidence and rigorous evaluation into budget, management, programmatic, and policy decisions. Better leveraging administrative data to support the Administration's evidence agenda, while ensuring that high data quality standards and privacy and confidentiality protections are maintained, is a crucial part of attaining this priority. ICSP and FCSM's Subcommittee on Administrative Records continue to explore how best to address the associated legal, policy, methodological, and technical barriers to greater statistical use of administrative data.

Evidence-Building for the 2020 Decennial Census

The 2020 Census is designed to cost less per housing unit than the 2010 Census (when adjusted for inflation), while continuing to maintain high quality. The Census Bureau plans to achieve this by conducting the most automated, modern, and dynamic Decennial Census to date. The 2020 Census includes sweeping design changes geared to improve efficiency and dramatically reduce costs in four key areas including: new methodologies to conduct address

canvassing; innovative ways of optimizing self-response; the use of administrative records to reduce the nonresponse follow up workload; and the use of technology to replace tasks traditionally conducted manually during field operations. The Census Bureau estimates that conducting a 2020 Census that includes these major cost-saving innovations has the potential to save more than \$5 billion compared to repeating the 2010 design in the 2020 Census.

The 2020 Census Research and Testing Program’s research on cost-saving design changes was initiated in 2012. Important research and testing conducted through FY 2015 defined the major 2020 Census design decisions. For example, the 2014 Census Test demonstrated that mailing introductory material to respondents and encouraging them to respond via the Internet (“Internet push”) is a successful strategy. More than 58 percent of the test universe responded via the Internet. Three FY 2015 field tests, including an Address Validation Test, an Optimizing Self-Response Test, and a 2015 Census Test – plus a Human in the Loop Simulation Exercise – resulted in significant findings and metrics. These tests demonstrated that automating field operations is feasible: the case load management can be improved with a sophisticated operational control system; address and spatial data can be collected on an electronic tablet; communicating with enumerators can occur with these results from prototype systems, using smart phone messaging and texts; and an enumeration instrument “app” can be used to collect data from non-respondents on a smartphone. These innovations have clear benefit to several, if not all, Federal statistical programs as they too work to enhance efficiency while maintaining data quality.

Enhancing Internationally Comparable Measures of Disability

The *Washington Group on Disability Statistics*,²⁹ established by the United Nations Statistical Commission, is an international cooperative effort among the national statistical offices of developed and developing countries, international organizations, and disabled persons’ organizations (DPOs) to develop cross-nationally comparable disability measures for censuses and surveys. Other goals of the group include: improving the collection and interpretation of information on disability, enhancing comparability with other national and international disability data collections, and providing more detailed information necessary to fully understand the complexities of disability. Sets of questions developed by the Washington Group have undergone multiple rounds of cognitive and field tests and data compiled from countries using the measures show consistency in results when posed as intended. The Washington Group is also developing an extended set of questions on functioning that incorporate additional functional domains and detail regarding functioning with and without assistive technology or assistance.

The need for robust statistical information on disability has been made more critical by the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), which includes data and reporting requirements, as well as the selection of indicators which would be used to measure progress against the UN Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. The data that would result from universal implementation of the Washington Group short set of questions would meet the monitoring needs for both these initiatives. Accordingly, a July 2014 UNDESA/UNESCO report³⁰ recommended that the Washington Group short question set be included in censuses and ongoing periodic surveys conducted or financed by national statistical offices, government ministries and United Nations agencies. Currently, both the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and UN Economic Commission for Europe are preparing for the 2020 round of censuses. In both instances, recommendations for the 2020

²⁹ See the *Washington Group’s web site* for its papers and products.

³⁰ See *The United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Disability Data and Statistics, Monitoring and Evaluation: The Way Forward--a Disability-Inclusive Agenda Towards 2015 and Beyond*.

census round will include text that specifies the Washington Group short set of questions as the method recommended for the collection of disability data cross-nationally.

A survey module on child and youth disability has been developed and tested in close cooperation with The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). A launch of the module is planned for the 15th meeting of the Washington Group in Copenhagen, in October 2015. Further, work is underway to develop a set of questions that would address facilitators and barriers to school participation for children with disabilities, in addition to an extended set of questions to measure environmental barriers and facilitators to participation among the general population.

Expanding the Timeliness and Utility of Health Data through Record Linkage and Extraction

To remain effective, data systems must meet the challenge of maintaining current operations while retooling to meet new data needs and more fully utilize new technology and methods. Collectively, these mechanisms gather information that people can provide in interviews; information that people do not know or cannot describe adequately, but that can be obtained through examinations, medical records, and program service records; and information on the circumstances of significant health events that can be obtained through birth and death records and the compilation of data on medical encounters. NCHS is working with CMS, Census, HUD, and SSA to maintain and improve the core capacity of ongoing data systems.

For example, NCHS continues to lead a record linkage program designed to maximize the scientific value of its population-based surveys. Linkage of the NCHS’ surveys with administrative data sources enable researchers to better examine the factors that influence disability, chronic disease, health care utilization, morbidity, and mortality. Through collaborative agreements, NCHS links several of NCHS’ population-based surveys with the National Death Index, enrollment and claims data from CMS, and benefit data from SSA. NCHS has also linked survey data with End Stage Renal Disease data obtained from the United States Renal Data System, Florida Cancer Data System data, and with administrative records of HUD’s housing assistance programs.

In addition, NCHS continues to explore ways to more efficiently and accurately incorporate electronic health record (EHR) data collection into its suite of health care provider surveys. In 2014, NCHS collaborated with Census to test methods for extraction of data elements from EHRs. NCHS continues to work with the EHR vendors to develop interfaces that will enable hospitals to streamline the extraction of their inpatient and outpatient data. In 2014, NCHS also developed a Health Level International (HL7) Implementation Guide (IG) for the National Health Care Surveys, which is intended to serve as the national electronic standard for reporting data to NCHS’ provider surveys.

NCHS’ collaboration with State Departments of Vital Records (and reporting areas) has fostered significant improvements in the timeliness and quality of birth and death statistics. NCHS set timeliness records with the 2013 vital statistics, releasing preliminary birth data five months after the end of the data year and final mortality data 12 months after the end of the data year. The National Death Index began an Early Release Program in 2014, allowing health researchers to more quickly determine vital status of their study participants. Through the NDI Early Release Program, death records for a particular calendar year will be available for searches when approximately 90 percent of the year’s death records have been received and processed.

Improving Measurement of Health Disparities

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) strengthened Federal data collection efforts by requiring that all health surveys sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) include

standardized information on race, ethnicity, sex, primary language, and disability status. The law also provided the opportunity for HHS to collect additional demographic data to further improve understanding of health care disparities. In 2011, HHS adopted new standards for these demographic variables for population health surveys sponsored by the Department where respondents either self-report information or a knowledgeable person responds for all members of a household. These [HHS data standards](#) have been adopted for the existing major HHS health surveys during survey redesign and revision and are incorporated when new surveys are developed. Implementation of the standards enhances the ability to identify, track, and understand disparities in health and health care and facilitates greater accountability for reducing them. More recently, the HHS Data Council has initiated a review of current measures regarding the lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) population across major HHS surveys. The goal of this evaluation is to identify possible measurement issues and propose statistically robust solutions.

Improving Federal Measurement of Poverty

Poverty is a critical indicator of how widely prosperity is shared in our economy and is a key benchmark for targeting resources toward the disadvantaged. Yet, the U.S. poverty measure has not been substantially updated since it was first developed in the 1960s. As such, it is based on outdated assumptions and does not take into account the availability of many economic resources. In particular, the official measure does not include many government transfer programs, and hence, cannot be used to evaluate the impact of anti-poverty programs. It has been widely criticized for decades.

In 2010, the OMB Chief Statistician established an Interagency Technical Working Group (ITWG) to develop a Supplemental Poverty Measure that would offer a complementary perspective on the distribution of economic deprivation.³¹ The result is the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), which has been vetted through systematic research and now requires expansion into production to fully contribute to understanding poverty in the U.S.

The SPM comprises two parts: thresholds of spending and household resources. The work to produce these two parts is split between BLS (thresholds) and Census (resources). Currently, the thresholds are produced as a research product, rather than as a fully supported production-level Federal dataset that would be necessary for wide-scale use. Therefore, BLS now is requesting resources to modify the Consumer Expenditure (CE) survey to collect the threshold data. With this support, BLS could begin development of questions in FY 2016 for implementation in FY 2018. Additional questions may address topics such as receipt of school breakfasts or lunches, or subsidies for utilities. To sustain the relevance and accuracy of this measure, BLS would conduct ongoing research to evaluate the methodology used for calculating SPM thresholds.

To obtain the household resources data needed for the SPM, Census will continue to use ITWG's recommendations for family resources as the basis for a definition of income that is much broader than that of the current official measure. Several of the components of such an improved measure are not currently collected by Census in the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC) or the American Community Survey (ACS) and must be modeled. Therefore, Census will: add questions to its data collections, including questions on mortgages and property value, childcare expenses, child support expenses, and out-of-pocket medical expenses; expand its modeling and estimation techniques to produce the necessary additional resource components on a timely basis, where possible;

³¹ The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) 1995 report, [Measuring Poverty](#) informed the initial work of the SPM.

assign permanent staff to work with stakeholders to ensure that the SPM continues to reflect best practices and takes full advantage of the information available to the Census Bureau; and include the SPM on other surveys, such as ACS, so that States and localities can take advantage of this supplemental poverty measure for their own policy decisions.

With continued improvement to BLS' processing systems, the CE could provide the supplemental poverty thresholds to the Census Bureau by FY 2018. With continued adequate funding, Census could develop the components of the resources measure based on data from CPS' ASEC (and eventually ACS). Thus, with adequate funding, BLS and Census could complete the ITWG's road map and produce the SPM in FY 2018.

Improving Accuracy of Demographic Surveys through More Timely Data

The Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign Program provides new, updated, and coordinated samples for major ongoing household surveys across the Federal statistical system. In close collaboration with other Federal statistical agencies, the Census Bureau selects new samples to reflect shifts in the location and characteristics of people based on the most recent information about the population. This program is an efficient way to sustain the accuracy of Federal household statistics.

Until recently, this program produced 'refreshed' samples only after each Decennial Census. This meant that the accuracy of the estimates produced could diminish as the sample "aged" in the 10 year interval between Decennial Censuses. Now, the Census Bureau has begun drawing 'refreshed' samples annually using the continually updated Master Address File and ACS data, rather than rely on the once-a-decade availability of Decennial Census data. This is a major advancement to the accuracy of Federal survey statistics.

In FY 2015, the Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign Program fielded annual samples for the Current Population Survey, the ongoing Survey of Income and Program Participation; the National Crime Victimization Survey; the Consumer Expenditure Quarterly and Diary Survey; and the American Housing Survey. In January 2016, the National Health Interview Survey will begin its first interviews in newly selected sample areas. At that time, the Redesign phase will be complete, although annual sampling activities and updating to the Master Address File will continue to sustain improvements to statistical accuracy.

Improving the Timeliness, Accuracy, and Accessibility of Foreign Trade Statistics

Official U.S. import and export statistics record the physical movement of merchandise between the United States and foreign countries. Foreign trade statistics are used to develop the merchandise trade estimates in balance of payments accounts; to appraise and analyze major movements and trends (commodity and geographic) in international trade; to plan and evaluate such programs as export expansion and agricultural development and assistance programs; and to measure the impact of tariff and trade concessions under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the Generalized System of Preferences.

In an effort to improve the relevance and usefulness of the international trade statistics program, the Census Bureau first released the Advance Report for International Trade in Goods in July 2015. This Advance Report contains summarized seasonally adjusted (SA) and not seasonally adjusted (NSA) import and export totals at the one digit end-use category. The report also contains an advance total balance of international trade in goods, on both a SA and NSA basis. The advance report would be published monthly and up to a week earlier than the detailed [FT900: U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services report](#), and will provide more timely aggregate statistics regarding export and import of goods. The advance report also would allow BEA to incorporate export and import data from the third month of the quarter into its advance quarterly estimate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), thereby produc-

ing a more complete quarterly estimate for the broadest measure of how the U.S. economy is performing for any given quarter and greatly reducing revisions to the advanced estimate.

The Federal statistical community strives to provide its customers with quality data products that include the level of detail they need for their business, academic, or personal research. Beginning later this year, additional data fields will be available in the Census Bureau's [USA Trade Online](#), allowing customers access to data elements previously found only in static data products (the Selected Commodity Subscription Service or Merchandise Trade downloads). This improvement gives customers of USA Trade Online the ability to obtain more detailed data, as well as provide users of Census Bureau static data products the opportunity to switch to this dynamic system while maintaining access to traditional data fields.

Facilitating Innovations in Survey Methodology

The National Science Foundation's Division of Social and Economic Sciences, in collaboration with a consortium of Federal statistical agencies, continues to fund basic research on survey measurement issues, data collection procedures, and statistical issues related to survey design. These activities have substantial potential to benefit the Federal statistical system as it prepares to meet future challenges in gathering relevant and reliable data.

Although proposals submitted for this funding can address any aspect of survey or statistical methodology, priority is given to basic research proposals that have broad implications for the field in general and the greatest potential for creating fundamental knowledge of value for the Federal statistical system. Because methodological problems often require knowledge and expertise from multiple disciplines, this funding opportunity encourages collaborations among the relevant sciences, including the social, behavioral, economic, statistical, and computer sciences.

In FY 2015, NSF funded two research projects examining nonresponse error, a growing concern for Federal statistics. Over the past two decades, response rates to surveys have declined significantly. The decrease in response rates raises the potential for serious biases in estimates derived from surveys. One method surveys have used to try to improve response rates is the use of multiple modes of survey data collection. One research project examines the magnitude of nonresponse error among alternative modes of data collection. The project estimates nonresponse error directly, rather than inferring it from demographic differences, between those who respond and do not respond to different survey protocols, thus providing more complete information about the impact of survey mode. The other project explores the use of a statistical technique for measuring and reducing the potential for biases from non-response in sample surveys. The "calibration weighting technique" would help address selection bias whether due to nonresponse, coverage errors, or both. The research project would develop powerful, publicly-available tools for implementing this technique.

APPENDIX A. Principal Statistical Agency Staffing Levels

This report focuses on the budgetary resources Federal agencies devote to statistical activities. For additional perspective, this appendix provides information on the staffing levels of the principal statistical agencies.

Staff engaged in statistical activities span a range of professional backgrounds. In addition to statisticians and mathematical statisticians, professionals such as economists and research scientists (e.g., health scientists, epidemiologists, and educational research scientists) also engage in significant statistical work. For each agency listed below, the total number of Federal staff or appointments within an agency is given, divided between the number of full-time permanent staff and the number of other than full-time permanent staff. The numbers of the most common occupations—statisticians, economists, and research scientists—are presented separately, as is the residual category—other statistical personnel. The note at the end of the appendix table provides details on the job titles and series of persons engaged in statistical activities at these agencies.

Table A.1 Staffing Levels by Principal Statistical Agency

Principal Statistical Agency	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
<i>Bureau of Economic Analysis</i>			
Total	465	458	517
Full-time permanent	443	440	499
Other than full-time permanent	22	18	18
Statisticians	11	12	12
Economists	267	265	291
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	49	53	53
<i>Bureau of Justice Statistics</i>			
Total	46	56	61
Full-time permanent	45	55	60
Other than full-time permanent	1	1	1
Statisticians	30	40	40
Economists	0	0	0
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	0	0	0
<i>Bureau of Labor Statistics</i>			
Total	2,390	2,566	2,629
Full-time permanent	1,970	2,129	2,192
Other than full-time permanent	420	437	437
Statisticians	148	151	156
Economists	1,155	1,192	1,244
Research Scientists	7	6	6
Other Statistical Personnel	428	421	421
<i>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</i>			
Total	60	70	70
Full-time permanent	60	70	70
Other than full-time permanent	0	0	0

Table A.1 Staffing Levels by Principal Statistical Agency—Continued

Principal Statistical Agency	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Statisticians	15	15	15
Economists	4	6	6
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	18	26	26
<i>Census Bureau</i>			
Total	12,435	13,899	14,213
Full-time permanent	5,558	6,619	6,425
Other than full-time permanent	6,877	7,280	7,788
Statisticians	2,197	2,106	2,127
Economists	87	67	88
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	0	0	0
<i>Economic Research Service</i>			
Total	348	364	364
Full-time permanent	340	357	357
Other than full-time permanent	8	7	7
Statisticians	1	1	1
Economists	210	204	210
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	8	8	8
<i>Energy Information Administration</i>			
Total	339	361	378
Full-time permanent	331	355	371
Other than full-time permanent	8	6	7
Statisticians	61	69	71
Economists	69	80	80
Research Scientists	63	68	71
Other Statistical Personnel	13	16	17
<i>National Agricultural Statistics Service</i>			
Total	1,173	1,183	1,118
Full-time permanent	956	1,033	1,038
Other than full-time permanent	217	150	80
Statisticians	604	634	700
Economists	0	0	0
Research Scientists	1	1	2
Other Statistical Personnel	0	0	0
<i>National Center for Education Statistics</i>			
Total	100	117	129
Full-time permanent	85	90	93
Other than full-time permanent	15	27	36
Statisticians	25	25	25
Economists	6	6	10
Research Scientists	9	9	5

Table A.1 Staffing Levels by Principal Statistical Agency—Continued

Principal Statistical Agency	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
Other Statistical Personnel	0	0	0
<i>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics</i>			
<i>(Social Security Administration)</i>			
Total	69	69	69
Full-time permanent	67	67	67
Other than full-time permanent	2	2	2
Statisticians	5	4	4
Economists	18	17	17
Research Scientists	13	13	13
Other Statistical Personnel	33	35	35
<i>Statistics of Income (Internal Revenue Service)</i>			
Total	138	134	138
Full-time permanent	133	129	133
Other than full-time permanent	5	5	5
Statisticians	30	28	29
Economists	41	42	44
Research Scientists	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel	0	0	0

NOTE: Statisticians include statisticians and mathematical statisticians (series 1529 and 1530, respectively); economists include series 0110; research scientists include health scientists, epidemiologists, and educational research scientists (series 0601, 0605, and 1730, respectively); and other statistical personnel include social science analysts, economics assistants, spatial data analysts, accountants, general engineers, operations research analysts, statistical assistants, transportation specialists, and transportation industry analysts (series 0110, 0119, 0301, 0510, 0801, 1515, 1531, 2101, and 2110, respectively).

APPENDIX B. Glossary

Table B.1 Glossary of Department and Agency Abbreviations

Acronym	Full Name	Department
ACE	Army Corps of Engineers	Defense
ACF	Administration for Children and Families	HHS
ACL	Administration for Community Living	HHS
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	HHS
ARS	Agricultural Research Service	USDA
ASPE	Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	HHS
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	HHS
BBG	Broadcasting Board of Governors	Other
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis	Commerce
BJS	Bureau of Justice Statistics	Justice
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	Interior
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Labor
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management	Interior
BoP	Bureau of Prisons	Justice
BoR	Bureau of Reclamation	Interior
BTS	Bureau of Transportation Statistics	Transportation
CBP	Bureau of Customs and Border Protection	DHS
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	HHS
Census	Census Bureau	Commerce
CG	Coast Guard	DHS
CIS	Citizenship and Immigration Services	DHS
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	HHS
Corps	Army Corps of Engineers	Defense
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission	Other
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration	Justice
DMDC	Defense Manpower Data Center	Defense
DOC	Department of Commerce	Not applicable
DOD	Department of Defense	Not applicable
DOE	Department of Energy	Not applicable
DOI	Department of Interior	Not applicable
DOJ	Department of Justice	Not applicable
DOL	Department of Labor	Not applicable
DOT	Department of Transportation	Not applicable
ED	Department of Education	Not applicable
EEOC	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	Other
EIA	Energy Information Administration	Energy
EOP	Executive Office of the President	Not applicable
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Other
ERS	Economic Research Service	USDA
ESA	Economics and Statistics Administration	Commerce
ETA	Employment and Training Administration	Labor
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration	Transportation
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service	USDA
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation	Justice
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	DHS

Table B.1 Glossary of Department and Agency Abbreviations—Continued

Acronym	Full Name	Department
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	Transportation
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	Transportation
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service	USDA
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration	Transportation
FS	Forest Service	USDA
FTA	Federal Transit Administration	Transportation
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service	Interior
GS	Geological Survey	Interior
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	Not applicable
Housing	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing	HUD
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration	HHS
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development	Not applicable
IES	Institute of Education Sciences	Education
IHS	Indian Health Service	HHS
IMLS	Institute of Museum and Library Services	Other
IRS	Internal Revenue Service	Treasury
ITA	International Trade Administration	Commerce
MARAD	Maritime Administration	Transportation
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration	Labor
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	Other
NASS	National Agricultural Statistics Service	USDA
NCA	National Cemetery Administration	VA
NCBDDD	National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities	HHS
NCCAM	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine	HHS
NCCDPHP	National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion	HHS
NCEE	National Center for Education Evaluation	Education
NCEH	National Center for Environmental Health	HHS
NCES	National Center for Education Statistics	Education
NCEZID	National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases	HHS
	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually	
NCHHSTP	Transmitted Disease, and Tuberculosis Prevention	HHS
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics	HHS
NCI	National Cancer Institute	HHS
NCIPC	National Center for Injury Prevention and Control	HHS
NCIRD	National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases	HHS
NCSES	National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics	Other
NCVAS	National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics	VA
NEI	National Eye Institute	HHS
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service	Commerce
NHGRI	National Human Genome Research Institute	HHS
NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	HHS
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	Transportation
NIA	National Institute on Aging	HHS
NIAAA	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	HHS
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	HHS
NIBIB	National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	HHS
NICHHD	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	HHS
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse	HHS

Table B.1 Glossary of Department and Agency Abbreviations—Continued

Acronym	Full Name	Department
NIDCD	National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	HHS
NIDCR	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	HHS
NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	HHS
NIEHS	National Institute on Environmental Health Sciences	HHS
NIGMS	National Institute of General Medical Services	HHS
NIH	National Institutes of Health	HHS
NIJ	National Institute of Justice	Justice
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health	HHS
NIOSH	National Institute of Occupational Safety	HHS
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service	Commerce
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Commerce
NPS	National Park Service	Interior
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service	USDA
NSF	National Science Foundation	Other
OCR	Office for Civil Rights	Education
OD	Office of the Director, NIH	HHS
OESE	Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	Education
OFCCP	Office of Federal Contract Compliance	Labor
OGAC	Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator	State
OII	Office of Innovation and Improvement	Education
OIS	Office of Immigration Statistics	DHS
OJJDP	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	Justice
OMB	Office of Management and Budget	EOP
ONDCP	Office of National Drug Control Policy	EOP
ONRR	Office of Natural Resources Revenue	Interior
OPA	Office of Population Affairs	HHS
OPDR	Office of Program Development and Research, SSA	Other
OPE	Office of Postsecondary Education	Education
OPEPD	Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development	Education
OPP	Office of Policy and Planning	VA
ORES	Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, SSA	Other
ORP	Office of Retirement Policy, SSA	Other
OSERS	Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services	Education
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration	Labor
OST	Office of the Secretary of Transportation	Transportation
PD&R	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research	HUD
PHMSA	Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	Transportation
PHSS	Public Health Scientific Services	HHS
PIH	Office of Public and Indian Housing	HUD
PTO	Patent and Trademark Office	Commerce
RMA	Risk Management Agency	USDA
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	HHS
SBA	Small Business Administration	Other
SOI	Statistics of Income Division	Treasury
SSA	Social Security Administration	Other
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development	Other
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Not applicable
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs	Not applicable

Table B.1 Glossary of Department and Agency Abbreviations—Continued

Acronym	Full Name	Department
VAOIG	Veterans Administration Office of Inspector General	VA
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration	VA
VHA	Veterans Health Administration	VA
WAOB	World Agricultural Outlook Board	USDA
WHD	Wage and Hour Division	Labor

