



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF  
THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT  
AND BUDGET

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**STATISTICAL  
PROGRAMS  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT**

FISCAL YEAR  
**2015**

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

THE DIRECTOR

September 25, 2014

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to transmit the enclosed *Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2015* report, which is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

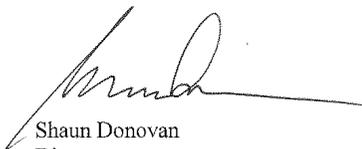
The data provided by our Federal statistical sources provide critical support for policy-making, program management, and evaluation. By placing evidence-driven decisions at the heart of its agenda, the Administration is underscoring the role that Federal statistics play in the policymaking process. As the Administration aims to tackle longstanding challenges in an era of scarce resources, it is especially critical that we support our ongoing efforts to provide relevant, accurate, and objective data. Having access to quality, unbiased data allows us 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, 28 percent of the statistical programs described in this report experienced funding cuts in FY 2014. This follows the funding cuts of FY 2013, which affected 61 percent of statistical programs. 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 improving Federal information quality and accessibility 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,



Shaun Donovan  
Director

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to the Speaker of the House

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# INTRODUCTION

*Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2015* 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 Fiscal Years (FY) 2013-2015. Chapter 2 provides details about principal statistical agency programs, highlights the effect of congressional action on FY 2013 and 2014 budget requests, and identifies major program changes planned for FY 2015. Chapter 3 describes other significant statistical programs of Federal agencies and identifies major program changes anticipated in FY 2015. 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. In addition to data on budgetary resources, the appendices include information on staffing levels for the principal statistical agencies.

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/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy/). The report is also located at [www.fedstats.gov/](http://www.fedstats.gov/) (click on "Federal Statistical Policy"). At both sites, users also may access editions of the *Statistical Programs* report from prior years.

Please direct any inquiries 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) 2013-15. It highlights the effects of congressional action on the President's FY 2014 budget request and anticipated differences in proposed funding for FY 2015. The chapter concludes with a description of statistical work performed by agencies on a reimbursable basis and agency purchases of statistical services and products.<sup>1</sup>

## 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 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 \$201 million enacted for FY 2014.<sup>3</sup> 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 \$69.5 billion in benefits to 58.6 million people in May 2014<sup>4</sup>; a difference of 1 percentage point in the CPI amounts to almost \$8.6 billion in additional (or reduced) Social Security benefits in the subsequent year. 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.

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 policy makers and the public about the social and economic health of the Nation, States, Tribes, territories, and localities. For example, the Bureau of Economic

<sup>1</sup> The FY 2015 budget information described here is drawn from the President's budget as submitted to the Congress and does not reflect actual appropriations.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> See <http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2015/PDF/CBJ-2015-V3-01.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> See [http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts/stat\\_snapshot/index.html](http://www.ssa.gov/policy/docs/quickfacts/stat_snapshot/index.html).

Analysis 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. 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 valuable data for public- and private-sector policy making 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 policy makers. 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 127<sup>5</sup> agencies 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 information for statistical purposes.<sup>6</sup> 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 (\$689.0 million requested for the decennial census for FY 2015), approximately 38 percent (\$2,378.8 million of the \$6,310.8 million total proposed for FY 2015 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;

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<sup>5</sup> Compared to last year's report, this volume identifies two fewer Federal agencies meeting the inclusion criterion of \$500,000 in estimated or actual direct funding for statistical activities in the forthcoming or either of the past two fiscal years. See section, An Overview of Statistical Program Budgets.

<sup>6</sup> Title V of the E-Government Act of 2002. Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA), PL 107-347, Section 502(7).

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 allocated to statistical work in the U.S. government is carried out by some 114 programs in the Executive Branch that conduct statistical 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 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.

Additionally, 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, coordinates the activities of the Federal statistical system to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the system as well as the integrity, objectivity, impartiality, utility, and confidentiality of information collected for statistical purposes.<sup>7</sup> To achieve these goals, SSP establishes statistical policies and standards, identifies priorities for improving programs, evaluates statistical agency budgets, reviews and approves Federal agency information collections involving statistical methods, and coordinates U.S. participation in international statistical activities.

The U.S. Chief Statistician also promotes integration across the Federal statistical system by chairing the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), whose 13 member principal statistical agencies span 9 cabinet departments and 2 other agencies (please see bold 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 farther 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. The ICSP began operating informally in the late 1980s and was authorized by statute in 1995.

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<sup>7</sup> Statistical Policy Directive No. 4: Release and Dissemination of Statistical Products Produced by Federal Statistical Agencies; Notice, [http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/fedreg/2008/030708\\_directive-4.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/fedreg/2008/030708_directive-4.pdf).

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act, the U.S. Chief Statistician’s office annually issues this report. It also prepares a chapter each year in the Analytical Perspectives volume of the President’s budget, which provides a cross-cutting analysis of the budget requests for the principal statistical agencies.<sup>8</sup>

## 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 2013-2015. This description is limited to agencies that have direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in FY 2013, or estimated direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in either FY 2014 or FY 2015. 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 other program missions, such as providing services, managing and evaluating programs, or enforcing regulations. For the 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 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015 for statistical programs, by department and agency.

For FY 2013, the actual direct funding for Federal statistical programs was \$6,309.7 million (\$5,941.1 million, excluding decennial census)—a decrease from the estimated President’s budget request reported in FY 2013 of \$6,722.3 million (\$6,293.7 million, excluding decennial census) and also a decrease from the appropriated funding estimate reported in FY 2014 of \$6,353.8 million (\$5,985.6 million, excluding decennial census). Of the 127 statistical

<sup>8</sup> See [http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg\\_statpolicy#sf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/inforeg_statpolicy#sf).

agencies and programs, 63 (50 percent) experienced decreases of 5 percent or more in actual funding received compared with the President’s budget request, 26 (20 percent) received more funding than requested, and 38 (30 percent) experienced less than a 5 percent difference, positively or negatively, between the FY 2013 funding requested and the funding actually received.

All 13 principal statistical agencies received less funding than requested. Although NCSES experienced only a 1 percent cut, the difference between the amounts requested and the amounts received for the other 12 principal statistical agencies ranged from 7 percent (NASS, BEA, BLS) to 32 percent (BTS). To accommodate the reduced funding levels, programs curtailed or postponed statistical activities, delayed hiring new staff, and cut staff training and professional travel. The estimated impact of these postponements, delays, and cuts to FY2014 statistical activities are described in Chapter 2.

For FY 2014, Federal statistical programs were appropriated funding of \$6,508.2 million (\$6,044.9 million excluding decennial census), an overall 4.8 percent decrease from the President’s budget request of \$6,838.7 million (\$6,352.1 million, excluding decennial census). Approximately half of the agencies (60 or 47 percent) experienced no significant change between the President’s budget request and the FY 2014 appropriation; 35 (28 percent) agencies were appropriated less than was requested, and 32 (25 percent) were appropriated more than was requested in the budget. These funds would be used to implement statistical activities that had been postponed and to bolster staffing levels that had been curtailed.

For FY 2015, Federal statistical programs requested \$6,999.8 million in the President’s budget (\$6,310.8 million, excluding decennial census), a 7.6 percent increase over the FY 2014 appropriation. Approximately \$25 million of this appropriation, however, would be directed for payment of General Services Administration rental costs that would be decentralized and transferred to agencies.<sup>9</sup> Accordingly, in this budget request, 78 (61 percent) of the agencies would receive essentially equivalent funding in FY 2015 as in FY 2014, 17 (14 percent) would receive less funding, and 32 (25 percent) would receive more funding. At this level of funding, agencies appropriated more funds than requested in FY 2014 would continue and agencies that receive more funding in the FY 2015 request 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 2014 and 2015.

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015**  
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2013 Actual Funding Received	FY 2014 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2015 Budget Request Estimate
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			
Agricultural Research Service .....	5.7	6.6	6.6
<i>Economic Research Service</i> .....	71.4	78.1	83.4
Food and Nutrition Service .....	36.6	37.1	39.3
Foreign Agricultural Service .....	22.2	23.0	23.0
Forest Service .....	64.6	66.8	66.8
<i>National Agricultural Statistics Service</i> <sup>1</sup> .....	166.6	161.2	179.0

<sup>9</sup> See Chapter 2 for details.

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015—Continued**  
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2013 Actual Funding Received	FY 2014 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2015 Budget Request Estimate
Natural Resources Conservation Service .....	124.7	131.2	130.5
Risk Management Agency .....	4.0	4.0	4.0
World Agricultural Outlook Board .....	4.4	4.7	4.6
<b>COMMERCE</b>			
<i>Bureau of Economic Analysis</i> .....	89.8	95.4	107.2
<i>Census Bureau</i> .....	887.4	972.8	1,239.9
Current .....	266.7	279.8	278.0
Periodic .....	620.7	693.0	961.9
Decennial Census .....	368.6	463.3	689.0
Economics and Statistics Administration .....	3.5	3.6	3.8
International Trade Administration <sup>2</sup> .....	6.8	6.6	6.8
National Institute of Standards and Technology .....	1.4	0.8	0.0
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration .....	118.3	124.4	125.2
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service .....	60.3	64.0	64.0
National Marine Fisheries Service .....	58.0	60.4	61.2
Patent and Trademark Office .....	1.8	2.1	2.1
<b>DEFENSE</b>			
Army Corps of Engineers .....	5.3	5.5	5.5
Defense Health Agency <sup>3</sup> .....	22.3	25.5	25.8
Defense Manpower Data Center .....	8.5	9.0	9.0
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
Institute of Education Sciences .....	302.6	323.1	375.3
<i>National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)</i> .....	284.7	304.8	353.2
Institute of Education Sciences (excluding NCES) .....	18.0	18.3	22.1
Office for Civil Rights <sup>4</sup> .....	1.1	1.3	3.9
Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education <sup>5</sup> .....	3.2	3.7	3.2
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education .....	28.0	23.8	16.2
Office of Innovation and Improvement .....	9.7	6.5	6.4
Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development <sup>6</sup> .....	13.2	0.9	0.9
Office of Postsecondary Education <sup>7</sup> .....	9.3	10.7	61.6
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services .....	30.1	21.5	21.5
<b>ENERGY</b>			
<i>Energy Information Administration</i> .....	99.5	117.0	122.5
Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security <sup>8</sup> .....	12.8	12.8	12.8
<b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>			
Administration for Children and Families <sup>9</sup> .....	63.4	66.7	53.7
Administration for Community Living <sup>10</sup> .....	8.0	7.8	6.5
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality .....	179.1	182.7	165.7
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) .....	502.6	501.9	511.2
<i>National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)</i> <sup>11</sup> .....	138.7	154.0	155.4

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015—Continued**  
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2013 Actual Funding Received	FY 2014 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2015 Budget Request Estimate
CDC (Excluding NCHS) .....	363.9	347.9	355.8
Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry .....	0.6	0.6	1.2
Center for Global Health <sup>12</sup> .....	3.2	3.2	3.3
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion .....	64.7	62.0	62.0
National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases .....	12.1	12.9	13.8
National Center for Environmental Health .....	19.0	19.0	21.0
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, and Tuberculosis Prevention .....	172.2	158.8	161.3
National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases ..	19.9	18.9	19.4
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control .....	2.2	2.3	2.3
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities .....	24.3	24.4	26.3
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health .....	26.3	26.4	25.8
Public Health Scientific Services .....	19.4	19.4	19.4
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services .....	43.5	43.9	45.0
Health Resources and Services Administration .....	20.1	24.0	24.2
Indian Health Service .....	5.5	5.5	5.5
National Institutes of Health .....	1,128.5	1,132.0	1,134.3
National Cancer Institute .....	110.5	110.8	110.8
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine .....	10.3	10.6	11.6
National Eye Institute .....	0.7	0.7	0.7
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute .....	228.7	204.0	204.0
National Human Genome Research Institute .....	5.0	5.1	5.3
National Institute on Aging <sup>13</sup> .....	8.1	7.0	7.0
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism .....	16.4	6.7	6.7
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases .....	144.0	147.9	147.9
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering .....	4.7	4.7	4.7
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development .....	154.3	158.4	158.9
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders .....	6.8	8.3	6.8
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research .....	1.0	1.1	0.6
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases <sup>14</sup> ...	92.7	93.4	95.0
National Institute on Drug Abuse .....	101.3	97.5	99.6
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences .....	106.9	104.8	104.6
National Institute of Mental Health .....	2.3	2.5	2.5
Office of the Director .....	134.6	168.5	167.6
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation .....	18.0	18.4	19.0
Office of Population Affairs .....	2.0	1.9	3.2
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration .....	146.6	155.2	156.9
<b>HOMELAND SECURITY</b>			
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection .....	21.3	22.1	22.0
Citizenship and Immigration Services .....	0.3	2.0	1.6

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015—Continued**  
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2013 Actual Funding Received	FY 2014 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2015 Budget Request Estimate
Coast Guard .....	1.5	0.5	0.5
Federal Emergency Management Agency .....	6.7	6.7	7.7
Office of Immigration Statistics .....	2.9	2.2	2.6
<b>HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>			
Office of Housing .....	5.7	6.1	6.2
Office of Policy Development and Research .....	41.2	42.0	47.1
Office of Public and Indian Housing .....	6.3	9.9	13.1
<b>INTERIOR</b>			
Bureau of Land Management .....	2.1	2.1	2.1
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management .....	3.4	3.4	2.4
Bureau of Reclamation .....	11.7	11.0	11.9
Fish and Wildlife Service .....	5.7	6.2	6.4
Geological Survey <sup>15</sup> .....	483.2	493.4	522.0
National Park Service .....	4.7	4.9	5.0
Office of Natural Resources Revenue .....	4.3	4.4	4.5
<b>JUSTICE</b>			
<i>Bureau of Justice Statistics</i> .....	52.6	52.3	62.6
Bureau of Prisons .....	11.1	10.9	10.9
Drug Enforcement Administration .....	4.1	4.0	4.5
Federal Bureau of Investigation .....	17.6	13.8	13.7
National Institute of Justice <sup>16</sup> .....	0.0	0.9	0.0
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention .....	4.3	4.2	4.0
<b>LABOR</b>			
<i>Bureau of Labor Statistics</i> .....	577.2	592.2	610.1
Employment and Training Administration <sup>17</sup> .....	61.5	53.8	53.9
Mine Safety and Health Administration .....	2.5	2.5	2.6
Occupational Safety and Health Administration <sup>18</sup> .....	32.9	34.3	34.5
Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs .....	0.9	0.9	0.9
Wage and Hour Division .....	5.5	5.4	5.5
<b>STATE</b>			
Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator .....	2.0	2.2	2.2
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
<i>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</i> .....	25.9	26.0	29.0
Federal Aviation Administration <sup>19</sup> .....	8.8	7.3	8.4
Federal Highway Administration <sup>20</sup> .....	19.6	21.9	22.4
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration .....	7.5	6.9	7.7
Federal Railroad Administration .....	7.4	5.6	6.2
Federal Transit Administration .....	4.9	4.9	5.0
Maritime Administration .....	0.7	0.5	0.4

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015—Continued**  
(In millions of dollars)

DEPARTMENT Agency	FY 2013 Actual Funding Received	FY 2014 Appropriation Estimate	FY 2015 Budget Request Estimate
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration .....	29.1	37.7	34.2
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration <sup>21</sup> .....	5.0	4.9	17.7
<b>TREASURY</b>			
<i>Statistics of Income (Internal Revenue Service)</i> .....	34.9	37.1	37.3
<b>VETERANS AFFAIRS</b>			
Board of Veterans' Appeals .....	0.1	0.1	0.1
National Cemetery Administration .....	1.0	1.0	0.9
Office of Policy and Planning .....	5.5	5.3	5.3
Office of Policy and Planning (excluding NCVAS) .....	0.0	1.0	1.0
National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics .....	5.5	4.3	4.3
Veterans Benefits Administration <sup>22</sup> .....	9.9	12.3	12.5
Veterans Health Administration .....	88.3	98.2	97.0
<b>OTHER AGENCIES</b>			
Broadcasting Board of Governors .....	8.2	11.8	11.8
Consumer Product Safety Commission .....	22.0	22.6	23.9
Environmental Protection Agency .....	39.8	37.1	37.3
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission .....	1.8	1.6	1.8
Institute of Museum and Library Services .....	1.8	1.8	1.8
National Aeronautics and Space Administration .....	10.6	10.7	10.8
National Science Foundation .....	190.6	181.0	197.0
<i>National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)</i> .....	42.1	46.8	58.4
National Science Foundation (Excluding NCSES) .....	148.5	134.2	138.6
Office of National Drug Control Policy .....	2.2	1.5	1.5
Small Business Administration .....	0.9	0.7	0.4
Social Security Administration .....	60.9	70.7	73.8
Office of Research, Demonstration and Employment Support <sup>23</sup> .....	28.8	34.7	37.7
<i>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics</i> .....	26.2	28.9	29.9
Office of Retirement Policy .....	5.9	7.2	6.3
U.S. Agency for International Development .....	77.2	85.0	83.4
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>6,309.7</b>	<b>6,508.2</b>	<b>6,999.8</b>
Total minus decennial census .....	5,941.1	6,044.9	6,310.8

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 2015 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 bold italics for ease of reference. Component amounts may not sum to the larger organizational unit amount due to rounding.

<sup>1</sup> NASS totals include \$58.029, \$44.545, and \$48.044 million in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015, respectively for conducting the periodic Census of Agriculture.

<sup>2</sup> FY 2013 actual spending was more than appropriated due to carryover of funds from the prior year.

<sup>3</sup> The new Defense Health Agency assumed TRICARE Management Activity effective October 1, 2013.

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Statistical Programs, FY 2013–2015—Continued**

*(In millions of dollars)*

<sup>4</sup>The FY 2015 estimate includes salaries and expenses associated with information collection management, previously not reported.

<sup>5</sup>This agency was formerly the Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

<sup>6</sup>The organizational unit in charge of EDFacts moved from OPEPD to NCES. Costs associated with EDFacts are reported under OPEPD in 2013 and under NCES in 2014 and 2015.

<sup>7</sup>The decrease of \$2.5 million in actual funding for OPE in FY2013 is mainly due to the delay of the GEAR-UP program from FY 2013 to FY 2014. The FY 2014 budget request in last year's report included a proposed increase of \$67 million for GPRA data/HEA program evaluation that was not included in the final appropriation. The FY 2015 budget request again includes funding for GPRA data/HEA program evaluation but at a lower level (\$52 million).

<sup>8</sup>This office was formerly called the Office of Health, Safety, and Security.

<sup>9</sup>The difference between estimates in last year's report and the current report reflect a correction in the coverage of activities included.

<sup>10</sup>The FY 2013 amount in last year's report erroneously excluded two evaluation studies. Additionally, the FY 2014 funding estimate reported in last year's volume erroneously excluded three evaluation studies.

<sup>11</sup>The FY 2014 budget request reported in last year's volume incorrectly included approximately \$20 million in funds designated for the CDC Working Capital Fund (WCF) as a budget increase. Implemented in FY 2014, the WCF provides funding for administrative functions, not statistical activities.

<sup>12</sup>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.

<sup>13</sup>Last year's FY 2013 estimate was based on FY 2012 actual amounts, and did not account for several expiring contracts, including components of the Health ABC study. This decrease in FY 2013 funding for statistical activities resulted in the revised estimate for FY 2014 as well.

<sup>14</sup>The FY 2013 actual level of statistical activities for NIDDK is lower than the FY 2013 estimate due to a narrower interpretation of statistical activity for this submission. Similarly, the FY 2014 appropriation estimate is lower than the FY 2014 budget request when this narrower interpretation is used.

<sup>15</sup>The FY 2014 President's budget request was based on the FY 2013 appropriation before sequestration. Sequestration made the difference between the FY 2014 budget request and the FY 2014 appropriated budget appear greater.

<sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>The increase between the FY 2013 amounts in last year's report and the amount shown here is due to the previous inadvertent omission of several statistical activities.

<sup>18</sup>OFCCP does not request dedicated funding for statistical activities in its annual budget submissions. A portion of the program's authorized salaries and expenses is assigned to this function.

<sup>19</sup>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.

<sup>20</sup>FY 2014 estimates reported in last year's volume did not include for the Long-Term Bridge Performance program.

<sup>21</sup>A significant portion of the reduction from the FY 2013 estimate to the FY 2013 actual amount was due to inadvertent "double counting" of \$1.7 million in funds. Similarly, \$1.9 million was "double counted" in the FY 2014 budget request.

<sup>22</sup>The FY 2013 actual funding was lower than initially estimated due to reduced statistical contract costs and movement of some statistical procurements and services to FY 2014.

<sup>23</sup>In FY 2014, the former Office of Program Development and Research (OPDR) became the Office of Research, Demonstration and Employment Support (ORDES).

### **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 Defense Manpower Data Center of the De-

partment of Defense). 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 2015, Federal agencies covered by this report would be reimbursed an estimated \$849.7 million in statistical services, consistent with FY 2014 estimated reimbursements. Similar to FY 2014 estimates, 82 percent of this reimbursable income would come from other Federal agencies.

Census anticipates the largest reimbursable program in FY 2015, estimated at \$315.0 million, an increase of 17 percent from FY 2014. Most of this work (\$310.7 million) involves data collection and preparation of tabulations for other Federal agencies. In particular, Census expects to perform approximately \$90.2 million of reimbursable work for 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, work that Census expects to perform for NCES includes the Private Schools Survey, the School and Staffing Survey, and the intercensal estimates of poverty; for NCHS, the National Health Interview Survey, the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, and the National Hospital Discharge Survey; for HUD, the American Housing Survey and the Housing Sales Survey; for BJS, the National Crime Victimization Survey and the National Prisoner Statistics Program; for OJJDP, the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement; for EIA, the Manufacturing Energy Consumption Survey; and, for 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 anticipates the next largest reimbursable statistics program in FY 2015, estimated at \$283.2 million,<sup>10</sup> which is consistent with FY 2014 amounts. About 60 percent of the reimbursable income is from other Federal agencies. Reimbursable activities include research projects to provide results used in land and resource management decisions, maintaining long-term monitoring networks, and development of tools to make geologic and hydrologic information available for decision-making.

Most of the reimbursable statistical work anticipated to be performed by NCHS (\$80.2 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 about 15 percent compared with FY 2014 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.

The Bureau of Justice Statistics anticipates receiving \$27.5 million in reimbursable funds for research, evaluation and statistical services for the Office of Justice Programs. In FY 2015,

<sup>10</sup> This amount includes \$1.3 million from foreign governments, not shown in Table 2.

BLS anticipates a reimbursable program of \$24.7 million, 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. These estimates represent an increase of about 25 percent and 30 percent from FY 2014 for BJS and BLS, respectively.

Intradepartmental agreements also support most of the reimbursable work conducted by the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) and NCES. IES anticipates receiving \$16.1 million to conduct evaluations for other agencies in the Department of Education (ED). This amount is about 20 percent less than the FY 2014 amount because the Department is no longer planning an evaluation of the Promise Neighborhoods program. Evaluations that would go forward are the Evaluation of the Investing in Innovation Fund, the GEAR-UP College Savings Account Demonstration Evaluation, and the TRIO Upward Bound Program. NCES anticipates receiving approximately \$9.4 million from other agencies for statistical activities, including \$4.0 million for obtaining intercensal estimates of poverty, \$1.3 million for the National Indian Education Study, \$3.3 million for work on the Civil Rights Data Collection, and \$0.8 million for the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study–Kindergarten Class of 2010-2011.

Similarly, intradepartmental transfers support much of the reimbursable statistical work of Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies. Consistent with FY 2014 estimates, approximately \$18.1 million, or 88 percent, of the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) total reimbursable work is anticipated to support other agencies within USDA in FY 2015. In particular, NASS would support work with the Economic Research Service (ERS) for the Agricultural Resource Management Survey; the Farm Service Agency for estimates of prices received by farmers, pulse crop data, and county level cash rental rates; the Foreign Agricultural Service to assist foreign countries with agricultural statistical services; and the Risk Management Agency for county estimates of commodity production and yield. NASS also would work with ETA to produce agricultural labor statistics.

### **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 2015, Federal agencies covered by this report anticipate purchasing an estimated \$2,719.7 million in statistical services, an increase of about 5 percent from FY 2014. Consistent with FY 2014, 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 2015 are the Census Bureau (\$409.2 million), the National Center for Education Statistics (\$337.8 million), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (excluding NCHS) (\$238.1 million), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (\$189.7 million), the Geological Survey (\$185.4 million), the National Science Foundation (excluding NCSES) (\$142.4 million), and the National Center for Health Statistics (\$131.3 million).

The largest purchasers of statistical services from the State, Tribal, and local governments are the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (excluding NCHS) (\$174.7 million), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (\$83.0 million), the National Center for Education Statistics (\$72.5

million), the Employment and Training Administration (\$43.6 million), the National Agricultural Statistics Service (\$27.0 million), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (\$25.2 million), and the National Center for Health Statistics (\$25.1 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 State-wide 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.<sup>11</sup>

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

**Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2015**  
(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
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>								
Agricultural Research Service .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4
<i>Economic Research Service</i> .....	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.6	12.3	0.3	2.9	9.1
Food and Nutrition Service .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Foreign Agricultural Service .....	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5
Forest Service .....	9.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	12.1	7.5	3.7	0.9
<i>National Agricultural Statistics Service</i> .....	20.5	2.4	0.0	18.1	36.0	27.0	0.0	9.0
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
<b>COMMERCE</b>								
<i>Bureau of Economic Analysis</i> .....	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5
<i>Census Bureau</i> .....	315.0	0.0	4.3	310.7	409.2	0.0	407.7	1.4
Economics and Statistics Administration .....	4.5	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
International Trade Administration .....	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.3	4.3	0.0	3.3	1.0
National Institute of Standards and Technology	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>11</sup> America Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

**Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2015—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
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration .....	1.8	0.7	0.0	1.1	39.0	25.2	13.8	0.0
Patent and Trademark Office .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>DEFENSE</b>								
Army Corps of Engineers .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.5
Defense Health Agency .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.0	0.0	23.0	0.0
Defense Manpower Data Center .....	1.5	0.0	0.0	1.5	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
<b>EDUCATION</b>								
Institute of Education Sciences .....	25.5	0.0	0.0	25.5	371.7	72.5	286.7	12.5
<i>National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)</i> .....	9.4	0.0	0.0	9.4	337.8	72.5	252.8	12.5
Institute of Education Sciences (excluding NCES) .....	16.1	0.0	0.0	16.1	33.9	0.0	33.9	0.0
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.0	0.0	3.9	12.0
Office for Civil Rights .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	3.3
Office of Innovation and Improvement .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.4	0.0	0.3	6.1
Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development .....	2.5	0.0	0.0	2.5	2.9	0.0	2.9	0.0
Office of Postsecondary Education .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.9	0.0	56.0	4.0
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.2	0.0	20.2	0.0
Office of Vocational and Adult Education .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
<b>ENERGY</b>								
<i>Energy Information Administration</i> .....	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	56.5	0.2	55.0	1.3
Environment, Health, Safety and Security .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
<b>HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>								
Administration for Community Living .....	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	6.4	0.0	6.4	0.0
Administration for Children and Families .....	10.3	0.0	0.0	10.3	53.2	0.0	52.0	1.2
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) .....	81.0	0.0	6.2	74.8	369.3	199.9	103.5	65.9
<i>National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)</i> ..	80.2	0.0	6.2	74.1	131.3	25.1	44.5	61.6
CDC (Excluding NCHS) .....	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	238.1	174.7	59.0	4.3
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ..	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	44.5	0.0	44.4	0.1
Health Resources and Services Administration ..	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	8.1	0.0	5.5	2.6
Indian Health Service .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Institutes of Health .....	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2	75.2	0.2	50.6	24.3
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation .....	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	4.9	0.0	1.1	3.8

**Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2015—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
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	9.9	0.0	0.0	9.9
<b>HOMELAND SECURITY</b>								
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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
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
<b>HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>								
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	47.1	0.0	4.6	42.4
Office of Public and Indian Housing .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.1	0.0	13.1	0.0
<b>INTERIOR</b>								
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	3.4	0.0	0.0	3.4
Fish and Wildlife Service .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Geological Survey .....	282.0	96.5	20.0	165.4	185.4	0.0	20.0	165.4
National Park Service .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.8	0.2	0.3
Office of Natural Resources Revenue .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>JUSTICE</b>								
<i>Bureau of Justice Statistics</i> .....	27.5	0.0	0.0	27.5	63.3	5.5	22.0	35.8
Bureau of Prisons .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.1	7.1	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 .....	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1
<b>LABOR</b>								
<i>Bureau of Labor Statistics</i> .....	24.7	0.0	0.5	24.2	189.7	83.0	15.0	91.7
Employment and Training Administration .....	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	44.2	43.6	0.6	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

**Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2015—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
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
<b>STATE</b>								
Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator ....	2.2	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>								
<i>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</i> .....	5.1	0.0	0.5	4.6	2.3	0.0	0.0	2.3
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	7.7	3.0	1.0	3.7
Federal Railroad Administration .....	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	4.1	0.0	4.1	0.0
Federal Transit Administration .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	3.9	1.1
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
<b>TREASURY</b>								
<i>Statistics of Income (Internal Revenue Service)</i>	2.3	0.0	0.1	2.2	0.6	0.0	0.5	0.1
<b>VETERANS AFFAIRS</b>								
Board of Veterans' Appeals .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Cemetery Administration .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0
Office of Policy and Planning .....	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Office of Policy and Planning (excluding NCVAS) .....	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics (NCVAS) .....	1.9	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Veterans Benefits Administration .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.3	0.0	12.3	0.0
Veterans Health Administration .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.3	0.0	8.0	1.4
<b>OTHER AGENCIES</b>								
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 .....	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	20.6	10.7	8.9	0.9
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.0
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 .....	5.6	0.0	0.0	5.6	180.0	0.0	168.0	12.0
<i>National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)</i> .....	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	37.6	0.0	25.6	12.0

**Table 2. Reimbursable and Purchase Programs, FY 2015—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
National Science Foundation (Excluding NCSES) .....	3.8	0.0	0.0	3.8	142.4	0.0	142.4	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 .....	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	51.3	0.0	24.0	27.3
Office of Program Development and Research .	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	29.4	0.0	10.6	18.9
<i>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics ..</i>	<i>0.3</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>0.1</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>0.0</i>	<i>13.1</i>	<i>5.4</i>
Office of Retirement Policy .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.3	3.0
U.S. Agency for International Development .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	83.1	0.0	73.6	9.5
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>849.7</b>	<b>102.6</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>704.3</b>	<b>2,719.7</b>	<b>492.5</b>	<b>1,639.9</b>	<b>587.2</b>

NOTE: 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 2014 Congressional appropriations. FY 2015 Presidential budget requests are then presented with a summary of anticipated major program changes for FY 2015.<sup>12</sup>

Several agencies produce statistics within a given topical domain, adding each agency's particular expertise to Federal statistics as described.

### **BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS (BEA)**

BEA, of the Department of Commerce (DOC), is a principal source of Federal current economic, national accounts, and periodic 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's Producer Price Index.

#### **Congressional Action on the President's FY 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$95.4 million was \$4.8 million less than the President's budget request. This FY 2014 appropriation enables BEA to maintain core statistical programs that produce statistics that feed into the estimation of GDP and related statistics, are required by law, and/or are required for the administration of Federal programs. This appropriation restores BEA's reporting of detailed estimates on employment, farm income and expenses, and personal current transfer receipts that were suspended in FY 2013. It supports the postponed expansion of industrial detail on compensation and earnings for 108 industries to BEA's Local Area Personal Income program.

Funding at this level also supports the President's the "Build it Here, Sell it Everywhere" initiative to improve coverage of Foreign Direct Investment by: developing a survey of new foreign direct investment; adding State-level data on fixed assets, property, and manufacturing; and reducing reporting thresholds to include more emerging businesses. The data collected under these new efforts would support Federal policies to pursue and achieve new business investment in the United States from foreign and domestic companies. The data would also be widely used by State, Tribal, and local governments to further assess the impact of direct investment in these areas.

#### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's FY 2015 budget request of \$107.2 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

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<sup>12</sup> See Appendix A for supplemental information on the staffing levels of the principal statistical agencies.

and improving those accounts. For FY 2015, BEA is requesting support for developing a Small Business Satellite Account, including a new Small Business GDP, to track the overall growth and health of America's small business sector. This new measure would offer unique insight as small businesses will often be the first to react to growth or contraction in their sectors or regions, as well as to changes in policy. In addition to supporting good public policy at the national level, these data would also be of substantial value to State, Tribal, and local leaders in understanding their regional economic dynamics and guiding investment decisions, thereby enhancing the ability of America's small businesses to innovate and grow. Funding would also be available at this level to partially pay for the relocation and/or reconfiguration costs mandated by the General Services Administration (GSA). This requirement is a result of BEA's expiring lease as well as a mandated space reduction. GSA has directed BEA to set aside a total of \$16 million to fund this effort. Accordingly, the FY 2015 budget requests \$8 million, and the remaining \$8 million will be requested in FY 2016.

## **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 policy makers, researchers, criminal justice practitioners and the general public. BJS's 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 enacted appropriation of \$52.3 million was consistent with the President's budget request of \$52.9 million. The FY 2014 appropriation supports the continuing redesign of the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) in line with recommendations prepared by the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) and Committee on Law and Justice. Continued NCVS redesign funding provides BJS with the ability to identify and test various methodological improvements to enhance the reliability of national estimates of criminal victimization; to improve the measurement of rape, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence and to adopt appropriate modes that facilitate reporting these crimes; to develop and implement methods to provide reliable subnational estimates; to implement a system of routine supplements to address emerging topics in criminal victimization; and to improve the cost-efficiency of the data collection process. The redesigned survey would better meet the Administration's strategic goals of providing victimization-related statistics to support justice policy and decision making.

The enacted appropriation also allows the Attorney General to set aside 2 percent of Office of Justice Programs (OJP) funds. These funds are available for grant or reimbursement programs and can be used by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and BJS for research, evaluation, or statistical purposes, without regard to the original authorizations for the grant or reimbursement programs. The appropriation together with the set aside, which amounts to about \$13 million, would permit BJS to continue to collect and analyze statistical data on all aspects of the criminal justice system; assist State, local, and Tribal governments in collecting and analyzing justice statistics; and disseminate high quality information and statistics.

## **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's FY 2015 budget request of \$62.6 million includes \$55.4 million in direct funding and \$7.8 million for salaries and expenses to support the Criminal Justice Statistics Program, an increase of \$10.3 million above the FY 2014 enacted level. This level of funding would allow BJS to maintain support for studies on the recidivism of State prison releases, convicted felons, juvenile offenders, and first time arrestees. It would also support prosecution and adjudication statistical projects that focus on felony court case processing, criminal justice employment and expenditure, the delivery of indigent defense services, and a survey of tribal justice systems. The Criminal Justice Data Improvements Programs that offers State, Tribal, and local agencies statistical support and technical assistance would be maintained. The FY 2015 budget request also would support the administration of the NCVS, including supplements such as identity theft and police-public contacts; law enforcement statistical projects to examine trends in reported crimes and arrests; corrections statistics initiatives utilizing prisoner, jail, probation and parole, and the National Corrections Reporting Program data; and capital punishment and sentencing statistics and deaths in custody statistics. The FY 2015 budget includes funds for the design and implementation of surveys of inmates in State prisons and local jail facilities, record linkage projects, testing and implementation of supplemental surveys of probation and parole agencies, and surveys of prisoner health and health care.

Additionally, the President's FY 2015 budget requests an increase to 3 percent of the OJP set aside for BJS and NIJ to support new and ongoing projects. Such projects could include: the provision of technical leadership to a Multi-year Evaluation Plan for Bureau of Justice Assistance-funded grant programs; convening a National Academy of Sciences panel study of current and future crime data needs;<sup>13</sup> continued development of an incident level law enforcement administrative record system and arrangement of information sharing with a national sample of law enforcement agencies to provide incident-level data; development of a rapid law enforcement information system to provide agencies with timely and topical national data on emerging crime trends, technology, and administrative and management issues; and systematic evaluation of all OJP statistical programs and collections vis-à-vis the Attorney General's commitment to scientific integrity, OMB's statistical standards, and good professional practice.

## **BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS (BLS)**

BLS, of the Department of Labor (DOL), is a principal source of Federal labor 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$592.2 million for BLS was \$21.6 million below the FY 2014 President's request and \$15 million above the FY 2013 appropriation. At this funding level, BLS curtailed the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program. BLS also announced plans to curtail the International Price Program (IPP) by discontinuing the production and publication of the export price indexes. Subsequent to that announcement, the decision was made to maintain the export price indexes through at least the first quarter of FY 2015. The

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<sup>13</sup> This would be completed in collaboration with OMB and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Criminal Justice Services Division.

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, and workplace flexibility and work-family balance). Also included in the FY 2014 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 statistical poverty measure.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 budget request of \$610.1 million is \$17.9 million above the FY 2014 appropriation. This funding would restore programs curtailed in FY 2014. The 2015 request 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 statistical poverty measure.

## **BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS (BTS)**

BTS, of the Department of Transportation (DOT), is a principal source of Federal transportation statistics. BTS is a component of the Office of the Secretary. 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 through research, development of guidelines, and promotion of improvements in data acquisition and use.

### **Congressional Action on the President's FY 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 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 \$4.0 million for the Airline Transportation Statistics Program (from the Federal Aviation Administration), and \$1.0 million for the Confidential Close Calls Reporting Systems Program from the Federal Railroad Administration, 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 data, visualization, transportation economics, and the information dissemination services of the National Transportation Library.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's budget request for FY 2015 is \$29.0 million. At this level, BTS would maintain its priority core programs; \$3.0 million of this request would establish the Travel Data Initiative 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 for aviation statistical program activities. This program collects and disseminates airline financial, traffic, performance and operational data from 130 U.S. airlines. The agency would expand work on performance measures with operating administrations throughout the Department of Transportation 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's major demographic programs include the 2020 Decennial Census, the American Community Survey (ACS), and the Intercensal Demographic Estimates. Fiscal Year 2015 is the first year of a four-year phase focused on completing all research and testing while also beginning operational design, development, and system testing for the actual 2020 Census. The ACS is an ongoing survey providing updated demographic, social, economic, and housing data for every community in the United States 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 functioning 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's economic statistics include two periodic censuses conducted every five years, covering the years ending in two and seven. The Economic Census is integral to the Bureau of Economic Analysis 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, such as manufacturing, mineral industries, construction industries, retail and wholesale trade, services industries, and transportation industries. The CES program significantly influences financial markets.

### **Congressional Action on the President's FY 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$972.8 million is \$39.7 million less than the President's budget request of \$1,012.5 million. Although the appropriation reduces funding for 2020 Census Research and Testing Program, the levels provided still allow the Census Bureau to carry out the Research and Testing activities as originally planned in FY 2014 which are essential to meeting design decision goals. However, work on developing alternative methods for contacting households and attaching addresses to responses that do not have a census identification code is deferred, as is some planned work on reengineering field operations. The funding level provides Current Demographic Statistics the resources to fully collect and release statistics and support the Supplemental Poverty Measure. However, the Current Economic Statistics

program would not be funding the proposed new initiatives for expanding research to improve analyses of Federal programs.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 President's budget request of \$1,239.9 million is an increase of \$267.1 million over the FY 2014 appropriation. The major activity proposed in FY 2015 would be a \$225.7 million increase in the 2020 Decennial Census to fund the final year of research, planning, development, and testing and begin early operations for the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau plans to conduct large integration testing to demonstrate that systems and operations in each area function in tandem. The American Community Survey (ACS) (included in the decennial census funding) would use \$15.2 million of the increase to fully restore previously curtailed field data collection efforts due to FY 2014 budget reductions. Additional program proposals include: an increase of \$27.5 million to support the Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing initiative that would create an integrated and standardized system of data collection and processing services and a \$3.2 million increase in Geographic Support that would restore the Boundary and Annexation Survey, which was suspended for FY 2014. The Boundary and Annexation Survey is used to ensure accurate boundaries that are critical to the allocation of statistical data collected in censuses and surveys. Other activities would include: \$5.0 million increase to analyze and release the 2012 Economic Census products and begin the planning and development phase of the 2017 Economic Census and 2017 Census of Governments; a \$5.0 million increase to enhance the Census Bureau's Longitudinal Business Database; and a \$6.9 million increase to support the Bureau's infrastructure contracts.

This request also includes a \$9.0 million decrease for the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). The decrease in requested SIPP funding is a result of an on-going review of Census programs to incorporate program efficiencies while preserving data quality. Specifically, the 2014 SIPP panel size for the second interview (wave 2) and beyond would be reduced. The reduction of the sample size will reduce the reliability of estimates at the State level from 20 to 4 States but will preserve the reliability of estimates at the national level. In addition, a new instrument based on an Event History Calendar design would be implemented to increase the efficiency of data collection operations and reduce respondent burden.

### **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. The agency's mission is to anticipate food, agricultural, environmental, and rural development issues that are on the horizon, and to conduct sound, peer-reviewed economic research on these issues. ERS is the 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. Most of the agency's research is conducted by economists and social scientists through an intramural program of research, market outlook, and analysis. 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$78.1 million was consistent with the FY 2014 President's budget request (\$78.5 million). In FY 2014, ERS continued to fund its core programs including: research exploring how investments in rural people, businesses, and communities

affect the capacity of rural economies to prosper in the new and changing global marketplace; research on economic issues related to developing natural resource policies and programs that respond to the challenges of environmental protection while enhancing agricultural competitiveness; research and market outlook on production agriculture, domestic and international markets, trade, and Federal farm policies; and research to evaluate the Nation's food and nutrition assistance programs, to study the relationships among the factors that influence food choices and health outcomes. In addition to continuing ERS' core program of research, data analysis, and market outlook, ERS supported a new program, Research Innovations for Improving Policy Effectiveness, which strengthens ERS' ability to conduct research through two innovative strategies—the use of behavioral economics and the statistical use of administrative data—to address critical information gaps that hinder policy effectiveness. Results of the initiative would provide science-based evidence that informs decision making by policy makers and program managers in the USDA, across Federal and State Governments, and in the Congress.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's budget requests \$83.4 million for FY 2015. Of this amount, \$7.7 million is requested for GSA rent and DHS security costs that have been decentralized and transferred to the agency. Additionally, \$1 million is requested to improve policy effectiveness. However, this is offset by \$3.3 million in statistical program reductions, including a \$1.9 million reduction in ongoing programs. Therefore, the FY 2015 request represents an overall program reduction of \$2.4 million. At this level, funding would support ERS' core program of research. Additionally, funding would augment the 2014 program, Research Innovations for Improving Policy Effectiveness. Through the initiative's support, ERS would expand internal expertise, support collaboration with USDA program agencies, and form 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 create and evaluate unique merged administrative data systems by linking multiple sources, assessing statistical properties, and analyzing the merged data for policy-relevant 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$117.0 million matched the FY 2014 President's budget request and is a \$17.5 million increase over the FY 2013 appropriation. This funding enables 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 enables EIA to complete the 2012 Commercial Buildings Energy Consumption Survey, including release of data that provide U.S. benchmarks used to inform investments in new technologies, performance labeling, and energy management practices. This funding also enables EIA to launch the 2014 Residential Energy Consumption Survey (RECS) which collects nationally representative information about energy characteristics of homes, usage patterns now including wood energy consumption, and household demographics. Funding at this level also allows EIA to upgrade forecasting capabilities by completing modernization of the National Energy Mod-

eling System; to investigate National Academy of Sciences' recommendations to improve, modernize, and streamline data collection processes used to produce the weekly market-moving natural gas and petroleum product inventory reports; and to improve and expand customer access to EIA statistics.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 President's budget request of \$122.5 million represents an increase of \$5.5 million over the FY 2014 appropriation. The FY 2015 budget request would maintain EIA's core energy information program; continue the modernization of EIA's data infrastructure to introduce new processing efficiencies across the agency's largest operational area; and address evolving customer needs by enabling EIA to develop an interface that enables groups with common interests to pool information to determine the actual effectiveness of specific building efficiency technologies, practices, and characteristics in reducing energy use while maintaining energy services. This level of funding would also allow EIA to build a mid-term analysis capability with a greater international focus to better explain domestic energy markets within the broader context of the world energy system, including the global markets for liquefied natural gas, crude oil, and refined products. Additionally, this level of funding would enable EIA to improve the capability to track and report on rapidly-changing domestic market dynamics, including expanded collection of domestic oil and gas production. EIA would also continue its collaboration with member States of the Ground Water Protection Council to make EIA a repository for well-level data from States.

### **NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE (NASS)**

NASS, of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), is a principal source of Federal agriculture; soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands; labor and current demographic 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 national, State, and county data as well as selected data for the U.S. territories.

### **Congressional Action on the President's FY 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$161.2 million reflects a net increase of \$1.6 over the FY 2014 President's budget request of \$159.6 million. The appropriation reflects an increase for the Agricultural Estimates program component to restore the following FY 2013 suspended reports, estimates, and surveys: all Catfish and Trout Reports including Catfish Feed Deliveries and Catfish Processing; the July Cattle Report; Potato Stocks Reports; all Non-Citrus Fruit, Nut, and Vegetable Forecasts and Estimates; the June Rice Stocks Reports; all Hops and Hops Stocks Estimates; the Mink Report; and the Milk Production Report, including Milk Disposition and Income reports. The FY 2014 enacted appropriation also reflects a decrease of \$13.4 million for the Census of Agriculture program component associated with the customary, cyclical nature of the 5-year Census of Agriculture program.

## **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 President's budget request of \$179.0 million reflects a net increase of \$17.8 million from the FY 2014 appropriation. More than half of this net increase is requested to cover GSA rental costs that have been decentralized and transferred to the agency. At this level of funding, NASS would conduct essential Principal Federal Economic Indicator surveys, enhance the current satellite based agriculture statistics monitoring, and improve the evaluation of local level climate change on crop production. This funding would also enable expansion of NASS' annual survey of bee keepers to provide improved data on the prevalence and extent of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Additionally, this level of funding enables NASS to continue the annual Census of Agriculture Current Agriculture Industrial Reports; conduct the Census of Horticulture Specialties study; and conduct the Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL) survey follow up to the Census of Agriculture. However, several surveys would not be conducted given decreased funding levels. These include, for example, shifting information collection for fruits and vegetable chemical use surveys from a biannual collection to a collection every five years. Other long-established surveys, such as the post-harvest chemical use surveys, would be delayed for several years.

### **NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS (NCES)**

NCES, of the Department of Education (ED), is a principal source of Federal education statistics. ED 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's primary tool for assessing what American elementary and secondary students know and can do in academic subjects. NCES also administers the Statewide 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$304.3 million for statistical activities<sup>14</sup> included \$277.8 million for the Statistics, Assessment, and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems programs, representing \$62.3 million less than the President's budget request for these three programs. This funding is being used 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 2014 funding also provides support for the NAEP, the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what American students know and can do. Assessments in 2014 include 8th grade assessments in U.S. history, civics, and geography as well as a technology and engineering literacy assessment. Funds also supported the Statewide Data System program to improve student achievement.

Because the Department did not receive its requested level of funding for 2014, it was unable to implement a pilot State-level PISA, collect more frequent NPSAS data, or provide

<sup>14</sup> The FY 2014 appropriation also included \$10.8 for ED Facts and \$16.2 million in indirect funding.

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 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's budget request for FY 2015 of \$353.2 million includes \$325.1 million for NCES' Statistics, Assessment, and Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems programs. This represents an increase of \$47.3 million above the FY 2014 appropriation of \$277.8 million for these three programs. Direct funding also is requested for EDFacts (approximately \$11.7 million) and \$16.5 million is requested in indirect funding.

A \$14.0 million increase in the Statistics program component would allow States to participate in an NCES pilot PISA study which would benchmark the performance of 15-year old students in each State against international standards in reading, mathematics, and science literacy. These additional funds would also support increased periodicity of NPSAS to every other year, which would provide more timely information on educational costs, financial aid, enrollment, and student progress, including one of the most important issues facing post-secondary education today: tuition increases and their relationship to future enrollment and financial aid. The \$132.3 million request for the Assessment program component would support NAEP allowing NCES to fulfill its mission of providing important information on student achievement over time. The requested \$70.0 million for Statewide Data Systems would fund \$57.1 million in new grant awards and \$2.6 million continuation costs of State grants awarded in 2012, with the remaining funds supporting activities to improve data coordination, quality, and use for all States.

### **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, 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriated amount of \$154.0 million is \$27.5 million less than the amount requested in the FY 2014 President's budget. This amount includes \$15.3 million for the CDC Working Capital Fund, a new mechanism implemented in FY 2014 for providing business services that support CDC programs on a fee for service basis; in the past, these services were funded centrally at CDC. Due to funding limitations, NCHS did not pursue initiatives related to expansion of electronic death records to remaining jurisdictions and improvements in data collection methodology. The funded level allows NCHS to maintain full field operations for the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES); conduct the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS); collect a full 12-months of core birth and death records to provide the Nation's official vital statistics data; conduct selected components of the National Health Care Surveys to reflect changing patterns of health care delivery and public health; and enhance the quality and usability of data access tools through improved data dissemination tools.

NCHS did not receive an allocation from the FY 2014 Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF) about \$25 million of which was proposed for Healthcare Surveillance/Health Statis-

tics in the President's budget request. Past funds received from the PPHF were used to maintain and expand the content added to the NHIS to monitor the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and to maintain the expanded sample instituted to obtain State estimates and to conduct related methodological evaluations. The PPHF was also used in the past to expand the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) sample size to permit additional State-level estimates.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 budget request of \$155.4 million for health statistics is consistent with the FY 2014 appropriation. Of this amount, approximately \$15.3 million is proposed for the CDC Working Capital Fund. The request would maintain NCHS' capability to monitor key health indicators. The FY 2015 budget request would also maintain NCHS's capacity to support 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. Specifically, in FY 2015, the NAMCS would continue to collect data on care provided in physician offices and community health centers. Additionally, NCHS would continue to explore the collection of these healthcare data from electronic health records as a way to improve data quality and timeliness. To improve data availability for small populations, NCHS would release the Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander National Health Interview Survey results in 2015. The budget request also would allow NCHS to purchase 12 months of birth and death data from the vital registration jurisdictions. NCHS would optimize the value and usability of its data through online tutorials which provide analytic guidance, linkage with other data sets, and the development and improvement of on-line access systems.

Additionally, the FY 2015 proposal includes a request of about \$26.4 million from the Prevention and Public Health Fund for NCHS activities including NHIS sample and content development and enhancements, NAMCS sample increase, implementation of electronic death registration systems, and public health systems research.

## **NATIONAL CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING STATISTICS (NCSES)**

NCSES, of the National Science Foundation (NSF), is a principal source of Federal education, labor, economic, and current demographic statistics. NCSES has broad responsibility for 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 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriated amount of \$46.8 million represents an increase of \$4.7 million over the FY 2013 appropriation. These amounts include salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated. At this level of funding, NCSES was 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 appropriated funding level allowed NCSES to begin to fill growing data gaps by reestablishing its survey of research and development of nonprofit organizations, increasing the periodicity of the State Government R&D Expenditures survey, developing and testing a questionnaire for the Micro Business Innovation Science and Technology Survey, and designing program modifications to support the development of new science and technology indicators. NCSES continued to explore, with several other Federal agencies, the feasibility of using agencies' administrative records to measure R&D activity, including approaches to improving other agencies' data sets. NCSES continued preparations for the launch of the full-scale Early Career Doctorates Survey.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's budget request of \$58.4 million for FY 2015 represents an \$11.6 million increase over the FY 2014 appropriation. Funding at this level would maintain NCSES's core programmatic activities and support significant targeted improvements in NCSES's statistical and analytic programs. The majority of the increase, \$7.5 million, would enhance the Survey of Doctorate Recipients to expand and recast the survey sample to collect data and develop estimates for employment outcomes by STEM subfield, race, and gender and to continue to develop and test measures to address data gaps related to understanding the relationship between graduate education and outcomes. The remainder of the increase would support a variety of projects: including fully implementing the 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; expanding access to NCSES's data repository and data systems, and exploring, designing, testing, and building the capacity to conduct Short Pointed on Time (SPOT) surveys in three- to six-month time frames to better answer questions about emerging science and technology topics and to provide a flexible format for testing new questions.

### **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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$28.9 million is a decrease of \$1.1 million from the FY 2014 request of \$30.0 million. This funding level allows ORES 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 completed the latest improvements to its Modeling Income in the Near Term micro-simulation model and updated the model with new Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) and SSA-administrative data. ORES continues to fund design, development, testing, and data collection for an SSA-funded supplement to the re-engineered SIPP. The decrease of \$2.3 million was managed in the short term by renegotiating the SSA supplement agreement with the Census Bureau to reduce the FY 2014 funding level and extend the agreement to FY 2016 to provide the remainder of funding and complete the project.

Overall, total funding for the project would be unaffected and the final work product would be delivered as planned.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The FY 2015 request for \$29.9 million is an increase of \$1.0 million over the FY 2014 appropriation. With these funds, ORES would continue its core extramural research functions in FY 2015, including the development of a business intelligence platform for research and data development. This platform would comprise a collection of tools available to components across SSA to improve the consistency and efficiency of research, statistical, and data analytics efforts.

## **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 economic 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, U.S. 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 2014 Budget Request**

The FY 2014 appropriation of \$37.1 million was \$2.1 million above the President's FY 2014 budget request. With these funds, SOI continues to support critical base program requirements and delivered all data files and outputs to its primary customers despite an extended government shutdown. In particular, SOI conducted projects studying business entity relationships and international taxation, and is redesigning the individual income tax sample. SOI has continued to modernize and improve the data edit applications, while leveraging electronically provided information.

### **Highlights of the FY 2015 Budget Request and Major Program Changes**

The President's budget request for FY 2015 of \$37.3 million is consistent with the FY 2014 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 integrate population and information return data with SOI-edited data to provide rich longitudinal and/or cross-sector data that can be used to better understand the complex interaction between taxes and economic behavior. SOI would continue developing improved statistical techniques for identifying and correcting outliers and data anomalies in IRS administrative population files. Additionally, SOI would further its partnership with outstanding tax policy experts within and outside government to produce top quality research on important tax administration issues. SOI would use a portion of its budget to improve its information technology infrastructure and to continue developing cost-saving initiatives, such as streamlining administrative systems, automating data collection processes, and expanding capacity to remotely train and direct its programs. Finally, SOI is continuing to explore ways to leverage administrative data to produce small-area estimates.



## **CHAPTER 3: Other Statistical Programs of Federal Agencies**

In addition to the thirteen principal statistical agencies, there are some 114 other programs throughout the Federal Government that were engaged in statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in FY 2013, or have estimated annual budgets of that amount in either FY 2014 or FY 2015. This chapter presents brief descriptions of these other statistical programs and a summary of their anticipated major FY 2015 programmatic changes, organized by department or independent agency.

### **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 provides Federal agriculture; soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands; labor; and current demographic 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. Commodity markets, the U.S. government, the U.S. intelligence community, and agriculture industry stakeholders continue to demand accurate and timely global crop production estimates and weather-related food supply issues from FAS satellite imagery analysis as commodity prices become higher and more unstable.

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 primary wood using facilities through statistical samples and develops statistical techniques to query private forest landowners about their resource objectives and management strategies.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides information on the status, condition, and trends of the Nation's natural resources. 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 natural resource data and information to enable knowledge-based planning and decision making at all landscape scales.

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 accomplishes its mission through the use of cutting edge technology, including data warehousing, data mining, and the utilization and integration of remote sensing tools in RMA's business processes. 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 the Department'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 2015**

FAS would continue to collect and publish export sales data for pork in its long-standing Export Sales Reporting program, but may also include distillers' dried grains covered commodities under this program. NRCS would fully implement the Soil Data Join Recorrelation Project. This would include accelerating collection of soil carbon samples and mapping and digitizing of soil surveys, including creating Ecological Site Inventory Information. Increased emphasis would be placed on 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 five other agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOC provides current and periodic economic; national accounts; current and periodic demographic; environment; and soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands statistics.

### **Statistical Programs**

The Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA) provides oversight of the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the U.S. Census Bureau. ESA also produces economic analysis in the form of blogs, briefings, and reports on topics such as: 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)<sup>15</sup> in ITA maintains a web site to provide limited statistical data to U.S. companies on international travel to and from the U.S., and provides 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

<sup>15</sup> NTTO was formerly known as the Office of Travel and Tourism Industries (OTTI).

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, economic value, and socio-economic impacts in domestic commercial and recreational fisheries.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), through its Technology Innovation Program (TIP), stimulates the acceleration of innovation in the U.S. by supporting high risk, high reward research in areas of critical national need through projects proposed and cost-shared by U.S. businesses and institutions of higher education and other organizations.

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 2015**

NOAA/NESDIS's National Environmental Information Office (NEIO) would become the official data management entity for weather, climate, oceanographic, and geophysical information. NEIO's Big Earth Data Initiative would standardize and optimize the management of data from numerous Federal agencies to collect information about the Earth from satellite, airborne, terrestrial, and ocean-based systems. The Big Earth Data Initiative would focus on four specific objectives including: data discoverability, data access, data compatibility, and data documentation. NEIO would be supported by funding merged from the following sources: National Climatic Data Center, National Oceanographic Data Center, and National Geophysical Data Center, Coastal Data Development, Regional Climate Services, and Environmental Data Systems Modernization. NOAA's NMFS would continue the development of improved regional recreational fisheries statistics survey programs to provide more accurate and timely monitoring of recreational fishing effort and catch. NIST would discontinue the TIP program.

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

The Department of Defense (DOD) has three agencies that maintain statistical programs. DOD is a source of Federal current demographic, health, transportation, and current economic 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 assists the ACE Civil Works Program by providing timely and accurate data and management decision support information for the annual Civil Works performance-based budgeting program. WCSC maintains a database to provide input into navigation performance measures and to produce monthly, quarterly, and annual calendar and fiscal year statistics summarized by port, inland waterway, and Corps navigation project. The ACE provides these data to other Department of Defense and Federal transportation, resource, and Homeland Security agencies to support their activities. Additionally, ACE produces a comprehensive U.S. foreign waterborne trans-

portation database by matching the Customs and Border Protection vessel movement file for U.S. foreign traffic to manifest-based cargo data and trade-based cargo data to improve the geographic accuracy of cargo moves.

On October 1, 2013, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) replaced the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA). DHA continues to evaluate the TRICARE 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. These activities help improve the health system and advance the health of DOD beneficiaries.

The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) maintains the largest archive of personnel, manpower, and training data in the DOD. DMDC's statistical activities include an enlistment testing program to support screening of military applicants, a client support program to provide statistical support to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the personnel survey program to support the DOD's Human Resources Strategic Plan.

### **Major Program Changes for FY 2015**

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 plans to field five large scale surveys to support timely and informed policy decisions related to well-being and quality of life issues—impact of deployments, voting, spouse employment, sexual assault, and sexual harassment—on military personnel and their families. DMDC would also implement a proctored verification test for at-home Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) military applicant testing. DMDC would support the Defense Language and National Security Education Office to establish a Regional Proficiency Assessment Tool. DMDC would also support the Transition to Veterans Program Office in updating the Transition Assistance Program IT program.

## **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

In addition to one principal statistical agency (NCES, discussed in Chapter 2), the Department of Education (ED) has eight other agencies that maintain statistical programs. ED is a source for 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. The IES National Center for Special Education Research (NCSER) sup-

ports surveys and research to expand the knowledge and understanding of the educational needs of infants, toddlers, and children with disabilities.

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. The CRDC collects a variety of information, including student enrollment and educational programs and services, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency, and disability. The CRDC is a longstanding and important aspect of the ED Office for Civil Rights' overall strategy for administering and enforcing the civil rights statutes for which it is responsible. Information collected by the CRDC is also used by other ED offices as well as policymakers and researchers outside of ED.

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. OPE provides funds to other agencies within the Department of Education to conduct program evaluations.

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 Center training in demographics and statistics, employment policy, and measurement.

The Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTA) (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. OCTA provides funding to help States implement the Adult Education State Grant program's data collection and accountability system.

## **Major Program Changes for FY 2015**

IES would provide funds to augment the NCES Middle Grades Longitudinal Study, to fund grants on statistical and research methodology in education, to support an evaluation of the Investing in Innovation Fund, and to support evaluations of other programs, including Upward Bound, GEAR-UP, the Teacher Incentive Fund, and the DC Choice Opportunity Scholarships. IES would not conduct an evaluation of the Promise Neighborhoods program as indicated in last year's report. OESE would consolidate the evaluation of Title 1 of ESEA into a broader evaluation authority aimed at supporting comprehensive evaluation of the implementation, outcomes, impact, and cost-effectiveness of ESEA programs. OII would support activities to improve data quality in ED elementary and secondary education programs. OII would also support work with Promise Neighborhoods' grantees on collection strategies for indicator data and the construction of a database to house performance data. OPE would continue to fund the Web Data Collection for the Campus Crime and Equity in Athletics Data Disclosure Act (EADA) surveys. In addition, the office would continue to collect and analyze data for Federal TRIO Programs, GEAR-UP, and International Education and Foreign Language Studies. If funding permits, OPE would pursue evaluation of the Higher Education Act program in compliance with GPRA.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

In addition to one principal statistical agency (EIA, discussed in Chapter 2), the Department of Energy (DOE) has one other agency that maintains statistical programs. DOE is a source of Federal energy and health statistics.

### **Statistical Programs**

The Office of Environment, Health, Safety and Security (OEHSS)<sup>16</sup> 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 worker and public health risks from radiation exposure resulting from nuclear weapons production activities in the former Soviet Union.

## **Major Program Changes for FY 2015**

None anticipated.

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

In addition to one principal statistical agency (NCHS, discussed in Chapter 2), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has eleven other agencies that maintain statistical programs. HHS is a source of Federal health and current demographic statistics.

### **Statistical Programs**

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) collects information to monitor and evaluate its programs for children and youth, such as Head Start, Temporary Assistance for

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<sup>16</sup> OEHSS was formerly the Office of Health, Safety, and Security (HSS).

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 prepares analyses of changes in behavior as a result of market forces or policy changes on health care use, expenditures, and insurance coverage; develops costs/savings estimates of proposed changes in policy; and identifies the impact of changes in policy for key subgroups of the population. Statistical activities of AHRQ are conducted through the use of grants, contracts, and interagency agreements. Intramural statistical activities of AHRQ involve primary analyses using data assembled from primary and secondary data sources.

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 (particularly 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. NCCDPHP 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 im-

prove 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 mathematical 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 Commis-

sion. These studies are 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), previously Office of Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services, administers the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 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 and 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 Beneficiaries 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; utilization data for service locations; procedure-specific data for physicians and suppliers; longitudinal data on beneficiaries, characteristics, and service utilization; and tabulations of financial and statistical data from all Medicare-certified hospitals and hospital/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 four-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 U.S. 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 relies on vital event data from NCHS and demographic data from Census for its analysis. 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 the AHRQ's National Health Disparities Report interagency workgroup, providing Prevention Quality Indicators (PQI) measures calculated from its medical records repository data. IHS has also worked with NCHHSTP on its Indian Health Surveillance Report on Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

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, seventeen institutes and centers (ICs) within NIH conduct and/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 of 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. Statistical activities in the NEI are performed by the Division of Epidemiology and Clinical Applications (DECA). The 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. The 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 the 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 bio-informatics approaches to improve access to and use of data. These include resources that support data management, sharing and analysis. NHLBI also supports registries

to create databases that can be analyzed for specific research questions.

- 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 toward 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 monitors legislative activity with the Alcohol Policy Information System (APIS), which was upgraded to include the monitoring of taxation policies for alcoholic beverages. APIS now tracks 33 alcohol policies. APIS, in conjunction with other datasets in the Alcoholic Epidemiologic Data System (AEDS), 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 disease 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 may include bioinformatics, image processing, and computational modeling and simulation.
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) directs epidemiological 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 the 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 applied 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 the Institute.
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) supports studies of oral health and health disparities. NIDCR also provides support to NCHS for the Oral Health Component in the 2014-2015 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES).
- The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) fo-

cuses on statistical studies of digestive diseases, 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 (NAHDAP) 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. NIDA also supports studies of innovative and state-of-the-art data collection and analytic methodologies to assess the need for prevention and treatment services at the community level.
- 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.
- The 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 medical sciences instrumentation and research facilities. To that end, NIH/OD supports a number of annual National Science Foundation surveys of graduate students, postdoctoral students and early career doctorates, and medical-college faculty. The 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). NIH/OD also supports the National Children's Study, a multi-year research study following 100,000 children across the United States from before birth until age 21.

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. The Office supports projects that maintain and enhance the collection of nationally representative health data, as well as microsimulation modeling and actuarial analysis for policy development. ASPE provides support for the Secretary's initiatives by examining emerging issues and responding to the need for information through collaborations with the HHS Operating Divisions as well as funding research and evaluation studies.

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 2015**

For FY 2015, ATSDR would launch a major multi-year project to collect and analyze data regarding the incidence of various cancers for a population of residents of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

With regard to CDC (excluding NCHS), the FY 2015 President's budget for NIOSH proposes the elimination of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AgFF) program. Elimination of the AgFF will reduce funding that supports surveillance programs targeting occupational injuries and illnesses.

NCEZID has requested funding increases for FY 2015 in the areas of Food Safety and the National Healthcare Safety Network. In tandem with these increases, NCEZID expects an increase in statistical activities (and thus funding) in the Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases and the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion.

HRSA would transfer \$90,000 to NIH/NICHD to conduct the NEXT Longitudinal Study, a 4-year, longitudinal assessment of a representative sample of U.S. school children starting at grade 10. The goals of the NEXT Longitudinal Study are: describe the health status and health behaviors from adolescence through the post high school year; examine individual predictors of the onset of key adolescent risk behaviors and risk indicators during this period; identify family, school, and social/environmental factors that promote or sustain positive health behaviors; and identify transition points in health risk and risk behaviors and changes in family, school, and social/environmental precursors to these transitions. Additionally, HRSA would transfer \$2.5 million to the Census Bureau for pre-testing the National Survey of Children's Health, a study that will assess the health status, health care needs, utilization, and health behaviors of children in 50 States and the District of Columbia. Extensive pre-testing is necessary given revisions in survey mode and expansion in scope to include content from the National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs. Combining these surveys would make more efficient use of data collection funds.

With regard to NIH's plans for FY 2015, NCI would investigate the feasibility of implementing new data systems to: monitor the outcomes and economic cost of cancer care in health care systems, including linkage of tumor registry information with additional public and private health claims data and with patient outcomes and satisfaction surveys; establish physician networks and databases for tracking and monitoring cancer screening practices; and create a provider survey initiative to collect nationally representative data from practitioners and health care organizations. NCI will also fund the SEER-MHOS project to link the Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results (SEER) registry data with the Medicare Health Outcomes Survey (MHOS) to provide further insight into quality of care issues. NCCAM would provide \$1.0 million to NCHS to support the National Health Interview Survey. NIDA would expand research to improve the validity of self-reported drug use on surveys (e.g., biological measures and improved survey methodologies), as well as implementation of some of these

methodologies to already existing data collections. NIMH would increase its support, in collaboration with CDC, of a clinical trial for a preventive HIV treatment for men at a high risk of acquiring HIV infection.

OPA would increase the scope of research grants to include the use of statistics in assessing program performance and the progress of the family planning and reproductive health field. OPA has begun the development of a new, electronic health records based system to collect utilization and performance data on the Title X program.

SAMHSA would continue to provide support to: integrate substance abuse and mental health facility surveys; phase in the implementation of a Common Data Platform (CDP); work closely with national and State partners to identify, refine, and test measures that build upon current States' substance abuse treatment efforts; and to support its Program Studies on Treatment and Recovery (PSTAR) to monitor changing organizational, financing, and program management strategies affecting individuals requiring behavioral health care. SAMHSA would work collaboratively to further develop the Community Early Warning and Monitoring System (CEMS) that collects community-level data related to emergency department use. This system, begun in FY 2012 in collaboration with AHRQ, would engage additional Federal partners (USDA and NIEHS) in FY 2015 to populate a database available to communities to monitor local behavioral health status.

The President's Now is the Time initiative, released in January 2013, included new behavioral health workforce activities at SAMHSA. To ensure the existing workforce investments are responsible and well-targeted, SAMHSA workforce activities in FY 2015 include \$1.0 million to partner with HRSA on the Behavioral Health Minimum Data Set to develop consistent data collection methods and track behavioral health workforce needs.

## **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 estimate 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 (FEMA) evaluates 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 U.S., analyzes fire incidents data to describe the national fire problem, and reports on topics such as firefighter fatalities.

The Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) provides information on and analyses of immigrants, refugees, temporary visitors (nonimmigrants), persons naturalized, and aliens apprehended or removed to assess the effects of immigration in the U.S.

### **Major Program Changes for FY 2015**

The decrease in FY 2013 and FY 2014 funding has resulted in the postponement of the Coast Guard's National Recreational Boating Survey until the second half of FY 2015. FEMA would revise statistical tools for use in the mandatory National Preparedness Report (NPR).

## **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 Federal current 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.; 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 2015**

PD&R would continue to fund the American Housing Survey; the Survey of New Home Sales and Housing Completions; the Survey of Market Absorption of New Multifamily Units; the Survey of New Manufactured (Mobile) Housing Placements; and the Rental Housing Finance Survey. Additional statistical activities cancelled in 2014 due to funding shortages would be implemented in FY 2015, including: Pre-Purchase Counseling Demonstration, Rent Reform Demonstration, Reverse Mortgage Study, and the Utility Cost Data System. The FY 2015 PIH budget request is approximately a \$3.2 million increase over the FY 2014 appropriation. About \$2.5 million of these funds would be used to support the Moving-to-Work program, and assessment of its implementation and its performance. The remainder of these additional funds would be used to evaluate Public Housing Authority compliance with the Annual Contribution Contract requirements.

## 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 policy makers 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 and 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 of focus are air quality, water quality, ecological health, flood hazards, and forest geomorphology.

The Office of Natural Resources Revenue (ONRR) 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 2015**

FWS proposes to redirect funding for the cross-programmatic national, proposal-driven process of the conservation of listed species. FWS would also plan the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation that was not included in the FY 2014 budget request. GS would increase research and development funding to advance priorities in science-based resource management and protection of public health and safety from hazards. NPS would continue to monitor natural resources to inform resource stewardship decision-making. The NPS will also introduce a limited assessment of carbon sequestration by individual national parks based on GIS data and modeling prepared by GS.

## **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 the 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 objective, independent, 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 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.

### **Major Program Changes for FY 2015**

The FBI's UCR would continue to implement comprehensive improvements to the timely collection, analysis, production and public access of its crime data. Funding for NIJ to conduct the Violence Against Indian Women (VAIW) study is requested by and would be appropriated to the Office on Violence Against 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 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 contributes to continuous improvement of the public workforce investment system. ETA also funds the annual National Agricultural Workers Survey which provides data on wage and migration history, type of crops worked, unemployment, benefits, housing, health care, and use of public programs.

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) collects and analyzes current information on employment and production, as well as on 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 and illnesses from employers that are inspected or receive consultation.

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs assists Federal contractors in meeting their equal employment opportunity and affirmative action obligations. Specifically, Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin and sex; Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination against certain protected veterans. Statistical activities include supporting the use of statistical methodology in

agency desk audits, onsite inspections, and compliance evaluations; and advising agency 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 2015**

ETA's statistical activities, such as those in the Division of Research and Evaluation, would continue under a different funding source. Training and Employment Services (TES) will provide a set aside fund, annually, which will be used to finance research and evaluations for employment and training programs. OSHA would modernize its recordkeeping system to obtain more timely injury and illness data. It would ensure the implementation and maintenance of critical IT support and infrastructure.

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

The Department of State has one agency 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 2015**

None anticipated.

## **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 the 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). The 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 2015**

FMCSA's initial tasks for FY 2015 would include an inventory of data elements utilized for statistical analysis across the agency which may have conflicting interpretations and competing updating procedures. This would be a fairly extensive enumeration of the data elements as FMCSA maintains databases which stretch back decades and were created to serve different operational missions. When competing data terminology, definitions, or values are found, the project would designate the appropriate data element as the authoritative source. FTA would update NTD reporting forms and guidance to reflect policy changes implemented by MAP-21. The FTA plans to support the development of a next-generation IT platform for the NTD system, due to be completed by FY 2015. FRA would implement and enforce upcoming safety regulations, including new data collection and management requirements for the Railroad Safety Information System (RSIS). NHTSA would continue the Data Modernization Project to improve NHTSA's primary crash databases, including the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the National Automotive Sampling System. PHMSA's Pipeline Safety Office would implement a National Pipeline Information Exchange Program (NPIX) that will standardize taxonomies for data, establish data quality attributes and metrics to monitor and report data quality performance, creating meta-data to support analytical interpretation of data. PHMSA plans to conduct an assessment and develop an action plan and timeline to improve the collec-

tion, 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 Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) makes final decisions on behalf of the Secretary on appeals from decisions of local Department of Veterans Affairs Offices. BVA tracks statistics on the process of reviewing and making decisions on appeals.

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 Service as well as other periodic surveys of veterans related to their preferences for emerging burial and/or memorial benefits.

The Office of Policy and Planning (OPP) has two areas of statistical activities. First, the Office of the Actuary (OACT) provides Advanced Modeling and Actuarial Services to the Department of Veterans Affairs. 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. Additionally, VHA also conducts research in traumatic brain injuries, burn injuries, pain, and post deployment mental health related to 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 2015**

As part of the Women's Health Evaluation Initiative (WHEI), the VHA Palo Alto Healthcare System would work with Women's Health Services to conduct program evaluation work and strategic policy development regarding women Veterans' health conditions and utilization of

services. VHA also plans to expand program evaluation activities for Rural Health Training Centers, expand the Clinical Supervision Index, and develop a Standards of Excellence tool in statistical analysis.

## **OTHER STATISTICAL PROGRAMS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES**

### **Statistical Programs**

The Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG) is a source of Federal current demographic statistics. The 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. The 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. The 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 also collects data for non-consumer product-related injuries for other Federal agencies. CPSC's new public facing database, authorized under the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, was implemented in March of 2011, and serves as a collection point for reports of hazardous and potentially hazardous consumer products. The database allows consumers to report potentially unsafe consumer products, provides businesses with an opportunity to comment on those reports, allows aggregation of cases for analysis, and publishes those reports with business comments for the public to use when making consumer-product related decisions.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a source of Federal 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 U.S. 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 Federal current demographic statistics. The 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 re-

port on the impact and effectiveness of library services throughout the U.S.; and to strengthen national, State, Tribal, local, regional, and international communications and cooperative networks. IMLS also supports capacity building in libraries and museums to conduct evaluation of programs.

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. EHR conducts program evaluations to assess the quality and impact of its programs. EHR also supports international assessments of student knowledge and curriculum, as well as 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 conducts management and evaluation for the Drug Free Communities (DFC) program. A new evaluation contract for the DFC is being re-competed; the Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM II) program was discontinued in FY 2014.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is a source of Federal economic statistics. SBA supports the production of employer firm size data, including the Census'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. Additionally, SSA conducts in-depth statistical analyses to inform policymaking relevant to retirement and the economic security of older Americans. In FY 2014, the Office of Program Development and Research (OPDR) became the Office of Research, Demonstration and Employment Support (ORDES).

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is a source of Federal health, current demographic, and national accounts 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 (FEWS NET), 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 2015**

BBG would reduce statistical programs by extending the time between research studies and consolidating its statistical activities within the Office of Strategy and Development.

EPA would continue the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR) program to collect occurrence and exposure data for up to 30 unregulated, suspected drinking water contaminants through 2015. As required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA would determine whether or not to regulate at least five contaminants on the current Contaminant Candidate List 4 (CCL) by refining preliminary findings, and later in the year, conducting analyses to respond to public comments on the proposed list. EPA would also update and refine methods for estimating costs to public water systems of new regulations and examine occurrence and treatment data on microbial disease, lead and copper, and drinking water distribution systems for the period FY 2010-2015.

In 2015, EEOC would conduct the annual EEO-1 Survey of Private Industrial Sectors and the biennial EEO-4 Survey of State and Local Governments. Additionally, the proposed 2015 pay study would conduct a pilot study to examine how compensation data could be collected from employers on EEOC's Survey Collection Systems and to estimate burden cost for both EEOC and respondents to EEOC surveys.

IMLS would prepare for administration of the Museums Count Survey, the first Federal survey to collect information about museum collections, programs, visitation, services, and finance.

NSF (other than NCSES) would examine NSF's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education programs to determine effectiveness and identify areas of improvement. Long-term studies to examine the impact of NSF investment in graduate fellowships would be launched. Additionally, instruments to assess metrics identified in the NRC report, *Monitoring Progress Toward Successful K-12 STEM Evaluation (2013)*, would be developed. NSF, with a consortium of Federal statistical agencies, supported a competition in FY 2014 to promote basic research on survey measurement issues, data collection procedures, and statistical issues related to survey design and to support research that furthers the development of new and innovative approaches to surveys. The awards for the FY 2015 competition will be announced in the fall of 2014.

SSA's ORDES would work with BLS to continue collection and production testing for the Occupational Information Systems (OIS) project. SSA's ORP will enhance the American Life Panel (ALP) sample to allow for more detailed research on vulnerable populations and support data gathering on other topics that inform policymaking.

## CHAPTER 4: Statistical Standards, Interagency Groups, and Collaborative Initiatives

This chapter is organized into three sections. The first section provides brief descriptions of legislative directives, statistical standards and guidelines for statistical activity within the U.S. Federal Government. The next section describes various interagency groups and their focus to improve the performance of Federal statistics while the last section describes ongoing and new collaborations among the Federal statistical programs to improve the quality and usefulness of the Nation's statistical products.

### STATISTICAL POLICY DIRECTIVES, STANDARDS, AND GUIDANCE

#### Fundamental Statistical Agency Responsibilities

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 proposed a new Federal Statistical Policy Directive.

*Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical Units* would affirm 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 proposed directive is intended to provide a unified, concise framework for governance of official statistics. Throughout the proposed directive, connections between the proposed directive, existing OMB policy, and related professional guidance are underscored. The proposed directive has been published in the *Federal Register* for public comment.

#### 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, *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.

#### 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 statisti-

cal 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*. This directive 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 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 the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and the Census Bureau (Census). Thus it 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 Department of the Treasury; 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, *Implementation Guidance for Title V of the E-Government Act, Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA)*.

The Interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC), which operates under the auspices of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM), considers common issues involving data access, confidentiality, and disclosure limitation. The group has several products that are available on its [web site](#), 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 provide a minimum set of categories for use when Federal agencies are collecting and presenting such information for statistical, administrative, or compliance purposes. 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).

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* is designed to provide 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 reporting aggregate data to Federal agencies.

Over the past decade, most, if not all, federal agencies have implemented the 1997 standards in their population-based study designs. Much has been learned about the implementations of these standards. Accordingly, in 2014, OMB formed an Interagency Working Group for Research on Race and Ethnicity to discuss lessons-learned, create a research agenda to assess and address any implementation issues, and share ongoing and planned agency research on race and ethnicity questions. For example, the Census Bureau conducted a large Alternative Questionnaire Experiment as part of the 2010 Census. Results from that research revealed promising strategies for potentially improving the way the race and ethnicity questions are asked in Federal censuses and surveys. Further research underway at Census and at other Federal agencies is coordinated through the working group.

### Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Delineations

*OMB Bulletin No. 13-01* provides revised delineations of metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas. The delineations reflect the *2010 OMB Standards for Delineating Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas* and the application of those standards to Census Bureau population and journey-to-work data. This bulletin also provides guidance to Federal agencies that use the geographic delineations of these statistical areas for program administrative and fund allocation purposes. The 2010 standards provided for the identification of the following current statistical areas in the United States and Puerto Rico: 388 Metropolitan Statistical Areas, including 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas that have a total of 31 Metropolitan Divisions; 541 Micropolitan Statistical Areas; 169 Combined Statistical Areas; 38 New England City and Town Areas; and 6 Combined New England City and Town Areas. (The appendix to the bulletin provides lists of areas and their geographic delineations.) 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.

In fiscal year 2015, the 2010 OMB standards will be applied to updated Census Bureau population estimates and special censuses, and OMB will publish an update of the 2013 Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area delineations, if necessary.

## North American Industry Classification System

The [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#) represents a continuing 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 their industrial statistics. In 1997, NAICS replaced the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification and a process was established to insure 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 five years. The NAICS revision for 2012 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 website](#). 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 as well as continuing research on the identification of manufacturing units that outsource.

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 the NAICS website.

## 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 North American Industry Classification System 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/demand-based system for products that is not industry-of-origin based; can be linked to the 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.

The Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis 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 also included provisional NAPCS products for manufactured goods, wholesale trade services, and retail trade services. Work on this initiative is progressing and the United States has prepared an initial presentation of potential NAPCS products within a broad demand based aggregation

structure. As the next step in the development of this initiative, the Census Bureau is planning to collect data on NAPCS products for all sectors covered by the Economic Census in 2017.

## **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, and/or training needed to perform the work at a competent level. The 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. 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. Producing relevant and high quality occupational information and statistics depends on a relevant and rational classification system for use throughout the Federal statistical system. OMB originally chartered the SOC Policy Committee (SOCPC) in 2005 to conduct the SOC revision for 2010 and then support SOC users between revisions, ensuring that the SOC remains relevant and meets the needs of individuals and organizations.

Given the multiple interdependent programs that rely on the SOC, a revision is scheduled for release in 2018, the year following the 2017 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) revision. The year 2018 has the additional benefit of coinciding with the beginning year of the American Community Survey five-year set of surveys that bracket the 2020 Decennial Census. The SOCPC began work on the 2018 SOC in FY 2013. As charged by OMB, the SOCPC requested public comments through the [\*Federal Register\*](#) on May 22, 2014. After the SOC revision for 2018 is complete, OMB intends to consider revisions of the SOC every 10 years thereafter.

## **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 the 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.

The 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: Overview of the North American Product Classification System; Overview of the International Trade Data System; Impact of Sequestration; Engaging with NSF on Statistical Research; Participating in the Legislative Referral Memorandum Process; Common Rule Working Group "Principles"; Proposed New Statistical Policy Directive; Measuring Relationships in Federal Household Surveys; Preparations for the FY 2015 Budget; Economy Act Effects on Joint Funding; Statistical Uses of Administrative Records ([\*OMB Memorandum 14-06\*](#)); Open Data Initiative; Future of the ICSP Trust Survey; Statistical Com-

munity of Practice and Engagement (SCOPE) Recent Activities; Report on the Joint Program in Survey Methodology; and the Federal Statistical System Workforce.

### **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 statistical practice among Federal agencies. Members are selected by OMB and include Executive Branch statisticians, economists, and statistical program managers.

The mission of the FCSM is to inform and advise OMB and the 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; provide recommendations on issues of statistical methodology (such as 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.

The FCSM carries out a broad agenda of activities and currently has subcommittees examining statistical uses of administrative records and question evaluation methodology, as well as working groups on Confidentiality and Data Access, survey nonresponse, small area estimation, and adaptive design to facilitate agency sharing of developments in these areas.

Over the longer term, the FCSM has published a series of Statistical Policy Working Papers as well as proceedings from FCSM seminars and conferences, which are available through the FCSM's web site. In November 2013, the FCSM held its eighth Research Conference, and the proceedings from that conference are now available on the website. In December 2014, the FCSM will hold its twelfth Statistical Policy Seminar on "Official Statistics in a Changing Society - Making Choices and Balancing Tradeoffs." The 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; 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 Committee for the American Community Survey**

The American Community Survey (ACS) is sent monthly to a small percentage of the population and collects detailed information on the characteristics of population and housing on an ongoing basis. Estimates from the ACS program are released each year, based on the previous year's data collection. Previous to 2005, these data were collected only in the decennial census. The ACS allows Federal agencies, Tribal officials, State governments, businesses, and local communities to make decisions based on current information, rather than on data collected during the most recent decennial census, which may have been up to 10 years out of date. ACS provides tract-level data (in general, areas with populations between 1,500 - 8,000) similar to the Census 2000 long-form (detailed characteristics) data, in complement to the 2010 Census short-form (basic characteristics) data. The Census Bureau released the first set of estimates covering areas with populations under 20,000 in December 2010 and every year thereafter. Estimates are now available for every State, county, city, town, place, American Indian Area, Alaska Native Area, and Hawaiian Home Land, as well as for census tracts and block groups. During FY 2015, the Interagency Committee for the ACS will prepare a comprehensive content review of all topics and questions on the ACS.

### **Interagency Council on Agricultural and Rural Statistics**

The [\*Interagency Council on Agricultural and Rural Statistics \(ICARS\)\*](#) 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 was established in 2010 and has produced reports on land use and land cover estimates and food-related data.

### **Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics**

The [\*Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics\*](#), established in 1986 by the National Institute on Aging in cooperation with the National Center for Health Statistics and the Census Bureau, 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 sixteen Federal agencies. The Forum continues to maintain its web site where data users can find previous versions of *Older Americans: Key Indicators of Well-Being*, along with other Forum reports, tables and information on Forum agencies.

In 2014, the Forum completed a pilot research project to assess current measures of informal caregiving. The Forum also began preparations for a systematic review of its current key indicators with a view of ensuring that indicators reflect data that are reliable, accurate, timely, and

relevant, presented in a way that is easy for the public and policy makers to understand. The Forum continues to develop its findings on the socioeconomic well-being of older Americans and expects to publish these findings in 2015. Additionally, the Forum has operationalized a four year production cycle for *Older Americans: Key Indicators of Well-Being*, the next version of which will be released in 2016.

### **Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics**

The [\*Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics\*](#), initially established 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. The Forum's web site includes previous *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being* reports, detailed tables (downloadable), general information about the Forum and a recent enhancement, "What's New," featuring other Forum agency reports and agency highlights. Additionally, the Forum created a "Speaker Series" for Federal and non-Federal stakeholders who are interested in sharing timely and relevant topics.

The Research and Innovation Committee (RIC) continues to identify, inform and advise the Forum on gaps in current Federal data and indicators and ways to address them. In May 2013, RIC organized a day-long meeting of Federal partners and non-Federal Early Childhood experts convened to address long-standing early childhood data needs. Presenters discussed an inventory of promising measures, particularly those related to social emotional development, for the Forum's future consideration. Research proceeds from this meeting will be described in a special issue *Applied Developmental Psychology*, expected in 2015.

In July 2014, the Forum released a one-time Special Issue, *America's Young Adults, 2014*. This report features 26 indicators spanning demographics, education, economic circumstances, family formation, civic, social, and personal behavior, and health and safety domains. Additionally, the *America's Children, 2014 At-A-Glance* and updated report tables for all 41 *America's Children* key indicators, covering family and social environment, economic circumstances, health care, physical environment and safety, behavior, education, and health, can be found on the Forum's website.

### **Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment**

Education and training beyond high school is 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 the National Center for Education Statistics, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Census Bureau 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 was founded to oversee this work. In 2012, the group's scope expanded to include Federal statistical measures of participation and enroll-

ment in work-related education and training and its name changed to the [\*Interagency Working Group on Expanded Measures of Enrollment and Attainment \(GEMEnA\)\*](#). 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, NCES will field the Education and Credentials for Work Survey as part of the National Household Education Study (NHES). Other member agencies are exploring additions or changes to existing surveys to more closely align them with the work of the group.

GEMEnA has established an Expert Panel to ensure the relevance of its work for answering critical policy and research questions. The Expert Panel consists of thought leaders from the worlds of education, economics, and workforce development who use data to understand the role of human capital development in fostering and sustaining economic growth.

### **Measuring Relationships in Federal Household Surveys**

The latter half of the 20th century saw dramatic changes in family configurations, living arrangements, and marital and household relationships in the United States. These changes accelerated during the 1960s and have continued into the 21st century.

Federal data play a key role in understanding household change, stability, and instability, yet measures of household relationships in Federal surveys have not kept pace with these changes. The questions Federal agencies ask and the data they collect determine our ability to describe American households and families, but in an ever-evolving American society, asking the "right" questions is not always easy. Ultimately, the accurate measurement of household relationships is critical to understanding society and the potential impacts of Federal, State, and local government programs targeted to improve the well-being of households and families.

The Interagency Working Group on Measuring Relationships in Federal Household Surveys (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. 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 and/or use of household relationship data.

In 2014, the MRFHS Working Group completed a report, [\*Improving Measurement of Relationships in Federal Household 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, which are being tested and examined further in larger tests and implementations.

## **COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES**

### **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. Their use 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.

For several years, the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy and Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, Subcommittee on Administrative Records, identified and began to address the associated legal, policy, methodological, and technical barriers to greater statistical use of administrative data. During the past two years, these efforts evolved, coinciding with two Administration policy focal areas: the Open Government initiative to increase the interoperability and accessibility of Federal datasets (including administrative data); and the use of evidence to build a more efficient and effective 21st century government. Both policy areas emphasize the value of creating new statistical information by harnessing administrative data as a cost-effective way to drive improvement and innovation in the public and private sectors.

Building on this work, 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) use administrative data more fully in a manner that respects privacy and protects confidentiality. Specifically, this guidance will help 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 practical tools to facilitate the provision and use of administrative data, such as the FCSM data quality assessment tool. Agencies reported to OMB over the summer the status of initial efforts to identify datasets useful for statistical purposes and to build ongoing collaborations within and across agencies. Updates to these reports are expected as part of agency FY 2016 budget proposals. OMB, working with the ICSP, will continue to support agencies as they implement the guidance.

### **Evidence-Building for the 2020 Decennial Census**

The decennial census has been conducted since the birth of the Nation to provide the official population counts for determining the allocation to States of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Census Bureau also provides State level data necessary for each State to determine congressional, State, and local legislative boundaries, and the provision of these data is mandated in the U.S. Constitution, Title 13 of the U.S. Code, and P.L. 94-171.

The decennial census program includes the American Community (ACS) and provides comprehensive and useful demographic information about all people living in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the associated Island Areas. The program also provides data for small geographic areas and small population groups that Federal agencies need to implement legally mandated programs. Over \$430 billion in Federal funding is allocated annually using information from the decennial census program.

The cost of the 2010 Census (including the ACS) represented a 38 percent increase in the cost per housing unit over Census 2000 costs, which in turn represented a 76 percent increase over 1990 Census costs. If the Census Bureau made no changes to the design of the decennial census, projected costs for the 2020 Census would increase at a similar rate. However, the Census Bureau recognizes that this rising cost of conducting the decennial census cannot be sustained and is committed to designing and conducting a 2020 Census that costs less per housing unit than the 2010 Census while maintaining high quality results.

Having a significant impact on the cost of the 2020 Census will require major innovation. For that reason, the Census Bureau's research during 2012-2015 has focused on potential major innovation to the design of the census oriented around the major cost drivers of the 2010 Census. The Census Bureau's goal is to make major design decisions for the 2020 Decennial Census, based on this research, by the end of fiscal year 2015. However, due to funding constraints in FY 2013, the Census Bureau delayed or canceled field tests needed to provide the evidence necessary to evaluate the extent to which new and innovative methodologies are actually feasible, and to understand their potential impact on data quality. Consequently, the research and testing work planned in FY 2015 is the last chance to test design changes that could fundamentally improve the conduct, cost, and quality of the 2020 Census.

Accordingly, research associated with significant cost drivers for the decennial census includes:

- focusing address list development on areas experiencing change so that only a small portion of the country is canvassed (rather than walking nearly every street to check every address, as was done in the past);
- exploring the best ways to leverage the internet to increase self-response and decrease the amount of in-person follow-up;
- automating and integrating field operations on handheld devices in order to streamline decentralized management processes, and become less reliant on brick and mortar offices;
- using real-time field data to maximize staff productivity by planning routes, determining the sequence of phone calls and interviews, and dynamically managing case assignments; and,
- using data already provided to the Government to enumerate many households that do not respond to the census thereby reducing the number of in-person interviews conducted.

In addition to the above-mentioned research, the Census Bureau is controlling rising costs related to linking major acquisitions, the schedule, and the budget data by investing in a program management framework to undergird the 2020 Census Program. This framework is based on industry best practices, lessons learned from the 2010 Census, and alignment with initiatives at the agency level. It provides the 2020 Program with the strategies, processes, and tools recognized by the disciplines of Budget Management, Schedule Management, and Sourcing and Acquisition Management. The Census Bureau also will better define require-

ments for all systems through a robust systems engineering and integration discipline that already is under development.

In 2015-2018, the Census Bureau also will continue research into the communications campaign and the partnership program, coverage improvement research in order to continue to address the differential coverage among population groups in the census, coverage measurement research, and the questionnaire wording on the short-form census. The Census Bureau will also conduct operational development and system testing during this period.

### **Updating Samples for Demographic Surveys Across Agencies**

Following each decennial census, the Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign program provides new, updated, and coordinated samples for major ongoing household surveys. 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.

Recently, the Census Bureau began to shift the sample redesign toward using a continually updated Master Address File and American Community Survey data to select household survey samples annually, rather than rely on the once-a-decade availability of census data. In FY 2015, the Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign program will select the initial redesigned samples for the National Crime Victimization Survey, the Consumer Expenditure Quarterly and Diary Survey, and the American Housing Survey. The second sample for the Current Population Survey and the Survey of Income and Program Participation will also be selected, allowing the annual selection system to be evaluated. The redesign program will also select initial samples for the remaining household surveys and begin the transition from the redesign phase to ongoing production of the surveys. At the same time, efforts will transition to identifying optimal survey collections in the current environment.

### **Supplemental Poverty Measure**

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. The U.S. poverty measure was developed in the 1960s and has not been substantially changed since then. 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. OMB requested Census and BLS to develop a Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) that will offer a complementary perspective on the distribution of economic deprivation to that provided by the official measure. The starting point for the SPM was a National Academy of Sciences (NAS) 1995 report, *Measuring Poverty*. More recently, an Interagency Technical Working Group (ITWG), formed by OMB's Chief Statistician, provided a roadmap in 2010 for developing the SPM.

BLS is proposing to modify the Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey to support the Census Bureau in its development of a supplemental statistical poverty measure using CE data. In FY 2015, BLS will begin development of questions to add to the CE Interview Survey in FY 2017 to support this supplemental measure. Additional questions may be added on topics such as school breakfasts or lunches, or subsidies for utilities. Also, CE will implement a production processing system to support poverty threshold estimates. With continued improvement to its processing systems, by FY 2018, the CE could support the September release date of the Census income and poverty report by providing the supplemental poverty thresholds to the Census Bureau in early August.

The Census Bureau will continue to use the poverty thresholds developed by BLS and the ITWG recommendations for family resources as the basis for a definition of income that is much broader than the current official measure. Several of the components of such an improved measure are not currently collected by the Census Bureau in the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS ASEC) or the American Community Survey (ACS) and must be modeled.

With continued adequate funding, the Census Bureau plans to expand its research and production capacities and, in coordination with BLS, complement the official poverty measures with annual supplemental measures of poverty based on data from the CPS ASEC (and eventually the ACS) that follow NAS recommendations. The goal is to release the SPM at the same time as the official income and poverty release. Specifically, the Census Bureau plans to:

- continue to analyze its expanded data collection efforts that added the questions needed to produce the improved poverty measure including questions on mortgages and property value, childcare expenses, child support expenses, and out-of-pocket medical expenses;
- evaluate, improve, and expand its modeling and estimation techniques to produce the necessary additional resource components on a timely basis;
- create a permanent staff who will produce, evaluate, and update these measures and work with stakeholders to ensure that the measure continues to reflect best practices and takes full advantage of the information available to the Census Bureau; and
- expand the measure to other surveys, particularly the ACS, so States and localities can take advantage of supplemental poverty measure estimates.

### **Annual Current Population Survey Supplement**

The Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly household survey, provides a comprehensive body of information on the employment and unemployment experience of the Nation's population, classified by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and a variety of other characteristics. The 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 has no permanent funding for CPS supplements, and BLS is not able to explore topical labor market issues, such as contingent work, without support for supplements. Instead CPS supplement funding has relied on other agencies and their particular data needs have driven the questionnaire content of CPS supplements. As a result, the demand for data on labor force trends is not being met fully.

BLS is proposing to meet this demand by conducting one CPS supplement annually, beginning with a Contingent Work Supplement (CWS) in FY 2016, and every other year thereafter. The CWS would provide important information on contingent work and alternative work arrangements. During years without a CWS supplement, BLS would conduct a supplement on another topic relevant to its mission, such as work schedules, job training, and Internet job search. For example, a Work Schedules Supplement (WSS) would provide additional information on workplace flexibility and work-family balance by capturing data 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. With this initiative, BLS would have resources to develop new supplements on emerging topics such as entrepreneurship. This information would allow data users and decision-makers to develop a more fundamental understanding of developments in the labor market.

In FY 2015 with the requested funds, BLS would work with the Census Bureau to update specifications for the CWS and WSS. BLS would also research possible new topics for supplements. The CPS plans to produce the CWS in even years beginning the following year, thereby providing a reliable source of information on trends within this group. In odd years, starting with the WSS in 2017, BLS would conduct a supplement on another relevant topic. BLS plans to publish results from each supplement several months after the Census Bureau collects the data.

### **Improving 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 figures 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. Foreign trade data are also used extensively as the statistical base to implement and analyze operations under various other international agreements, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement.

In an effort to improve the relevance and usefulness of the international merchandise trade statistics program, the Census Bureau began to seasonally adjust trade data by geography with the release of January 2014 statistics. Previously, data users have had access to import, export, and trade balance information by country and world areas, but the data were not seasonally adjusted and as a result, it was more difficult to analyze actual trends at the geographic level. By seasonally adjusting selected countries and world areas representing major trading partners, the Census Bureau provides data users with a new means for analyzing underlying trends in bilateral trade data. The geographic, seasonally adjusted Census Basis data are available in Exhibit 19 of the FT-900: US International Trade in Goods and Services press release.

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 (for example, the Selected Commodity Subscription Service or the Merchandise Trade downloads). This improvement will give current subscribers to USA Trade Online the ability to obtain more detailed data, as well as provide users of our static data products the opportunity to switch to this dynamic system while maintaining access to these fields.

### **New Standards for Data Collection in Health Studies**

Section 4302 of 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. Harmonizing data standards is intended to improve identification of the significant health differences that often exist between and within racial and ethnic groups.

In 2011, HHS adopted [\*new standards\*](#) for the demographic variables mentioned above 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. The adoption of the standards has been phased in for the major HHS health surveys during survey re-design and revision.

The criteria listed below were used in the development of these standards.

- Standards would be evidence-based and demonstrated to have worked well in practice for national survey data collection.
- Standards would represent a minimum data standard, with agencies permitted to collect as much additional detail as desired, provided that the additional detail could be aggregated back to the minimum standard. For the disability data standard, although survey questions and response categories included in the standard cannot be changed, additional disability questions may be included.
- Standards required by OMB would serve as the starting point for any data standard.
- Standards would apply to HHS-sponsored population surveys in which person-level data are collected via either self-report or from a respondent who serves as a knowledgeable household representative.

Only those demographic categories for race, ethnicity, sex, primary language, and disability status with adequate sample sizes to provide statistically reliable data should be reported. Information on the validity and reliability of the data should be included, whenever possible, to enable the readers to judge the credibility of the findings.

### **Improving Data Systems on Health and Health Care**

Increasingly complex public health and health policy issues require more sophisticated statistical systems. To remain effective, data systems must meet the challenge of maintaining current operations while retooling to meet new data needs and utilize more fully 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 and medical 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. The National Center for Health Statistics, working with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, is pursuing a number of efforts to maintain and improve the core capacity of ongoing data systems.

To address data needs in an environment of increasing costs, NCHS has begun a long-range effort to redesign the health surveys as well as the health care and vital statistics programs. The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is the nation's largest in-person household health survey and is a primary tool for monitoring the health of the Nation. The survey collects information on health status and conditions, disability, access to and use of health services, health insurance coverage, immunizations, risk factors, and health-related behaviors. To address the scarcity of health data for the Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (NHPI) population, NCHS is administering the NHIS questionnaire to a sample of about 4,000 additional households containing one or more NHPI residents. NCHS collaborated with the Census Bureau to obtain a sample of household addresses provided by the American Community Survey. The NHPI NHIS launched in early 2014; the public-use data file will be available in mid-2015. The NHPI NHIS helps to meet HHS's goal of improving the collection and reporting of data on NHPI populations and increasing the capacity to conduct more reliable statistical research for NHPI populations.

To supplement data collected from the NHIS and test different modes of collection, NCHS developed and implemented the National Health Care Interview Survey (NHCIS), a telephone and web-based follow-back survey with previous NHIS participants. The NHCIS was designed to monitor changes over time in health status, health care access, and health behaviors. Reports from this methodological experiment will be available in late 2014.

NCHS is in the process of integrating 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. Recruitment is underway for a new nationally representative sample of non-federal, non-institutional hospitals for this survey. In addition to inpatient data, sample hospitals are asked to provide data on health care services provided in their EDs and OPDs. The collection of personal identifiers will allow the linkage of care provided to the same patient across hospital settings and permit encounters to be linked to outside data sources such as the National Death Index and Medicare and Medicaid data.

In 2012, NCHS launched its new integrated strategy for obtaining and providing national and State-level statistical information about the supply, use and key characteristics of paid, regulated long term care (LTC) services providers in the United States—the National Study of Long-Term Care Providers (NSLTCP). NSLTCP replaces NCHS' periodic National Nursing Home Survey and National Home and Hospice Care Survey, and the one-time National Survey of Residential Care Facilities. NSLTCP efficiently monitors five major sectors of paid, regulated LTC providers to help address the Nation's information needs to inform future LTC policy. NCHS collects survey data for adult day services centers and assisted living and similar residential care communities and administrative data are provided by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for nursing homes, home health agencies and hospices. NCHS conducted the first wave of surveys August 2012 through early 2013. The restricted data from the 2012 surveys were made available through the RDC in October 2013. The first NSLTCP report, *Long-Term Care Services in the United States: 2013 Overview*, released in December 2013, described major findings from the first NSLTCP wave, using survey and administrative data. NCHS intends to conduct NSLTCP every two years; accordingly, the second wave surveys of adult day and residential care providers is scheduled to occur June through December 2014.

Fundamental to the Federal statistical system is the accurate and timely calculation of the U.S. population. Current efforts to preserve continuity in critical data on births and deaths come at a time of significant opportunity for longer term gains in the underlying vital registration systems that State agencies and partners use to obtain these data. States working with hospitals and funeral homes will develop electronic vital registration systems, with secure Internet transmissions to State authorities and ultimately Federal partners. These systems will be an important source of more timely information on births and deaths. Work is also underway to make significant improvements in the timeliness and quality of vital statistics data including quality review at data entry, faster processing, and more timely publication of key indicators.

### **Enhancing Internationally Comparable Measures of Disability**

The [\*Washington Group on Disability Statistics\*](#), 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) working 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.

The Joint United Nations Economic Commission for Europe/World Health Organization/Eurostat Task Force on Measuring Health Status, also known as the [\*Budapest Initiative\*](#), was organized in 2005 under the Work Programme of the Conference on European Statisticians. Its main purpose is the development of an internationally accepted standard set of questions for assessing general health status in the context of interview surveys.

The sets of questions from both the Washington Group and Budapest Initiative have undergone multiple rounds of cognitive and field tests in Africa, South America, North America, and Asia. To date about thirty-five countries have indicated they intend to use the short set of six questions in the current round of national censuses. The Washington Group has recently compiled disability data derived from censuses and surveys from participating countries and shown that countries that use the short set of questions as intended are beginning to show comparable results.

Following the completion and adoption of the short set of questions, the Washington Group began work on the development of an extended set of questions on functioning for use as a component of population surveys, as a supplement to surveys, or as the core of a disability survey. The extended set of questions incorporates additional functional domains and added detail regarding functioning with and without assistive technology/assistance. With the backing of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), the extended set of disability questions on functioning was cognitively and field tested in six Southeast Asian countries. The finalized extended set of disability questions were presented and adopted at the 10th Meeting of the WG held in Luxembourg in November, 2010, and subsequently presented to Eurostat for inclusion on the European Health Interview Survey.

A survey module on child/youth disability has been developed in close cooperation with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Cognitive testing of these questions has been carried out in India (Mumbai), Belize, Montenegro, Oman, and the U.S. Results of the cognitive testing were presented at the 12th meeting of the Washington Group in October 2013. Field testing is ongoing. Work is currently underway to develop a set of questions that would address facilitators and barriers to school participation for children with disability, in addition to an extended set of questions to measure environmental barriers and facilitators to participation among the general population.

### **Collaborative Research on 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 competition 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. Since its inception in FY 1999, the program has funded over 50 research projects.



# 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.

Staffs 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 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
<b>Bureau of Economic Analysis</b>			
Total .....	473	480	492
Full-time permanent .....	460	467	479
Other than full-time permanent .....	13	13	13
Statisticians .....	12	11	11
Economists .....	268	267	277
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	48	48	48
<b>Bureau of Justice Statistics</b>			
Total .....	46	46	60
Full-time permanent .....	45	45	59
Other than full-time permanent .....	1	1	1
Statisticians .....	28	30	40
Economists .....	0	0	0
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>Bureau of Labor Statistics</b>			
Total .....	2,405	2,540	2,581
Full-time permanent .....	1,989	2,093	2,134
Other than full-time permanent .....	416	447	447
Statisticians .....	147	155	157
Economists .....	1,155	1,225	1,260
Research Scientists .....	7	7	7
Other Statistical Personnel .....	439	458	458
<b>Bureau of Transportation Statistics</b>			
Total .....	70	70	71
Full-time permanent .....	69	69	70
Other than full-time permanent .....	1	1	1

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

Principal Statistical Agency	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Statisticians .....	15	15	15
Economists .....	4	4	4
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	18
<b>Census Bureau</b>			
Total .....	14,533	13,823	9,942
Full-time permanent .....	7,040	6,505	5,815
Other than full-time permanent .....	7,493	7,318	4,127
Statisticians .....	2,270	2,197	2,106
Economists .....	64	87	67
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>Economic Research Service</b>			
Total .....	349	370	365
Full-time permanent .....	338	364	359
Other than full-time permanent .....	11	6	6
Statisticians .....	1	1	1
Economists .....	208	230	230
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	8	8	8
<b>Energy Information Administration</b>			
Total .....	351	374	375
Full-time permanent .....	341	366	367
Other than full-time permanent .....	10	8	8
Statisticians .....	72	77	77
Economists .....	76	78	79
Research Scientists .....	60	60	63
Other Statistical Personnel .....	11	13	13
<b>National Agricultural Statistics Service</b>			
Total .....	1,301	1,215	1,191
Full-time permanent .....	895	954	1,001
Other than full-time permanent .....	406	261	190
Statisticians .....	574	604	634
Economists .....	0	0	0
Research Scientists .....	1	1	1
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>National Center for Education Statistics</b>			
Total .....	100	108	108
Full-time permanent .....	89	91	91
Other than full-time permanent .....	11	17	17
Statisticians .....	74	69	69
Economists .....	1	1	1

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

Principal Statistical Agency	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Research Scientists .....	0	0	0
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>National Center for Health Statistics</b>			
Total .....	512	553	558
Full-time permanent .....	456	495	500
Other than full-time permanent .....	56	58	58
Statisticians .....	142	162	166
Economists .....	3	5	5
Research Scientists .....	94	97	97
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics</b>			
Total .....	45	49	50
Full-time permanent .....	43	48	48
Other than full-time permanent .....	2	1	2
Statisticians .....	22	25	25
Economists .....	6	6	6
Research Scientists .....	7	9	9
Other Statistical Personnel .....	0	0	0
<b>Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (Social Security Administration)</b>			
Total .....	77	70	71
Full-time permanent .....	76	69	69
Other than full-time permanent .....	1	1	2
Statisticians .....	5	4	4
Economists .....	20	18	18
Research Scientists .....	20	19	19
Other Statistical Personnel .....	31	28	28
<b>Statistics of Income Division (Internal Revenue Service)</b>			
Total .....	140	138	145
Full-time permanent .....	135	133	140
Other than full-time permanent .....	5	5	5
Statisticians .....	30	30	30
Economists .....	43	41	41
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 0101, 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
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
BVA	Board of Veterans' Appeals	VA
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 the 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
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	Transportation

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

Acronym	Full Name	Department
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	Transportation
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service	USDA
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration	Transportation
FS	Forest Service	USDA
FSA	Federal Student Aid	Education
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
HSS	Office of Health, Safety and Security	Energy
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
NCHHSTP	National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, Sexually 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
NICHD	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	HHS

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

Acronym	Full Name	Department
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse	HHS
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
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
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology	Commerce
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
OASPE	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	HHS
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
OVAE	Office of Vocational and Adult Education	Education
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

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

Acronym	Full Name	Department
TMA	TRICARE Management Activity	DHS
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development	Other
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture	Not applicable
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs	Not applicable
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration	VA
VHA	Veterans Health Administration	VA
WAOB	World Agricultural Outlook Board	USDA
WHD	Wage and Hour Division	Labor

