



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

September 8, 1998

The Honorable Newt Gingrich
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker:

Enclosed is a document entitled Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 1999. This is a report on the funding available in the President's budget for statistical activities. It is required under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Section 3504(e)(2) of Title 44 United States Code.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew".

Jacob J. Lew
Director

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to the President of the Senate

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Introduction

Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 1999 outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's budget. The budget requested an estimated \$3.9 billion for statistical work to be carried out in FY 1999. Approximately half of the funding for the statistical system provides resources for ten agencies that have statistical activities as their principal mission. The remaining funding is spread among sixty agencies that carry out statistical activities in conjunction with other program missions, such as providing services or enforcing regulations.

The information in this report covers Federal agencies that have annual budgets of \$500,000 or more for statistical activities. This information was obtained from materials supplied to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) during the budget process, with the agencies providing additional details about their expenditures for reimbursable work and purchases of statistical services.

The report fulfills a responsibility of OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Section 3504(e)(2) of Title 44, United States Code) to prepare an annual report on statistical program funding.

The report is available in both electronic form and a limited number of hard copies. The electronic version can be accessed on the Internet through the OMB web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/omb/>—go to “OMB Documents”; go to “Miscellaneous Documents.” Inquiries may be directed to the Chief Statistician, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D. C. 20503.

CHAPTER 1: Budgets for Statistical Programs

This chapter provides information about agency budgets for major statistical programs for FY 1997, FY 1998, and FY 1999. It highlights the effects of Congressional action on the President's FY 1998 budget request for Federal statistical activities and changes in proposed funding for these programs for FY 1999. The chapter also includes information about statistical work performed by agencies on a reimbursable basis and about agency purchases of statistical services and products. The budget information for FY 1999 is from the President's budget as submitted to the Congress and, thus, does not reflect Congressional action.

Overview of Statistical Program Budgets

The following should be kept in mind when reviewing the information in this report:

- Not all Federal spending on statistical activities is included. The report covers agencies having direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in FY 1997, or estimated direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in either FY 1998 or FY 1999. Using these criteria, the report includes the budgets for statistical programs and activities for over 70 agencies.
- 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 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.
- Statistical activities are defined to include the following: (1) 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; (2) training of statisticians, interviewers, or data processing personnel; (3) collection, processing, or tabulation of statistical data for publication, dissemination, research, analysis, or program management and evaluation; (4) publication or dissemination of statistical data and studies; (5) methodological testing or statistical research; (6) data analysis; (7) forecasts or projections that are published or otherwise made available for government-wide or public use; (8) statistical tabulation, dissemination, or publication of data collected by others; (9) construction of secondary data series or development of models that are an integral part of generating statistical series or forecasts; (10) management or coordination of statistical operations; and (11) statistical consulting or training.
- Major statistical programs differ in organizational structure and in the means by which they are funded. Some major statistical programs, such as labor force statistics and energy statistics, are carried out by agencies (the

Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Energy Information Administration, respectively) whose sole missions are statistical; these organizations are referred to as principal statistical agencies and appear as line items 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 a portion of the total appropriation for that agency. 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 statistical agency or by a private organization under contract.

- Whether statistical work is done inside or outside the agency, the direct obligations reflect the level of statistical activities in support of the agency's mission. Table 1 presents direct program funding for FY 1997, FY 1998, and FY 1999 for major statistical programs, by department and agency.

Table 1: DIRECT FUNDING FOR MAJOR STATISTICAL PROGRAMS, FY 1997-FY 1999

(In millions of dollars)

Department	Agency	1997 Actual	1998 Estimate	1999 Estimate
AGRICULTURE	ARS.....	2.5	9.5	3.8
	ERS	53.1	71.6	55.8
	FAS	32.6	33.4	36.9
	FNS	7.3	0.0	12.2
	FS	9.9	11.4	14.2
	NASS	100.0	118.3	107.2
	NRCS	103.8	108.5	108.0
COMMERCE	BEA	40.8	43.1	48.3
	Census	364.1	709.2	1,209.9
	current	144.9	147.3	170.1
	periodic	219.2	561.9	1,039.8
	2000 census	86.4	391.1	856.3
	ESA	5.1	5.5	5.4
	ITA	3.4	3.0	4.4
	NOAA	49.1	49.4	48.1
NMFS	24.6	27.1	25.8	
DEFENSE	Corps	3.9	4.5	5.0
	DIOR	2.0	1.9	2.4
	DMDC	3.3	3.8	4.2
EDUCATION	NCES	90.7	102.5	116.4
ENERGY	EIA	65.7	70.1	70.5
	ES&H	30.5	24.0	24.0
	OER	0.1	0.1	0.1
HHS	ACF	28.3	27.8	39.2
	AHCPR	18.5	18.8	41.5
	AoA	0.8	0.3	0.3
	ATSDR	5.0	5.0	5.0

Table 1: DIRECT FUNDING FOR MAJOR STATISTICAL PROGRAMS, FY 1997-FY 1999—Continued

(In millions of dollars)

Department	Agency	1997 Actual	1998 Estimate	1999 Estimate
	CDC	179.3	196.4	209.3
	NCHS	86.0	86.0	86.0
	HCFA	14.2	12.7	13.8
	HRSA	9.8	11.3	11.8
	IHS	2.8	2.7	2.6
	NIH	308.8	326.5	347.7
	NCI	80.1	82.5	85.0
	NEI	0.4	0.5	0.6
	NHLBI	42.8	45.7	49.4
	NIA	9.4	9.5	10.1
	NIAAA	4.4	4.2	7.3
	NIAID	30.4	31.9	32.9
	NIAMS	0.2	0.2	0.5
	NICHD	25.4	27.0	27.0
	NIDA	46.4	49.2	53.6
	NIDCD	1.5	1.6	1.7
	NIDDK	39.3	42.1	45.4
	NIDR	3.8	4.1	4.3
	NIEHS	22.8	25.7	27.6
	NIGMS	0.2	0.2	0.2
	NINDS	0.7	0.9	0.9
	OD	1.0	1.2	1.1
	OASPE	20.0	24.0	24.0
	OPA	0.5	0.4	0.5
	SAMHSA	66.4	88.7	108.4
HUD	Housing	2.7	2.3	2.4
	OFHEO	5.0	5.0	5.0
	PD&R	23.0	23.1	24.9
	P&IH	2.1	2.2	1.1
INTERIOR	FWS	6.8	5.8	5.5
	MMS	1.7	1.7	1.7
	NBS	2.0	0.0	0.0
	NPS	0.9	0.7	0.7
	BoR	2.0	2.0	2.4
	USGS	81.5	78.6	85.7
JUSTICE	BJS	26.5	25.4	31.1
	BoP	4.6	6.0	6.2
	DEA	0.8	0.8	0.8
	FBI	4.0	4.2	4.3
	INS	1.4	2.7	3.4
LABOR	BLS	360.8	380.5	398.9
	ESA	4.6	5.3	5.1
	ETA	58.3	71.9	81.9
	MSHA	1.9	2.3	2.4

Table 1: DIRECT FUNDING FOR MAJOR STATISTICAL PROGRAMS, FY 1997-FY 1999—Continued

(In millions of dollars)

Department	Agency	1997 Actual	1998 Estimate	1999 Estimate
	OASP	0.8	1.4	1.6
	OSHA	18.2	17.2	18.6
TRANSPORTATION	BTS	19.6	35.8	31.0
	FAA	2.5	2.5	2.5
	FHWA	36.1	35.0	40.5
	FRA	2.3	2.4	2.4
	FTA	2.5	2.5	2.5
	MARAD	1.6	1.7	1.7
	NHTSA	20.2	21.2	22.0
	OST	0.9	0.9	1.0
	RSPA	4.3	4.8	4.7
TREASURY	Customs	8.5	8.6	8.8
	IRS	33.2	38.9	40.6
	SOI	24.3	27.7	29.4
VETERANS AFFAIRS	59.2	64.1	78.5
OTHER AGENCIES	AID	17.5	16.9	17.0
	CPSC	5.2	5.9	6.0
	EEOC	1.0	0.9	1.0
	EPA	145.9	182.5	223.7
	NASA	16.9	16.9	16.9
	NSF	59.9	75.3	74.2
	SBA	1.0	1.0	1.4
	SSA	6.9	7.1	7.3
TOTAL		2,677.1	3,248.4	3,948.3
TOTAL without 2000 census		2,590.7	2,857.3	3,092.0

Note: Figures shown in Table 1 have been provided by the agencies and are derived from "total direct program" funds (line 00.91) shown in the program and financing schedule for these agencies in the President's FY 1999 budget. The amounts for BJS and NCES include estimated salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated; the amounts for Census, BJS, EIA, and BTS include prior year balances. Components may not add to stated totals because of rounding.

Highlights of Congressional Action on the President's FY 1998 Budget Request

The figures for FY 1998 in Table 1 reflect Congressional action on the President's budget request for funding of statistical activities. The following are highlights of the impact of these appropriation levels on the programs of the principal statistical agencies:

Bureau of the Census: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$31.9 million above the President's request. The Congress added \$35 million to the President's funding request for the 2000 decennial census, to be used as follows: \$27

million to plan and develop a contingency plan in the event that sampling is prohibited in the census; \$4 million to modify the dress rehearsal for the 2000 census; and \$4 million to fund the Census Monitoring Board, a congressionally mandated body that will observe and monitor all aspects of preparations for and implementation of the 2000 decennial census. The Congress did not appropriate the \$2.4 million increase that was requested for the Continuous Measurement program; funding for this program continued at the same level as was appropriated in FY 1997.

Bureau of Economic Analysis: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$4.8 million below the President's request. As a result of this decrease, funds were not provided to support the improvements proposed under BEA's strategic plan for maintaining and improving the Nation's economic accounts.

Bureau of Justice Statistics: The FY 1998 appropriation did not include any program changes, but did include a slight increase to the base from the FY 1997 appropriated level (+\$0.2).

Bureau of Labor Statistics: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$1.0 million above the President's request. The additional funding will be used to improve the timeliness of data on emerging labor market issues by collecting data on these topics in two regularly scheduled Current Population Survey supplements. There were no programmatic reductions in the 1998 funding level.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics: The FY 1998 appropriation was passed at the President's request in the Transportation Efficiency Act. In FY 1998, BTS was authorized \$12.5 million for the first six months of the fiscal year as a stop-gap measure pending passage of this legislation. Furthermore, BTS faced unanticipated expenses related to the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act and the transfer of air and motor carrier statistical programs to BTS. These constraints resulted in staffing shortages and delays in producing results from the 1995 American Travel Survey and the Commodity Flow Survey.

Economic Research Service: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$17.3 million above the President's request. Congressional action resulted in an increase of \$18.5 million to evaluate food stamp, child nutrition, and Special Supplemental Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs. The change did not support the request for funds to increase knowledge about the costs and benefits of resource-conserving production practices; provide statistical expertise for the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) government-wide effort to develop reliable performance information; or cover pay cost increases.

Energy Information Administration: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$4 million above the President's request. The President's FY 1998 budget provided \$5 million in the energy conservation account to reimburse EIA for its work. The Congress reduced the energy conservation buildings program by \$5 million and increased EIA's budget by \$4 million. The net reduction of \$1 million in EIA's total resources was absorbed through reductions in contract support and savings in overheads.

National Agricultural Statistics Service: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$1.8 million below the President's request. It included \$36.3 million for the Census

of Agriculture to fund peak-year data collection activities. No funds were provided for the multi-agency GPRA measurement initiatives. A reduction of \$1 million in list development costs was achieved by combining the list building and maintenance activities of the Census of Agriculture with those of NASS's existing survey sampling program.

National Center for Education Statistics: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$11.6 million below the President's request, but \$11.8 million above the FY 1997 appropriation. This funding level allowed NCES to support a birth cohort and a fall first grade data collection for the kindergarten cohort of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Survey; maintain the National Post-Secondary Aid Study on a four year cycle; develop the National Assessment of Adult Literacy Survey and a longitudinal study of adolescents through high school and beyond; conduct testing of student use of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study instruments; add a school crime supplement to the National Crime Victimization Study; and continue biennial assessment cycles in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

National Center for Health Statistics: The FY 1998 appropriation was \$3.0 million below the President's request. This decrease included resources designated for full implementation of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) and development of standardized performance measurement tools under GPRA. Since the FY 1998 request did not include the \$2.4 million increase needed for full implementation of NHANES, NCHS is continuing to work with its collaborators and partners to identify additional resources or reconfigure survey plans to accommodate this shortfall. Due to overall constraints resulting from a loss of real purchasing power over the last several years, NCHS is conducting several surveys on a periodic (rather than an annual) basis and making reductions in the scope of several programs.

FY 1999 Budget Highlights

As shown in Table 1, the FY 1999 budget submitted by the President for statistical activities covered by this report is estimated at \$3,948 million. This year's proposed budget includes a separate discussion of key cross-agency initiatives designed to address some of the most serious shortcomings in the Nation's statistical infrastructure. In particular, these initiatives would:

- Provide a comprehensive, integrated, and internationally comparable statistical data base for analysis as well as reliable and timely information on the impact on the U.S. economy of increasingly integrated world markets.
- Modernize our most basic industrial classification to reflect the structural and technological changes that have occurred in the economy over the past 20 years and facilitate economic analyses that cover the entire North American Free Trade Agreement area;
- Continue to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to permit more rapid revision in future years, to produce alternative measures of the change in the cost of living, and to allow more timely introduction of new goods into the CPI; and

- Provide new statutory authority for the limited sharing of confidential statistical information among specific Federal statistical agencies solely for statistical purposes, leading to increases in the accuracy of statistical estimates and in the efficiency of Federal data collection systems.

The following are highlights of proposed program changes in the principal statistical agencies and their associated costs (in millions of dollars). Additional details about these changes are provided in Chapter 2 of this report.

Bureau of the Census: Increases are requested for data review and report publication from the 1997 Census of Governments (+\$1.7); completion of several preparatory activities for the 2000 census (+\$466.4); further development of the Continuous Measurement program, including the American Community Survey (+\$21.6); demographic surveys sample redesign (+\$2.0); and implementation of the new International Trade Data System (+\$2.8). Funds are requested to implement the North American Industry Classification System in current surveys (+\$13.8), and to improve the quality of Gross Domestic Product estimates (+\$9.4) and the measurement of poverty (+\$4.5). The request includes funding for the fifth year of the six-year economic censuses cycle (\$143.6) and for the Survey of Minority-Owned Business Enterprises (\$4.0).

Bureau of Economic Analysis: Increases are requested to proceed with BEA's strategic plan that would maintain and improve national, regional, and international economic accounts through improvements in measures of services (+\$0.2); compensation (+\$0.4); output and prices (+\$0.7); investment, savings, and wealth (+\$0.7); and international transactions (+\$1.1). Increases are also requested to upgrade BEA's information technology (+\$1.3).

Bureau of Justice Statistics: Increases are requested for the collection of data on hate crimes (+\$1.0), for police use-of-force statistics (+\$0.5), and for the reinstatement of the Criminal Justice Expenditure and Employment Survey (+\$0.6).

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Increases are requested to develop a new survey on job openings and labor turnover (+\$3.3), and to speed the process of updating the Consumer Price Index market basket (+\$9.1). The request reflects decreases related to completion of some activities pursuant to the revision of the CPI (-\$4.3); discontinuation of the Current Population Survey supplements on contingent work and alternative work arrangements (-\$1.0); and implementation of the North American Industry Classification System (-\$1.0).

Bureau of Transportation Statistics: The budget request (\$31.0)—of which \$3.1 million is for the Office of Airline Information—provide for the same level of program activities as in FY 1998.

Economic Research Service: Increases are requested to determine and meet the analytical information needs of small farmers (+\$0.4); assess potential impacts of electric utility deregulation (+\$0.2); and evaluate programs established to protect the safety of the Nation's food supply (+\$0.9). The request reflects a decrease due to the inclusion of food stamp, child nutrition, and WIC evaluation studies in the Food and Nutrition Service budget (-\$18.5).

Energy Information Administration: An increase (+\$2.5) is requested to provide funds for the collection of data on carbon emissions and for the cross-cutting analysis of carbon management policies and related data.

National Agricultural Statistics Service: The total request is \$11.1 lower than the FY 1998 funding level. The request reflects a decrease in staffing and activity levels in the five-year Census of Agriculture program (-\$13.3). Increases are requested for a pesticide use survey of the horticulture and greenhouse industries (+\$1.4), the Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey (+\$0.1), and the collection of aquaculture statistics (+\$0.5).

National Center for Education Statistics: Increases (+\$9.0) are requested to support new or cyclical studies in the areas of adult literacy, teacher quality, post-secondary and vocational education, school finance, early childhood, and international comparisons. In addition, an increase (+\$4.5) is requested for the redesign of the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

National Center for Health Statistics: Level funding is requested for FY 1999. This includes a decrease (-\$2.4) in funding for the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Reimbursable 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 governments, and occasionally the private sector or foreign governments. Some agencies that have reimbursable programs, for example, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (OASPE) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), do not necessarily perform all the work. Rather, part of the reimbursable program money is used to purchase statistical work from other Federal agencies or the private sector.

Table 2 presents a list of agencies that reported performing at least \$100,000 of statistical work on a reimbursable basis for state and local governments, the private sector, and/or other Federal agencies, ranked by the estimated size of the reimbursable program for FY 1999. As shown in the Appendix, of the estimated total of \$446 million in reimbursable work, an estimated \$339 million is performed for other Federal agencies. A large portion of the reimbursable work performed for other Federal agencies is funded through intra-departmental transfers, as discussed below.

**Table 2: ESTIMATED AGENCY REIMBURSEMENTS
FOR STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES, FY 1999**

(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Reimburs- able Program	State/ Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
Census.....	1,209.9	185.4	0.2	25.9	159.3
USGS.....	85.7	107.4	60.0	2.9	44.5
AHCPR.....	41.5	35.5	0.0	0.0	35.5
NCHS.....	86.0	25.3	0.0	1.0	24.4
BLS.....	398.9	21.6	3.3	1.6	16.8
CDC (w/o NCHS).....	123.2	10.5	0.0	0.0	10.5
NASS.....	107.2	9.8	2.1	0.0	7.7
OASPE.....	24.0	8.8	0.0	0.0	8.8
ESA (DoC).....	5.4	6.5	0.0	3.0	3.5
NOAA.....	48.1	6.2	0.2	3.6	2.4
FAS.....	36.9	4.8	0.0	0.0	4.8
NRCNS.....	108.0	4.5	2.3	0.0	2.2
FS.....	14.2	3.4	—	0.1	3.3
ERS.....	55.8	2.8	0.0	0.0	2.8
NCES.....	116.4	2.4	0.0	0.1	2.3
ACF.....	39.2	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8
BEA.....	48.3	1.6	0.0	0.7	0.9
NSF.....	74.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	1.6
SOI.....	29.4	1.6	—	0.1	1.5
EPA.....	223.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.3
EIA.....	70.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
CPSC.....	6.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7
ATSDR.....	5.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
ITA.....	4.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1
MARAD.....	1.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
VA.....	78.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
HRSA.....	11.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
NHTSA.....	22.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
SSA.....	7.3	0.1	—	—	—
Total.....	2,963.6	446.2	68.2	39.1	339.0

Note: Reimbursements from the private sector also include funds received from foreign governments. Agencies receiving funds from foreign governments are: Census (\$1.4 million); NOAA (\$0.2 million); BLS (\$0.2 million); and NCES (\$0.1 million). Components may not add up to stated totals because of rounding. The symbol “—” indicates that the amount reported by the agency was less than \$50,000.

For FY 1999, the Census Bureau has the largest reimbursable program, estimated at \$185.4 million. Most of this work (\$159.3 million) entails data collections and preparation of tabulations for other Federal agencies. In particular, the Census Bureau expects to perform approximately \$54.8 million of reimbursable work for the Department of Labor, including the Current Population Survey, the Consumer Expenditure Survey, and the Point of Purchase Survey for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Examples of reimbursable work that the Census Bureau expects to perform for other Federal agencies include: the Schools and Staffing Surveys and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Survey for the National

Center for Education Statistics; the National Health Interview Survey, the National Hospital Discharge Survey, and the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS); the American Housing Survey and the Housing Sales Survey for the Department of Housing and Urban Development; the National Crime Survey and the National Prisoner Statistics Program for the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the Commodity Flow Survey and the American Travel Survey for the Department of Transportation; and the Survey of College Graduates for the National Science Foundation. In addition, the Census Bureau receives funds from the Agency for International Development and from foreign governments for training and advising in statistical techniques.

The Water Resources Division in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has the second largest reimbursable program, estimated at \$107.4 million. Among the Federal agencies, USGS performs the largest amount (\$60 million) of work for states through a Federal-State Cooperative Program. This program provides for hydrologic data collection and analysis, areal water-resources appraisals, and special analytical and interpretive studies. The Water Resources Division also expects to perform almost \$44.5 million in statistical work for other Federal agencies, including hydrologic data collections and analyses for the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Energy, State, and Transportation; the National Park Service and other agencies in the Department of the Interior; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

A large portion of the reimbursable work in HHS is done within the Department. The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR)—overall, the third largest reimbursable program—receives an estimated \$35.5 million. This reimbursable work is conducted through the use of grants, contracts, and interagency agreements for other agencies within HHS; much of it is funded from transfers from the Public Health Service's One Percent Evaluation Fund. For the most part, intradepartmental transfers of funds will be used for statistical analysis of the Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys and the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project.

Most of the reimbursable statistical work performed by NCHS (\$25.3 million)—ranked fourth among the agencies with reimbursements for statistical activities—is done for other agencies within HHS, in particular, for other parts of its parent organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (\$16.3 million). The CDC does approximately 40 percent of its reimbursable work for HHS agencies. All of the reimbursable work at OASPE will be for other Federal agencies, providing support for health, income assistance, and social service projects.

Approximately half of the reimbursable work carried out by BLS for other Federal agencies is done for other agencies in the Department of Labor. This work includes, for example, an estimated \$6.7 million that will be transferred to BLS from the Employment and Training Administration for the Mass Layoffs Statistics Program, for surveys of training availability in companies and for displaced workers, for the National Longitudinal Wage Data Base Project, and for the development of the America's Labor Market Information System. In addition, the Employment Standards Administration will transfer

\$2.6 million to BLS to conduct studies of occupational wages in selected areas and industries, and of construction industry wages.

Intradepartmental transfers also support much of the reimbursable work shown in Table 2 for Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies. Approximately \$7.3 million of NASS's reimbursable work is done for other agencies in USDA. In particular, NASS will receive \$4.6 million from the Economic Research Service (ERS) for the Agricultural Resource Management Study. NASS will also be reimbursed by the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) for providing training and technical assistance in statistics (\$1.1 million). ERS will receive approximately \$2.8 million for performing evaluation studies and analyses for other USDA agencies, including an estimated \$2.5 million which FAS will pay ERS to provide technical assistance in Eastern Europe. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will receive approximately \$2.0 million for soil survey work on Federal lands.

Purchases of Statistical Services

Agencies contract for statistical services with other Federal agencies, state and local governments, or with private sector organizations. Table 3 shows the agencies with total purchases of at least \$1 million, ranked by total purchases; information on agencies with smaller estimated purchases is provided in the Appendix.

Table 3: ESTIMATED AGENCY PURCHASES OF STATISTICAL SERVICES, FY 1999

(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
BLS	398.8	153.4	78.1	15.5	59.9
NCES.....	116.4	110.4	1.9	100.1	8.4
SAMHSA.....	108.4	105.5	31.7	73.4	0.4
ETA	81.9	80.8	80.8	0.0	0.0
NIH.....	347.7	76.7	6.8	56.1	13.8
NCHS.....	86.0	76.6	14.4	38.1	24.0
NSF.....	74.2	75.9	0.0	71.5	4.4
EPA.....	223.7	56.3	4.7	49.6	2.0
CDC (w/o NCHS)	123.2	42.3	17.0	23.7	1.7
ACF.....	39.2	39.2	0.0	19.5	19.7
AHCPR.....	41.5	36.5	0.5	25.4	10.6
FHWA.....	40.5	35.9	10.1	19.6	6.2
OASPE	24.0	32.8	0.0	27.2	5.6
NASS.....	107.2	29.5	19.8	—	9.7
BJS.....	31.1	27.0	3.4	4.2	19.4
PD&R.....	24.9	24.9	0.0	4.1	20.7
EIA.....	70.5	24.1	0.0	24.1	0.0
NHTSA	22.0	22.1	8.2	13.6	0.4
BTS	31.0	20.4	0.0	8.1	12.3
ES&H	24.0	19.3	0.0	0.0	19.3
AID.....	17.0	17.0	0.0	14.6	2.4

Table 3: ESTIMATED AGENCY PURCHASES OF STATISTICAL SERVICES, FY 1999—Continued

(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
HCFA.....	13.8	13.8	0.0	13.7	—
FNS.....	12.2	12.2	0.0	12.1	0.1
NOAA.....	48.1	7.2	4.0	3.2	0.0
ERS.....	55.8	6.8	1.9	0.3	4.6
FAS.....	36.9	4.7	0.0	0.0	4.7
ARS.....	3.8	3.8	0.0	3.8	—
ESA (DoL).....	5.1	3.6	0.5	0.5	2.6
OSHA.....	18.6	3.2	0.0	3.2	0.0
ITA.....	4.4	3.0	0.0	2.4	0.6
VA.....	78.5	2.9	0.0	2.6	0.3
RSPA.....	4.7	2.6	0.0	2.6	0.0
FAA.....	2.5	2.5	0.0	0.0	2.5
FTA.....	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
BoR.....	2.4	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4
OFHEO.....	5.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
INS.....	3.4	1.9	0.0	1.5	0.4
BEA.....	48.3	1.8	—	0.3	1.5
Corps.....	5.0	1.8	0.0	1.0	0.8
ATSDR.....	5.0	1.7	0.4	1.0	0.3
CPSC.....	6.0	1.7	0.1	1.6	0.0
FRA.....	2.4	1.6	0.0	1.2	0.4
OASP.....	1.6	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0
Census.....	1,209.9	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
EEOC.....	1.0	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.1
HRSA.....	11.8	1.1	0.0	0.8	0.3
P&IH.....	1.1	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
Total.....	2,331.0	1,196.3	284.3	648.2	263.7

When the contract is a transfer of funds to another Federal agency, the contract 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. Examples of these kinds of purchases of statistical services were given above in the section on reimbursable programs. The National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in HHS can purchase more than their direct funding for statistics allows, because they receive the difference from other Federal agencies under their reimbursable programs.

The four largest purchasers of statistical services are the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) (\$153.4 million); the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) (\$118.9 million), including the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) (\$76.6 million); the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) (\$110.4 million); and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (\$105.5 million). They are followed by the

Employment and Training Administration (ETA) (\$80.8 million) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (\$76.7 million). During FY 1999, it is estimated that Federal agencies covered by this report will purchase \$1.2 billion in statistical services. Of this total, about half of the services will be purchased from the private sector, a quarter from state and local governments, and about a quarter from other Federal agencies.

The largest purchasers of statistical services from the states are ETA (\$80.8 million); BLS (\$78.1 million); SAMHSA (\$31.7 million); CDC (\$31.4 million), including NCHS (\$14.4 million); and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) (\$19.8 million). The BLS funds support the cooperative labor force statistics program. The CDC funds reimburse the states for their participation in the collection of vital statistics and for their cooperation in the reporting of diseases. The ETA funds support the states in developing the statistical resources for the One-Stop Career Centers. The NASS funds support data collection services provided by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. The SAMHSA funds are provided to states to implement the minimum data standards developed by the Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program and to develop an assessment of their needs for substance abuse treatment and prevention services under the block grant program. In all cases, the cooperation of the states is essential to the production of Federal data in these areas.

The Appendix to this report presents estimates (rounded to the nearest \$100,000) of direct funding, reimbursements, and purchases for FY 1999, as reported by each of the agencies covered in this report. Based on that information, the agencies reported that they expect to purchase an estimated \$650 million in statistical services from the private sector during FY 1999. Of that total, approximately \$413 million (or 63.5 percent) in purchases from the private sector are made by the following seven agencies: NCES (\$100.1 million), SAMHSA (\$73.4 million), NSF (\$71.5 million), CDC and NCHS (\$61.8 million total), NIH (\$56.1 million), and the Environmental Protection Agency (\$49.6 million). The private sector provides a variety of services, such as survey design, data collection and processing, analysis, program evaluation, preparation of reports, data dissemination, computer services, and methodological research and development.

CHAPTER 2: Programs and Program Changes

This chapter presents brief descriptions of the statistical activities of the agencies covered in this report. The chapter highlights program changes for Federal statistical activities for FY 1999 as proposed in the President's budget. Hence, the focus is not on base program activities that continue to be supported by budget requests, but rather on new activities, improvements, or reductions in the existing base programs, or any other important changes that affect an agency's statistical program.

For purposes of this discussion, the statistical programs are divided into the following categories: Health and Safety Statistics; Social and Demographic Statistics; Statistics on Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment; and Economic Statistics.

Health and Safety Statistics

Health

The principal agency that produces general-purpose health data is the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NCHS is responsible for the collection, 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; the use of health care services; health resources; family formation, growth, and dissolution; and vital events (i.e., births and deaths). CDC also provides data on morbidity, infectious and chronic diseases, occupational diseases and injuries, vaccine efficacy, and safety studies.

The statistical activities of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) support the design and implementation of epidemiological studies, clinical trials, biomedical research, and laboratory investigations conducted by the various institutes. NIH also supports data collections on health and health-related topics by Federal agencies, industry, state and local governments, and private nonprofit organizations.

The Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (AHCPR) produces and disseminates scientific and policy-relevant information about the cost, quality, access, and medical effectiveness of health care. AHCPR is responsible for the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, a very detailed survey which has been conducted once every ten years to produce national estimates for a variety of measures related to health status, health insurance coverage, health care use, and expenditures and sources of payment for health services.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) conducts public health assessments, health studies, and health surveillance for those exposed to hazardous materials, and maintains exposure and disease registries

for long-term follow-up or specific scientific studies. ATSDR analyzes the statistical significance of disease, biomarkers, and other health outcomes in the presence of environmental contamination, to establish possible relationships between exposure and health.

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) collects administrative data associated with its oversight of the Medicare and Medicaid programs and also studies the quality of care delivered by those programs.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) collects data about general health services, the health professions workforce, and resource issues relating to access, equity, quality, and cost of care. HRSA also maintains the Scientific Registry for Organ Transplants.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) collects social and economic statistics on all American Indians and Alaska Natives, as well as patient care and morbidity information for those who use IHS services.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides information on health problems related to the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol, substance abuse treatment, and the mental health condition of the population, and administers and evaluates Federal block grants to the states.

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (ES&H) conducts epidemiological studies of the health effects of exposure to radiation and other hazardous substances.

Major program changes and new activities in health statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for NCHS includes funds to:
 - Resume field operations for the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), which measures health conditions and risks by collecting information from direct physical examinations, biochemical measures, interviews, and nutritional analyses and to convert it from a periodic to an annual survey;
 - Collect information nationally through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program from all birth and death certificates; and
 - Conduct the National Health Interview Survey and prepare for the National Health Care Surveys.
- The budget request for NIH includes funds to:
 - Investigate cancer patterns in the population and determinants of cancer risk; monitor cancer burden on the U.S. population; and develop and analyze a surveillance, epidemiology, and end results data base for use in tracking cancer treatments, costs, and disease status;
 - Study age-related cataracts and maculopathy;
 - Conduct basic epidemiological and biometric methods research related to heart, lung, and blood diseases;

- Support the National Epidemiological Survey on Alcohol Use and Related Health Conditions and the revision of the Alcohol Use and Disorder and Associated Disabilities Interview;
 - Support dermatologic, visual examination, and hearing and balance components for the NHANES IV;
 - Conduct research on maternal-prenatal and pediatric developmental issues; and study hearing loss and its risk factors among American Indians from birth to age two;
 - Improve the validity of self-reported drug use on surveys; and explore the incidence and prevalence of HIV infection among drug abusers and the subsequent effectiveness of outreach and counseling programs;
 - Follow up on past studies with the Epidemiology of Diabetes Interventions and Complications Study; and
 - Provide greater support for research and development in toxicity testing and test development in risk estimation methods.
- The budget request for AHCPR includes funds for the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, which produces annual national estimates for a variety of measures related to health status, health insurance coverage, health care use, and expenditures and sources of payments for health services.
 - The budget request for IHS includes funds to continue improving the reporting of race for American Indians on death certificates. In order to estimate the annual number of American Indian deaths that are misreported by State Vital Statistics Offices, IHS matches an extract of the IHS patient registration file to NCHS' National Death Index and compares coverage and race. IHS also plans to develop more accessible user-friendly data bases and to provide training and technical assistance for tribal contractors, in order to make better use of data in managing its health care delivery system.
 - The budget request for SAMHSA includes funds to expand the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse to approximately 75,000 respondents. This expansion will provide estimates of prevalence of substance abuse for the 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as national estimates for those ages 12 and older, and those ages 26 and older. The budget request also will support continued pilot work on developing and implementing performance measurement standards for state-to-state comparisons of state mental health systems. In addition, SAMHSA funds will be used to provide state grants to facilitate the integration, analysis, synthesis, and use of information for state mental health planning and reform efforts.
 - The budget request for ES&H includes funds to provide a central repository of epidemiologic and other health-related data from DOE-funded studies; determine the prevalence and distribution of illness and injury in populations potentially affected by DOE operations and among DOE workers; and identify current and former DOE and DOE contractor employees subject to significant health risks due to exposure to hazardous or radioactive substances during employment.

Safety

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) collects and reports data on the occurrence of work-related injuries and illnesses.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) maintains overall responsibility for the national injury and illness record keeping system, based upon employer records, which is used to determine the cases that are included in the annual BLS Occupational Safety and Health Survey. OSHA provides guidance to both the public and private sectors, sets standards, develops regulations, and evaluates programs on injury and illness data.

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, including mine, victim, and equipment characteristics, and causal information. The data, updated daily, provide current accident, injury, and illness information to MSHA's inspectorate enforcement personnel, engineering staff, and education and training staff.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (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, which provides national consumer product-related injury statistics based on the reporting of a sample of hospital emergency rooms.

There are no major program changes or new program activities in safety statistics planned for FY 1999.

Social and Demographic Statistics

Periodic Demographic Statistics

The principal source of periodic demographic data is the Bureau of the Census whose major programs in this area include the decennial census, the Continuous Measurement program which is currently under development, and the intercensal estimates program.

Census 2000: During FY 1999 the following activities will be completed in preparation for the 2000 census: completing all address listing work, setting up the field infrastructure, printing questionnaires, and developing and manufacturing the hardware and software for the data capture system.

Continuous Measurement: This program is being developed to provide nationally comparable community-based data on an annual basis. The program includes the design and implementation of the American Community Survey (ACS), as well as the production of small area estimates by combining the ACS data with data from administrative records.

Intercensal Demographic Estimates: This program develops updated population estimates in years between decennial censuses for states, counties, metropolitan areas, and urban places, for various uses in funding and

planning, such as distribution of Federal funds and planning for local transportation and health care services.

Major program changes and new activities in periodic demographic statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for the 2000 decennial census includes funds to:
 - Conduct research on questionnaire format improvement and award support contracts for printing and for the design, testing, configuration, and installation of the equipment for the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance program;
 - Establish the field infrastructure for the nationwide network of local census offices and regional census centers, and prepare for the establishment of four data processing centers;
 - Identify with the help of state and local governments boundaries of communities and definitions of statistical areas;
 - Update the Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Reference System (TIGER);
 - Complete address listing activities especially for those addresses not linked to TIGER by updating the list with information from the United States Postal Service, adding group quarters and associated housing, and completing non-city style address (e.g., rural route and box number) listings through door-to-door canvassing;
 - Complete address listing, form preparation, and translation for Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Pacific areas;
 - Establish, in cooperation with OMB, a process through which disagreements between the Census Bureau and local or tribal governments concerning the 2000 census address list can be reconciled and appealed;
 - Evaluate the dress rehearsal results and develop specifications for the 2000 Integrated Coverage Measurement program; and
 - Continue community partnership campaigns as well as media and promotional projects for the 2000 census.
- FY 1999 funds will provide for further development and testing of the Continuous Measurement program, including the American Community Survey (ACS). The increase in funding would support expanded data collection in additional sites to prepare for a national sample in 2000 that would permit comparison of the ACS with 2000 census data in order to determine differences related to the new data collection methodology.
- The budget request for the Intercensal Demographic Estimates program includes funds to continue evaluating and improving statistical methodology and to produce population estimates and migration data for Federal agency use.

Current Demographic Statistics

The Census Bureau's current demographic statistics program provides information on the number, geographic distribution, and social and economic characteristics of the population—including official estimates of income and

poverty, information on health insurance coverage, and data about families targeted by Federal programs. The program also supports tests of new approaches and concepts for demographic surveys.

The Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC) in the Department of Defense (DOD) has responsibility for collecting and integrating manpower and personnel data to support department-wide studies, analysis, research, and reporting requirements.

The Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (DIOR) in the Office of the Secretary of Defense has responsibility for collecting data on active duty military personnel casualties, civilian manpower, and worldwide active duty military and civilian personnel employment, and for producing workforce strength and distribution statistics for DOD, the Congress, and other Federal agencies.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) collects information for the evaluation of its programs for children and youth, such as Head Start, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, child support enforcement, adoption assistance, foster care, child care, and child abuse programs.

The Administration on Aging (AoA) conducts statistical activities in support of the research, analysis, and evaluation of programs to meet the needs of an aging population.

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) conducts surveys, program evaluations, and studies to evaluate the Food Stamp, Child Nutrition, and other food assistance programs which it administers.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) monitors and assesses food consumption and related behavior of the U.S. population and provides information for food and nutrition-related programs and public policy decisions.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (OASPE) funds studies on policy issues related to programs in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in HHS supports data-collection efforts and studies related to fertility and reproductive behavior including the National Survey of Family Growth.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) collects, tabulates, and publishes data on the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance and the Supplemental Security Income programs and their beneficiary populations. SSA also performs actuarial and demographic research to assess the impact of program changes or alternatives.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) statistical programs provide data on the volume, characteristics, financing, price, and suitability of housing in the United States.

The statistical programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) focus on providing estimates of the veteran population, including socioeconomic data; patient use of VA health care; information on the medical care provided to

veterans in VA medical centers, nursing homes, domiciliaries, and outpatient clinics; and medical research.

The Agency for International Development (AID) collects and analyzes data to assist developing countries in planning and evaluating population programs and programs for socioeconomic development.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) collects data from public and private employers and union and labor organizations about the composition of their workforces by sex and by race and ethnicity. These data are used to carry out EEOC's enforcement activities under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Division of Science Resources Studies sponsors surveys that measure the number and demographic characteristics of individuals trained as, or working as, scientists and engineers, and participation in international collaborations to yield comparable measures of the same items. NSF also provides funding in support of biological sciences research data bases and social science research and studies, such as the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, the General Social Survey, and the National Election Studies, as well as surveys and data collection methodologies to assess the state of U.S. education and the impact of NSF programs on curriculums in science and mathematics.

The Office of Energy Research (OER) in the Department of Energy is responsible for providing information on degree attainment in science and engineering and for forecasting the availability of trained persons in the fields of science necessary for research and development in the energy area.

Major program changes and new activities in current demographic statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The Census Bureau's budget request includes an increase in funds to continue planning for the redesign of major recurring household survey samples based on 2000 census information; to support research on experimental income and poverty estimates using Current Population Survey (CPS) data; and to begin the transition from the March CPS to the Survey of Income and Program Participation as the basis for prototype income and poverty estimates.
- The budget request for DIOR includes funds for computer modernization and the dissemination of both current and historical statistical data and reports solely through the World Wide Web. DIOR has discontinued hard copy publications.
- The budget increase for ACF includes funds for a longitudinal study of children and families in the child welfare system and a study on the roles and program participation of low-income fathers in the Early Head Start program.
- At AoA, major emphasis will be placed on maintaining the National Aging Information Center, the National Aging Program Information System, and the AoA web site.
- The budget request for FNS includes funds to restore research and evaluation activities on food and nutrition assistance programs that were

transferred to the Economic Research Service in the FY 1998 appropriations. This will allow FNS to provide support to congressional and other requests for analysis of proposed policy changes and program improvements and to states interested in simplified food stamp programs authorized by welfare reform.

- The budget request for VA includes funds for the fifth National Survey of Veterans which collects information on the veteran population for both users and nonusers of VA programs. The newly created Actuary Office will be responsible for applying actuarial analysis techniques to projections of veteran and beneficiary populations; use of medical and benefit programs; demand for VA health care; morbidity among veterans; usage patterns among minority veterans; and emerging issues, such as Gulf War syndrome, medical eligibility and enrollment, and compensation for smoking-related diseases.
- The budget request for AID includes funds to develop alternatives to complete national surveys conducted by developing countries that should be less costly to implement and more flexible. Statistical activities will focus on measuring the impact of AID programs on key indicators to provide core data needed for program planning, monitoring, and evaluation.
- The OER budget request includes limited funds to maintain the undergraduate laboratory fellowship data base which provides programmatic and demographic statistics on participants in an undergraduate research participation program sponsored by OER.

Crime and Justice Statistics

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates statistical information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operations of justice systems at all levels of government and internationally. It also provides technical and financial support to state governments for development of criminal justice statistics and information systems on crime and justice.

The Bureau of Prisons (BoP) prepares projections of the prison population and conducts studies on such topics as recidivism, inmate programs, inmate misconduct, inmate classification, staff behavior in the workplace, and institutional social climate.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) produces data relating to the enforcement of Federal drug laws.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting program collects data concerning the incidence of criminal acts as reported by 16,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) produces and analyzes data on immigrants, refugees, temporary visitors (nonimmigrant), naturalizations, and apprehension and removal of illegal aliens.

Major program changes and new activities in crime and justice statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for BJS includes funds to:

- Develop a supplement on hate crimes in the National Crime Victimization Survey and support the development of procedures and methodologies to improve the quality and accuracy of hate crime statistics;
 - Develop Crime Victimization Survey software that will enable localities to conduct their own telephone surveys on crime victimization and to develop local victimization statistics that are compatible with national statistics;
 - Develop the collection and reporting of data on use-of-force encounters between police and residents; and
 - Reinstate the Criminal Justice Expenditure and Employment Survey which collects data from state and local governments on resources used for criminal justice purposes.
- The BoP budget request includes funds to support collection and dissemination of information on mental health and substance abuse services for individuals with co-occurring disorders who come in contact with the justice system.
 - The INS budget request includes funds for an increase in statistical services and computer support, as well as funds for a one-time evaluation of employment verification procedures.

Education Statistics

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the Department of Education collects, analyzes, and publishes statistics on education in the United States; conducts studies on international comparisons of education statistics; and provides leadership in developing and promoting the use of standardized terminology and definitions for the collection of those statistics.

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Division of Science Resources Studies collects, publishes, and analyzes statistics on the Nation's science and engineering higher education system and those who participate in it. The Division measures science and engineering enrollments and degrees and develops information on other aspects of higher education through the use of outside data. The Directorate for Education and Human Resources supports international assessments of student knowledge and curriculum, as well as contextual studies and indicators that monitor progress under NSF educational programs.

Major program changes and new activities in education statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for NCES includes increases to:
 - Develop a new National Adult Literacy Survey to be conducted in 2002 to determine what progress has been made in the past decade in increasing adult literacy;
 - Develop a financial accounting handbook for local and state school systems to provide guidance in financial reporting under the new standards promulgated by the Government Accounting Standards Board;

- Combine research and statistics on effective practices for a one-time special analysis report on education in the year 2000;
 - Implement an Early Childhood Longitudinal Survey that chronicles the physical, cognitive, and socio-emotional development of children beginning at birth and continuing through the first six years of life;
 - Provide to those states and districts that choose to participate an objective assessment of how their eighth grade students compare to those in the rest of the world, using data from the Third International Mathematics and Science Study;
 - Develop an augmented teacher quality survey to be conducted in 2000 and at regular intervals thereafter; and
 - Conduct two national surveys, the first in cooperation with the Office of Postsecondary Education, and the second in cooperation with the Office of Vocational and Adult Education, to provide baseline data on performance indicators for these programs.
- The budget request for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)—a Congressionally mandated, nationally representative assessment that determines and reports status and trends in educational achievement—includes funds for NCEES to conduct biennial assessments of reading skills, at the national level, in grades 4, 8, and 12, and at the state level, in grades 4 and 8. Increases will support the implementation of enhancements that are incorporated in the NAEP redesign plan, including the oversampling of private schools and minority students, as well as the field testing of additional new items for NAEP.
 - The budget request for NSF includes funds to develop a new Longitudinal Study of Beginning Graduate Students in Science, Engineering, and Technology to address major gaps in information about persistence and time-to-degree, relationships between means of support and performance in graduate school, transition patterns from education to work, and career outcomes.

Transportation Statistics

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) compiles, analyzes, and makes accessible information on the Nation's transportation systems; collects information on intermodal transportation and other areas, as needed; and enhances the quality and effectiveness of the Department of Transportation's statistical programs through research, development of guidelines, and promotion of improvements in data acquisition and use.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) collects data on aviation safety.

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

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) collects and disseminates data on the Nation's 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) collects and disseminates public mass transportation financial and operating data that are used to apportion urbanized area formula funds to cities and towns.

The Maritime Administration (MARAD) collects and maintains data on foreign and domestic trade, vessel characteristics and itineraries, port facilities, shipbuilding and repair, ship values, financial reports and vessels' operating expenses, shipping activities, and maritime employment, and publishes an annual Intermodal Equipment Inventory.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) collects information on motor vehicle-related accidents and fatalities and highway safety. In addition, NHTSA's pilot Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System links police crash reports with medical treatment data for seven states.

The Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) collects, analyzes, and publishes data in support of the Department's programs and policy initiatives.

The Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) collects data to monitor transportation of hazardous materials.

Major program changes and new activities in transportation statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for BTS includes funds to:
 - Develop transportation system performance measures;
 - Complete data processing and release reports for the 1997 Commodity Flow Survey;
 - Complete production and release of data from the 1995 American Travel Survey (ATS) and pretest data collection instruments and methodologies for the 2000 ATS; and
 - Develop tools to integrate geographic information systems and transportation network models for national transportation analysis.
- Key activities of the Office of Airline Information, for which funding is included in the BTS request, will include the collection of passenger movement and airline financial and market data, and the development of systems seeking to improve data access by users.
- The FHWA budget increase supports highway research and development programs related to new highway legislation.
- The NHTSA budget request includes funds to investigate crashes involving vehicles equipped with advanced and new generation airbag systems, and non airbag-related vehicle safety problems.
- The RSPA budget request includes funds to upgrade the Hazardous Materials Information System; expand an electronic image and data management system to allow easier and more user friendly access to hazardous materials data; increase visibility on the World Wide Web; and improve electronic reporting within the industry.

Statistics on Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment

Environment

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) monitors the quality of the air; the quality of drinking, surface and ground water; ecosystem status; and the introduction of toxic or hazardous substances into the environment. It conducts research and studies to provide baseline data and to evaluate and support environmental monitoring systems.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) gathers worldwide environmental data about the ocean, earth, air, space, and sun and their interactions to describe and predict the state of the physical environment. NOAA also maintains a national environmental data base, in which the agency's data are combined with selected environmental information collected by other agencies in support of their respective missions.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) collects remote-sensed data to support climate research and to describe and measure the energy and environmental phenomena that may contribute to climate variation and change.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS), through its Water Resources Division, collects and maintains data on the quality, availability, and use of the Nation's water, including streamflow data for hydropower plants, groundwater subsistence, erosion, backwater, flooding, water contamination, and sedimentation.

Major program changes and new activities in environmental statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The EPA budget request includes funds to:
 - Initiate an air toxics characterization analysis that will include efforts to collect additional air toxics emission inventory and ambient monitoring data, which will be used to model air toxics pollutant levels across the Nation;
 - Conduct the Drinking Water Needs Survey; and
 - Assess, through the newly established Center for Environmental Information and Statistics (CEIS), the types of information and statistics that the public and stakeholder groups desire and the best methods to deliver them. CEIS will review the suitability and quality of major EPA data bases that are being used by outside groups; included in these suitability assessments will be a statistical analysis designed to identify major deficiencies in the data. CEIS will display its products, along with associated links to other EPA information, on its new web site.
- The USGS budget request includes funds for the development of a national hydrogeologic framework data base, which would store digital/spatial data on the Nation's groundwater resources.

Energy and Minerals

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) collects and disseminates data on energy reserves, production, consumption, distribution, prices, technology, and related international, economic, and financial matters. Coverage of EIA's programs includes data on coal, petroleum, natural gas, and electric and nuclear energy.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) collects data on off-shore and Federal and American Indian oil, gas, and minerals, as part of its responsibility for management of both the Outer Continental Shelf Lands and the Royalty Management Programs. The MMS is responsible for resource evaluation and classification, lease management activities, and the collection of revenues from minerals leasing.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) collects information on nonfuel minerals and materials, including mineral resources, production, demand, use, recycling, and trade; maintains the Mineral Resource Data System, which contains information on the location and geologic occurrence of mines and mineral deposits; maintains the National Geochemical Data Base, for hydrogeochemical and stream sediment analyses, based on the National Uranium Resource Evaluation; maintains computer-based information systems of oil and gas resources—an areal data file on size of oil and gas pools and fields, year of discovery, and rate of production and a point-source data file on individual wells; and operates the National Coal Resources Data System, which provides information on location, distribution, quality, chemical content, and availability of coal.

Major program changes and new activities in energy and mineral statistics for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for EIA provides increases for data collection and analysis, particularly in relation to greenhouse gases. EIA will focus on carbon emissions accounting; technical assistance to other agencies in estimating corporate and organizational emissions and calculating reductions; international energy analysis and long-term modeling to assess impacts on trading partners and the economics of emissions trading options; and assessment of advanced technologies for mitigating emissions. EIA is also examining needs for data to reflect deregulation in the electric power industry and plans a similar effort in the natural gas area.
- The USGS budget request incorporates program changes resulting from projects transferred to it when the Bureau of Mines was abolished in FY 1996. These include collecting and analyzing world mineral supply and demand information; tracking mineral trade issues; disseminating data products, including *The Minerals Yearbook*; and providing technical assistance and support with regard to these programs.

Soil, Forest, Fish, Wildlife, and Public Lands

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Department of Agriculture conducts soil surveys and maintains and updates a national soils data base containing physical land facts; administers Water Supply and Snow Surveys used in water supply forecasts to manage seasonal use of water for irrigation, flood control, fish and wildlife, recreation, power generation,

municipal and industrial water supply, and water quality management; and conducts a national resources inventory, providing data on the status and condition of natural resources on non-Federal lands.

The Forest Service (FS) conducts renewable resource inventories of forest lands and collects statistics on forest products. These data are used to identify trends in the extent, condition, ownership, and quantity and quality of timber and other forest resources.

The National Park Service (NPS) supports research on water quality assessment in nationally owned public lands and natural resources, and gathers, compiles, and issues public use data on units of NPS for forecasting future demand for services, planning for resource mitigation activities, and initiating marketing strategies.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) collects and analyzes data to characterize the water quality of reservoirs and streams affected by reclamation facility operations in high priority watersheds in the western part of United States.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is now responsible for statistical activities of the National Biological Survey (NBS), which was abolished in FY 1997. The USGS' Biological Resources Division collects and analyzes data on birds and fish to determine trends in environmental contamination, tracks species and their habitats, and studies migratory game and nongame birds. Data from the annual breeding bird survey are used to identify species whose populations are declining and which may eventually become candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in NOAA focuses on domestic commercial and recreational fisheries, fishery management monitoring, and stock assessments of the health of living marine resources. NMFS is responsible for such data as the volume and value of commercial fish and shellfish landings; the catch by recreational fishermen; employment of people and craft in the fisheries; number of recreational fishermen; production of manufactured fishery products; and fishery prices.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) conducts annual surveys to monitor the fish and migratory bird populations, to track diseases of cultured and wild fish, to track the changing status of waterfowl and gamebird populations, and to evaluate harvests by fishermen and hunters.

Major program changes and new activities in statistics concerning soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for NRCS includes funds to complete computerization of soil survey data bases; acquire digital orthophotograph maps; accelerate digitization of existing soil surveys; examine the effect of and implement the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996; provide an annual water forecast; and analyze data from the national resource inventory on the status and condition of natural resources on non-Federal lands.
- The additional funding in the Forest Service's budget request will support work on the Forest Inventory.

- The USGS budget request reflects the incorporation of statistical programs formerly conducted by the NBS. For example, the Breeding Bird Survey and Migratory Bird Banding effort are now under the Monitoring Program in the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.
- The budget request for NMFS includes funds for an increase in economic data collection and analysis to support implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, which is offset by decreases for the Pacific and Alaska fisheries information network and the recreational fisheries harvest monitoring program.
- The budget request for the FWS includes funds to expand the sample of fish surveyed in the National Wild Fish Health Survey; to plan and design the next National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation; and to develop a complete sample frame of all licensed migratory bird hunters under the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program.

Economic Statistics

Periodic Economic Statistics

The principal source of periodic economic statistics is the Bureau of the Census. The Census Bureau conducts several periodic censuses every five years, covering the years ending in 2 and 7. The economic censuses include censuses of manufacturing, mineral industries, construction industries, retail and wholesale trade, service industries, and transportation and other businesses. They also provide statistics on businesses owned by minorities and women and on companies operating at multiple locations. The Census of Governments collects state and local data on public finance; public employment; and governmental organization, powers, and activities.

Major program changes and new activities in periodic economic statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- FY 1999 is the fifth year in the six-year economic censuses funding cycle and marks the transition from intensive data collection and centralized processing activities to editing, review, preparation, and release of data products. By the end of FY 1999, over 50 percent of the 700 economic census products will be released. FY 1999 is also the data collection year for the Survey of Minority-Owned Business Enterprises, which will have a two-fold increase in its sample size.
- FY 1999 is the fifth year in the five-year cycle for the 1997 Census of Governments and will include the completion of data review, development of a data release program, and publication of reports.
- Because the FY 1997 budget transferred authority and funding for the Census of Agriculture from the Census Bureau to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, the Bureau's budget request no longer includes funding for that program.

Current Economic Statistics

The current economic statistics program of the Census Bureau provides information on retail and wholesale trade and selected service industries; construction activity, such as housing permits and starts, the value of new

construction, residential alterations and repairs, and quarterly price indices for new, single-family houses; quantity and value of industrial output and manufacturing activities; shipments, inventories, and orders; capital expenditure information; foreign trade, including imports, exports, and trade monitoring; and state and local government activities. The Census Bureau also maintains the Standard Statistical Establishment List, for statistical frames and production of aggregate data on County Business Patterns.

The Economics and Statistics Administration in the Department of Commerce (ESA/DOC) carries out Congressionally-mandated studies, such as the annual assessment of foreign direct investment in the United States. ESA disseminates current economic statistics through an electronic system known as STAT-USA.

The statistical activities of the International Trade Administration (ITA) in the Department of Commerce involve data on imports, exports, production, prices, foreign direct investment in the United States, and other economic data to analyze domestic and foreign market situations. In FY 1996, some of the functions of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Administration were transferred to the Tourism Industries Office in ITA, which now tracks data on international travel to and from the United States for many private sector firms.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in the Department of Defense collects and publishes statistical data on waterborne commerce and vessel operations in waterways, ports, and harbors of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (DIOR) in the Office of the Secretary of Defense collects Department of Defense (DOD) contract information in support of national economic indicators and the Small Business Competitiveness Demonstration Program. DIOR also produces statistics on DOD purchases from educational and nonprofit institutions, and state and local governments.

The U.S. Customs Service collects and verifies tariff and trade data, which are tabulated, analyzed, and disseminated by the Census Bureau.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) maintains a small business data base and conducts economic and statistical research into matters affecting small businesses.

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Division of Science Resources Studies collects, publishes, and analyzes data on the size and health of U.S. research and development enterprises. Four annual surveys provide information on research and development funded and performed by government, industry, and universities, and a periodic survey provides comparable information on the nonprofit sector.

The Compliance Research Division technical staff of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is involved in statistical activities to design and develop workload selection systems for tax compliance activities, studies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational programs, and IRS-wide projections of workload. The National Office Research and Analysis/District Office Research and Analysis technical staffs are involved in

statistical activities to sample internal and external multi-year data on both nationwide and local levels and conduct related data analysis to improve administration of tax laws. These offices are under the IRS' Chief Compliance Officer.

Major program changes and new activities in current economic statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The current economics statistics program in the Census Bureau includes the following initiatives:
 - Implementing the new North American Industry Classification System in more than 100 current economic surveys;
 - Improving the quality of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimates in collaboration with the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) to remedy deficiencies in the source data used in developing the National Income and Product Accounts;
 - Implementing a new 1997 Census of Governments-based sample for the Survey of Government Employment, which provides the annual update of government employment and payroll data by level of government and function;
 - Implementing the Automated Export System nationwide for vessel shipments and completing the development of its air and overland segments; and
 - Implementing the International Trade Data System to facilitate electronic interchange of trade data among Federal agencies and eliminate redundant data collections, thereby reducing reporting burden on the business community.
- The FY 1999 budget request for ITA includes funds to complete the development of a Travel and Tourism Satellite Account with BEA in order to establish more accurate accounting of the impact of travel and tourism on the economy, and to increase the sample size of the In-Flight Survey to provide better estimates for evaluating the travel and tourism component of the GDP.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' budget includes one-time funding to re-engineer data collection and processing associated with the transfer of responsibility for the waterborne foreign transportation statistics program from the Bureau of the Census to the Corps. A system for automating the collection of foreign vessel movements is being implemented in nine major port areas, thereby reducing data entry volume for the Corps and improving data quality and geographic specificity.
- The SBA budget includes support for updating the SBA/Census cross-sectional and longitudinal firm size data bases, and for undertaking surveys and research on small business owners and their finances, high-tech small firms, and the effects of health maintenance organizations on small firms.
- The NSF budget request includes funds to develop a new survey that would provide improved understanding of linkages between research in science and engineering and technological innovation. The survey would include

internationally comparable data on innovation indicators, investments, and impacts.

National Accounts

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) has primary responsibility for the preparation, development, and interpretation of the National Income and Product Accounts. BEA programs include the Gross Domestic Product (GDP); the wealth accounts, which show the business and other components of national wealth; the input-output accounts, which trace the interrelationships among industrial markets; personal income and related economic series by geographic area; and the U.S. balance of payments accounts and associated foreign investment accounts.

Major program changes and new activities in national accounts planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- BEA proposes to update and improve its source data for GDP and national income accounts by improving measures of:
 - Services and other key product-side components in sectors such as information, construction, transportation, nonmerchant wholesalers, state and local government, financial data, and capital expenditure; and
 - Compensation and other key income-side components through improved estimates of employer-provided benefits and other nonwage compensation, wage and salary income, profits, proprietors' income, interest, and rent.
- In addition, funding is requested for BEA to:
 - Update measures of output and prices by integrating and extending Bureau of Labor Statistics' improvements in the Consumer Price Index into the national accounts; by improving quality adjustment of output and prices; by updating the structure and organization of the accounts; and by providing a view of comprehensive accounting for the government sector;
 - Expand and update the coverage of investments by developing a comprehensive accounting for software; developing measures of government inventories; and better integrating capitals stocks and flows in the accounts; and
 - Improve the measurement of international transactions by expanding coverage of volatile and rapidly growing services, and developing measures of new and growing financial instruments.
- BEA's budget request also includes funds to complete its computer modernization effort which began in 1996.

Statistics of Income

The Statistics of Income (SOI) Division in the Internal Revenue Service provides annual income, financial, and tax data, based for the most part on individual and corporate tax returns and on returns filed by most tax-exempt organizations. SOI also provides periodic data based on other returns, such as those filed by estates, for estimating wealth of the living top wealth holders, as well as on various other tax and information returns and schedules, for

producing such estimates as U.S. investments abroad, foreign investments in the United States, and gains or losses from sales of capital assets.

Major program changes and new activities in statistics of income planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The SOI budget includes funds to substitute a full-scale study of sales of capital assets reported in individual income tax returns for a panel study that included returns with sales of capital assets, and to increase the size of the SOI corporation income tax return sample.
- Electronic dissemination through the SOI Electronic Bulletin Board and the IRS Internet homepage is being expanded to help offset increased printing and mailing costs.

Labor Statistics

Four agencies in the Department of Labor are responsible for various aspects of labor statistics.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces statistics on employment and unemployment; consumer expenditures; prices and living conditions; wages and employee benefits; industrial relations activities; productivity and technological changes in U.S. industries; projections of economic growth, the labor force, and employment by industry and occupation; and occupational injuries and illnesses.

The statistical activities of the Employment Standards Administration (ESA/DOL) support surveys of occupational wages in selected industries, to determine prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits for service occupations in Federal procurement activity.

The statistical activities of the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) support the collection and dissemination of local, state, and national occupational, wage, and other labor market information, for administration of employment and training programs, as well as the production of Unemployment Insurance (UI) information for administration of UI programs.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy (OASP) conducts the annual National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS) that provides data on wage and migration history, type of crops worked, unemployment, benefits, housing, health care, and use of public programs. NAWS data are used in the formula to calculate resource allocations for the Job Training Partnership Act 402 Adult Farm Worker Training Program.

Major program changes and new activities in labor statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The BLS request provides for the following initiatives:
 - The initial development of a monthly survey of approximately 12,000 establishments that will provide data at the national level on the number of separations, new hires, and current job openings. The new data would include estimates for an all-industry total and for major industry groupings.

- In an effort to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the budget request includes funds to accelerate the process of updating the CPI market basket (including expanding the sample size of the Consumer Expenditure Survey by about 50 percent); expand the amount of information collected on the prices and characteristics of certain goods and services in support of improving methods of adjusting for quality change; produce supplementary measures of changes in consumer prices that would provide closer approximations to cost-of-living measures than are currently published in the CPI; and revise the housing sample for the January 1999 CPI that will be based on a new formula for calculating prices at the individual price quote level.
- BLS will continue to improve Current Employment Statistics (CES) data by estimating CES data series using a probability-based sample, rather than a quota sample, and encouraging respondents to report data by telephone using touch-tone data entry, rather than by mail.
- BLS will publish the first results of the 1997 National Longitudinal Study of Youth, which is a new annual survey of 10,000 individuals who ranged in age from 12 to 16 as of December 31, 1996.
- The BLS request contains a scheduled phasing down of funding to implement the new North American Industrial Classification System. The request also discontinues funding for the CPS supplement on contingent work and alternative work arrangements.
- The FY 1999 budget for ESA/DOL includes funds to conduct surveys of occupational wages in selected industries to determine prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits for service occupations in Federal procurement activity and construction occupations.
- The budget request for ETA includes funds for further development of the Labor Department's One-Stop Career Center System, which provides a standard means for disseminating information on employment and training programs to the states. The department's overall investment in America's Labor Market Information System will be directed through state core products and services, America's Career Kit, the Occupational Information Network which will replace the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles*, consumer reports and wage record interchange, and other research and development.
- The budget request for OASP includes funds to expand the sample of children in the National Agricultural Workers Survey in order to study the work life of farmworker children under the President's child labor initiative.

Agriculture Statistics

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) collects, summarizes, analyzes, and publishes agricultural production and marketing data on a wide range of items, including number of farms and land in farms; acreage, yield, production, and stocks of grains, hay, oilseeds, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, fruits, selected vegetables, floriculture, and selected specialty crops; inventories and production of hogs, cattle, sheep and wool, goats and mohair, mink, catfish, trout, poultry, eggs, and dairy products; prices received by farmers for products, prices paid for commodities and services, and related indexes; cold storage supplies; agricultural chemical use; and related areas of the agricultural economy. Estimates for approximately 120 crops and 45 livestock

items are published in over 400 reports each year. The Census of Agriculture, which was transferred from the Bureau of the Census to NASS in FY 1997, is conducted every five years to collect information on the number of farms; land use; production expenses; value of land, buildings, and farm products; farm size; characteristics of farm operators; market value of agricultural production sold; acreage of major crops; inventory of livestock and poultry; and farm irrigation practices.

The statistical work of the Economic Research Service (ERS) includes research, situation and outlook analysis, and development of economic and statistical indicators in four areas—commercial agriculture, food and consumer economics, natural resources and environment, and rural economy.

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) maintains a global agricultural market intelligence and commodity reporting service to provide U.S. farmers and traders with information on world agricultural production and trade, so as to adjust 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 activity relies heavily on computer-aided analysis of satellite, meteorological, agricultural, and related data. The FAS program serves as the analytical foundation for USDA's export programs and is an important factor in trade policy efforts.

Major program changes and new activities in agriculture statistics planned for FY 1999 are as follows:

- The budget request for NASS includes funds to:
 - Collect pesticide-use statistics in the fast growing nursery and greenhouse industries;
 - Conduct the Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey, which is a survey of farm and ranch operators who participated in the Census of Agriculture; and
 - Conduct a census of all farms that participated in the 1997 Census of Agriculture and sold \$1,000 or more of aquaculture or aquaculture products.
- The overall decrease in NASS's request reflects the scheduled decline in staffing and activity levels related to the cyclical nature of the five-year Census of Agriculture program.
- The budget request for ERS includes funds to:
 - Conduct interagency research to assess USDA's role in providing analytically-based information on small, limited-resource, and socially disadvantaged farmers;
 - Assess, along with USDA's Rural Utilities Service and the Department of Energy, the potential impacts of electric utility deregulation on USDA's rural loan programs, rural businesses and communities, and the viability of alternate power generation systems; and

—Conduct an interagency research effort to strengthen understanding of the costs of food borne illness, and the benefits and costs of programs and policies designed to improve the safety of the Nation's food supply.

CHAPTER 3: Long-Range Plans

This chapter describes selected ongoing and new interagency initiatives to improve the performance of Federal statistical programs.

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

In 1995, the Congress provided in the Paperwork Reduction Act reauthorization (44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(8)) an explicit legislative base for OMB's council of statistical agency heads. 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. The members of the ICSP currently include the heads of the principal statistical agencies, plus the heads of the statistical units in the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Social Security Administration. 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 overlap and/or cut across agencies; for exchanging information about agency programs and activities; and for providing advice and counsel to OMB on statistical matters. During 1998, agenda topics included establishing priorities for further interagency collaboration and monitoring progress of working groups tasked to address these priorities; assessing the potential impact of various legislative proposals to study or reorganize agencies in the statistical system; enhancing access to the products of the Federal statistical system through the extension of *FedStats*; redefining the industrial classification system to establish standard industry codes for use throughout North America; examining the impact of possible changes in standards for data on race and ethnicity used for Federal administrative and statistical purposes; exploring methodological and technological changes for the 2000 decennial census; establishing new opportunities for student placements in the statistical agencies under the auspices of the Joint Program in Survey Methodology; and re-engineering recruiting, interviewing, and hiring of Federal statistical system personnel.

Long-range plans for the ICSP include continuing and expanding collaborative efforts to improve the effectiveness of the Federal statistical system. The focus of these activities will be on areas of broad common interest. Among the initiatives that have cross-agency themes are the following:

- Addressing significant statistical issues for improving measurement of income and poverty, including the availability of data to implement new definitions.

- Organizing efforts to meet emerging welfare and health data needs, through the design of new questions or rethinking of existing surveys and the development of collaborative arrangements with the states.
- Strengthening data on national and personal income by filling gaps in existing data sources.
- Developing plans for better coordination and integration of data on employer-provided health benefits and other forms of non-wage compensation.
- Improving availability and use of education data by applying consistent definitions, thus permitting better integration of data from different sources.
- Managing implementation of the new North American Industry Classification System, so as to provide a bridge between the old and new coding structures.
- Increasing access to Federal statistics through One-Stop Shopping on the World Wide Web.
- Developing partnerships to facilitate the use of electronic data interchange in Federal statistical systems.

Successful implementation of these initiatives will depend on passage of the Statistical Confidentiality Act; adequate funding support for these efforts, particularly in the case of multi-year activities; recognition of the interagency collaborative nature of these initiatives when developing budgets for Federal statistical agencies; and careful consideration of burden reduction efforts to ensure that these activities are not adversely impacted.

Statistical Confidentiality and Data Sharing

The Congress has recognized that a confidential relationship between statistical agencies and their respondents is essential. However, the specific statutory formulas devised to implement this principle in different agencies have created difficult barriers to effective working relationships among these agencies. The development of a uniform confidentiality policy that substantially eliminates the risks associated with sharing statistical data will permit significant improvements in data used for both public and private decisions without compromising public confidence in the security of information respondents provide to the Federal Government.

Initiatives of OMB's Statistical Policy Office to enhance public confidence in the stewardship of sensitive data and to permit limited sharing of confidential data for exclusively statistical purposes received a substantial impetus in the 1995 reauthorization of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Act strongly endorses the principles embodied in statistical confidentiality pledges and charges OMB to promote sharing of data for statistical purposes within a strong confidentiality framework.

The centerpiece of the Administration's initiatives to address these challenges is the proposed Statistical Confidentiality Act, which would ensure consistent and uniform application of the confidentiality privilege and permit limited sharing of data among designated agencies for exclusively statistical purposes.

Under this proposal, eight Federal agencies would be designated as Statistical Data Centers: the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Agricultural Statistics Service, National Center for Education Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, the Energy End Use and Integrated Statistics Division of the Energy Information Administration, and the Science Resources Studies Division of the National Science Foundation. A key component of the proposed legislation is functional separation—data or information acquired by an agency for purely statistical purposes could be used only for statistical purposes and could not be shared in identifiable form for any other purpose without the informed consent of the respondent. The procedural strategy for implementing the legislation would involve written data sharing agreements between or among statistical agencies.

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 20 years, reducing the amount of sensitive tax information that will change hands to support statistical programs while substantially increasing the effectiveness of that support. This objective would be achieved by carefully defining statistical needs and taking advantage of the efficiencies that can be achieved by modern sampling methods.

As an integral step to foster passage of these legislative proposals, OMB developed and sought public comment on an Order that assures respondents who supply statistical information that their responses will be held in confidence and will not be used against them in any government action. The order also gives additional weight and stature to policies that statistical agencies have pursued for decades and includes procedures to resolve a number of ambiguities in existing law. Following the public review process, the Federal Statistical Confidentiality Order went into effect June 27, 1997.

Culminating efforts that literally have spanned decades, the Statistical Confidentiality Act initially was introduced on a bipartisan basis in the House of Representatives in 1996. Late in 1997, the Administration’s proposed legislation was included in a broader bill, S. 1404, introduced on a bipartisan basis in the Senate. During 1998, discussions on the legislation between the Administration and the Congress have focused on aspects of S. 1404 related to a commission that would consider reorganization of agencies in the Federal statistical system. With growing bipartisan support in both houses, there is optimism that the provisions of the Statistical Confidentiality Act and the complementary amendment to the Internal Revenue Code may be enacted.

In addition to pursuing legislative approaches, in 1997 the Interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Group was established under the auspices of OMB’s Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. The group discusses common technical and non-technical issues involving data access, confidentiality, and disclosure limitation. Currently, a set of generic guidelines for disclosure review that could be adapted for use by other agencies is being developed.

One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistical Data

It is difficult for the general public, and even frequent data users such as social science researchers, to know about and to access the wealth of information produced by the Federal statistical system. Individual statistical agencies have made tremendous progress in developing easy access to their data through the Internet's World Wide Web. Data users accessing information electronically from one Federal agency may even learn about related statistics available from another agency, thanks to cross-agency links that some agencies are providing. A coordinated interagency effort promised broader and simpler access to the full range of Federal statistics.

In mid-1997, building on the foundation of the Federal Statistics Briefing Rooms (www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr), the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy released *FedStats*. This new interagency web site (www.fedstats.gov) permits easy access via an initial point of entry to the wide array of Federal statistics available to the public. *FedStats* provides a centralized set of links to the Internet sites that individual agencies have developed for disseminating Federal statistics. The site's primary objective is to help users find the information they need without having to know and understand in advance how the decentralized Federal statistical system is organized or which agency or agencies may produce the data they are seeking. In its first year, *FedStats* logged over 800,000 user sessions and garnered enthusiastic public support. The site has been well received by both the media and the public. *FedStats* has been highlighted by such media as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, the Associated Press wire service, *Federal Computer Week*, *ABCNews.com*, *Lycos*, *USA TODAY Online*, and *Yahoo*.

For the future, the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy's Task Force on One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistics plans to continue improving *FedStats*, based on the suggestions and comments received on the site, and intends to expand its coverage of Federal statistical sources. The *FedStats* site provides a user gateway to more than 70 Federal agencies and is currently providing enhanced search capabilities by indexing 14 of these web sites. The Task Force expects to have the system indexing as many as 28 agencies by the close of 1998.

Collaborative Research on Survey Methodology

Basic research on survey measurement issues, data collection procedures, and technological issues related to survey design has the potential to greatly benefit the Federal statistical system as it prepares to meet future challenges in gathering relevant and reliable data. The National Science Foundation's Division for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research, in collaboration with a consortium of Federal statistical agencies, is preparing to support research proposals that further the development of new and innovative approaches to surveys. This new program was developed jointly by NSF and the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. It was adopted by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy in June 1998, and is currently awaiting final NSF approval of the solicitation.

Although proposals may address any aspect of survey methodology, priority will be given to basic research proposals that have broad implications for the field in general and that have the greatest potential for creating fundamental knowledge of value to the Federal statistical system. Because methodological problems often require knowledge and expertise from multiple disciplines, the research program will focus on collaborations among the relevant sciences, including the social and behavioral sciences, statistics, computer sciences, and economics.

2000 Decennial Census Planning

Efforts to re-engineer the 2000 decennial census have been driven by two major concerns about which there is general agreement within the broader statistical community: first, that traditional counting methods—which are expensive and have been only marginally effective in recent censuses—have in the past shown limited potential to improve the accuracy of the decennial count; and second, that the cost of conducting decennial censuses has increased dramatically in the past few decades. Finding new ways to deal effectively with both concerns has been the motivating force in re-engineering the 2000 decennial census. OMB is working with the Department of Commerce to evaluate the results of research and testing and to identify new methodologies that will reduce both the differentials in coverage and the cost of conducting the census.

In Public Law 105-119 (the Commerce Department's FY 1998 appropriations bill), the Congress established the Census Monitoring Board. The function of the Board is "to observe and monitor all aspects of the preparation and implementation of the 2000 decennial census (including all dress rehearsals and other simulations of a census in preparation therefor)." The law also states that there should be sufficient funds "to plan, test, and become prepared to implement a 2000 decennial census, without using statistical methods, which shall result in the percentage of the total population actually enumerated being as close to 100 percent as possible." As a result of this legislation, the Census Bureau currently is pursuing a "dual track" approach—continuing work related to the plan involving increased use of statistical methods and simultaneously identifying the components of a nonsampling census, determining the operational requirements, and developing cost estimates for these components.

The Administration's FY 1999 budget proposes funding to support activities that are critical to complete the plan for the 2000 census and to begin implementation of certain key elements of the plan. The Census Bureau will complete the dress rehearsal in 1998, with all evaluations due at the end of the year. The results of the dress rehearsal traditionally have played an important role in helping to finalize operational plans for the decennial census.

In FY 1999, there will be a greater emphasis on implementation than on planning and development. The Census Bureau will complete its listing of addresses in areas with predominantly non-city style addresses (e.g., rural route and box number) and include these addresses in the Master Address File. In areas of predominantly city style addresses (house number/street

name), Bureau field staff will canvass every road and street where someone may live to add addresses for dwellings that are not included in the 2000 census address file or to update existing address information that is not correct. In carrying out this effort, the Census Bureau will continue working with local and tribal governments to review the Census Bureau's address list and identify missing addresses for inclusion in the census. The Census Bureau and OMB will develop and implement a process whereby local areas and the Census Bureau can resolve disputes over the address list that will be used to conduct the 2000 census. During FY 1999, the Census Bureau also will award questionnaire printing contracts, and work will begin on acquiring paper and additional equipment, performing the pre-production testing, and printing the various questionnaires, envelopes, and other public-use forms.

Through partnerships with local, state, tribal, and private sector organizations, the Census Bureau will be working with organizations, community groups, businesses, and others to heighten awareness of the 2000 census and its benefits to their communities, in order to encourage greater participation. Furthermore, the Census Bureau will work with the governments of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Pacific areas to develop systems and materials to implement the 2000 census in those areas.

American Community Survey

At the present time, comparable state and local data on the economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U. S. population are available only once every 10 years from the decennial census long form. The American Community Survey (ACS) would provide economic, demographic, and housing data annually for geographic areas with populations greater than 65,000 and would provide annually updated averages, based on the accumulation of data over periods of two to five years, for smaller areas such as rural areas and census tracts. (The official counts of the population will continue to come from the decennial census and the intercensal estimates program.)

The ACS is being phased in, and ultimately is expected to render the decennial census long form obsolete in 2010. Data collected in 1999, 2000, and 2001 from the ACS will be compared to the data collected on the 2000 decennial census long form. The comparison will be made for 40 different sites, as well as for the United States as a whole. Assuming these tests are successful, the ACS will be fully implemented in 2003.

Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics

In 1994, the Chief Statistician at OMB and the leaders of six agencies created the Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. The forum, which now has participants from 18 Federal agencies as well as partners in private research organizations, fosters coordination, collaboration, and integration of collection and reporting of Federal data on child and family issues and conditions. The forum was formally established by Executive Order No. 13045 in April 1997. Its members work 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.

In July 1998, as required by the Executive Order, the forum released its second annual report, *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 1998*. The report contains 23 key indicators on important aspects of children's lives, including their economic security, health, behavior and social environment, and education. These indicators are easy to understand by broad audiences; objectively based on substantial research connecting them to child well-being and on reliable data; balanced so that no single area of children's lives dominates the report; measured regularly so that they can be updated to show trends over time; and representative of large segments of the population rather than one particular group. The report also presents data on six key demographic measures and two special features.

The 1998 report updates information displayed in the 1997 report and incorporates several improvements. For example, four indicators have been expanded to fill gaps identified in last year's report. Other indicators have been renamed to clarify their meaning. These changes implement many of the helpful comments and suggestions for improvements provided by users of the 1997 report. At the same time, the 1998 report presents challenges to the Federal agencies by describing data gaps—needed indicators for which data are either not available or not of sufficiently high quality. The forum is making its products available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.childstats.gov>. In addition to the forum reports, the web site will include information on the overall structure of the forum, and news on current activities.

In January 1996 the forum began to explore the adequacy of research and data collection on the issue of fatherhood. In March 1997, the forum sponsored a conference on improving data and research on fathering and fertility, and in June 1998, it released a new report, *Nurturing Fatherhood: Improving Data and Research on Male Fertility, Family Formation, and Fatherhood*. This report contains a summary of the March conference proceedings, the research papers written for the conference, and the recommendations for data collection activities endorsed by the forum.

During the coming year, the forum will review the relationship between the Federal statistical system and state and local consumers of data and will make recommendations for changes in the collection and dissemination of data that are representative below the national level. The forum will continue its work to define key issues in the collection of data on fathers and will produce a guide to the major gaps in data collection on issues of importance to children and families. The forum also plans to publish a set of issue briefs on key areas of concern that cross the domains of individual statistical agencies, such as early adolescence.

Improving and Integrating Health Surveys

Unprecedented changes in health care and welfare are making investments in information a key priority within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). There is significant demand, as well as growing opportunity, for using new approaches to monitoring, assessing, and evaluating key public health, health policy, and welfare policy changes. To address these needs, HHS is continuing to implement a long-range effort to develop more rational, systematic data collection strategies; fill critical data gaps in key areas, such as health expenditures and outcomes; enhance analytic utility of HHS surveys, through linkages and common core questionnaires; and increase efficiency by integrating survey samples.

HHS began implementation of this Survey Integration Plan in 1995, with the integration of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS). Several milestones were reached in 1997: the NHIS was fully automated and redesigned, with a new core questionnaire being administered via computer-assisted personal interviewing; all components of the MEPS were implemented, including the Household Survey, the MEPS Medical Provider Survey, the MEPS Insurance Component, and the National Nursing Home Expenditure Survey; and policy-relevant data were released on an accelerated timetable from these two important components of HHS' monitoring system.

Significant initiatives currently under way within HHS are as follows:

- Development of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) has entered the final phase, and NCHS is preparing to begin continuous field operations in 1999. NHANES literally takes the pulse of America, and is one of the primary tools for monitoring the health of the American people. NHANES and companion surveys set the agenda for prevention by documenting health conditions, showing the relationships between risk factors and illness, and identifying opportunities for prevention programs. Unique among Federal statistical efforts, NHANES is based on sophisticated laboratory and examination centers that move around the United States to obtain standardized medical information from direct physical examinations, diagnostic procedures, and laboratory tests. These centers each consist of four large semi-trailers, which travel to survey sites and link together to form state-of-the-art clinics. Individuals selected in these communities are first interviewed in their homes, and then scheduled for extensive examinations at the mobile clinic site. Exams and tests are based on broad scientific input and collaboration with multiple programs in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, other Federal agencies, and non-governmental researchers.
- Continuing pilot testing of the State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey is being undertaken as a response to needs for comparable data at state and local levels to monitor health and welfare reforms. Key features of this effort include integration of the telephone survey mechanism used for the National Immunization Survey with the questionnaire content of the NHIS and other ongoing national surveys.
- A consensus process has begun to evaluate and update the content of birth and death certificates, the basis for fundamental measures such as prenatal

care, teen and out of wedlock births, infant mortality, causes of death, and life expectancy. NCHS has convened a panel of experts to develop revised "standard certificates" that serve as a model for states. Through the development of this consensus, a high degree of uniformity across states is achieved, allowing for the development of national statistics and for comparisons between states.

- NCHS and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) have developed a plan to integrate and link the NHANES and USDA's Continuing Survey of Food Intake for Individuals. This integration will be based in part on the dietary intake interviews that will take place in NHANES mobile examination centers, and in part on telephone interviews. With this integrated approach, NCHS and ARS can efficiently meet the needs for data on detailed subgroups of the population, and accomplish a long-standing goal of the National Nutrition Monitoring System.
- Perhaps more than any other sector of the economy, the health care delivery system is undergoing fundamental changes. The ways health practitioners are organized, affiliated, and financed, and the rules and incentives under which they work are changing. Many of these changes are driven by increasing managed care penetration and associated cost considerations, while other changes are driven by legal, regulatory, professional, and other considerations. HHS recently has launched an effort to address data concerns that have resulted from these changes. The first stage, now under way, is a broad, participatory review of data needs and data gaps involving key data users, interest groups, and policy makers.

Economic Statistics Initiative

The Economic Statistics Initiative seeks to improve the quality of statistics in rapidly changing areas of the economy where accurate information is most needed. Implementation of the initiative will significantly improve data provided by the Federal statistical system and support better-informed national debate on the economic challenges facing the United States.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) began this effort in 1994 by reviewing the performance of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and other economic accounts data. This was followed in 1995 with the formulation of BEA's Mid-Decade Strategic Plan for maintaining and improving its national, regional, and international accounts. The plan emphasizes updated measures of output and prices; more comprehensive and accurate measures of investment, savings, and wealth; and improved coverage of international trade and finance.

Faced with continuing budget stringencies, BEA helped to fund needed improvements by eliminating some important, but lower-priority, statistical programs. In FY 1995, BEA transferred the production of the Leading Economic Indicators to a private organization, The Conference Board. In FY 1996, BEA scaled back its work on foreign direct investment and terminated its programs on regional economic projections and on pollution abatement and control expenditures. As resources from these programs were freed up, they were reallocated to other projects to help implement BEA's strategic plan. During the past few years, BEA has:

- Completed the comprehensive revision of the national accounts by carrying the newly featured measures of GDP and prices back to 1929; extended the improvements made to GDP and prices to the GDP-by-industry, national wealth, gross state product, and international estimates; completed the development phase of the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which will provide an updated picture of the organization and structure of the economy—particularly in the areas of services and new and emerging high-technology industries; introduced new quality-adjusted measures of output and prices for certain high-tech products, such as telephone switching equipment; and completed the 1992 input-output table only five years after the economic census.
- Introduced more comprehensive and consistent measures of investment and capital that treat government purchases of equipment and structures symmetrically with private business investment and incorporate improved measures of depreciation, and extended the improvements made to investment and depreciation to gross state product and GDP-by-industry estimates.
- Introduced improved measures of international trade and finance that incorporate new estimates of international flows of U.S. currency and the results of the new annual international services surveys, the first benchmark survey of U.S. portfolio investment abroad in more than 50 years (a cooperative effort of BEA, Treasury, and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York), and the benchmark survey of selected services, which added new services to its coverage.

In subsequent years, activities that would build upon this work include:

- *New and Improved Measures of Output and Prices*—Initiatives in this area include working with the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to develop improved source data for key national accounts measures of income and product; integrating BLS improvements in the Consumer Price Index into the national accounts; extending quality adjustments of output and prices to additional “high-tech” products and developing new concepts and methods for measuring difficult-to-measure services; revising the structure and methodologies of the accounts to reflect the changes introduced by NAICS; providing a clearer picture of consumer spending by developing preliminary estimates that separate nonprofit institutions from households; and completing the development of a more comprehensive picture of government.
- *Better Measures of Investment, Savings, and Wealth*—Initiatives in this area include expanding and updating the coverage of investment by developing a comprehensive accounting for software, including the development of a quality-adjusted price index and estimates of software developed in-house (not purchased); developing measures of inventories and inventory investment at both the Federal and the state and local levels; and improving data sources, methodology, and concepts to make the capital stock and flow measures more consistent.
- *Improved Measures of International Trade and Finance*—Initiatives in this area include improving the data coverage of international trade in services by incorporating data on “affiliated” services by type from BEA’s revised surveys of U.S. direct investment abroad, and developing a pilot quarterly survey for the most important services covered by the existing annual

survey of selected services; and working with Treasury and the Federal Reserve System to improve the capture of information on portfolio investments abroad and to develop measures of new financial instruments, such as derivatives, that cut across both the direct and indirect channels of investment.

Revision and Improvements to the Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is the principal source of information concerning trends in consumer prices and inflation in the United States. The measure is used extensively for economic analysis and policy formulation in both the public and private sectors, to escalate contract costs among individuals and organizations, to set wages in many union agreements, and to index government payments and receipts.

In order to maintain the relevance of the CPI, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) undertakes a comprehensive updating of the index approximately every 10 years. The revision provides opportunities to reflect changes in the geographic distribution of the population and in consumers' buying habits, to incorporate improvements in technology and index methodology, and to redesign survey questionnaires and computer systems to make the index a more accurate and reliable reflection of economic conditions. Many improvements in methodology, however, are incorporated as soon as they are validated. An updated CPI, based upon the 1990 distribution of the U.S. urban population and the 1993-1995 pattern of consumer expenditures, was introduced in January 1998. The revamped CPI includes a new market basket, a revised item classification structure, updated household expenditure patterns based on the Consumer Expenditure Survey, and a new area design with a total of 87 areas, including 36 new areas.

During 1999, BLS will continue with several activities designed to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the CPI. Specifically, BLS will expand the sample size of the Consumer Expenditure Survey by approximately 50 percent and increase efficiencies in the expenditure weight updating system, in order to reduce the time required for future updates of the CPI market basket. These enhancements also will facilitate the research, development, and potential publication of new superlative measures, indexes that would better reflect the fact that consumers substitute among goods and services when relative prices change. Finally, BLS will increase the amount of information collected on the prices and characteristics of certain goods and services. With these data, BLS hopes to improve the treatment of quality changes and to introduce new goods in a more timely manner.

Redesign and Integration of Compensation Survey Programs

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) is an initiative to integrate wage and benefit measures into one comprehensive statistical program providing a diverse set of measures of employee compensation. BLS will use the NCS area, establishment, and occupation sample to produce the Employment Cost

Index (ECI), the BLS quarterly index of the change in employer costs for compensation. BLS also will use the NCS sample to produce data on occupational wages, in localities and nationwide, as well as benefit incidence and provision information. In a single program, the NCS produces compensation data previously provided through three separate programs: the ECI, the Employee Benefits Survey, and the Occupational Compensation Survey Program. The NCS is designed to eliminate duplication, develop more efficient collection and processing techniques, and improve the quality of published data.

By melding together the data produced by three surveys, the new program will improve data for policymakers and researchers, while continuing to provide the high quality data required by the President's Pay Agent for administering the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act. New data available from the integrated program include estimates of wages by skill level covering broad groups of related occupations, and data directly linking benefit plan costs with detailed plan provisions. The integrated program's single sample also will produce both time series indices and compensation cost levels for industry and occupational groups, thereby increasing the analytical potential of the data. New geographic data for broad regions and metropolitan areas also will be available.

Planning for the NCS began in 1994 and testing of data collection began in 1996. Full-scale collection of wage data began in late 1996 and continues. Collection of benefits data began in early 1998. The complete sample will be in place by 2001.

Developing Job Opening and Labor Turnover Statistics

National data on job openings and labor turnover can serve as demand-side indicators of labor shortages. Presently, there is no economic indicator of the demand for labor that can be used to assess the presence of shortages in the U.S. labor market. The existence of such shortages can be inferred only indirectly using labor supply information, such as the unemployment rate.

The availability of unfilled jobs—the number of job openings or the job vacancy rate—is an important measure of the tightness of labor markets, symmetrical to existing measures of unemployment. High vacancy rates signal unmet demands for labor, just as high unemployment rates signal unused supplies of labor. Comparisons of the aggregate number of job openings to the number of unemployed persons can be useful in diagnosing increases or decreases in labor market mismatches; disaggregation of job opening counts by major industry groupings would enhance the diagnostic value of the information. Information on labor turnover would be of value, among other purposes, for diagnosing whether high or rising vacancy rates reflect increased difficulty in filling positions in contrast to increased hiring activity. Job openings and labor turnover statistics considered in conjunction with information on unemployment also would be helpful to analysts and policymakers interested in monitoring pressure on wage rates.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is proposing a new monthly survey of the number of separations, new hires, and current job openings at the national

level. Estimates of an all-industry total and of major industry groupings would function as broad national indicators of labor shortages, but would not be detailed enough to provide information for local labor markets or by occupation. There are measurement and operational issues to be studied during the first few years of the new survey's operation, such as how best to measure openings in new businesses, and the effect of the North American Industry Classification System implementation on sample requirements and workload. For these reasons, the first two years of estimates would be considered experimental and would provide a baseline for evaluating ongoing trends.

Improving and Integrating Agricultural Surveys

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) continues to work to improve National Agricultural Accounts by expanding coverage of annual production, inventory, and value statistics at the state level to meet a long-range goal of 99 percent coverage of the cash receipts from the sale of agricultural commodities. Coverage gains will largely be accomplished by expanded statistics for the horticulture, greenhouse, nursery, equine, and aquaculture industries. The Census of Agriculture allows NASS to meet this 99 percent goal for census years, and will significantly contribute to coverage efforts in the noncensus years, primarily through improvements in the NASS list frame.

NASS implemented a major Data Warehouse Strategic Initiative during 1998 that will result in an easy-to-understand and easy-to-use repository of survey and census data from farm and ranch operators. The Data Warehouse is already in use throughout NASS, allowing detailed and timely analysis of 1997 Census of Agriculture data. The Data Warehouse should also provide the necessary data infrastructure to enhance sampling capabilities, improve survey preparation and management, broaden analytical abilities, and expand statistical estimation methods. In the long term, the Data Warehouse system will also store NASS's official published estimates for use by the public and provide access to official published data via the Internet.

North American Industry Classification System

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) represents an international effort—by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (INEGI) of Mexico; Statistics Canada; and the United States, through the Office of Management and Budget's Economic Classification Policy Committee—to foster comparability in the industrial statistics produced by the three countries. NAICS is the first industry classification system developed in accordance with a single principle of aggregation, that is, units that use similar production processes are grouped together in the classification. NAICS also reflects, in a much more explicit way, the enormous changes in technology and in the growth and diversification of services that have marked recent decades.

NAICS replaces the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) and will be used by Federal statistical agencies that collect or publish data by industry. It is also expected to be widely used by state agencies, trade associations, businesses, and other organizations. The *1997 NAICS-United States Manual* containing definitions for each industry, tables showing the correspondence between 1997 NAICS and 1987 SIC codes, and an alphabetical index of types of business activities and their NAICS codes, was published by OMB in July 1998 in hard copy and on CD-ROM.

NAICS employs a hierarchical structure and groups the economy into 20 broad sectors, doubling the 10 divisions of the SIC system. NAICS identifies more than 350 new industries and nine new service industry sectors. Many of the industries reflect the new "Information Age" economy, such as fiber optic cable manufacturing and satellite telecommunications. In addition, other new industry classifications recognize changes in the way business is conducted by establishing codes for health maintenance organization medical centers, environmental consulting, bed and breakfast establishments, and diet and weight reduction centers.

NAICS implementation will begin with the 1997 data year in Canada and the United States, and the 1998 data year in Mexico. U.S. agencies will implement NAICS from 1999 to 2004. For example, among the first major data programs to use the new system are the 1997 economic censuses, with advance statistics due to be released early in 1999, and the 1997 Foreign Direct Investment Benchmark Survey that will also be published in 1999. For most current economic surveys conducted by the Census Bureau, NAICS data will be introduced over several years: for manufacturing data, with the 1998 reference year; for services data, 1999; and for economic indicator data, such as Monthly Retail Sales, 2001. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will begin its conversion to a NAICS basis with its Employment and Wages Report for the 2000 reference year. Data series may not always be revised for years before the respective program's implementation of NAICS United States; instead, bridges will be developed to permit comparisons of pre- and post-NAICS data.

INEGI, OMB, and Statistics Canada have put in place a process for ensuring that the implementation of NAICS is comparable across all three countries. Regularly scheduled meetings among the three countries will ensure that there is a smooth transition to NAICS. In addition, the three countries plan to review and update NAICS continuously to ensure that new activities are promptly recognized and to extend NAICS to the 5-digit industry level in those sectors where agreement is now at only the sector, subsector, or industry group level.

Standard Occupational Classification System

In 1994, OMB chartered the Standard Occupational Classification Revision Policy Committee (SOCRPC) to take a fresh look at the concepts, methodologies, procedures, and uses of occupational classifications for statistical purposes. The SOCRPC is charged with revising and modernizing the SOC and integrating the structure of the SOC and the *Dictionary of Occupational*

Titles in time to incorporate the new SOC classifications in the 2000 decennial census. The revision is intended to produce a pragmatic occupational classification system that will support economic analysis, strengthen the ties between education and work force data, unify Federal agency occupational classification usage, and foster international comparability.

All Federal agencies that collect occupational data will use the new system; similarly, all state and local government agencies are strongly encouraged to use this national system to promote a common language for categorizing occupations in the world of work. The new SOC system will replace the Occupational Employment Statistics occupational classification system, currently used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for gathering occupational information. It will also replace the Bureau of the Census' 1990 occupational classification system and will be used for the 2000 Census. In addition, the new SOC will serve as the framework for information being gathered through the Department of Labor's Occupational Information Network, which will replace the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles*.

OMB published a series of notices in the *Federal Register* between February 1995 and July 1997, announcing the SOC revision process and requesting public comment on the uses of occupational data; the purpose and scope of occupational classification; the principles underlying the current and new SOC; and a preliminary revised classification, which included a new structure, new categories, and crosswalks between the old and new SOC's. During FY 1997, the SOCRPC, with the help of six work groups, reviewed public comments and constructed the preliminary (1997) revision. During FY 1998, the SOCRPC and work groups reviewed the public comments on the 1997 draft, and made final recommendations for the SOC categories and definitions that were published in the *Federal Register* in August 1998. OMB expects to make final decisions for the 1998 SOC revision and publish them by the end of 1998. During the coming year, the SOCRPC will prepare the *1998 Standard Occupational Classification Manual* for publication. Committee members will also complete definitions, assign associated titles, and develop cross reference lists to existing systems.

Metropolitan Area Definitions

OMB has issued definitions of metropolitan areas for use in collecting and publishing Federal statistics since 1950. The standards for defining metropolitan areas have been reviewed and modified several times since then, but the underlying concepts have remained essentially the same over the decades.

At the request of OMB, the Census Bureau has initiated a thorough review of the concepts and methods underlying the definitions of metropolitan and alternative statistical areas. Earlier this decade, a set of research papers and an open conference addressed a series of issues including whether the Federal Government should define metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas; the geographic units to be used in defining areas; the criteria to be used to aggregate the units in defining statistical areas; whether there should be hierarchies or multiple sets of areas in the classification system; the kinds of entities that would receive official recognition in a new system; whether a

system should reflect statistical rules only or allow a role for local opinion; frequency of updating; and territorial coverage.

Efforts now under way include extensive research and testing of alternative approaches to defining metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. As part of this initiative, OMB will convene a committee consisting of representatives of Federal statistical agencies to review and comment on research findings. This phase in the metropolitan area review also includes preparations for a solicitation of public comment via the *Federal Register* toward the end of 1998. The notice will outline and discuss issues related to alternative approaches to defining metropolitan areas and alternative statistical areas, including consideration of criteria and thresholds for aggregating geographic units. An open conference, similar to that held in 1995, is planned for early 1999. Evaluation of comments received and drafting of standards will lead to a solicitation of public comment on the draft standards in a second *Federal Register* notice in mid-1999. OMB will publish final standards before the 2000 census.

Classification of Data on Race and Ethnicity

In the *Federal Register* for October 30, 1997 (62 FR 58781-58790), OMB announced the "Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity." These standards supersede the standards originally adopted in 1977 and promulgated in OMB's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15, Race and Ethnic Standards for Federal Statistics and Administrative Reporting. The revised standards retain the concept of a minimum set of categories for Federal data on race and ethnicity and make possible the collection of data to reflect the diversity of our Nation's population. The principal changes to the standards are as follows:

- When self-identification is used in collecting data, a method for reporting more than one race should be used; the method for doing so should be for respondents to mark or select one or more of the historical categories and not a "multiracial" category.
- When self-identification is used in collecting data, there should be separate questions on race and ethnicity; the Hispanic origin question should precede the race question.
- The Asian/Pacific Islander category is broken apart into two categories—"Asian" and "Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander."
- The minimum standard does not include additional categories for population groups such as Arabs or Middle Easterners.
- The name of the Black category is changed to "Black or African American," and the name of the Hispanic category is changed to "Hispanic or Latino."

Since the announcement of the decision to allow respondents to report more than one race, the focus of attention has been largely on how the data would be tabulated. The methodology for tabulating data on race and ethnicity must be carefully developed and coordinated among the statistical agencies. Guidelines for tabulation ultimately must meet the needs of at least two groups within the Federal Government. The first group comprises those

government officials charged with carrying out constitutional and legislative mandates, such as redistricting legislatures, enforcing civil rights laws, and monitoring progress in anti-discrimination programs. The second group consists of the staff of statistical agencies producing and analyzing data that are used to monitor economic and social conditions and trends. Statistical and policy analysts from the Federal agencies that generate or use these data have been considering tabulation issues and will provide recommendations to OMB for tabulation guidelines. OMB expects to issue these guidelines by the end of 1998.

Definition of Poverty

In 1995, the National Research Council (NRC) released its panel report on the measurement of income and poverty, *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*. The report recommends that the official U.S. poverty thresholds be changed to comprise a budget for the three basic categories of food, clothing, shelter (including utilities), and a small additional amount to allow for other needs, such as household supplies, personal care, and nonwork-related transportation.

Before considering any potential policy issues inherent in the definition of poverty, there are significant statistical issues that need to be addressed. These include the availability and reliability of the data required to implement the NRC recommendations; the recommendation to change the primary vehicle for poverty data collection from the March supplement of the Current Population Survey to the Survey of Income and Program Participation; the coverage of the Consumer Expenditure Survey, which limits its applicability to the buying habits of persons in poverty; and the scope of data development work needed to implement the NRC recommendations for making geographic adjustments, refining cost-of-housing indices, and measuring medical expenditures.

In light of such issues, OMB's Statistical Policy Office has formed a working group under the auspices of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to undertake a thorough review of available options for revising the definition of poverty. Plans for the working group include identifying research currently under way on the issues raised in the NRC report, as well as issues still needing attention. Using the research findings, the working group will coordinate closely with the Census Bureau to develop additional experimental poverty series that incorporate relevant NRC recommendations. These alternative series will be issued in a Census Bureau report in early 1999 to allow analysts to examine their utility prior to the development of recommendations by OMB.

Appendix

DIRECT FUNDING, REIMBURSABLE PROGRAMS, AND PURCHASES, FY 1999

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Sources of Funding				Purchases		
	Direct Funding	State/Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
AGRICULTURE:							
ARS.....	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	—
ERS.....	55.8	0.0	0.0	2.8	1.9	0.3	4.6
FAS.....	36.9	0.0	0.0	4.8	0.0	0.0	4.7
FNS.....	12.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.1	0.1
FS.....	14.2	—	0.1	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
NASS.....	107.2	2.1	0.0	7.7	19.8	—	9.7
NRCS.....	108.0	2.3	0.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
COMMERCE							
BEA.....	48.3	0.0	0.7	0.9	—	0.3	1.5
Census.....	1,209.9	0.2	25.9	159.3	0.0	0.0	1.2
ESA.....	5.4	0.0	3.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
ITA.....	4.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6
NOAA.....	48.1	0.2	3.6	2.4	4.0	3.2	0.0
DEFENSE							
CORPS.....	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.8
DIOR.....	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DMDC.....	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EDUCATION							
NCES.....	116.4	0.0	0.1	2.3	1.9	100.1	8.4
ENERGY							
EIA.....	70.5	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	24.1	0.0
ES&H.....	24.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.3
OER.....	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HHS							
ACF.....	39.2	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	19.5	19.7
AHCPR.....	41.5	0.0	0.0	35.5	0.5	25.4	10.6
AoA.....	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ATSDR.....	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.3
CDC (w/o NCHS).....	123.2	0.0	0.0	10.5	17.0	23.7	1.7
HCFA.....	13.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7	—
HRSA.....	11.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.3
IHS.....	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	—
NCHS.....	86.0	0.0	1.0	24.4	14.4	38.1	24.0
NIH.....	347.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	56.1	13.8
OASPE.....	24.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	0.0	27.2	5.6
OPA.....	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
SAMHSA.....	108.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.7	73.4	0.4
HUD							
Housing.....	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
OFHEO.....	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
PD&R.....	24.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	20.7
P&IH.....	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

**DIRECT FUNDING, REIMBURSABLE PROGRAMS,
AND PURCHASES, FY 1999—Continued**

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Sources of Funding				Purchases		
	Direct Funding	State/ Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/ Local Gov'ts	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
INTERIOR							
FWS.....	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2
MMS.....	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NPS.....	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
BoR.....	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4
USGS.....	85.7	60.0	2.9	44.5	0.0	0.6	0.0
JUSTICE							
BJS.....	31.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	4.2	19.4
BoP.....	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DEA.....	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FBI.....	4.3	0.0	—	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
INS.....	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.4
LABOR							
BLS.....	398.9	3.3	1.6	16.8	78.1	15.5	59.9
ESA.....	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.5	2.6
ETA.....	81.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	80.8	0.0	0.0
MSHA.....	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
OASP.....	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0
OSHA.....	18.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0
TRANSPORTATION							
BTS.....	31.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	12.3
FAA.....	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
FHWA.....	40.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.1	19.6	6.2
FRA.....	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.4
FTA.....	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0
MARAD.....	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.1
NHTSA.....	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	8.2	13.6	0.4
OST.....	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.0
RSPA.....	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0
TREASURY							
Customs.....	8.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IRS.....	40.6	—	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.1
SOI.....	29.4	—	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.1
VETERANS AFFAIRS.	78.5	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	2.6	0.3
OTHER AGENCIES							
AID.....	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6	2.4
CPSC.....	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1	1.6	0.0
EEOC.....	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.1
EPA.....	223.7	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.7	49.6	2.0
NASA.....	16.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NSF.....	74.2	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	71.5	4.4
SBA.....	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.5
SSA.....	7.3	—	—	—	—	0.0	0.0
TOTAL.....	3,948.3	68.2	39.1	339.0	284.7	650.0	265.6

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding. The symbol “—” indicates that the amount reported by the agency was less than \$50,000.

Glossary of Department and Agency

Abbreviations

ACF	Administration for Children and Families (HHS)
AHCPR	Agency for Health Care Policy and Research (HHS)
AID	Agency for International Development
AoA	Administration on Aging (HHS)
ARS	Agricultural Research Service (Agriculture)
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (HHS)
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis (Commerce)
BJS	Bureau of Justice Statistics (Justice)
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics (Labor)
BoP	Bureau of Prisons (Justice)
BoR	Bureau of Reclamation (Interior)
BTS	Bureau of Transportation Statistics (Transportation)
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS)
CEIS	Center for Environmental Information and Statistics (EPA)
Census	Bureau of the Census (Commerce)
Corps	Army Corps of Engineers (Defense)
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
Customs	United States Customs Service (Treasury)
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration (Justice)
DIOR	Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (Defense)
DMDC	Defense Manpower Data Center (Defense)
DOC	Department of Commerce
DOD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOL	Department of Labor
DOT	Department of Transportation
EEOC	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
EIA	Energy Information Administration (Energy)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERS	Economic Research Service (Agriculture)
ESA/DOC	Economics and Statistics Administration (Commerce)
ESA/DOL	Employment Standards Administration (Labor)
ES&H	Environment, Safety and Health (Energy)
ETA	Employment and Training Administration (Labor)

FAA	Federal Aviation Administration (Transportation)
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service (Agriculture)
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation (Justice)
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (Transportation)
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service (Agriculture)
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration (Transportation)
FS	Forest Service (Agriculture)
FTA	Federal Transit Administration (Transportation)
FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Interior)
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration (HHS)
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
Housing	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing (HUD)
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration (HHS)
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
IHS	Indian Health Service (HHS)
INS	Immigration and Naturalization Service (Justice)
IRS	Internal Revenue Service (Treasury)
ITA	International Trade Administration (Commerce)
MARAD	Maritime Administration (Transportation)
MMS	Minerals Management Service (Interior)
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration (Labor)
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASS	National Agricultural Statistics Service (Agriculture)
NBS	National Biological Survey (Interior-abolished)
NCES	National Center for Education Statistics (Education)
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics (HHS)
NCI	National Cancer Institute (HHS)
NEI	National Eye 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 Disease (HHS)
NIAMSD	National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease (HHS)
NICHD	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (HHS)
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse (HHS)
NIDCD	National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (HHS)

NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (HHS)
NIDR	National Institute of Dental Research (HHS)
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (HHS)
NIGMS	National Institute of General Medical Sciences (HHS)
NIH	National Institutes of Health (HHS)
NINDS	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (HHS)
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service (Commerce)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Commerce)
NPS	National Park Service (Interior)
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service (Agriculture)
NSF	National Science Foundation
OASP	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy (Labor)
OASPE	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (HHS)
OD	Office of the Director, NIH (HHS)
OER	Office of Energy Research (Energy)
OFHEO	Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (HUD)
OMB	Office of Management and Budget (Executive Office of the President)
OPA	Office of Population Affairs (HHS)
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Labor)
OST	Office of the Secretary of Transportation (Transportation)
PD&R	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research (HUD)
P&IH	Office of Public and Indian Housing (HUD)
RSPA	Research and Special Programs Administration (Transportation)
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (HHS)
SBA	Small Business Administration
SOI	Statistics of Income Division (Treasury)
SSA	Social Security Administration
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey (Interior)
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs

Selected Federal Statistical World Wide Web Sites

(As of June 1998)

Executive Office of the President (EOP)

OMB—Office of Management and Budget

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EO P/OMB/html/ombhome.html>

Federal Statistics Briefing Rooms

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/OMB/Fedstats/>

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

FedStats

<http://www.fedstats.gov>

(For the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, go to "Policy;" go to "Statistical Policy Working Papers")

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

<http://www.usda.gov/>

ARS—Agricultural Research Service

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/>

ERS—Economic Research Service

<http://www.econ.ag.gov/>

FAS—Foreign Agricultural Service

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/>

FNS—Food and Nutrition Service

<http://www.usda.gov/fcs/>

FS—Forest Service

<http://www.fs.fed.us/>

(Go to "Products")

NASS—National Agricultural Statistics Service

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

NRCS—Natural Resources Conservation Service

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

(Go to "Technical Resources")

Department of Commerce (DOC)

<http://www.doc.gov/>

BEA Bureau of Economic Analysis

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/>

Bureau of the Census

<http://www.census.gov/>

ESA—Economics and Statistics Administration

<http://cher.eda.doc.gov/agencies/esa/index.html>

ITA—International Trade Administration

<http://www.ita.doc.gov/>

NMFS—National Marine Fisheries Service

<http://www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/>

NOAA—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov/>

Department of Defense

<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

CORPS—Army Corps of Engineers

<http://www.wrc-ndc.usace.army.mil/ndc/>

DIOR—Directorate for Information Operations and Research

<http://web1.whs.osd.mil/diorhome.htm>

DMDC—Defense Manpower Data Center

<http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/>

Department of Education

<http://www.ed.gov/>

NCES—National Center for Education Statistics

<http://nces.ed.gov/>

Department of Energy

<http://www.doe.gov/>

EIA—Energy Information Administration

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/>

ES&H—Environment, Safety and Health

<http://tis-hq.eh.gov>

(Go to “Services”)

OER—Office of Energy Research

<http://www.er.doe.gov/>

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

<http://www.os.dhhs.gov/>

OASPE—Office of the Secretary

<http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/>

ACF—Administration for Children and Families

<http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/>

AHCPR—Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

<http://www.ahcpr.gov/>

(Go to “Data & Surveys”)

ATSDR—Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry

<http://atsdr1.atsdr.cdc.gov:8080/>

(Go to “HazDat Database”)

AoA—Administration on Aging

<http://www.aoa.dhhs.gov/>

(Go to “National Aging Information Center”)

CDC—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/>

(Go to “Data and Statistics”)

HCFA—Health Care Financing Administration

<http://www.hcfa.gov/>

(Go to “Stats & Data” or to “Publications and Forms”)

HRSA—Health Resources and Services Administration

<http://www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/>

(Go to “Overview and Programs”)

IHS—Indian Health Service

<http://www.tuscon.ihs.gov/>

NCHS—National Center for Health Statistics

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/>

NIH—National Institutes of Health

<http://www.nih.gov/>

(Go to “Health Information” or “Scientific Resources”)

OPA—Office of Population Affairs

<http://www/dhhs.gov/progorg/opa/>

SAMHSA—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

<http://www.samhsa.gov/>

(Go to “Publications, Reports and Statistical Information”)

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

<http://www.hud.gov/>

PD&R—Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research

<http://www.huduser.org/>

Department of the Interior

<http://www.doi.gov/>

Bureau of Reclamation

<http://www.usbr.gov/>

FWS—United States Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/>

MMS—Minerals Management Service

<http://mms.gov/>

NPS—National Park Service

<http://www.nps.gov>

USGS—United States Geological Survey

<http://www.usgs.gov/>

Department of Justice

<http://www.usdoj.gov/>

BJS—Bureau of Justice Statistics

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

BoP—Bureau of Prisons

<http://www.bop.gov/>

DEA—Drug Enforcement Administration

<http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/>

(Go to “Drug Data”)

FBI—Federal Bureau of Investigation

<http://www.fbi.gov/>

(Go to “FBI Uniform Crime Reports”)

INS—Immigration and Naturalization Service

<http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/>

(Go to “Statistics”)

Department of Labor (DOL)

<http://www.dol.gov>

(Go to “Statistics & Data”)

BLS—Bureau of Labor Statistics

<http://www.bls.gov/>

ETA—Employment and Training Administration

<http://www.doleta.gov/>

(Go to “Labor Market Information”)

MSHA—Mine Safety and Health Administration

<http://www.msha.gov/>

OASP—Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/asp/>

OSHA—Occupational Safety and Health Administration

<http://www.osha.gov/>

(Go to “Statistics & Inspection Data”)

Department of Transportation (DOT)

<http://www.dot.gov>

BTS—Bureau of Transportation Statistics

<http://www.bts.gov/>

FAA—Federal Aviation Administration

<http://www.faa.gov/arp/330home.htm>

FHWA—Federal Highway Administration

<http://www.fhwa.gov>

(Go to “Publication and Statistics”)

FRA—Federal Railroad Administration

[gopher://gopher.dot.gov/1/fra/safety](http://gopher.dot.gov/1/fra/safety)

FTA—Federal Transit Administration

<http://www.fta.dot.gov/>

(Go to “National Transit Library”)

MARAD—Maritime Administration

<http://marad.dot.gov/>

(Go to “Publications”)

NHTSA—National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/ncsa/>

Department of the Treasury

IRS—Internal Revenue Service

<http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/>

SOI—Statistics of Income

http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/tax_stats/index.html

United States Customs Service

<http://www.customs.treas.gov/>

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

<http://www.va.gov/>

(Go to “Data”)

Agency for International Development (AID)

<http://www.info.usaid.gov/>

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

<http://www.cpsc.gov/>

(Go to “About Us;” go to “CPSC’s Clearinghouse” or Go to “Library;” go to “Data Relevant to Consumer Product Safety”)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

<http://www.epa.gov/>

(Go to "Databases & Software")

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

<http://www.nasa.gov/>

National Science Foundation (NSF)

<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/>

Small Business Administration (SBA)

<http://www.sba.gov/advo/stats/>

Social Security Administration (SSA)

<http://www.ssa.gov/>

(Go to "Research, Evaluation & Statistics")

