EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
AND BUDGET

STATISTICAL PROGRAMS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

FISCAL YEAR

2004

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

THE DIRECTOR

September 17, 2003

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am writing to transmit the enclosed *Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2004* report that is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [Section 3504(e)(2) of Title 44, United States Code].

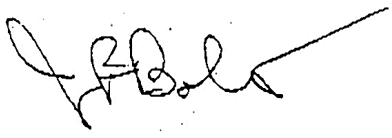
The ability of our government, our citizens, and our businesses to make appropriate decisions about work, investments, taxes, and a host of other important issues depends in part on the relevance, accuracy, and timeliness of Federal statistics. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides overall coordination for the Federal statistical system.

The enclosed report outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's FY 2004 budget. The President's request includes carefully targeted investments that are essential to keep pace with changes in our economy and society, improve data quality, and provide greater public access to Government statistics. These initiatives should be fully funded.

As the report indicates, our investment in statistical programs is very cost-effective. Data drive fiscal and monetary policy; they also underlie Federal, State, and local income projections, investment planning, and business decisions. Without the improvements proposed for FY 2004, we risk degrading the quality of Federal statistics. In turn, core Federal, State, and local government activities, including the accurate allocation of scarce funds, would be adversely affected. Investing now to enhance the quality of Federal statistics will strengthen crucial elements of our information infrastructure and support better decision-making.

We look forward to working closely with the Congress to improve the statistical measurement of our Nation's performance.

Sincerely,



Joshua B. Bolten
Director

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to the President of the Senate

One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistical Data

Access to the wide array of Federal statistics available to the public is provided through ***FedStats*** on the World Wide Web **(*www.fedstats.gov*).** The site offers links to Internet sites developed by individual agencies to disseminate Federal statistics.

The site also includes information on Federal policies on privacy, accessibility to the site for persons with disabilities, a set of data access tools for sophisticated users, and *MapStats* to facilitate searching for the range of Federal data available for a given U.S. geographic area.

The Appendices to this report include World Wide Web site addresses for the Federal agencies covered in this report.

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Introduction

Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2004 outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's budget. The budget requests an estimated $4,719 million for statistical work to be carried out in FY 2004. Approximately 40 percent of this overall funding provides resources for ten agencies that have statistical activities as their principal mission. The remaining funding is spread among almost seventy other 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 reimbursements for statistical activities and their purchases of statistical services. Agencies that perform statistical activities in support of nonstatistical missions and programs supplied additional statistical program budget detail for this report.

This 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 has three chapters. Chapter 1 outlines the effects of Congressional action on the President's FY 2003 budget request and the funding for statistics proposed in the President's FY 2004 budget. Chapter 2 highlights program changes for Federal statistical activities proposed in the President's FY 2004 budget. Chapter 3 describes a number of ongoing and new agency and interagency initiatives to improve Federal statistical programs, including making better use of existing data collections while protecting the confidentiality of statistical information. In addition to detailed budgetary resources data, the appendices include information on staffing levels for the principal statistical agencies.

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: *www.whitehouse.gov/omb/* (go to "Statistical Programs and Standards"). The report is also located at the one-stop shopping site for Federal statistical data: *www.fedstats.gov/* (go to "Federal Statistical Policy"). At both sites users may also access the FY 1997 to FY 2003 versions of the Statistical Programs report.

Please direct any inquiries to Katherine K. Wallman, 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 2002, FY 2003, and FY 2004. It highlights the effects of Congressional action on the President's FY 2003 budget request for Federal statistical activities and outlines recommended changes in funding for these programs for FY 2004. 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 2004 is from the President's budget as submitted to the Congress and does not reflect actual appropriations.

Overview of Statistical Program Budgets

Please keep the following in mind when reviewing the information in this report:

- Not all Federal spending on statistical activities is included. The report covers agencies that have direct funding for statistical activities of at least $500,000 in FY 2002, or estimated direct funding for statistical activities of at least $500,000 in either FY 2003 or FY 2004. Using these criteria, the report includes the budgets for statistical programs and activities for more than 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:
  - collection, processing, or tabulation of statistical data for publication, dissemination, research, analysis, or program management and evaluation;
  - planning of statistical surveys and studies, including project design, sample design and selection, and design of questionnaires, forms, or other techniques of observation and data collection;
  - training of statisticians, interviewers, or data processing personnel;
  - publication or dissemination of statistical data and studies;
  - methodological testing or statistical research;
  - data analysis;
  - forecasts or projections that are published or otherwise made available for government-wide or public use;
  - statistical tabulation, dissemination, or publication of data collected by others;

— construction of secondary data series or development of models that are an integral part of generating statistical series or forecasts;

— management or coordination of statistical operations; and

— statistical consulting 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, including an allocation of the salaries and operating expenses for the statistical program. In addition, a statistical program is not always executed by the agency that sponsors it. In these instances, the work is done on a reimbursable basis by another Federal agency or by a state or local government or a private organization under contract.

- Whether statistical work is done inside or outside the agency, the direct funding reflects the level of statistical activities in support of the agency's mission. Table 1 presents direct program funding for FY 2002, FY 2003, and FY 2004 for major statistical programs, by department and agency.

Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs, FY 2002–2004
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
AGRICULTURE			
Agricultural Research Service	4.7	5.4	5.4
Economic Research Service	67.0	68.7	76.7
Foreign Agricultural Service	34.2	36.6	37.8
Food and Nutrition Service	3.0	8.0	13.0
Forest Service	29.4	30.7	38.5
National Agricultural Statistics Service	113.7	138.4	136.2
Natural Resources Conservation Service	111.4	127.3	134.1
COMMERCE			
Bureau of Economic Analysis	56.6	65.5	78.3
Census Bureau	553.2	612.7	682.0
Current	189.3	201.8	240.9
Periodic	363.9	410.9	441.1
Decennial Census	192.7	228.8	260.2
Economics and Statistics Administration	5.9	6.2	6.5
International Trade Administration	5.5	4.4	4.5

Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs, FY 2002–2004
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	87.4	83.7	86.1
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service	49.6	48.5	46.6
National Marine Fisheries Service	37.8	35.2	39.5
Patent and Trademark Office	4.2	4.0	4.3
DEFENSE			
Army Corps of Engineers	5.0	5.1	5.5
Directorate for Information Operations and Reports	2.2	2.3	2.3
Defense Manpower Data Center	4.6	9.6	9.4
EDUCATION			
National Center for Education Statistics	196.6	184.2	185.8
ENERGY			
Office of Environment, Safety, and Health	34.3	34.3	34.3
Energy Information Administration	78.4	80.1	80.1
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
Administration on Aging	2.6	2.6	2.6
Administration for Children and Families	32.7	34.2	33.4
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	151.7	155.2	152.4
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	4.2	4.0	4.0
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (without NCHS)	323.9	338.9	346.7
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	10.0	10.5	15.3
Health Resources and Services Administration	16.8	16.9	17.1
Indian Health Service	3.5	3.5	3.6
National Center for Health Statistics	126.8	125.9	124.6
National Institutes of Health	585.1	650.9	675.1
National Cancer Institute	108.7	113.1	115.4
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine	2.2	3.6	4.2
National Eye Institute	1.2	1.4	1.2
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	98.5	104.9	107.5
National Institute on Aging	9.2	10.2	10.2
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism	13.7	12.5	12.7
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases	67.0	79.0	81.0
National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering	1.8	3.3	3.4
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	51.5	56.0	58.0
National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders	1.5	1.7	1.8
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research	0.9	0.0	0.0

Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs, FY 2002–2004
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases	72.5	81.5	87.1
National Institute on Drug Abuse	87.2	93.3	96.8
National Institute on Environmental Health Sciences	64.5	78.2	83.3
National Institute of Mental Health	2.3	9.2	9.5
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke	0.5	0.5	0.5
Office of the Director	1.2	1.6	1.8
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation	24.7	24.9	27.2
Office of Population Affairs	3.5	3.8	3.9
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	152.7	144.0	147.5
HOMELAND SECURITY			
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection	12.0	12.9	13.4
Emergency Preparedness and Response	2.7	4.2	4.4
Office of Immigration Statistics	2.1	3.5	3.5
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT			
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing	2.7	3.0	3.1
Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight	5.0	7.0	8.0
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research	26.1	26.6	26.7
Office of Public and Indian Housing	9.7	14.1	12.5
INTERIOR			
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	9.1	4.8	4.7
Minerals Management Service	4.0	5.0	5.0
National Park Service	1.1	1.1	1.1
Bureau of Reclamation	3.5	3.6	4.0
United States Geological Survey	83.9	77.8	77.3
JUSTICE			
Bureau of Justice Statistics	37.2	37.1	41.1
Bureau of Prisons	8.7	9.0	9.1
Drug Enforcement Administration	2.4	2.5	2.6
Federal Bureau of Investigation	6.1	6.3	6.4
LABOR			
Bureau of Labor Statistics	475.0	492.0	512.0
Employment Standards Administration	2.7	2.8	3.2
Employment and Training Administration	103.9	97.2	94.8
Mine Safety and Health Administration	4.7	6.5	6.1
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy	2.2	2.4	2.6
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	28.0	27.0	24.0

Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs, FY 2002–2004
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate
TRANSPORTATION			
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	30.8	30.5	35.5
Federal Aviation Administration	3.0	3.0	3.1
Federal Highway Administration	30.0	31.2	53.8
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	8.0	8.7	5.7
Federal Railroad Administration	2.8	3.1	3.2
Federal Transit Administration	4.3	5.6	6.0
Maritime Administration	1.9	1.9	1.9
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	28.4	29.2	41.2
Office of the Secretary of Transportation	1.3	1.3	1.1
Research and Special Programs Administration	5.7	6.1	6.0
TREASURY			
Statistics of Income Division (Internal Revenue Service)	35.4	36.8	38.1
VETERANS AFFAIRS			
Board of Veterans' Appeals	0.5	0.6	0.6
Veterans Health Administration	90.5	122.4	124.2
Veterans Benefits Administration	1.7	1.7	1.9
Office of Policy and Planning	6.8	12.1	11.5
OTHER AGENCIES			
Agency for International Development	20.8	19.4	18.6
Consumer Product Safety Commission	7.0	8.0	8.0
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	1.9	1.8	1.8
Environmental Protection Agency	148.3	144.8	143.8
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	17.0	17.7	21.2
National Science Foundation	85.7	108.4	116.7
Science Resources Statistics	21.1	33.7	35.0
Small Business Administration	1.1	1.1	1.1
Social Security Administration	10.7	28.5	34.1
TOTAL	**4,211.8**	**4,492.6**	**4719.1**
Total without Decennial Census	4,019.1	4,263.8	4,458.9

Note: Figures shown in Table 1 have been provided by the agencies and are derived from "total budget authority" shown in the program and financing schedule for these agencies in the President's FY 2004 budget. FY 2004 agency estimates include the full share of accruing employee pensions and annuitants' health benefits; these amounts are not included in earlier years' requests. The estimates for NCES in FY 2002, FY 2003, and FY 2004 do not include estimated salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated or the full share of accruing employee pensions and annuitants' health benefits. The amounts for BJS include estimated salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated. The amount shown for the Census Bureau in FY 2002 includes $54.0 million for Decennial Census from FY 2001 unobligated balances allocated by Congress to offset direct FY 2002 appropriations. The FY 2003 amount for the Census Bureau includes $41.8 million from FY 2002 unobligated balances allocated by Congress to offset direct FY 2003 appropriations.

Highlights of Congressional Action on the President's FY 2003 Budget Request

The figures for FY 2003 in Table 1 reflect Congressional action on the President's budget request for funding of statistical activities. The following are highlights of the effects of these appropriation levels on the programs of the principal statistical agencies:

Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)*:* The FY 2003 appropriation of $65.5 million was slightly less than the President's request. This included funds for incorporating international classification systems into the national accounts and improving source data. These funds also provided for the accelerated release of five key economic measures including international trade in goods and services, GDP by industry, input-output tables, gross state product, and metropolitan area personal income. A third initiative, funded for FY 2003, provided for upgrades of BEA's information technology system to increase the speed, reliability, and accuracy of the statistical processing systems and to incorporate the latest technological tools to upgrade BEA's web site and improve its electronic reporting capabilities to meet users' needs.

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $32.1 million was $1.7 million below the President's request. As a result, BJS implemented a reduction in the sample size of National Crime Victimization Survey and delayed fielding the National Census of Probation and Parole Agencies.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $492.0 million, which was $5.9 million below the President's request, did not result in any programmatic reductions in 2003. The appropriation included resources to modernize the computing systems for monthly processing of the Producer Price Index and U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes and to otherwise improve the programs. BLS will proceed with the conversion to update the Consumer Price Index continuously. In addition, BLS will begin data collection for the American Time Use Survey, and continue work on multiyear initiatives to expand the Employment Cost Index sample, and to convert the classification of establishments from the Standard Industrial Classification System to the North American Industry Classification System.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $30.5 million was $4.5 million below the President's request. As a result, a separate Office of Airline Information to improve collection and analysis of data was not funded.

Census Bureau (Census): The FY 2003 appropriation of $612.7 million was below the level of the President's request. Congress made a total of $592.7 million available in discretionary spending. The total included $41.8 million in FY 2002 unobligated balances allocated by Congress to offset direct FY 2003 appropriations. Another $20.0 million was received in mandatory appropriations—$10.0 million for the State Children's Health Insurance Program and $10.0 million for the Survey of Program Dynamics. The Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Act appropriated funds to the Census Bureau to produce statistically reliable annual state data on the number of low-income children who do not have health insurance coverage. Under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the Census Bureau continues to receive funds to produce data from the Survey of Program Dynamics to evaluate the effects of the act. Funding for the full implementation of the

American Community Survey in 2003 was not enacted, but has been included in the FY 2004 request.

Economic Research Service (ERS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $68.7 million was $4.2 million less than the President's request. The appropriation resulted in increases of $2.7 million to fund the ERS share of re-engineering the Agricultural Resource Management Survey and $2.0 million for an initiative on the effects of invasive pests and diseases on the global competitiveness of U.S. agriculture. Due to the overall decrease in ERS's budget, ERS is working closely with the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to transfer responsibility for three major studies from ERS. However, other major projects were dropped due to the reduced funding, including support for adding food assistance data in several national data sets. ERS has also cut funding for its competitive grants program.

Energy Information Administration (EIA): The FY 2003 appropriation of $80.1 million was at the level of the President's request. EIA continues to update energy consumption surveys, overhaul the electric power surveys to recognize and accommodate the changes in the energy industry brought on by deregulation and restructuring, and improve data quality in the petroleum and natural gas areas.

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $138.4 million was $2.4 million below the President's request. Fluctuations in the NASS budget result from the funding cycle for the quinquennial Census of Agriculture and follow-on censuses and special studies. NASS received $15.5 million to conduct the Census of Agriculture, $4.6 million to re-engineer the Agricultural Resource Management Survey, $1.5 million for activities associated with submitting information or transacting with NASS electronically, $1.0 million to develop an annual integrated locality based estimation program, and $0.7 million for improved security architecture. The $2.4 million reduction resulted in reducing or eliminating some surveys for 2003; the FY 2004 budget request (see below) would restore these activities.

National Center for Education Statistics (NCES): The FY 2003 appropriation of $184.2 million was $5.0 million less than the President's request. The funding will allow NCES to support improved survey design for the Study of Students and Faculty and work on early childhood and other longitudinal studies. The funding will also support the data collection and analysis for the International Assessment Program and new data collection for the Schools and Staffing Survey; however, the $5.0 reduction resulted in delays or modifications of these activities. The FY 2004 budget request (see below) would restore funds for these activities.

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS): The FY 2003 appropriation of $125.9 million was the same as the President's request. However, the appropriation reflected revised funding sources. The President's budget requested $79.0 million under budget authority and the balance of $47.0 million under the PHS Evaluation fund set-aside, whereas the final enacted level provided funding entirely from the PHS Evaluation fund set-aside. The funding allows NCHS to maintain existing data systems and to redesign and improve systems, such as National Health Interview Survey and the State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey, to meet user needs.

Highlights of the FY 2004 Budget Request

As shown in Table 1, the FY 2004 budget submitted by the President for statistical activities covered by this report is estimated at $4,719 million. This year's proposed budget includes a number of key initiatives designed to improve significantly the breadth and quality of information on major segments of the economy and population that currently are not adequately measured. These initiatives include:

- extending economic measures in key service sectors, that account for about $3 trillion in revenues, by broadening the Census Bureau's coverage of annual surveys to financial services, insurance, real estate, and public utilities, and by expanding coverage of the new quarterly service sector economic indicator to include more service industries sensitive to changes in the business cycle;

- improving the quality of trade statistics, by expanding and improving the export reporting system, accelerating the release of trade statistics, and increasing coverage of reports;

- responding to business demand for e-government services by providing electronic reporting capability for the nearly 100 Census Bureau current economic surveys;

- conducting the 2002 Economic Census to make census content more relevant, useful, and timely;

- re-engineering the 2010 Decennial Census to control costs, reduce operational risks, and improve census coverage;

- providing consistent, accurate, and current demographic information for all states as well as for sub-state areas used for distributing approximately $200 billion in Federal funds annually to states and local areas through the American Community Survey program;

- implementing the Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (MAF/TIGER) system enhancements to improve the geographic database and associated address list;

- implementing a multi-year effort to comprehensively plan, develop, test, and integrate new and streamlined methods for conducting the 2010 Census taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by an enhanced MAF/TIGER and short-form only data collection activities;

- incorporating real-time data into the core BEA statistics to provide data users with more current economic measures that, combined with other efforts to improve the accounts, should ultimately be more accurate than existing estimates;

- continuing work that was funded in recent years to improve coverage of the service sectors for producer price and productivity estimates, to continuously update the Consumer Price Index by completing the first biennial weight update, and to ex-

pand the Employment Cost Index (ECI) sample to produce better estimates of employer compensation cost levels;

- incorporating the North American Industry Classification System to provide a uniform basis for identifying, compiling, and presenting data that reflect the increasing importance of new industries, especially services and new technologies, while improving the comparability of statistics among countries;

- initiating the automation of household data collection for the National Crime Victimization Survey, the primary source of information on criminal victimization; and

- implementing new statutory authority to establish uniform protections for the confidentiality of individually identifiable information acquired for exclusively statistical purposes and to permit sharing of business data by the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The following are highlights of proposed program changes in the principal statistical agencies and their associated costs. Additional details about these changes are provided in Chapters 2 and 3 of this report. Appendix B provides information on the staffing levels of the principal statistical agencies.

Bureau of Economic Analysis: The budget of $78.3 million will fund increases for major program changes that will accelerate the release of a number of key estimates in BEA's economic accounts, including Gross Domestic Product and Personal Income estimates. FY 2004 funds will also improve the national accounts by allowing BEA to acquire monthly real-time data from private sources to fill data gaps in current measures at the time of the original release rather than during a later revision. The request will also provide funds to update the Balance of Payments to recognize derivatives and other new financial instruments important to the U.S. and world financial markets.

Bureau of Justice Statistics: The budget of $41.1 million represents a base increase to initiate conversion of the National Crime Victimization Survey to a fully automated data collection process. The budget request also includes funds to enhance and maintain core statistical programs including cybercrime statistics, court and sentencing statistics, and correctional populations and facilities statistics from Federal, state, and local governments.

Bureau of Labor Statistics: The budget of $512.0 million includes a program increase to fund two Current Population Survey (CPS) supplements on key labor force issues every year beginning in 2004. Supplementary surveys to the CPS will provide data on important workforce issues, such as volunteerism, job turnover, contingent employment, work at home, computer use, and job training. The supplements will also provide trend data on labor force issues to better inform decision-makers in both the public and private sectors.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics: The budget of $35.5 million includes base increases to reallocate funds to five core data programs (freight, travel, economics, airline, and geospatial) and two cross-cutting research programs (key indicators of national transportation system performance and statistical methodology). Non-core activities will be reduced or eliminated including the National Transportation Library, the

Motor Carrier Information program, the Intermodal Transportation data base (TranStats), and data quality audits of non-BTS programs.

Census Bureau: The budget of $682.0 million will fund continuing support for the Census Bureau's cyclical programs, including a scheduled increase for re-engineering the Census of Population and Housing; the re-engineering initiative includes the American Community Survey, MAF/TIGER Enhancements Program, and early planning, development, and testing of a "short form only" 2010 Census. This request also will provide funds to meet business demands for e-government services by providing new tools for collecting data and improving data quality, for mission critical computing capacity in the event of a disaster, and for intrusion detection systems to improve information technology security.

Economic Research Service: The budget of $76.7 million includes base increases to strengthen the economic information and analyses available for genomics research, application, and education program decisions and develop the Security Analysis System for U.S. agriculture.

Energy Information Administration: The budget of $80.1 million includes funding to improve the data quality of natural gas and electricity surveys, redesign petroleum surveys to reflect new fuel standards, update the 20-year old survey designs for residential and commercial building energy consumption based on the 2000 Census, integrate the operation of the Weekly Natural Gas Underground Storage Survey as an ongoing EIA activity, and continue development and operation of the Voluntary Greenhouse Gases survey to support the President's Initiative on Greenhouse Gases.

National Agricultural Statistics Service: The budget of $136.2 million includes increases to restore and modernize NASS's core survey and estimation program, standardize and improve the statistical integrity of data collection and processing activities associated with the Locality Based Agricultural County Estimates/Small Area estimation program, and collaborate on e-government initiatives including the development of electronic data reporting. The budget request also includes decreases due to the cyclical activities associated with the Census of Agriculture program and savings achieved through information technology enhancement.

***National Center for Education Statistics*:** The budget of $185.8 million includes funding to support new data collection for the Schools and Staffing Survey, the principal source of information on the characteristics of America's schools, teachers, and principals; improve survey designs for the Study of Students and Faculty, the National Household Survey, and the October supplement to the Current Population Survey; continue U.S. participation in studies that compare the United States' educational progress with those of other countries; and continue support for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Program and its role in the No Child Left Behind Act.

National Center for Health Statistics: The budget of $124.6 million includes $72.6 million in budget authority funds and $52.0 million in PHS evaluation funds. The funding level reflects support to rebuild the core capacities of selected data systems of NCHS.

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. Sometimes data collected by one agency for its programmatic purposes can be used for a different programmatic purpose in another agency. Further, 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, they use part of the reimbursable program money to purchase statistical work from other Federal agencies or the private sector.

Table 2 presents a list of agencies that expect to perform 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 2004. As shown in Table 2, of the estimated total of $490.1 million in reimbursable work, an estimated $371.2 million is performed for other Federal agencies. A large portion of the reimbursable work performed for other Federal agencies is funded through intradepartmental transfers.

For FY 2004, the Census Bureau has the largest reimbursable program, estimated at $237.3 million. Most of this work ($227.5 million) involves data collection and preparation of tabulations for other Federal agencies. In particular, the Census Bureau expects to perform approximately $75.8 million of reimbursable work for the Department of Labor to collect labor force, consumer expenditure, and work experience data for the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Examples of reimbursable work that the Census Bureau expects to perform for other Federal agencies include the Schools and Staffing Survey, the Private Schools Survey, and the Teacher Follow-up Survey for the National Center for Education Statistics; the National Health Interview Survey, the National Alcohol Survey, the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey-Insurance Component, the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, and the National Long Term Care Survey for the Department of Health and Human Services; the American Housing Survey and the Housing Sales Survey for the Department of Housing and Urban Development; the National Crime Victimization Survey, Juveniles in Residential Placement, and the National Prisoner Statistics Program for the Bureau of Justice Statistics; and the National Survey of College Graduates for the National Science Foundation. In addition, the Census Bureau receives funds from the Agency for International Development, other U.S. and foreign government agencies, and international organizations such as the United Nations to conduct demographic, geographic, and socioeconomic studies and strengthen statistical development around the world through technical assistance, training, and software products.

Table 2. Estimated Agency Reimbursements for Statistical Activities, FY 2004

(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Reimbursable Program	State/local Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
Census Bureau	682.0	237.3	1.4	8.4	227.5
United States Geological Survey	77.3	118.4	75.0	2.1	41.3
National Center for Health Statistics	124.6	38.5	0.0	0.9	37.6
National Agricultural Statistics Service	136.2	15.6	3.6	0.0	12.0
Federal Highway Administration	53.8	11.6	5.8	5.8	0.0
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (without NCHS)	346.7	8.9	0.0	0.0	8.9
Forest Service	38.5	7.6	7.5	0.0	0.1
DOT Research and Special Programs Administration	6.0	7.5	0.3	0.0	7.2
Natural Resources Conservation Service	134.1	6.9	3.8	0.0	3.1
Bureau of Labor Statistics	512.0	6.0	0.0	1.0	5.0
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	41.2	5.7	0.0	0.0	5.7
HHS Office of the Asst. Sec. for Planning and Evaluation	27.2	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
National Center for Education Statistics	185.8	3.3	0.0	0.0	3.3
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	46.6	2.7	0.0	2.7	0.0
Foreign Agricultural Service	37.8	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.6
NSF Science Resources Statistics	35.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	2.3
Consumer Product Safety Commission	8.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
National Science Foundation (without SRS)	81.8	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7
National Institutes of Health	675.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7
Statistics of Income Division (Internal Revenue Service)	38.1	1.7	0.0	0.1	1.5
Energy Information Administration	80.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	4.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9
Bureau of Economic Analysis	78.3	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.5
Social Security Administration	34.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.3
Health Resources and Services Administration	17.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
International Trade Administration	4.5	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Maritime Administration	1.9	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Economic Research Service	76.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	147.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Emergency Preparedness and Response	4.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Total	**3,176.8**	**490.1**	**97.5**	**21.4**	**371.2**

Note: Reimbursements from the private sector also include funds received from foreign governments for the Census Bureau ($1.4 million). Components may not add to stated totals because of rounding.

The Water Resources Division in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has the second largest reimbursable program, estimated at $118.4 million. Among the Federal agencies, USGS performs the largest amount ($75.0 million) of work for the 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 substantial statistical work for Federal agencies ($41.3 million), including hydrologic data collec-

tions and analyses for other agencies in Department of the Interior; the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Homeland Security, State, and Transportation; and the Environmental Protection Agency and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

A large portion of the reimbursable work in Health and Human Services (HHS) is done within the department and is conducted through the use of grants, contracts, and interagency agreements. Most of the reimbursable statistical work performed by NCHS ($38.5 million)—ranked third 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) ($18.4 million). The National Death Index (NDI) will continue to receive reimbursement from both CDC and non-Federal sources. Reimbursable work funded by non-Federal entities will also support the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) and the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

Intradepartmental transfers support much of the reimbursable work shown in Table 2 for Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies. Approximately $11.6 million of NASS's reimbursable work is done for other agencies in USDA. In particular, NASS will receive $6.5 million from the Economic Research Service (ERS) for the Agricultural Resource Management Study. NASS will also be reimbursed by the USDA's Farm Service Agency for providing data on the feed grain county estimate and farm operating loan program ($2.6 million), by its Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) for providing training and technical assistance in statistics ($0.9 million), and by its Risk Management Agency for county estimates data ($0.7 million). FAS will receive approximately $2.3 million from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) for the emerging markets program and statistical services associated with remote sensing data, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service will receive approximately $3.1 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 private sector organizations. Table 3 shows the agencies that have total purchases of at least $1.0 million, ranked by total purchases; information on agencies with smaller estimated purchases is provided in Appendix A.

When a 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. Agencies such as the National Center for Education Statistics and the Federal Highway Administration, for example, can purchase more than their direct funding for statistics allows, because they receive the difference from other Federal agencies under their reimbursable programs.

The five largest purchasers of statistical services are the National Institutes of Health (NIH) ($411.2 million), the National Center for Education Statistics ($194.3 million), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention without NCHS ($193.6 million), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) ($183.0 million), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (130.0 million). During FY 2004, Federal agencies covered by this report will purchase an estimated $2,025.3 million in statistical ser-

vices, as shown in Appendix A. More than half of these services will be purchased from the private sector.

Table 3. Estimated Agency Purchases of Statistical Services, FY 2004
(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/local Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
National Institutes of Health	675.1	411.2	0.0	378.8	32.4
National Center for Education Statistics	185.8	194.3	2.0	183.8	8.5
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (without NCHS)	346.7	193.6	116.0	66.7	10.8
Bureau of Labor Statistics	512.0	183.0	90.0	17.0	76.0
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	147.5	130.0	15.5	112.7	1.8
National Center for Health Statistics	124.6	111.6	16.8	54.1	40.7
Employment and Training Administration	94.8	93.1	92.7	0.0	0.4
National Science Foundation (without SRS)	81.8	83.5	0.0	82.6	0.9
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	152.4	68.5	0.0	50.3	18.2
Federal Highway Administration	53.8	57.1	8.0	48.1	1.1
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	41.2	39.7	8.8	27.1	3.8
Energy Information Administration	80.1	39.3	0.3	39.0	0.0
Bureau of Justice Statistics	41.1	35.8	4.7	5.1	26.0
NSF Science Resources Statistics	35.0	32.0	0.0	25.1	6.9
Social Security Administration	34.1	27.6	4.1	20.0	3.5
HUD Office of Asst. Sec. for Policy Dev. and Research	26.7	26.7	0.0	2.7	24.0
Environmental Protection Agency	143.8	26.5	4.1	20.9	1.5
National Agricultural Statistics Service	136.2	23.3	21.3	0.0	2.0
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	86.1	21.9	11.7	10.2	0.0
Agency for International Development	18.6	18.6	0.0	10.4	8.2
Economic Research Service	76.7	18.2	5.0	5.6	7.6
Administration for Children and Families	33.4	17.9	2.9	14.4	0.6
DOE Office of Environment, Safety, and Health	34.3	17.8	0.0	0.0	17.8
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services	15.3	14.8	0.0	14.8	0.0
Food and Nutrition Service	13.0	13.0	0.0	13.0	0.0
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	35.5	10.6	0.0	8.0	2.6
Office of Public and Indian Housing	12.5	8.8	0.0	8.8	0.0
VA Office of Policy and Planning	11.5	8.3	0.0	7.9	0.4
Natural Resources Conservation Service	134.1	7.5	2.0	0.0	5.5
HHS Office of the Asst. Sec. for Planning and Evaluation	27.2	7.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
Bureau of Prisons	9.1	5.9	5.9	0.0	0.0
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration	5.7	5.7	0.0	2.5	3.2
Federal Transit Administration	6.0	5.6	0.0	4.0	1.6
Defense Manpower Data Center	9.4	5.5	0.0	5.5	0.0
DOT Research and Special Programs Administration	6.0	5.2	0.3	4.8	0.1
Emergency Preparedness and Response	4.4	4.1	0.0	4.1	0.0
Occupational Safety and Health Administration	24.0	4.0	2.0	2.0	0.0
Veterans Health Administration	124.2	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
HHS Office of Population Affairs	3.9	3.9	0.0	2.5	1.4
Bureau of Reclamation	4.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	3.8
Health Resources and Services Administration	17.1	3.4	0.0	1.2	2.2
Federal Aviation Administration	3.1	3.1	2.4	0.0	0.7

Table 3. Estimated Agency Purchases of Statistical Services, FY 2004
(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/ local Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
Consumer Product Safety Commission	8.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
Agricultural Research Service	5.4	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Bureau of Economic Analysis	78.3	1.9	0.0	0.6	1.3
Federal Railroad Administration	3.2	1.9	0.0	1.6	0.3
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	4.0	1.8	1.7	0.1	0.0
Administration on Aging	2.6	1.8	0.9	0.7	0.2
Census Bureau	682.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7
International Trade Administration	4.5	1.7	0.0	1.1	0.6
DOL Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy	2.6	1.6	0.0	1.6	0.0
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection	13.4	1.5	0.0	1.0	0.5
Foreign Agricultural Service	37.8	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.4
Employment Standards Administration	3.2	1.2	0.9	0.4	0.0
Army Corps of Engineers	5.5	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.8
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing	3.1	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0
Veterans Benefits Administration	1.9	1.1	0.0	1.1	0.0
Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight	8.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	4.7	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.0
Total	**4,496.1**	**2,022.3**	**420.4**	**1,272.0**	**329.9**

The largest purchasers of statistical services from the states are CDC ($116.0 million), ETA ($92.7 million), BLS ($90.0 million), the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) ($21.3 million), NCHS ($16.8 million), and SAMSHA ($15.5 million). CDC funds reimburse the states for their cooperation in the reporting of diseases. ETA funds support the continued development, operation, and maintenance of the set of Internet-based e-government tools known collectively as CareerOneStop, which support the national system of One-Stop Career Centers. BLS funds support the cooperative labor force statistics program. NASS funds are used for data collection services provided by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. NCHS funds reimburse states for their participation in the collection of vital statistics, including information for the National Death Index to purchase state tapes containing death record information that will be included in the NDI file. SAMHSA funds are used for the Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program that supports the development of state statistical capacity and for support to the states to conduct an assessment of their needs for substance abuse treatment and prevention services under the block grant treatment program. In all cases, the cooperation of the states is essential to the production of Federal data in these areas.

Appendix A presents estimates of direct funding, reimbursements, and purchases for FY 2004, 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 $1,274 million in statistical services from the private sector during FY 2004. Of that total,

approximately $904 million (or about 70 percent) in purchases from the private sector are made by the following five agencies: NIH ($378.8 million), NCES ($183.8 million), CDC including NCHS ($120.8 million total), SAMHSA ($112.7 million), and NSF including SRS ($107.7 million total). 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 2004 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; Natural Resources, Energy, and Environment Statistics; and Economic Statistics.

Health and Safety Statistics

Health

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the principal agency that produces general-purpose health data. NCHS is responsible for the collection, maintenance, analysis, and dissemination of statistics on the nature and extent of the health, illness, and disability of the U.S. population; the impact of illness and disability on the economy; the effects of environmental, social, and other health hazards; health care costs and financing; family formation, growth, and dissolution; and vital events (i.e., births and deaths). CDC provides data on morbidity, epidemiologic surveillance of infectious diseases, chronic diseases, occupational diseases and injuries, vaccine efficacy, and safety.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) produces and disseminates information about the cost, quality, access, and medical effectiveness of health care. AHRQ's Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys provide public and private sector decision makers with timely national estimates of health care use and expenditures; private and public health insurance coverage; and the availability, costs, and scope of private health insurance benefits among the U.S. population. AHRQ prepares analyses of changes in behavior as a result of market forces or policy changes on health care use, expenditures, and insurance coverage; develops cost/savings estimates of proposed changes in policy; and identifies the impact of changes in policy for key groups in the population.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in HHS 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 human disease, biomarkers, and other health outcomes in the presence of environmental contamination to establish possible relationships between exposure and health.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in HHS collects administrative data associated with oversight of the Medicare and Medicaid programs; studies the quality of care delivered by those programs; and sponsors a survey of current benefici-

aries to obtain data on health care utilization and expenditures, including expenditures not covered by Medicare, the sources of health care coverage and payment, and the assets, income, health, functional status, work history, and family support systems of the Medicare population.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in HHS collects data about general health services, the health professions workforce, and resource issues related to access, equity, quality, and cost of care. HRSA maintains the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients and the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) in HHS provides vital, 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 National Institutes of Health (NIH) in HHS support the design and implementation of epidemiological studies, clinical trials, biomedical and biostatistical research, and laboratory investigations conducted by the various institutes as described below. NIH also supports data collections on health and health-related topics by Federal agencies, industry, state and local governments, and private nonprofit organizations.

— National Cancer Institute (NCI) conducts extensive surveillance research on cancer incidence, mortality, morbidity, survival, patterns of cancer care, cancer risk factors and health practices, cost of care, health systems operations applied to cancer control, and progress against cancer.

— National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) supports research on complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), trains researchers in CAM, and disseminates information to the public and professionals on which CAM modalities work, which do not, and why.

— National Eye Institute (NEI) carries out studies of the causation, prevention, and treatment of eye diseases and vision disorders.

— National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) conducts basic epidemiological research related to heart, lung, and blood diseases, as well as research in theoretical statistics and biometric methods.

— National Institute on Aging (NIA) conducts research on aging and age-associated diseases and conditions using population-based epidemiological and biometric methods.

— National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) maintains the Alcohol Epidemiology Data System (AEDS), a national repository of alcohol-related databases; sponsors a longitudinal survey of alcohol use, abuse, and dependence; and makes available information on alcohol-related policies adopted by state governments.

— National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) coordinates a multi-centered clinical trial of a comprehensive intervention program to reduce

asthma morbidity in inner city children; creates databases containing chemical structures and biological data in order to monitor and analyze developments in the chemotherapy of HIV and opportunistic infections; makes available information on clinical trials that evaluate experimental drug treatments; and supports training activities that include statistical and clinical research training on AIDS and emerging infectious diseases, as well as training in biostatistical and data management and methods for analysis of HIV vaccine trials.

— National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), the newest of the research institutes within the National Institutes of Health, was established by law in December 2000 and received its first appropriation and grant funding authority in FY 2002. The NIBIB fosters, conducts, supports, and administers research and training programs in Bioinformatics, Image Processing, and Computational Modeling.

— National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) directs an epidemiological and statistical program that includes research on risk factors of adverse pregnancy outcomes, coordinates clinical trials for the evaluation of strategies of obstetric management and neonatal intensive care, and analyzes data to understand recent trends in indicators of maternal and child health.

— National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) conducts epidemiologic studies related to deafness and other communication disorders, and maintains a data system to facilitate the monitoring of levels and analysis of trends in relevant health problems.

— National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) studies the impact of sociodemographic and economic trends on oral health, surveys oral health knowledge and practices of health providers, and investigates the oral health status of populations.

— National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) studies recipients of human growth hormones; the epidemiology of diabetes and its complications; digestive diseases and their complications; and major chronic kidney, urologic, and hematologic diseases.

— National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) supports research on the nature, patterns, extent, causes, consequences, prevention, and treatment of drug abuse and works with state, Federal, and international governmental agencies to develop drug abuse surveillance capability through the establishment of epidemiology networks.

— National Institute of Environmental and Health Sciences (NIEHS) conducts a variety of activities such as the design and analysis of animal carcinogenicity experiments; statistical studies in genetic toxicology, mathematical modeling of molecular phenomena, and risk assessment methodology development; and a training program and consulting service, with new efforts focusing on bioinformatics and the tools needed to analyze and interpret microarray data.

— National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) provides biostatistical analysis and data management for studies in support of its mission to reduce the burden of mental illness and behavioral disorders through research on mind, brain, and behavior.

— National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) conducts research to design, analyze, and interpret experimental and observational investigations of neurological disorders.

— Office of the Director supports data collections and analyses examining populations training for and participating in medical research as well as biological and medical sciences instrumentation and research facilities, and maintains a database on characteristics of America's medical school faculties.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in HHS provides information on health problems related to the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol (the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention); substance abuse treatment (the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment); the mental health condition of the population (the Center for Mental Health Services); and the prevalence and incidence of substance abuse and its medical impact (the Office of Applied Studies).

The Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (EH) in the Department of Energy (DOE) conducts epidemiological studies of the health effects of exposure to radiation and other hazardous substances. The Epidemiologic Surveillance Program monitors the safety and health of current DOE contract workers and evaluates the potential impact of DOE operations on these individuals. The office's three Former Medical Surveillance Programs analyze medical screening data to help ensure the continuing health and safety of former workers who were exposed to hazards while they worked at DOE facilities. EH also works in conjunction with the Radiation Effects Research Foundation to conduct epidemiologic studies of atomic bomb survivors and gathers health effects information.

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) performs health services and medical research, including studies on veterans' care in VA health care facilities.

The Agency for International Development (AID) helps developing countries in their efforts to create demographic and health information systems and to improve decision making by identifying emerging problems and better understanding trends across countries. AID statistical activities include measuring the impact of immunizations, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, and studying methodological approaches to collecting the core data needed for program planning, monitoring, surveillance, and evaluation.

Major program changes and new activities in health statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The AHRQ budget request includes an increase in funds for the Medical Expenditures Panel Survey to cover ongoing data collection efforts and related survey activities and to implement enhancements.

- The CDC budget request includes funds for pilot testing methods to improve survey response rates, increase timeliness of the data, and improve the website to make data on health risk behaviors, clinical preventive health practices, and health care access from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) more accessible for analysis.

- The NIH budget requests funds to:

  — collect and analyze data on cancer survivor's use of different media, their risk perceptions, cancer-related behaviors, personal cancer experiences, and perceived communication needs; link Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) data to investigate the use and outcomes of selected cancer interventions; and expand epidemiologic studies exploring racial and ethnic cancer disparities;

  — examine the modifiable determinants of excessive weight gain and obesity among children by utilizing longitudinal measures among diverse cohorts of children with particular emphasis on those children at higher risk of obesity, including those from lower socioeconomic status and members of ethnic minorities;

  — develop new methods for use in assessment of eye disease and evaluation of new treatments for diabetic macular edema, age-related macular degeneration and uveitis; and

  — expand research to improve validity of self-reported drug use on surveys including both biological measures and improved survey methodologies, and broaden secondary analysis of data from prior drug abuse studies such as the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.

- The ATSDR budget request includes counterterrorism funds to develop a Rapid Response Registry to ascertain at risk populations for a terrorist or other emergency event of public health significance. The registry will collect contact information in real time for use in determining health needs and providing exposure information to the affected population.

- The budget request for IHS supports comparing the National Death Index (NDI) maintained by the National Center for Health Statistics and IHS patient registration files to determine new adjustment factors to compensate for misreporting of the Indian race on state death certificates.

Safety

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) collects and reports data on the occurrence of work-related injuries and illnesses in private industry and on work-related fatal injuries in private and public-sector establishments, including the self-employed.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the Department of Labor (DOL) has overall responsibility for the national injury and illness recordkeeping

system, based on employer records, which is used to determine the cases that are included in the annual BLS Occupational Safety and Health Survey. OSHA also maintains the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) that includes summary data on occupational injuries and illnesses from construction firms with 20 or more employees.

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) in DOL 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 provide current accident, injury, and illness information to MSHA's enforcement personnel, and to engineering, education, and training staff.

The Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R) in the Department of Homeland Security provides technical support to state and local government users of the National Fire Information Council/National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS), conducts the Firefighter Fatality Study, provides Fire Data Analytical Services, surveys disaster assistance applicants to evaluate the effectiveness of disaster delivery efforts, and collects information on the number and types of emergency management exercises a jurisdiction has conducted as part of the Emergency Management Exercise Reporting System (EMERS).

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 that 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 activities in safety statistics planned for FY 2004; the President's budget request includes funds to support the ongoing statistical programs of each of the above agencies.

Social and Demographic Statistics

Periodic Demographic Statistics

The Census Bureau is the principal source of periodic demographic data; major programs include the Census of Population and Housing and the Intercensal Demographic Estimates.

The Census of Population and Housing: The Census of Population and Housing provides the population counts for determining the allocation to states of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and the definitions of districts for those seats, as well as data on small areas and population groups that Federal agencies need to implement legally mandated programs. In addition, through the American Community Survey (ACS), it will collect current, small-area data for the nation historically gathered on the decennial census long form. The Census Bureau plans to implement the American Community Survey nationwide in July 2004, which will permit a "short form only" 2010 Census. By meeting the requirements previously served by the decennial long form, the ACS

will greatly simplify data collection and processing systems for the 2010 Census, while improving data products.

Intercensal Demographic Estimates: This program develops updated population estimates in years between decennial censuses for states, counties, metropolitan areas, and urban places. These estimates have various uses in funding and planning, such as distribution of Federal program funds and planning for local transportation and health care services.

Major program changes and new activities in periodic demographic statistics for FY 2004 are:

2010 Census Activities. For FY 2004, the budget request provides funding for three key components of the planning for Census 2010, enabling the Census Bureau to:

— implement nationwide collection using the American Community Survey (ACS), which will collect decennial census long-form data every month instead of once every ten years, to ensure availability of current data throughout the decade;

— continue enhancing the geographic database and associated address list system known as the Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing system (MAF/TIGER) to bring all 3,232 counties in the United States and Puerto Rico into alignment with the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, and convert the processing environment into a system based on commercial off-the-shelf and geographic information system software products; and

— conduct a major field test focused primarily on improved methodologies for data collection that will continue the multi-year program of integrated planning, development, and testing to transition to a short-form only census in 2010 and take advantage of the opportunities afforded by an enhanced MAF/TIGER system and an ongoing ACS.

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, estimates of health insurance coverage, homeownership rates, and a quarterly indicator of housing vacancies. 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 statistical activities supporting manpower, personnel, training, and financial functions such as the DOD Personnel Survey Program, the Enlistment and School Testing Programs, the Market Research Program, and the Actuary Program.

The Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (DIOR) in DOD has responsibility for collecting and integrating data on active duty military personnel casualties, the DOD civilian work force, 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 on Aging (AoA) in HHS collects data to assess the quality and impact of supportive services to the elderly and to measure the effectiveness of programs for the aging. AoA also compiles demographic and social data on the elderly from Federal surveys for the purpose of research on the needs of the elderly.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in HHS collects information to evaluate 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 Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) conducts surveys, program evaluations, and studies to evaluate the Food Stamp, Child Nutrition, and other food assistance programs it administers.

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

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

The Office of Population Affairs (OPA) in HHS supports data collection efforts and studies related to fertility and reproductive behavior.

The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Office of Policy and Planning (OPP) develops estimates and projections of the veteran population, collects information on the socioeconomic characteristics of veterans, surveys users and non-users of VA benefit programs, evaluates VA programs, and conducts actuarial studies. The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) supports continuing and new surveys of veterans and beneficiaries who receive VBA benefits and use its services. The surveys cover VA compensation and pension, education, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and employment services, and insurance programs.

The Agency for International Development (AID) collects and analyzes data to assist developing countries in planning and evaluating population and health programs and programs for socioeconomic development, and to understand trends across countries and emerging problems.

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, race, and ethnicity. These data are used to carry out EEOC's enforcement activities under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and are also used

by other Federal, state, and local agencies charged with enforcement of equal employment opportunity laws. The EEOC also collects and compiles data for the annual Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Statistical Report of Discrimination Complaints.

The Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) in the National Science Foundation (NSF) conducts surveys that measure the number and demographic characteristics of individuals trained as, or working as, scientists and engineers, and participates in international collaborations to yield comparable measures of the same items. In addition, NSF provides funding in support of biological sciences research databases 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.

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.

Major program changes and new activities in current demographic statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The budget request for FNS includes funds to expand the Women, Infants, and Children program effectiveness evaluation to determine its impact on specific targeted populations (such as children up to age 5 at nutritional risk), and to help identify operational improvements.

- The budget request for SRS continues support for implementation of the redesigned science and engineering personnel/workforce surveys, including 2003 data collection activities of the National Survey of College Graduates. The request supports a feasibility project for a new survey of post doctorates, and a special study requested by Congress to assess gender differences in the careers of science and engineering faculty. The request also supports continuation of redesign efforts for the Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology and the Survey of Graduate Students and Post Doctorates in Science and Engineering.

- The SSA budget request reflects an increase to fund a number of demonstrations (Early Intervention, Mental Health, Youth Transition Process Demonstration and Benefit Offset) that will test different employment supports as part of returning disabled individuals to work.

Crime and Justice Statistics

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) in the Department of Justice (DOJ) collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates statistical information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. BJS provides technical and financial support to state governments in developing capabilities in criminal justice statistics and improving their criminal history records and information systems.

The Bureau of Prisons (BoP) in DOJ conducts studies on topics including staff misconduct, institution social climate, prison impact assessments, diversity management, inmate programs, inmate classification, inmate misconduct, and privatization. BoP also produces prison population projections and reports on selected research topics.

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

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program collects data on the incidence of criminal acts as reported by 16,000 local law enforcement agencies nationwide and includes the following statistical programs: the National Incident-Based Reporting System, Federal Crime Reporting, Hate Crime Statistics Collection, and Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted. Data are collected on the following categories that comprise the Crime Index: murder, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Statistical information on arrests, property loss, and other factors relevant to criminal activity is also produced by the FBI.

The Office of Immigration Statistics (OIS) in the Department of Homeland Security provides data on immigrants, refugees, temporary visitors (nonimmigrants), naturalizations, and apprehension and removal of illegal aliens to meet demands stemming from the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, the Immigration Act of 1990, and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Individual Responsibility Act of 1996. The statistical program of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in DOJ was transferred to the Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003. The responsibilities of OIS remain the same.

Major program changes and new activities in crime and justice statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The BJS budget request includes funding to begin converting the National Crime Victimization Survey, the nation's primary source of information on criminal victimization, from primarily a paper and pencil interview process to a fully automated process.

- The OIS budget request includes funding to support the New Immigrant Survey, a longitudinal study of new immigrants, and various immigration-related products at the Census Bureau.

Education Statistics

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the Department of Education is the principal Federal agency that collects and analyzes data on education in the United States. NCES maintains a survey program that provides information on children's health, early care and early school experiences; on the condition of public and private education; and on libraries and information centers. It conducts studies of student financial aid, postsecondary faculty, and doctoral degree recipients, as well as transcript studies and various longitudinal studies. NCES collects and reports information on the academic performance of students as well as the literacy level of the adult population.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is NCES' primary tool for assessing what American elementary/secondary students know and can do in academic subjects.

The Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) in the National Science Foundation (NSF) collects, publishes, and analyzes statistics on the Nation's science, engineering, and health higher education system and those who participate in it. SRS measures enrollments, degrees, and other aspects of higher education for the fields of science, engineering, and health. The NSF's 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.

There are no major program changes or new activities in education statistics planned for FY 2004; the President's budget request includes funds to support the ongoing statistical programs of each of the above agencies.

Transportation Statistics

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

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

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

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in DOT collects and analyzes data on motor carriers, and on commercial vehicle drivers and crashes.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) in DOT 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) in DOT maintains the primary database for statistics on the transit industry, known as the National Transit Database. These data, which must be reported by every FTA formula grant recipient, are used to report to the Congress on the performance of the transit industry, to make transit service and investment planning decisions, and to apportion FTA formula funds. The FTA also collects and analyzes data related to safety, drug and alcohol testing results of safety sensitive personnel, as well as a number of other areas.

The Maritime Administration (MARAD) in DOT collects and maintains data on domestic and international transportation, vessel characteristics and itineraries, port facilities, shipbuilding and repair, ship values, financial reports and vessels' operating expenses,

shipping activities, and maritime employment, and publishes annual reports on the U.S. shipbuilding and repair industry and an Intermodal Equipment Inventory.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in DOT collects information on motor vehicle related accidents and fatalities and highway safety.

The Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) collects, analyzes, and publishes data in support of the department's programs and policy initiatives. Statistical activities include monitoring competition in the airline and maritime industries, supporting international negotiations on aviation matters, and maintaining systems to provide grant information and financial assistance awards for DOT.

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

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. Acquired movement data is primarily for the use of defense, resource, transportation, and homeland security agencies to support their mission activities. Summary statistics, which do not disclose movements of individual companies, are also released to private companies and the general public.

Major program changes and new activities in transportation statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The budget request for BTS includes funds to collect timely, comprehensive, and geographically detailed data on freight movement and personal travel; advance the Administration's Geospatial One-Stop e-government initiative; develop and produce a series of indicators of transportation system performance; and improve the collection and analysis of airline data.

- The budget request for FHWA includes funds to:

  — add 15 cities to the Mobility Monitoring Program, bringing the total number to 55, and publish a report including the travel rate index, average annual hours of delay per driver, percentage of congested freeway travel, and system reliability measures for these cities; and

  — expand the number of cities included in the Intelligent Transportation Infrastructure Program that provides both real time and archived roadway system performance data to measure the operating performance of the roadway system across the Nation that is used for local system planning, evaluation, and management activities as well as incorporated into the Mobility Monitoring Program.

- The FTA budget request includes funds to expand the National Transit Database to collect data from additional and broadened urban areas captured by the 2000 census.

- The budget request for NHTSA includes funds to:

  — develop, evaluate, and implement a quality assessment program to ensure the quality of Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) data and provide training for all FARS program staff, increased data and program management reporting, and technical assessment to ensure timely delivery of data; and

  — develop a nationally representative survey, the National Motor Vehicle Crash Causation Survey, to collect real-world, on-scene, crash causation factors and begin developing ways to prevent crashes from occurring through new crash avoidance countermeasure initiatives.

Natural Resources, Energy, and Environment Statistics

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. EPA conducts research and studies to provide baseline data and to evaluate and support environmental monitoring systems. Projects include state and local programs to report ambient air quality levels of pollutants and estimated emissions of pollutants from major stationary sources, and projection of future air quality levels through models which take into account past air quality monitoring data and emissions data. Other statistical activities develop methods to document the distribution and determinants of exposure to pollutants experienced by the U.S. population, and methods to measure exposure to and the potential effects of pollutants on human health and ecosystems.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the Department of Commerce gathers worldwide environmental data about the oceans, earth, air, space, and sun and their interactions to describe and predict the state of the physical environment. In fulfillment of this mission, NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service maintains national data centers that preserve and disseminate the agency's climatic, oceanographic, and geophysical data and selected environmental information collected by other agencies.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) in the Department of the Interior (DOI) continues its transition from focusing on production of geographic information to ensuring that geographic information is easy to find, integrate, and interpret. Through its Water Resources Division, USGS collects and maintains data on the quality, availability, and use of the Nation's water, including stream flow data for flood forecasting; stream flow data that help determine water allocations for agriculture, industry, and domestic supply; stream flow data for hydropower plants, navigation, instream habitat, engineering design of bridges and flood control structures; and data on the availability and quality of ground water that help determine sustainability of supplies for the future. The USGS is also participating in the Geospatial Information One-Stop e-government initiative, which will promote coordination and alignment of geospatial data collection and maintenance at all levels of government. The Geospatial Information One-Stop

will provide access to the Federal government's spatial data assets in a single location and help make state and local spatial data assets more accessible.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) collects remotely-sensed data to support climate research and to describe and measure the energy and environmental phenomena that may contribute to climate variation and change. Research and satellite programs study atmospheric chemistry and ozone, ocean surface winds and ocean biological productivity, tropical precipitation and the global hydrological cycle, the global carbon cycle and land surface and vegetation and ecosystems, and solid earth geophysics.

Major program changes and new activities in environmental statistics planned for FY 2004 include:

- The USGS budget request includes a program increase for the National Biological Information Infrastructure to work with partners to integrate the earth science, conservation, and land use planning information needed for developing strategies that address critical issues such as bird conservation, invasive species, and ecosystem restoration.

- The NASA budget request includes an increase for the Ocean Biology Program to develop techniques for predicting the ocean's biogeochemical response to, and its influence on, climate change; predicting variability in the structure of the phytoplankton community and its link with higher tropic levels and biogeochemical cycles; and developing the scientific principles and information base required to understand the potential productivity of the coastal marine ecosystem.

Energy and Minerals

The Energy Information Administration (EIA) in the Department of Energy (DOE) collects and disseminates information on energy reserves, production, consumption, distribution, prices, technology, and related international, economic, and financial matters. EIA's programs include data on coal, petroleum, natural gas, and electric and nuclear energy. EIA maintains a comprehensive energy database, disseminates energy data and analyses for a wide variety of customers in the public and private sectors, maintains the National Energy Modeling System for mid-term energy markets analysis and forecasting, maintains the Short-Term Integrated Forecasting System for near-term energy market analysis and forecasting, conducts customer forums and surveys to maintain an up-to-date product and service mix, and maintains systems supporting the electronic dissemination of energy data.

The Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (EH) in DOE supports projects associated with epidemiologic and worker medical surveillance, the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries, and Russian health effects studies. The United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries analyze the distribution of radioactive elements in the body to ensure that radiological protection standards and workplace control measures for occupational exposures to plutonium, uranium, and other long-lived radioactive materials are protective of worker health. The Russian Health Effects Studies

are a joint effort by the United States and Russia to conduct epidemiologic studies on the health effects of exposure to radiation.

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) in the Department of the Interior 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 Minerals Revenue Management programs.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) in DOI collects data on nonfuel minerals and materials, including mineral resources, production, demand, use, recycling, and trade.

Major program changes and new activities in energy statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The EIA budget request will continue high-priority multiyear investments necessary to ensure the accuracy of data resulting from the restructuring of energy industries, demographic changes, and new fuel standards. These include:

    — supporting the President's initiative on Greenhouse Gases by revamping the Voluntary Greenhouse Gases Survey;

    — redesigning natural gas and electricity surveys to reflect unbundling of services, sell-off of operating capacity to non-utilities, new and changing market participation, and retail competition; and

    — improving petroleum surveys to address new fuel standards;

Soil, Forest, Fish, Wildlife, and Public Lands

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) conducts soil surveys and maintains and updates a national soils computerized database 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 using both remote sensing and on-site investigation, providing data on the status and condition of natural resources on non-Federal lands.

The Forest Service (FS) in USDA 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, quantity, and quality of timber and other forest resources.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (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 data on 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) in Department of the Interior (DOI) conducts annual surveys to monitor the fish and migratory bird populations, track diseases of cultured and wild fish, measure the changing status of waterfowl and game bird populations, and evaluate harvests by fishermen and hunters.

The National Park Service (NPS) in DOI supports research on water quality assessment in nationally owned public lands and natural resources, including studies of flood hazards, forest geomorphology, and ground water of campground areas. NPS' Public Use Statistics Program gathers, compiles, and issues public use data for forecasting future demand for services, planning for resource mitigation activities, and initiating marketing strategies. The Social Science Program conducts research on recreation demands and impacts on urban units of the National Park System, cultural diversity of visitors, employees and local communities, needs of special populations, visitor use management, and visitor satisfaction.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) in DOI 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 the United States.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) in DOI, through its 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.

Major program changes and new activities in statistics concerning soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands planned for FY 2004 are:

- The Forest Service's budget request includes funds to shorten the cycle of renewable resource inventories from about 8 years in the East and 12 years in the West to 7 years and 10 years, respectively; the budget will bring the program to the full funding recommended by the Forest Inventory and Analysis Strategic Plan.

- The NRCS budget request includes funds to:

    — expand drought assessment activities, add soil moisture monitoring to automated stations, continue a major overhaul of data management systems, and enhance security and continuity of operations;

    — develop a large scale project in conjunction with NASS, ARS, FSA, and ERS to assess environmental effects of conservation practices and programs by applying process models to National Resources Inventory data on land use patterns, agricultural practices, and natural resource issues augmented by site specific management factors.

- The NMFS budget request includes funds to improve the sample size and coverage of recreational and commercial catch data programs; collect additional economic and social data for impact analyses of public policy choices; enhance current quality control and quality assurance systems; improve the information and technology dissemination infrastructure; adopt new technologies to reduce reporting burdens on industry, and satisfy data and analytical needs for compliance with governing statutes such as the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

- The USGS budget request includes funds to expand the Biomonitoring of Environmental Status and Trends Program in the Colorado River basin and in rivers of the Atlantic Coast. Data are used to establish regional benchmarks for fish health measures, determine need for additional investigations, and evaluate the significance of ambient contaminant concentrations in the environment.

Economic Statistics

Periodic Economic Statistics

The Census Bureau is the principal source of periodic economic statistics; it conducts several periodic censuses every five years, covering the years ending in 2 and 7. The Economic Census includes censuses of manufacturing, mineral industries, construction industries, retail and wholesale trade, service industries, and transportation and other businesses. Statistics on businesses owned by minorities and women and companies operating at multiple locations are also provided. 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 activities planned for FY 2004 are:

- FY 2004 is the fifth year in the six-year 2002 Economic Census funding cycle. It marks the transition from intensive data collection and centralized processing activities to editing, review, and product preparations associated with data dissemination. The 2002 Economic Census provides a significant expansion to content and coverage, as well as an accelerated release schedule. New 2002 Economic Census content includes information on e-commerce and leasing, first-time data for 65 service industries, and supply chain information from manufacturing, retail, wholesale, and some service industries. During FY 2004 the Census Bureau expects to issue 651 of the 1,700 Economic Census products. This represents a 40 percent increase in the number of reports released over the comparable time period for the 1997 Economic Census.

- FY 2004 is the fifth year in the five-year cycle of the 2002 Census of Governments. Key activities include completing the Employment Survey and Finance Survey processing and preparation of results for dissemination.

- In FY 2004 data will also be collected for almost 2.5 million businesses for the Survey of Business Owners (formerly known as the Survey of Minority Owned Business Enterprises and the Survey of Women-Owned Business Enterprises).

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 single-family houses; quantity and value of industrial output, such as manufacturing activities; shipments, inventories, and orders; capital expenditure information; e-commerce sales; foreign trade, including imports, exports, and trade monitoring; and state and local government activities. The Census Bureau also maintains the Business Register, formerly called the Standard Statistical Establishment List, that is used for statistical frames and the production of aggregate data on County Business Patterns.

The Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA) in the Department of Commerce (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 a subscription-based electronic system known as *STAT-USA*.

The International Trade Administration (ITA) in DOC collects and disseminates data on imports, exports, production, prices, foreign direct investment in the United States, as well as other economic data to analyze domestic and foreign market situations. ITA also tracks data on tourism industries and international travel to and from the United States for many private sector firms. The Office of Travel and Tourism Industries in ITA maintains a web site to provide current statistical data to U.S. companies on international travel to and from the United States; provides projections of international arrivals to the United States; and conducts the In-Flight Survey of International Air Travelers, partially funded by states, cities, and the private sector.

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

The Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (DIOR) in the Department of Defense (DOD) collects 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 from state and local governments.

The Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in the Department of Homeland Security, previously the U.S. Customs Service in the Department of the Treasury, collects and verifies tariff and trade data that are tabulated, analyzed, and disseminated by the Census Bureau.

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing (Housing) in the Department of Housing and Urban Development maintains and analyzes statistics on housing and property improvement loans and on housing or property insured or rehabilitated under HUD mortgage insurance programs, including the inventory of HUD-held mortgages or HUD-owned properties.

The Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) in HUD is responsible for oversight of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the Enterprises); its statistical programs provide analyses of the primary and secondary mortgage markets in support of the OFHEO regulatory mission.

The Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) in HUD provides data on the volume, characteristics, price, quality, and suitability of housing in the United States; on the construction and permanent financing required to achieve a smoothly functioning housing market; and on the status of the existing housing stock.

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

The Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) in the National Science Foundation (NSF) 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 division also conducts a biennial survey on academic and biomedical research facilities, and has begun design work on an upcoming survey program on instrumentation in science and engineering facilities. The division participates in international collaborations to develop internationally comparable measures of research and development.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) funds and supports databases on small businesses including the Business Information Tracking Series (BITS), conducts policy studies and economic and statistical research on issues of concern to small business, and publishes data on small business characteristics and contributions.

Major program changes for current economic statistics anticipated in FY 2004 are:

- The Census Bureau has requested funds for measurement of services and e-Government initiatives to expand:

    — annual coverage of service industries to provide for the measurement of about $3 trillion in services revenues, such as financial, insurance, real estate, and public utilities that are not currently measured on an annual basis;

    — coverage of the Quarterly Services Survey, a new economic indicator that includes information-producing industries such as the Internet and software publishing; disseminating and distributing information industries such as telecommunications; industries providing technology–related ser-

vices such as data processing, computer design, consulting, and employment services; and (in year two) hospitals, nursing and residential care facilities (Expanded quarterly coverage of service industry activity will also include selected services in areas such as finance, insurance, and utilities that will complement their addition in the 2004 Service Annual Survey and provide the much needed up-to-date data for cyclical components of the economy that currently are not covered more frequently than annually); and

- e-government initiatives by offering interactive forms-based reporting on the web for principal economic indicators as well as electronic reporting software for other more complex current surveys that will be downloadable from the Internet and contain additional functionality to facilitate reporting such as drop-down menus, importing and exporting capabilities, and compatibility with all major spreadsheets.

- The budget request for Housing provides funds for refining, updating, and maintaining cash flow models; estimating credit subsidy rates; and preparing credit subsidy estimates.

- The budget request for OFHEO provides funds to:

  — expand its statistical activities in order to maintain a sound knowledge base of the secondary and primary mortgage markets and keep pace with Freddie Mac's and Fannie Mae's growing and increasingly complex business practices; and

  — increase the use of commercial databases in the analysis of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae data.

- The budget request for SRS supports a special study requested by Congress to assess gender differences in the distribution of external Federal research and development funding.

National Accounts

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) in the Department of Commerce 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 2004 are:

- The BEA budget request will support initiatives to:

— improve the national accounts by acquiring monthly real-time data from private sources to fill data gaps in current measures at the time of original release rather than during a later revision;

— lead in complying with the International Monetary Fund's "Special Data Dissemination Standards" (SDDS) developed under an international agreement to increase the transparency of data on economic conditions; and

— accelerate the release of major indicators such as GDP, personal income, and local area personal income estimates that coupled with the plan to acquire real-time data will improve the usefulness of these measures.

Statistics of Income

The Statistics of Income (SOI) Division in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 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 assets 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 2004 are:

- The SOI budget request will support continued acquisition and installation of hardware that will provide the capability to load the SOI population files online to provide for longitudinal analysis of the individual income tax return SOI panel files, and continued expansion of the amount of data available for electronic dissemination through the IRS Internet home page.

Labor Statistics

Four agencies in the Department of Labor (DOL) are responsible for various aspects of labor statistics:

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces statistics on employment and unemployment; projections of economic growth, the labor force, and employment by industry and occupation; 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 Employment Standards Administration (ESA) supports surveys of occupational wages in selected industries that are used to determine prevailing wage rates and fringe benefits for service occupations in Federal procurement activity.

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

The Department of Labor's 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 Workforce Investment Act section 167 Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers program.

Major program changes and new activities in labor statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The budget request for BLS provides funds for two Current Population Survey (CPS) supplements on key labor force issues every year beginning in 2004. Supplementary surveys to the CPS will provide data on important workforce issues, such as volunteerism, job turnover, contingent employment, work at home, computer use, and job training. The supplements will provide trend data on the labor force issues they address, which will be used to better inform decision-makers in both the public and private sectors. In addition, in FY 2004 BLS will begin publishing the results from two new surveys, the American Time Use Survey (ATUS) and the Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS). These surveys will measure how Americans spend their work and leisure time and labor demand, respectively.

- The ETA budget request will support:

  — continued development, operation, and maintenance of the set of Internet-based national electronic tools known collectively as CareerOneStop, which supports the national system of One-Stop Career Centers; and

  — an improved Occupational Information Network (O*NET) through updating the occupational characteristics ratings, disseminating the electronic database to states and application developers who build software products that use O*NET data, and integrating O*NET information and O*NET OnLine into complementary web-based public systems such as the CareerOneStop and private web-based sites such as Monster.com.

Agriculture Statistics

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) 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. The Census of Agriculture is conducted by NASS 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 census provides national, state, and county data as well as selected data for Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) in USDA conducts research and provides information to ensure safe food and other agricultural products, assess the nutritional needs of Americans, sustain a competitive agricultural economy, enhance the natural resource base and the environment, and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole.

The Economic Research Service (ERS) in USDA conducts research, commodity market projections, and outlook analyses, and develops economic and statistical indicators in the following areas: farming and farm households, commodity markets, agricultural trade, food and consumer economics, nutrition and feeding programs, natural resources and the environment, and the domestic rural economy.

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) in USDA maintains a worldwide agricultural market intelligence and commodity reporting service to provide U.S. farmers and traders with information on world agricultural production and trade for use in adjusting to changes in world demand for U.S. agricultural products. Reporting includes data on foreign government policies, analysis of supply and demand conditions, commercial trade relationships, and market opportunities. In addition to survey data, crop condition assessment relies heavily on computerized analyses of satellite, meteorological, agricultural, and related data. The FAS program serves as the analytical foundation for USDA's export programs and is an important source of information in trade policy efforts.

Major program changes and new activities in agriculture statistics planned for FY 2004 are:

- The budget request for NASS includes program increases to restore and modernize its core survey and estimation program, improve the statistical integrity and standardization of the data collection and processing activities of the Locality Based Agricultural County Estimates/Small Area Estimation Program, and collaborate on e-government initiatives including development of electronic data reporting;

- The budget request for ERS includes program increases to strengthen the economic information and analytical bases for genomics research, application, and education program decisions, and to develop the Security Analysis System for U.S. agriculture.

CHAPTER 3: Long Range Plans

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

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

An explicit statutory basis for OMB's council of statistical agency heads was provided in 1995 by the Paperwork Reduction Act reauthorization (44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(8)). Known as the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), this group enables OMB to obtain more direct participation from the agencies in planning and coordinating Federal statistical activities. 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 Internal Revenue Service, the National Science Foundation, 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 cut across agencies; for exchanging information about agency programs and activities; and for providing advice and counsel to OMB on statistical matters. In the past year, agenda topics included advising OMB's Chief Statistician on standards in need of review and revision; establishing priorities for further interagency collaboration and monitoring progress of working groups tasked to address these priorities; completing efforts to strengthen legislative safeguards for the confidentiality of statistical information and to remove statutory barriers to the sharing of business data for statistical purposes; further enhancing the operations, and thus the usefulness, of the *FedStats* internet site; assessing opportunities for interagency collaboration on information technology development and investment; considering the role of the statistical agencies in GAO's "Forum on Key National Indicators;" and reviewing agency interests and concerns as the American Community Survey is implemented nationwide. In addition, the ICSP member agencies exchanged experiences and solutions with respect to numerous topics of mutual interest and concern, such as advising the Office of Personnel Management on classification standards for mathematicians and statisticians, meeting methodological and analytical challenges in making statistical contributions to counterterrorism initiatives, and assessing the implications of OMB's competitive sourcing requirements for statistical programs.

Statistical Confidentiality and Data Sharing

The Congress has recognized that a confidential relationship between statistical agencies and their respondents is essential. In 2002, Congress passed the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA) as Title V of the E-Government Act (Public Law 107–347). This legislation establishes a uniform set of safeguards to protect the confidentiality of individually identifiable information ac-

quired from the public for statistical purposes, and consistently strong criminal penalties for inappropriate disclosure of such information. The legislation reaffirms that pledges of confidentiality will be honored and gives additional weight and stature to policies that statistical agencies have pursued for decades, assuring respondents who provide statistical information that their responses will be held in confidence and will not be used against them in any government action. CIPSEA also authorizes the sharing of business data among the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Census Bureau. Thus it provides a framework to enhance the efficiency of the Federal statistical system by reducing reporting burden on the public and strengthening the quality and usefulness of the Nation's Federal statistics.

A companion legislative proposal would make complementary changes to provisions set forth in the "Statistical Use" section of the Internal Revenue Code. These changes would represent the first major revision of these policies in more than 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. The complementary proposal has been endorsed by the Treasury Department and submitted to the Congress.

In June 2003, the first formal proposal for data sharing under CIPSEA was published for comment. The Census Bureau proposes to provide data collected from the Surveys of Industrial Research and Development to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) for statistical purposes. BEA will link these data with BEA's existing research and development data, identify data quality issues arising from reporting differences in the BEA and Census Bureau surveys, and improve its survey sample frames.

To promote better communication and coordination among Federal agencies on confidentiality issues, in 1995 the Interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC) was established under the auspices of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. This interagency group includes representatives from 24 Federal agencies who consider common technical and non-technical issues involving data access, confidentiality, and disclosure limitation. The group has several products that are available on its web site (*www.fcsm.gov/committees/cdac/cdac.html)*. In 2001, CDAC developed generalized software for auditing suppression patterns in tables. This software is currently being tested by several Federal agencies and is scheduled for release in January 2004. In 2002, CDAC published three new information products: a paper on "Restrictive Access Procedures," which describes various procedures followed by researchers using Federal research data centers; a summary of the "Panel Discussion on Disclosure Review Boards (DRBs) of Federal Agencies," which discusses the characteristics, defining qualities, and generalized procedures for DRBs; and a paper on "Identifiability in Microdata Files," which discusses the kinds of variables and types of data that may cause individual respondents to be identified in a microdata file.

One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistical Data

A coordinated interagency effort to provide access to the full range of Federal statistics resulted in the release of *FedStats* by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy. This 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. Since its inception, *FedStats* has logged nearly 10 million user sessions, and in 2003 sustained the highest volume of visitors to the site since its release in 1997. The site has also garnered enthusiastic public support and been well received by various media publications, such as *The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post*, the Associated Press wire service, *Federal Computer Week*, and USA TODAY Online. *PC Magazine* in its compilation of the "200 Hottest Web Sites" listed the *FedStats* site as one of the "Top 100 Classic" web sites. *FedStats* also has been awarded an Excellence.Gov finalist award from the Industry Advisory Council's (IAC) eGov Shared Interest group, in partnership with the Federal CIO Council and the E-Gov organization, and the Federal Chief Information Officer council has presented an award for the *MapStats* section of *FedStats* in recognition of making statistical information more accessible to the general public.

The Interagency Council on Statistical Policy's Task Force on One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistics continues to upgrade and expand *FedStats'* coverage of Federal statistical sources. Search capabilities continue to be enhanced by indexing the statistics available on nearly all the agency web sites, and the task force continues to explore ways to make statistical information more easily accessible to the public. The task force has added sections on *FedStats'* policies on privacy and on accessibility to the site for persons with disabilities, developed a Kids Page to provide links to statistical agencies' Kids pages, provided sophisticated users with a set of Data Access Tools, and launched *MapStats* to facilitate searching for the range of Federal data available for a given U.S. geographic area (states, counties, congressional districts, and Federal judicial districts). In addition, the capability to display information on cities with populations of 25,000 or more is being constructed for the current *MapStats* section, and a "*MapStats* for Kids" section is also being developed to facilitate the development of statistical literacy for younger children. The task force continues to respond to user requests for a broader scope of subjects, more detailed data on those subjects, and easier overall access to the data and is working to develop the ability to customize user searches.

Meanwhile, the Federal statistical community is exploring new technologies and undertaking research in collaboration with the National Science Foundation's Digital Government Research Program (for more information on the research see (*www.diggov.org/*). New technologies and methods being developed as a result of more than a dozen research grants will further improve *FedStats* services to users of Federal statistical data.

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

The Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) is an interagency committee established in 1975 that is dedicated to improving the quality of Federal statistics and the efficiency and effectiveness of statistical practice among Federal agencies. Members are selected by OMB and include Executive Branch statisticians, economists, and managers. Approximately two dozen individuals from a dozen agencies currently serve on the FCSM. The mission of the FCSM is to:

- Inform and advise OMB and the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy on methodological and statistical issues that affect the quality of Federal data;

- Compile, assess, and disseminate information on statistical or survey methods and practices for Federal statistical agencies;

- Provide recommendations on issues of statistical methodology such as measurement, analysis, survey methods, survey errors, data collection methods and technologies, record linkage, disclosure limitation, and dissemination of information that affect Federal statistical programs and improve data quality, including timeliness, accuracy, relevance, utility, accessibility, and cost effectiveness;

- Provide a forum for statisticians in different Federal agencies to discuss issues affecting Federal statistical programs; and

- Promote and support cooperative research across agencies on issues relevant to Federal statistics.

The FCSM carries out a broad agenda of activities and has spawned three permanent working groups: the Confidentiality and Data Access Committee, the Household Survey Nonresponse Working Group, and the Interagency Group on Establishment Nonresponse. The FCSM and the ICSP are cosponsoring the Collaborative Research on Survey Methodology program that is administered by the National Science Foundation.

Most recently, the FCSM has also sponsored a subcommittee to assist OMB in its ongoing review of statistical standards. The Subcommittee on Statistical Standards for Surveys is reviewing Statistical Policy Directives 1 and 2 concerning standards for statistical surveys and standards for the publication of statistics, respectively. This subcommittee will examine the existing standards and guidance and make recommendations to OMB on needed revisions and updates to reflect the best practices in Federal agencies.

Over the years, the FCSM has published 34 Statistical Policy Working Papers that present the final reports of subcommittees, as well as proceedings from FCSM seminars and conferences. The papers are available through FCSM's web site (*www.fcsm.gov/*). In November 2002, the FCSM hosted its sixth statistical policy seminar on "Challenges to the Federal Statistical System in Fostering Access to Statistics." In November 2003, the FCSM will hold its third Research Conference. The FCSM's statistical policy seminars alternate with the biennial research conferences.

Collaborative Research on Survey Methodology

Basic research on survey measurement issues, data collection procedures, and technological issues related to survey design has substantial potential to benefit the Federal statistical system as it prepares to meet future challenges in gathering relevant and reliable data. The National Science Foundation's Division of Social and Economic Sciences, in collaboration with a consortium of Federal statistical agencies, supported a special competition for three years (FY 1999, FY 2001 and FY 2002) for research that furthers the development of new and innovative approaches to surveys. The consortium of Federal statistical agencies recently has decided to continue to fund the program for three additional years; the National Science Foundation will continue to administer the program.

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

The projects funded in 2001 under this collaboration focused on robust small area estimation, Bayesian methodology for disclosure limitation and statistical analysis of survey data, and visual and interactive issues in the design of web surveys. In June 2003, the investigators reported on their progress in each of these projects at a seminar open to the Federal statistical community. The proposals funded in FY2002 included survey nonresponse, random digit dialed surveys and cellular phones, nonparametric regression, and analysis of categorical variables. A seminar planned for 2004 will provide an opportunity for these investigators to report progress on these newer projects to the Federal statistical community. The awards for the FY2003 competition are expected to be announced in fall 2003.

Decennial Census

Program initiatives by the Census Bureau related to the next decennial census involve a comprehensive re-engineering for a 2010 census that is more efficient and effective. Major activities being implemented in 2004 focus on three key components of the 2010 Census plan:

- Early and comprehensive planning, development, and testing to allow the Census Bureau to conduct a short-form only data collection, taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by an enhanced geographic data base.

- Further implementation of the American Community Survey (ACS) to assess the quality, reliability, and stability of long form data collected annually utilizing ACS methodology.

- Enhancement of the Census Bureau's address list and Master Address File/Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing

(MAF/TIGER) system by replacing it with one that uses Global Positioning System (GPS) technology and aerial photography to update and improve the address and map information gathered for Census 2000. This will increase enumerator efficiency, facilitate identification of duplicate addresses, improve the accuracy of data tabulations for all governmental units, and reduce field work.

In FY 2004, a principal focus will be the 2004 Census Test, which includes: developing methods for improving coverage, introducing field data collection software, providing training and procedures for the use of mobile computing devices, examining questionnaire content and methods designed to improve race and Hispanic origin data, and improving definitions and methods for distinguishing between group quarters and housing for field canvassing operations. In addition, multi-year efforts will continue to develop an enterprise architecture to support the smooth interchange of data across all systems; plan, develop, and test methodology and innovations across the full spectrum of decennial census operations; and implement the 2004 Overseas Enumeration Test to explore the feasibility of enumerating Americans living overseas in the 2010 Census. The 2004 Census Test will be used chiefly to determine major methodological and procedural design elements for the 2008 Dress Rehearsal and the 2010 Census.

The MAF/TIGER Enhancements Program will enter its third year in FY 2004 with the Census Bureau positioned to continue work on modernizing its geographic database and associated address list. Census will use Geographic Information System Files, where available, and aerial imagery to correct the locations of streets and other geographic information required for ACS and 2010 Census operations. Census also will continue to develop a new processing system and database using GIS and commercial off the shelf tools to modernize the MAF/TIGER system; implement web-based techniques that allow state, local, and tribal governments to provide updates on-line; continue field work to add to the MAF list of more than 20,000 non-city style addresses that cannot be obtained from U.S. Postal Service records; and begin to implement the first in a series of periodic MAF/TIGER evaluation studies.

In addition, because it is essential for the Master Address File to have good coverage of all areas of the country, the Community Address Updating System (CAUS) was developed to identify and list geographic areas across the country experiencing growth not reflected by other methods of updating the MAF. The ACS relies on the MAF as its sample frame, and without reasonably good coverage, the ACS will fail to reflect changes in the characteristics of all areas since Census 2000. In FY 2004, the Census Bureau will continue the implementation of automated field systems in targeted areas of the country to improve the coverage of the MAF. The major activities in FY 2004 include refining software, developing systems and procedures, training field representatives, updating addresses, and evaluating the results of field operations.

American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS) has been developed to provide timely annual information about the economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population to Federal, state, and local decision makers. The ACS began in 1996 in four sites and was expanded in 1999 to 31 sites. With continued Congressional support, the ACS is scheduled to be implemented nationwide in July 2004. Beginning in 2006,

community profiles will be provided every year for communities with populations greater than 65,000. By 2010, all communities for which the long form traditionally produces data—even those with populations less than 20,000—will have profiles based on multiyear estimates that will be updated every year. The ACS will eliminate the need for the long form in the 2010 Census (the current source for this detailed information) when fully implemented, thereby focusing that effort solely on counting the population. The ACS will be conducted nationwide (including Puerto Rico) in every county using a total sample size of three million addresses per year. This will move the traditional "once every ten years" long form data collection and data dissemination activity to a continuous activity providing current data every year.

Sample Redesign for Demographic Surveys

The Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign provides new, updated, and coordinated samples following each decennial census for major ongoing household surveys including the Current Population Survey, the Consumer Expenditure Surveys, the American Housing Survey, the National Crime Victimization Survey, the National Health Interview Survey, and the Survey of Income and Program Participation. In close collaboration with other Federal statistical agencies, the Census Bureau selects new samples for these ongoing household surveys to reflect shifts in the location and characteristics of people that have occurred since the previous decennial census.

In FY 2004, the Census Bureau must complete core activities necessary to select, and begin fielding in FY 2004, new samples for these surveys. The major activities for FY 2004 include programming and production work to select and maintain sample households within selected geographic areas; enhancing/modifying new automated systems and procedures to collect address, map feature, and group quarters information for the surveys; preparing and maintaining automated field systems; and training field representatives on new automated operations and procedures.

The Demographic Surveys Sample Redesign is a collaborative effort of the Census Bureau and other Federal statistical agencies for which the Census Bureau serves as the data collection agent. The portion of the sample redesign work that can be linked to a specific survey is funded by the sponsoring agency as part of the reimbursable cost of the survey. The portion of redesign work common to all surveys that cannot be uniquely identified with a particular survey is funded in the budget of the Census Bureau. Thus, the approach combines central funding for common activities with reimbursable funding for survey-specific redesign activities.

Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics

In 1994, OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs joined six agencies in creating the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. The forum, which now has participants from 20 Federal agencies as well as partners in private research organizations, fosters coordination, collaboration, and integration of Federal data on child and family issues and conditions. In April 1997, the forum was formally established through Executive Order No. 13045. It was called on to develop priorities for collecting enhanced data on children and youth, improve the reporting and dissemina-

tion 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.

America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2003 is the seventh report prepared by the forum agencies. The report presents 25 key indicators on important aspects of children's lives. These indicators are easy to understand by broad audiences, objectively based on substantial research connecting them to reliable data on child well-being, 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 eight contextual measures that describe the changing population, family characteristics, and context in which children are living.

The 2003 report updates information displayed in previous reports and reflects several significant improvements. First, the section on Health Indicators has been expanded to include the percent of overweight children as a regular key indicator. Second, there are two new measures that will be included each year in the Population and Family Characteristics section—the percent of children living with at least one parent who was foreign-born and the percent of children being exposed to secondhand smoke. Third, the Summary List of Indicators has been expanded to include three Population and Family Characteristics measures. And finally, the 2003 special feature highlights changes in the lives of America's children for nine key indicators, based on 1990 and 2000 decennial census data for all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

As in past years, forum agencies continued efforts to strengthen some indicators and close critical data gaps. Subcommittees within the forum are focused on ways to improve measurement of family structure and formation as well as the mental health of children. To foster the development of measures of positive behaviors associated with improved child well-being, the forum supported the Indicators of Positive Development Conference. This conference brought together leading researchers who examined the association between indicators of positive development and the current well-being of children and youth, and the relationship between these indicators and the future well-being of children and youth. It is hoped that the development of questions and scales to measure important aspects of positive development will soon be available for use in large-scale national surveys. In addition, the forum supported the workshop on Counting Couples: Improving Marriage, Divorce, Remarriage, and Cohabitation Data in the Federal Statistical System. This workshop, which focused on identifying areas for improvement in data collection and estimation, concentrated on the major surveys that form the backbone of Federal statistics on families and identified several targets of opportunity that are feasible and would improve Federal data in this area.

To further the reach of its efforts, the forum's award-winning web site (*www.childstats.gov/*) continues to respond to thousands of requests for data on child and family well-being that cut across the domains of its member agencies. The site includes *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2003*, and its related links, other forum reports, information about the overall structure of the forum, and news on current activities. International data have been posted that enable users to compare the well-being of children in the United States to that of children in other countries on many of the report's indicators. Several forum agencies cooperated in this

effort, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the National Center for Education Statistics. In addition, links to related sites provide additional international data on child well-being, and the search capability of the related sites page has been expanded to allow users to search for data resources by agency, level of geography, and subject.

During FY 2004, forum agencies will continue work to close critical data gaps, particularly in areas such as the measurement of child disability, mental health, the role of fathers in children's lives, and the measurement of positive behaviors associated with improved child development. In addition, forum committees will continue to work on data needs related to fatherhood; marriage, divorce, and cohabitation; and the comparability of background variables.

Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics

The Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics, established in 1986 by the National Institute on Aging in cooperation with the National Center for Health Statistics and the Census Bureau, fosters collaboration among Federal agencies that produce or use statistical data on the older population. Over a period of several years, the forum played a key role in improving aging-related data by encouraging cooperation and data sharing among agencies, furthering professional collaboration across disciplines, and compiling aging-related statistical data in a centralized location. The meetings of the forum helped to promote a number of important developments, including the establishment of the Health and Retirement Study and the Survey of Assets and Health Dynamics Among the Oldest Old; the addition of questions on aging to existing surveys such as the Survey of Income and Program Participation, the Longitudinal Studies of Aging, and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics; the acceptance of more standardized age categories; and the collection and presentation of statistics on more narrowly defined age and race categories.

The forum was reorganized in 1998, and included several new members. In addition to the original three core agencies—Census Bureau, National Center for Health Statistics, and National Institute on Aging—the organizing members of the Forum now include senior officials from the Administration on Aging, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in HHS, and Social Security Administration.

The forum has spent the past year working to update its successful chartbook *Older Americans 2000: Key Indicators of Well-Being.* The purpose of this chartbook is to provide readers with a broad range of indicators that can be used to track those areas of health and well-being that are improving for the older population, as well as to highlight those areas that require more attention.

To assist the forum in developing recommendations for health insurance coverage measures in its chartbook, the forum co-sponsored a workshop (with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality) entitled "Health Insurance for the Elderly: Issues in Measurement." The workshop presented forum members with descriptions of current and future issues in health insurance coverage for the elderly and provided them with

expert advice on short and long term data needs and measurement issues facing the Federal statistical system in this domain.

In addition to these activities, the forum's working group on data needs spent the past year developing a template to collect detailed information on how residential settings for people age 65 and over are identified, defined, and classified in federally-sponsored surveys. This activity addresses one of the nine data needs identified in *Older Americans 2000: Key Indicators of Well-Being*—"Distinguishing between different types of long-term care facilities and the transitions that occur between them." Working in conjunction with several other interagency efforts, the forum working group plans to collect key data elements from federally-sponsored surveys to produce a compendium that provides detailed information on how the surveys include or exclude "institutions" from their sampling frames.

During the coming year, the forum will continue to address the data needs that are identified in the forum's chartbook, particularly in areas such as transitions into and between long-term care settings, and improving measures of income and wealth in surveys. The forum will also continue working on the next edition of its chartbook, scheduled for publication late in 2004, while concurrently updating the existing indicators on the Forum's Web site (*www.agingstats.gov/*).

Establishing Comparability in Measures of Educational Attainment

Educational attainment is often used an explanatory variable in analyses of social and economic issues. The importance of education in shaping life experiences and outcomes has been well documented in relation to health status, labor force experience, earnings, criminal activity, and participation in democratic processes as well as various support programs. The importance accorded this measure is demonstrated by its inclusion in virtually all Federal social surveys.

Surveys sponsored by Federal agencies currently do not ask educational attainment questions in the same way. Consistency among survey questions on educational attainment would permit greater comparability of analyses, thereby enhancing understanding of relationships between education and other variables across all areas of research and analysis.

To address this opportunity for improved collaboration highlighted by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, the Office of Management and Budget established the Federal Interagency Committee on Measures of Educational Attainment. Chaired by the National Center for Education Statistics, the committee was asked to assemble different measures used by the agencies, including descriptions of why questions are asked in particular ways; outline specific legislative and programmatic needs for such information; synthesize results of evaluations and other studies that support particular measures; and review measures being used and/or developed by international agencies.

During FY 2000, the committee presented its recommendations for standard measures of educational attainment, endorsing the Census 2000 question on educational attainment as the core question for use in the broadest possible range of Federal surveys that collect this variable. At the same time, the committee advised that "one question does

not fit all surveys," and summarized several key differences among agency needs for data and modes of survey administration. In the course of its work, the committee determined that the emerging area of nontraditional education (such as certificates and licenses) should be a priority for further research. The committee developed a program of research on measuring nontraditional educational achievements, and the ICSP approved this plan in June 2000.

In September 2001, the committee completed a draft report describing its review of the use, meaning, and measurement of education and training certifications. Currently, the committee, with the support of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is undertaking cognitive research. The focus is on two types of populations: experts representing education and training institutions and accrediting agencies, and individuals who may have completed some type of work-related certification. The first set of interviews has been completed; a draft report is expected in 2003 and will be followed by the second set of interviews with participants in work-related certification programs. The ultimate goal of this research is the development of a brief set of questions that could be appended to general-purpose surveys to determine if an individual has completed any labor force-related certification.

Establishing Internationally Comparable Measures of Disability

Internationally comparable general disability measures are being developed through cooperative efforts of the United States, other countries, and international statistical organizations. Activities include the development of a small set of general disability measures, suitable for use in censuses, sample based surveys, or other statistical formats; the design of one or more extended sets of survey items intended to be used as components of population surveys or as supplements to specialty surveys; and the conduct of methodological studies.

Statisticians from many national statistical offices, representatives of the disability community, users of disability data, experts in the field of disability statistics, methodologists, and representatives of the World Health Organization and other health organizations, first met in June 2001. This seminar, which brought together about 100 individuals from developed and developing countries, was sponsored by the United Nations Statistics Division, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States. The seminar developed an agenda for meeting objectives related to improving the comparability of disability data cross-nationally. Seven priority areas were identified for further work, each of which had as its central theme the development of questions and instruments that can be used in national surveys and censuses to measure disability among a variety of populations, such as children, the elderly, institutionalized populations, and persons with cognitive and psychological impairments.

To address the themes and suggestions of the international seminar, the United Nations (UN) established the Washington City Group. Representatives from 30 countries as well as from Eurostat, the World Health Organization, and several international organizations of persons with disabilities participated at the initial City Group meeting hosted in February 2002 by the National Center for Health Statistics. The group

established areas of agreement, made plans to develop networks among participants and provide technical assistance to countries with limited resources, and, most importantly, prioritized issues and activities for future work.

A second meeting of the group was held in Ottawa, Canada in January 2003. This was a smaller meeting with 40 attendees representing 17 countries and international statistical organizations including the UN and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The purpose of the meeting was to complete conceptual development of a measurement matrix that outlines the purposes of the proposed general measure(s) with definitions, items, questions, and characteristics; discuss the results of methodological testing; and initiate discussion of methodological priorities. The draft matrix was presented and discussed along with companion work evaluating currently used survey questions against the matrix. Work on the matrix and currently used questions will be continued by members from the United States, Italy, and the UN to develop it into a useful tool for all countries in selecting survey instruments.

Participating countries also presented the status of methodological testing and development as well as the status of collection activities related to disability questions. The diversity of approaches underlined the challenge in developing a set of common questions that will be comparable and acceptable across diverse countries. Numerous methodological issues were identified in the course of the discussion. These included the coverage of populations such as the institutionalized or the homeless, the comparability of data based on varied collection approaches (for example, telephone versus self-completed questionnaires), the impact of language or translation, and the use of proxy reporting. These are among the issues that will be addressed at future meetings. Materials from these meetings are available at *www.cdc.gov/nchs/citygroup.htm* and will be published by Elsevier in a special edition of *Research in Social Science and Disability.*

The next meeting of the Washington City Group is scheduled for October 2003 in Brussels, Belgium. The objectives of this meeting include selection of one or two key purposes (using the matrix as a guide) for measurement with the United States, Italy, and the UN serving as the leaders of this activity; selection of general measures that could be used as is or could be modified to address chosen purposes; continued discussion on methodological issues related to using general disability measures including such problems as pre- and post-harmonization issues; discussion about extended measurement sets that parallel general measures; and discussion about how to deal with issues of full population coverage.

Improving Data Systems on Health and Health Care

Increasingly complex public health and health policy issues require more sophisticated statistical systems to ensure that the right information is provided at the right time, in a form that can be used for decision making. To remain effective, current data systems must meet the challenge of maintaining current operations while retooling to meet new data needs and utilize more fully new technology and methods. Collectively, these mechanisms gather information that people can provide in interviews; information that people do not know or cannot describe adequately, through examinations and medical records; and information on the circumstances of significant health events, through birth and death records and the compilation of data on medical encounters.

Two major initiatives to strengthen core data systems and surveys are currently under way.

Re-Engineering Vital Statistics: Birth and death statistics are the most complete and continuous data available and are critically important to public health officials at the national, state, and local levels and the private sector. Despite their importance, the Nation's vital statistics are based on a registration and processing system that is increasingly recognized as outmoded. A re-engineered, web-based vital statistics system would involve initial recording of birth and death certificates via electronic systems in hospitals and funeral homes, with secure, encrypted Internet transmission to state and Federal authorities for translation into aggregate statistics. Such a system could greatly improve timeliness, yield major advances in the quality of health information by helping physicians and others more easily enter the appropriate information, provide for sustainability and functionality of the current system in the event of an emergency, and contribute to reducing immigration fraud and fraudulent claims for public benefits. CDC's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) is working with partners in other Federal agencies and with states as part of this e-government initiative to develop the systems specifications, technical architecture, and data standards that are needed to ensure that individual state systems can be fully integrated into a national system (and, importantly, into other public health information systems).

Overhauling the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS): With efforts currently under way, the NHIS will be operated in a fundamentally different way by mid-decade. Two separate but related efforts are essential to ensuring that the NHIS produces timely data easily accessible to users and that the NHIS efficiently captures information on a population that has shifted dramatically in its composition. First, the Census Bureau will begin the intensive field process of updating address lists, identifying sample neighborhoods, and listing households. Second, NCHS is in the third year of a multi-year project to overhaul the basic systems through which the NHIS data are collected, processed, and made available to users. This re-engineering effort has several key components including conversion to a more technologically advanced computer assisted personal interview (CAPI) system and the use of relational databases for pre- and post-collection data and documentation systems. The use of updated technology will improve the quality and timeliness of NHIS data, while providing for more efficient processing of data that will free staff time for data analysis. A small pre-test is planned for 2003.

Strengthening Economic Statistics

In 2001, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) developed a five-year strategic plan to guide its work to provide timely, relevant, and accurate economic data in an objective and cost-effective manner. Recent economic uncertainty has increased the need for sound statistics to help decision makers determine appropriate fiscal and monetary policy, guide business planning and investing, and provide the American public with expert and objective measures of economic activity. Support from the President and Congress has allowed BEA to meet many of these challenges. The constantly changing economy and demands placed on economic statistics require that BEA continue to strive to make further improvements.

In FY 2002, BEA met all of its Strategic Plan challenges to improve the quality and relevance of some of the Nation's most important economic statistics. Improvements included:

- Developing more accurate estimates of wages and salaries, eliminating a major source of revisions to National Income and Federal budget projections;

- Restoring and expanding annual input-output and other industry data, providing better and faster data for analysis of the "new economy" to inform monetary, tax, and regulatory policy;

- Developing more accurate estimates of financial services, generating more accurate cyclical data for monetary and fiscal policy;

- Providing an electronic reporting option, presenting opportunities for reducing paperwork burden on multinational companies each year and for improving accuracy;

- Filling gaps in coverage of U.S. international assets and liabilities, providing a more accurate picture of U.S. exposure to overseas financial disruptions;

- Developing a first set of State personal income and other BEA estimates on a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis, presenting a more up-to-date picture of the structure of the U.S. economy and regions; and

- Introducing dynamic data tables on *www.bea.gov*, improving access and usability of BEA data for customers.

In FY 2003, BEA is building on these successes and continuing to improve the quality and relevance its data. Activities include incorporating international classification systems into BEA accounts and improving source data. In addition, BEA and the Census Bureau were challenged by the Administration to accelerate a number of key economic measures, including international trade in goods and services, GDP-by-industry, input-output accounts, gross State product, and metropolitan area personal income. Finally, BEA's aging statistical processing systems are being updated and improved to handle more complex and integrated statistical processing.

Efforts for FY 2004 include enhancing the quality and relevance of BEA data and completing the acceleration of work begun the prior year. Initiatives called for in BEA's strategic plan for FY 2004 include:

- *Acquire real-time data to improve data quality.* Investments in purchasing real-time data have shown large potential to dramatically improve economic measures such as the GDP. For example, the July 2002 revisions of the GDP and related accounts incorporated a new method for estimating financial brokerage receipts using a mix of monthly public and private real-time data that better captured changes in pricing practices. These additional data significantly lowered measured growth in that dynamic industry. As a result, BEA's 2002 annual revision showed negative growth in 2001 that started earlier and lasted longer than BEA had initially estimated. Making use of real-time data is a simple, proven method of improving the

GDP and national accounts. Funds requested for FY 2004 would improve the economic accounts by allowing BEA to acquire monthly real-time data from private sources to fill data gaps in current measures at the time of original release rather than during a later revision.

- *Collect new international data.* As part of a two-year initiative, BEA seeks to support the Nation's compliance with international statistical obligations. U.S. leadership in complying with the "Special Data Dissemination Standards" (SDDS) will ease data gaps and encourage other nations to maintain their compliance. The SDDS were developed under an international agreement to increase the transparency of data on economic conditions, particularly for countries that wish to borrow internationally. Funds requested for FY 2004 would allow BEA to meet this U.S. commitment as well as update the U.S. Balance of Payments to recognize derivatives and other new financial instruments important to the U.S. and world financial markets.

- *Generate more timely economic data.* BEA must meet the data demands of its users, who require more accurate, timely, and relevant data. The economic slowdown of 2001 demonstrated this need. In its FY 2004 initiatives, BEA seeks to build on the work funded in 2003 and continue to accelerate the release of major indicators such as GDP as well as personal income and local area personal income estimates by two weeks so that estimates will be released approximately two weeks after the reference period. Coupling this acceleration with the plan to acquire real-time data would dramatically improve the usefulness of these measures.

Measuring Electronic Commerce

Electronic commerce, or e-business, is not only creating new businesses but also fundamentally changing the way business is conducted by redefining existing business practices and products, changing distribution channels, modifying marketing and pricing strategies, and reshaping the locations and workings of business activity. While the use of e-business is widely acknowledged and discussed, it has not been properly reflected in official economic statistics, leading to less relevant and potentially misleading information.

Important unanswered questions include how big is the digital economy, how does it really work, how does it affect participating businesses, how might it change affected industries, how does it alter economic statistics, and how will it develop in the future? To address these questions, the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics are working together to improve the measurement of digital business.

The FY 2001 budget for the Census Bureau included funds to initiate an e-business measurement program. The Census Bureau began releasing quarterly estimates of e-commerce in the retail sector in 2000 with fourth quarter 1999 data. In March 2001, the Census Bureau released the first of its multi-sector reports covering 1999 e-commerce and e-business activity. Titled *E-Stats*, this and subsequent reports are available at *http://www.census.gov/estats*. *E-Stats* reports cover manufacturing, merchant wholesale trade, retail trade, and selected service industries. In June 2001, the

Census Bureau released the first official measures of manufacturing plants' existing and planned use of selected e-business processes, based on data collected in mid-2000. This was followed by a March 2002 report providing highly detailed data on the use in mid-2000 of e-business processes by manufacturing plants. In March 2003, the Census Bureau also released the third edition of its basic *E-Stats* report, reflecting e-commerce activity in 125,000 American businesses.

Although the Census Bureau program provides for some official measures of e-commerce sales and e-business activity, more information is needed. The 2002 Economic Census includes questions on e-commerce sales, as well as on supply-chain activities. The 2002 Census of Governments also includes inquiries on e-business activities.

With Congressional support, in FY 2004 the Census Bureau will further expand its e-commerce measurement efforts, introducing programs to collect detailed annual data on business expenditures on hardware, software and communication services; to expand annual coverage of the entire wholesale trade sector, particularly e-markets; and to initiate detailed studies of how e-business is reshaping supply chains.

Measuring the Service and Construction Sectors

Despite service industries' ever-increasing share of the economy, no economic indicator now exists to provide on a timely basis the level of service sector activity. Closing this gap will further improve the Federal statistical system's ability to measure current developments in the macroeconomy. Improved measurement of services enhances the relevance, accuracy, and timeliness of key Federal economic statistics such as GDP, prices, and productivity while augmenting Federal statistics' coverage of the services sector. It also leverages strategic alliances forged among the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Census Bureau, the Economics and Statistics Administration, and the Federal Reserve Board to improve the quality of Federal economic statistics. In FY 2003, the Census Bureau received $5.5 million to launch a new quarterly indicator of service industry activity. Building on this initiative, data collection covering key elements of technology-intensive industries, such as the $1 trillion information sector of the economy, will begin in the fourth quarter 2003. Simultaneously, in order to develop data to support more probing analysis of service sector activities, the Census Bureau will expand significantly its collection of product data from service receipts by industry that is used by BLS to investigate productivity trends, and its collection of information on the purchases of services and materials by companies in the services sector that is designed to improve BEA's existing measures of value-added for service industries.

In addition, Federal and private users of the Producer Price Index (PPI), and of price statistics in general, have stated the need for program coverage to continue to be expanded in the service sector as well as be extended to the construction sector of the U.S. economy. The lack of price indexes for these important production sectors may be compromising the measurement of real growth in the economy. To address these needs, in 2004 BLS will continue work to extend PPI coverage for the first time to the construction sector of the U.S. economy, and enhance the ongoing expansion of PPI coverage of the service sector. As part of this effort, BLS will begin calculating a re-

search price index for warehouses. The expansion will help provide for the sampling and collection of information on price changes for the outputs of service and nonresidential construction sector industries. The PPI has increased coverage of the service and construction sectors from 39 percent in 1997 to 53 percent in 2002, and BLS plans to expand coverage to 75 percent of the output of this sector by 2005.

BLS also will increase service sector coverage in its productivity statistics. Although the service sector has grown to dominate the U.S. economy, official measures indicate only minimal productivity gains in services. There are difficulties in defining and measuring the real economic outputs of many service-producing activities. Recognition of this problem has led to calls for improvements in official service sector productivity statistics.

In 2004, BLS will publish measures of industry labor productivity and unit labor cost series for three additional service-producing industries. The expansion of productivity coverage will aid policymakers and researchers in the analysis and understanding of the service sector overall. These measures will supply fresh insights on technological progress in the service sector and its contribution to aggregate productivity trends. The new unit labor cost measures will furnish valuable information on cost structures and competitiveness that can be used to study price inflation in the economy. In addition, BLS will continue work to develop practical solutions to difficult conceptual issues in the measurement of service sector output and productivity, and to evaluate existing data for possible use in new productivity and unit labor cost measures. The evaluation will identify areas where the existing data collection efforts of government agencies could be refined or augmented in order to improve the measures.

Improving Foreign Trade Statistics

Official U.S. import and export statistics record the physical movement of merchandise between the United States and foreign countries. Foreign trade statistics are used in developing the merchandise trade figures in balance of payments accounts; to appraise and analyze major movements and trends (commodity and geographic) in international trade; to evaluate and plan such programs as export expansion and agricultural development and assistance programs; and to measure the impact of tariff and trade concessions under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). The foreign trade data are also used extensively as the statistical base to implement and analyze operations under various other international agreements, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Foreign trade statistics face two challenges—their timeliness and the coverage of exports. In addition, for a number of reasons largely related to changing trade practices, the statistics on exports of goods understate the value of the exports in the range of three to seven percent. Correction of this shortfall needs to be addressed as efforts proceed to make trade statistics more timely. In FY 2003, the Census Bureau was denied a budget request for $13 million to improve the quality and accelerate the release of trade statistics. Components of this initiative included support for the Automated Export System (AES), accelerated release of trade statistics, and improved export coverage.

Although the Census Bureau did not receive funding in FY 2003, it is continuing to develop plans to accelerate the release of trade statistics. The first phase, to accelerate the release by 7 days, was completed effective with the data release for January 2003. The second phase, to advance the release by another 14 days, originally set for 2004, is on hold pending future funding.

As with the effort to accelerate the release time, implementing mandatory filing through AES is moving forward, but is dependent on future funding. The Census Bureau expects to implement mandatory filing required under the Proliferation Prevention Enhancement Act of 1999 and P.L. 107–228, the Security Assistance Act of 2002, provided Congress funds the effort in FY 2004.

Updating 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. Both the private and public sectors use this measure extensively for economic analysis and policy formulation as well as to escalate contract values between individuals and organizations. The CPI also has a significant impact on the finances of the Federal Government because it is used to adjust payments to Social Security recipients, to civilian and military retirees, and for a number of entitlement programs such as food stamps and school lunches. In addition, the CPI is used to adjust individual income tax brackets and other tax parameters for changes due to inflation.

In FY 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) will continue with efforts to update the CPI continuously by completing the first biennial weight update. BLS also will refine the plan for revising the CPI sample by geographic areas as well as the sample of housing units used for measuring rent change.

During FY 2004 BLS also plans to continue to compile and publish the chained consumer price index for all urban consumers (C-CPI-U), which was introduced in 2002. This index is a supplement to the CPI-U and CPI-W and uses a superlative formula to reflect consumers' responses to changes in relative prices. Unlike the other CPIs, the superlative index is issued in preliminary form and subject to revision as more current expenditure data become available.

Modernizing the Producer Price Index and the International Price Programs

The Producer Price Index (PPI) is the principal source of information on inflation in the business sector of the United States. The PPI measures price change from the first link of a long chain of transactions that lead to final (i.e., consumer) demand in the U.S. economy. The PPI is used extensively by businesses to adjust billions of dollars worth of long term sales and purchase contracts for the effects of inflation. In addition to supporting business and governmental decision making, PPI data are critical inputs to the development of other sensitive economic indicators, including estimates of Gross Domestic Product and industrial productivity.

The International Price Program (IPP) is the principal source of information on price change in the international sector of the U.S. economy. The Bureau of Economic Analysis uses the U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes to adjust for inflation in its quarterly National Income and Product Accounts. In addition, the Census Bureau uses the IPP indexes to adjust the goods portion of monthly international trade figures. Information on internationally traded goods and services and on the U.S. trade position allows users to obtain an accurate measure of the U.S. trade deficit and supports critical economic policy decisions related to both international trade issues and analysis of domestic inflation.

In FY 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue with its efforts to replace older PPI computer subsystems, some of which are nearly 25 years old, with new ones based on a more secure, stable, and expandable computing platform. Furthermore, BLS will continue to make important improvements to both the PPI and IPP programs, such as experimental Producer Price Indexes for goods and services that will provide the first economy-wide measures of changes in producer prices. BLS will introduce annually weighted U.S. Import and Export Price Indexes. These improvements will enable BLS to respond more quickly and effectively to future information requirements as the domestic and international economies continue to change.

Enhancing the Employment Cost Index Component of the National Compensation Survey

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) is the principal indicator that provides the Nation's most comprehensive measure of changes in employer costs for total compensation (including wages, salaries, and employer-provided benefits). The index is used widely by wage and salary administrators to monitor and adjust wages and benefits. Both employers and employees use the ECI to track changes in labor compensation costs. Policymakers, particularly at the Federal Reserve Board, as well as analysts in both the private and public sectors, have increasingly turned to the ECI as a measure of trends in labor costs and, therefore, of inflationary pressures. As a result, users of the ECI have demanded survey data of greater precision, so that labor cost trends can be more accurately measured and significant trends recognized more quickly.

In FY 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue its work to expand the ECI sample to improve the measurement of changes in compensation; increase the industry, occupational, and geographic detail of published data; and enhance the capacity to link data on the costs, prevalence, and features of employee benefit plans. The expansion will allow BLS to produce more precise indices of the changes in employer wage and benefit costs by major industry and occupational groups, and to produce better quarterly estimates of employer compensation cost levels.

Inaugurating a Time Use Survey

In FY 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics will begin publishing annual estimates from the American Time Use Survey (ATUS), a new program that measures how Americans spend their time at work, fulfilling family responsibilities, and at leisure. The ATUS will contribute to knowledge in many areas, such as time spent caring for the young and

the old, house cleaning, home repair, shopping, and skills acquisition, as well as multitasking and variations in time use between single-parent and two-parent families. The availability of national time use data also will facilitate comparisons of time use patterns in the United States with patterns in other countries, as well as comparisons of augmented measures of national output that account for home production.

The American Time Use Survey will permit a broader assessment of national production and national well-being than is presently possible, as well as comparisons across demographic groups. The survey will expand understanding of the non-market activities of working Americans to assess the contribution those activities make to national well-being, families, and quality of life. The program also will provide time-diary estimates of time spent in market work that will be used to assess the quality of existing estimates of hours of work.

Developing a Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey

The Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey (JOLTS) will provide monthly national measures of labor demand. The availability of unfilled jobs—the job openings rate—is an important measure of the tightness of job markets, parallel to existing measures of unemployment. Thus, with the institution of JOLTS, policymakers and analysts will have a better understanding of imbalances between the demand for and the supply of labor and improved tools for assessing the presence of labor shortages in the U.S. labor market. These data also will provide evidence of pressures on wage rates. In 2002, BLS began monthly production of job openings and labor turnover estimates as a developmental series. In 2004, BLS will begin publication of official JOLTS estimates.

Producing Annual Supplements to the Current Population Survey

Since the 1940s, the Current Population Survey (CPS), a monthly household survey that the Census Bureau conducts for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has provided fundamental information about the U.S. labor force, such as the unemployment rate and the characteristics of the unemployed and employed. Supplementary surveys to the CPS provide data on important workforce issues, such as volunteerism, job turnover, contingent employment, work at home, computer use, and job training. The supplements provide trend data on the labor force issues they address, which are used to better inform decision-makers in both the public and private sectors. In 2004, BLS will field a supplement on volunteering, as well as a supplement on work schedules and home-based work.

Integrating Surveys of Employment-Related Health Insurance

Federal surveys that collect data on employment-based health coverage are used to measure the growth and structure of the economy, to assess changes in the compensation of employees, and to address public health policy concerns. Several agencies currently sponsor or conduct surveys that collect data on employment-based health coverage. While these statistics provide a wide variety of information about health insurance, including availability, options, usage, benefits, costs, funding methods, impacts, and participating entities, substantially improved coordination of these data collections

is essential. Improved coordination will align survey data elements, concepts, and definitions to facilitate analyses of employer-provided health benefits and other forms of nonwage compensation across series. Coordinating surveys also has the potential to reduce respondent burden and conserve funds by eliminating redundant requests for information.

The Inter-Departmental Committee on Employment-Related Health Insurance Surveys was created in spring 1998, under the auspices of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, to address these issues. Led by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), the committee now has members from a dozen agencies. The committee's early products include a comprehensive compilation of Federal and major non-Federal sources of health insurance statistics; a detailed comparison of two primary Federal sources of information on employment related health insurance, AHRQ's Medical Expenditure Panel Survey—Insurance Component (MEPS-IC) and BLS' National Compensation Survey (NCS); and a report that identifies and prioritizes gaps between needed and available data on employment-related health insurance issues and recommends ways to reduce these gaps.

The committee continues to meet on a periodic basis to implement recommendations and extend coordination among the member agencies. A glossary of health insurance terms has been developed, and the feasibility of a coordinated extraction of health plan information for both MEPS-IC and NCS was explored in depth. The committee undertook a special study of the availability of data on preventive health care services, in anticipation of future health plan data extraction efforts. The committee plans to evaluate improvements in statistics on health benefits and other forms of nonwage compensation, not only in their own right, but also with reference to their role as components of broader statistical measures, including the Employment Cost Index, the National Health Accounts, and the National Income and Product Accounts.

Most recently the committee has turned its attention to sharing information and compiling data sources on a few topical issues related to health insurance, including retiree coverage and consumer-driven arrangements. The committee has published results of its earlier work in the *Monthly Labor Review*, the *Health Care Financing Review*, and on the BLS and AHRQ Internet sites.

North American Industry Classification System

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) represents an international effort by Statistics Canada; the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informatíca (INEGI) of Mexico; 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 classification principle; that is, units that use similar production processes are grouped together. 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 replaced the 1987 Standard Industrial Classification and is being adopted by Federal statistical agencies that collect or publish data by industry. It is expected that, like its

predecessor, NAICS also will be widely used by state agencies, trade associations, businesses, and other organizations.

Although the initial implementation of NAICS is still being carried out in a variety of programs (see *www.census.gov/epcd/www/naicsfed.htm* for the implementation schedule), the revision of the classification is based on a five-year cycle. As scheduled, periodic review will keep the classification up-to-date and replace extensive reorganizations of the classification with more modest updates each five years. In 2002, NAICS was revised by Canada, Mexico, and the United States to address changes in the information sector and to increase detailed comparability in the construction sector within North America. In addition, the United States made changes to its own national NAICS industries to account for changes in the wholesale trade and retail trade sectors.

The review and revision of NAICS for 2007 began in late 2002 with the publication of a *Federal Register* notice soliciting comments and proposals for changes to NAICS. All proposed changes to NAICS for 2007 will be evaluated in the coming years; decisions regarding any changes to the structure of NAICS will be made by mid-2005. Statistics Canada, INEGI, and OMB have put in place a process to ensure that the implementation of NAICS is comparable across all three countries. In addition, the three countries are reviewing and updating NAICS continuously to ensure that new activities are promptly recognized and added to the electronic lists of products and services that result from economic activity changes in North America. Up-to-date materials resulting from rulings and interpretations are available at *www.census.gov/naics*.

Just as NAICS has facilitated comparisons of economic activity among its North American partners, there is also significant value in being able to compare industrial statistics from a variety of international, regional, and national classifications. Concordances provide a valuable tool for such comparisons. A working group, including the ECPC, Eurostat, INEGI, Statistics Canada, and the United Nations Statistics Division, has developed concordances among NAICS United States 2002, the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Union (NACE Rev. 1.1), and the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev. 3.1). New versions of these classifications were introduced in 2002 and this work represents the first comprehensive review of their similarities and differences that has been validated by their custodians.

North American Product Classification System

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

Given the dynamic and intangible nature of many service products, OMB's Economic Classification Policy Committee anticipated that conceptual and data collection issues involved in developing applicable measures for them would require innovative, comprehensive efforts to ensure that the resulting classifications are conceptually sound, feasible to implement, and relevant. Consequently, the overall initiative is being implemented in several phases. Phase 1, completed in 2001, resulted in product classifications for 121 industries in four NAICS service sectors. Portions of the Phase 1 results were tested in the 2002 Economic Census and the 2001 Service Annual Survey. Phase 2, scheduled for completion in late 2003, will continue to target selected service industries. Phase 3 will complete the identification and definition of products for the remaining service industries by mid-2005. Further work to identify and define the products in manufacturing and trade will take place in future years. It is expected that the results of Phases 2 and 3 will be incorporated, on a flow basis, in the Service Annual Survey and in the 2007 Economic Census. Additional information regarding the NAPCS project is available at *www.census.gov/napcs*.

Standard Occupational Classification System

The Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) is a system for classifying all occupations in the economy, including private, public, and military occupations, in order to provide a common means to compare occupational data across agencies. It is designed to reflect the current occupational structure in the United States and to cover all occupations in which work is performed for pay or profit. A revised Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system was issued by OMB in September 1999, and the new *SOC Manual* was published in October 2000. The 2000 SOC system replaces the Occupational Employment Statistics classification system, formerly used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for gathering occupational information. It also replaces the Census Bureau's 1990 occupational classification system. In addition, the new SOC serves as the framework for information being gathered through the Department of Labor's Occupational Information Network, which has replaced the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles*. Federal agencies that collect occupational data will use the new system; similarly, state and local government agencies are strongly encouraged to use this national system to promote a common language for categorizing occupations (for an implementation schedule, see *www.bls.gov/soc/socimp.htm*).

OMB has established a committee of Federal agency representatives, the SOC Policy Committee, to ensure that the successful efforts of the SOC Revision Policy Committee continue and that the SOC remains relevant and meets the needs of agencies using occupational data. The committee consults periodically to perform SOC maintenance functions, such as reviewing the recommended placement of new occupations and updates to occupational definitions. The committee is also facilitating the transition to the revised SOC and promoting its consistent implementation across Federal agencies. The next major review and revision of the SOC is expected to begin in 2005.

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area Definitions

OMB's "Standards for Defining Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas" are designed to produce a nationally consistent set of geographic areas for use in collecting, tabulating, and publishing Federal statistics. The current standards were published in

December 2000 (65 FR 82228–82238), culminating a multi-year review process that examined the concepts and methods underlying the standards that have been in effect and reviewed once a decade since 1950. On June 6, 2003, OMB issued Bulletin No. 03–04, implementing the simpler, more transparent 2000 standards.

The bulletin establishes revised definitions for the Nation's Metropolitan Statistical Areas and recognizes 49 new Metropolitan Statistical Areas. The bulletin also designates Metropolitan Divisions in those Metropolitan Statistical Areas that have a single core with a population of at least 2.5 million. In addition, the bulletin establishes definitions for two new sets of statistical areas: Micropolitan Statistical Areas and Combined Statistical Areas. New England City and Town Areas also are defined. The definitions reflect the straight-forward, technical application of the 2000 standards to Census 2000 population and journey-to-work data. The definitions of the statistical areas went into effect immediately.

OMB's 2000 standards provide for the identification of the following statistical areas in the United States and Puerto Rico: 370 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (362 in the 50 states and 8 in Puerto Rico), including 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas that have a total of 29 Metropolitan Divisions; 565 Micropolitan Statistical Areas; 116 Combined Statistical Areas; 42 New England City and Town Areas; and 9 Combined New England City and Town Areas. The attachment to the bulletin provides the definitions of these areas.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas have at least one urbanized area of 50,000 or more population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties of at least 25 percent. Micropolitan Statistical Areas—a new set of statistical areas—have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties of at least 25 percent. Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas are defined in terms of whole counties (or equivalent entities). If the specified criteria are met, a Metropolitan Statistical Area containing a single core with a population of 2.5 million or more may be subdivided to form smaller groupings of counties referred to as Metropolitan Divisions.

The classification includes about 93 percent of the U.S. population—about 83 percent in Metropolitan Statistical Areas and about 10 percent in Micropolitan Statistical Areas. (Previously, the classification included about 80 percent of the U.S. population.) Of 3,142 counties in the United States, 1,090 will be in the 362 Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the United States and 674 counties will be in Micropolitan Statistical Areas (1,378 counties will remain outside the classification).

In view of the importance of cities and towns in New England, the 2000 standards also provide for a set of geographic areas that are defined using cities and towns in the six New England states. The New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs) are defined using the same criteria as Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas and are identified as either metropolitan or micropolitan, based, respectively, on the presence of either an urbanized area of 50,000 or more population or an urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population. If the specified criteria are met, a New England

City and Town Area containing a single core with a population of at least 2.5 million may be subdivided to form smaller groupings of cities and towns referred to as New England City and Town Area Divisions.

If specified criteria are met, adjacent Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas, in various combinations, may become the components of a new set of areas called Combined Statistical Areas. For instance, a Combined Statistical Area may comprise two or more Metropolitan Statistical Areas, a Metropolitan Statistical Area and a Micropolitan Statistical Area, two or more Micropolitan Statistical Areas, or multiple Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas. The geographic components of Combined New England City and Town Areas are individual metropolitan and micropolitan NECTAs, in various combinations. The areas that combine retain their own designations as Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Areas (or NECTAs) within the larger Combined Statistical Area (or Combined NECTAs). Combinations for adjacent areas with an employment interchange of 25 or more are automatic. Combinations for adjacent areas with an employment interchange of at least 15 but less than 25 are based on local opinion as expressed through the Congressional delegations.

OMB's standards provide for the identification of one or more principal cities within each Metropolitan Statistical Area, Micropolitan Statistical Area, and NECTA. (The term "principal city" replaces "central city," the term used in previous standards.) Principal cities encompass both incorporated places and census designated places. In addition to identifying the more significant places in each Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area or NECTA in terms of population and employment, principal cities also are used in titling Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas, Metropolitan Divisions, Combined Statistical Areas, NECTAs, NECTA Divisions, and Combined NECTAs.

Bulletin No. 03–04 and its attachment that provides the definitions of the statistical areas are available electronically from the OMB web site at *www.whitehouse.gov/OMB*—go to "Bulletins" or "Statistical Programs and Standards." The 2000 Standards for Defining Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Areas are also available at *www.whitehouse.gov/omb/*—go to "Statistical Programs and Standards." (Information on historical definitions of Metropolitan Statistical Areas is available from the Census Bureau's web site at: *www.census.gov/population/www/estimates/metroarea.html.)*

Classification of Data on Race and Ethnicity

OMB's standards for data on race and ethnicity provide a minimum set of categories for use when Federal agencies are collecting and presenting such information for statistical, administrative or compliance purposes. In October 1997, OMB issued revised "Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity," which superseded the standards originally adopted in 1977 (62 FR 58781–58790).

As a follow-on to the adoption of the 1997 standards, OMB worked with its interagency committee to develop Provisional Guidance on the Implementation of the 1997 Standards for the Collection of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity. This guidance focused on three areas: collecting data using the revised standards, tabulating data collected under the revised standards, and building bridges to compare data collected un-

der the revised and the earlier standards (for a copy of the guidance see *www.whitehouse.gov/omb/*—go to "Statistical Programs and Standards"). In response to requests from agencies responsible for monitoring and enforcing civil rights laws, OMB also led an interagency group that developed more specific guidance for agencies that collect or use aggregate data on race. In addition, this guidance addresses the allocation of multiple race responses for use in civil rights monitoring and enforcement (OMB Bulletin 00–02, dated March 9, 2000, available at *www.whitehouse.gov/omb/*—go to "Statistical Programs and Standards"). The guidance in OMB Bulletin 00–02 is designed to ensure that agencies can continue to monitor compliance with laws that offer protections for those who historically have experienced discrimination, and that reporting burden is minimized for those reporting aggregate data to Federal agencies.

Most, if not all, of the national population-based surveys and censuses have now implemented the 1997 standards. However, agencies with civil rights monitoring and enforcement responsibilities are still considering various implementation approaches. For example, in July 2003 the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission requested public comment on its proposals for collecting information on race and ethnicity in the annual EEO–1 reports (68 FR 34965–34969). OMB is continuing to actively monitor implementation of the standards for data on race and ethnicity through its information collection review process.

Definition of Income and Poverty

Measures of income and poverty are important statistics that affect not only public perceptions of well-being in America, but also governmental policies. The current measure of poverty was originally developed in the 1960's as an indicator of the number of individuals with inadequate family resources (defined as before-tax money income) for needed consumption of food and all other goods and services (defined by a dollar threshold). Since then, the poverty measure has been widely used for policy formation, program administration, analytical research, and general public understanding. However, growing concerns about the continued validity and usefulness of the official U.S. poverty measure have led to research and recommendations to improve the current measure.

A working group formed by OMB under the auspices of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy is continuing efforts to review available options for improving the measurement of income and poverty. The working group identified key research needs based on issues raised in a report by the National Research Council (NRC) in 1995, *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach*. That report recommended that the official U.S. poverty thresholds be changed to comprise a budget for the three basic categories of food, clothing, and shelter (including utilities), and a small additional amount to allow for other needs, such as household supplies, personal care, and non-work-related transportation.

Significant statistical issues are being addressed by the working group. 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 is

limited in its applicability to the expenditure patterns 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.

The working group has coordinated closely with the Census Bureau to advise its development of experimental poverty measures that incorporate relevant NRC recommendations. In June 1999, the Census Bureau issued an initial report, *Experimental Poverty Measures, 1991–1997*, presenting alternative experimental poverty measures as a constructive first step in the development of improved measures of income and poverty. This report was followed by three special studies issued in July and September 1999 and September 2000, an update of the NRC-based poverty estimates for the period 1990 to 1999 using new data, and a dozen Poverty Measurement Working Papers. (These documents are available on the Census Bureau's web site at *www.census.gov/hhes/www/povmeas.html*.) A second experimental poverty measures report that provided additional alternative measures based on accounting for some expenses in the thresholds and using refined expenditure data sources was released in fall 2001.

To assess progress toward improving the measurement of poverty, the Office of Management and Budget has asked the NRC's Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) to convene a workshop on Federal research on alternative methods for measuring poverty. The proposed workshop would focus on two broad areas. First, the workshop discussion would provide a forum for comment on methods developed for key elements of the CNSTAT proposals and the degree of support for such methods. These elements could include the estimation of gross money income from public and private sources, accounting for the value of nonmedical in-kind benefits (such as food stamps and other benefits), deducting taxes, and the implementation of an alternative equivalence scale. Second, the workshop would focus on other CNSTAT proposals that have inspired alternative approaches requiring further development. These could include methods to reflect medical needs in the poverty measure and assign child care expenses, as well as the role of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) in implementing a revised poverty measure.

Appendix A. Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2004

Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2004

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Direct Funding	Reimbursements			Purchases		
		State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
AGRICULTURE							
ARS	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
ERS	76.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	5.0	5.6	7.6
FAS	37.8	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.4
FNS	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.0	0.0
FS	38.5	7.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
NASS	136.2	3.6	0.0	12.0	21.3	0.0	2.0
NRCS	134.1	3.8	0.0	3.1	2.0	0.0	5.5
COMMERCE							
BEA	78.3	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.6	1.3
Census	682.0	1.4	8.4	227.5	0.0	0.0	1.7
ESA	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3
ITA	4.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.1	0.6
NOAA	86.1	0.0	2.7	0.0	11.7	10.2	0.0
PTO	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DEFENSE							
Corps	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8
DIOR	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DMDC	9.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.0
EDUCATION							
NCES	185.8	0.0	0.0	3.3	2.0	183.8	8.5
ENERGY							
EH	34.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.8
EIA	80.1	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3	39.0	0.0
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES							
AOA	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.7	0.2

Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2004

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Direct Funding	Reimbursements			Purchases		
		State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
ACF	33.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	14.4	0.6
AHRQ	152.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.3	18.2
ATSDR	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.7	0.1	0.0
CDC (w/o NCHS)	346.7	0.0	0.0	8.9	116.0	66.7	10.8
CMS	15.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.8	0.0
HRSA	17.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.2	2.2
HIS	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NCHS	124.6	0.0	0.9	37.6	16.8	54.1	40.7
NIH	675.1	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	378.8	32.4
OASPE	24.7	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0	24.7	6.0
OPA	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	1.4
SAMHSA	147.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	15.5	112.7	1.8
HOMELAND SECURITY							
BCBP	13.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5
EP&R	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	4.1	0.0
OIS	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT							
Housing	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0
OFHEO	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
PD&R	26.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	24.0
P&IH	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.8	0.0
INTERIOR							
FWS	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.0
MMS	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NPS	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.4
BoR	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8
USGS	77.3	75.0	2.1	41.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
JUSTICE							
BJS	41.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	5.1	26.0
BoP	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0
DEA	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2004

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Direct Funding	Reimbursements			Purchases		
		State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
FBI	6.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LABOR							
BLS	512.0	0.0	1.0	5.0	90.0	17.0	76.0
ESA	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.0
ETA	94.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.7	0.0	0.4
MSHA	6.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
OASP	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0
OSHA	24.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	0.0
TRANSPORTATION							
BTS	35.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	2.6
FAA	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.7
FHWA	53.8	5.8	5.8	0.0	8.0	48.1	1.1
FMCSA	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	3.2
FRA	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.3
FTA	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	1.6
MARAD	1.9	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.0
NHTSA	41.2	0.0	0.0	5.7	8.8	27.1	3.8
OST	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RSPA	6.0	0.3	0.0	7.2	0.3	4.8	0.1
TREASURY							
SOI (IRS)	38.1	0.0	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.3	0.1
VETERANS AFFAIRS							
BVA	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
VHA	124.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
VBA	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0
OPP	11.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.9	0.4
OTHER AGENCIES							
AID	18.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4	8.2
CPSC	8.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
EEOC	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1
EPA	143.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	20.9	1.5

Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2004

(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	Direct Funding	Reimbursements			Purchases		
		State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies	State/ Local Govt's	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
NASA.....	21.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NSF	116.7	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	107.7	7.8
SRS	35.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	25.1	6.9
SBA.....	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
SBA.....	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
TOTAL	**4,719.1**	**97.5**	**21.4**	**371.2**	**420.4**	**1,274.3**	**330.7**

Note: Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Appendix B. Principal Statistical Agency Staffing Levels

This report historically has focused on the budgetary resources Federal agencies devote to statistical activities. To add some perspective, this appendix provides information on the staffing levels of the principal statistical agencies. Each agency was asked to report its total number of staff or appointments, as well as the number of full-time permanent staff, the number of other than full-time permanent staff, and the combined number of statisticians and mathematical statisticians. Agencies were asked to report their actual on-board strength, meaning actual positions or appointments, not their full-time equivalent (FTE) levels. This distinction is important, because one FTE can represent multiple staff positions or appointments. For example, a monthly survey may require one FTE, which could actually represent 12 positions or appointments who each worked one month. (Contractors and consultants are not Federal staff and are not included in the staffing counts.)

Information on staffing levels in the principal statistical agencies is presented below.

Principal Statistical Agency Staffing Levels

Agency	Staff	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
Census Bureau*	Total	7,942	8,822	9,435
	Full-time permanent	4,390	6,142	6,801
	Other than full-time permanent	3,552	2,680	2,634
	Statisticians	1,527	1,674	1,803
Bureau of Labor Statistics	Total	2,675	2,792	2,792
	Full-time permanent	2,259	2,376	2,376
	Other than full-time permanent	416	416	416
	Statisticians	169	174	174
National Agricultural Statistics Service	Total	1,087	1,358	1,368
	Full-time permanent	1,086	1,352	1,362
	Other than full-time permanent	26	35	35
	Statisticians	589	695	700
National Center for Health Statistics	Total	569	516	531
	Full-time permanent	491	469	479
	Other than full-time permanent	78	48	50
	Statisticians	178	165	185

Principal Statistical Agency Staffing Levels

Agency	Staff	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
Economic Research Service	Total	479	504	507
	Full-time permanent	425	465	479
	Other than full-time permanent	87	39	28
	Statisticians	4	4	4
Bureau of Economic Analysis	Total	506	556	542
	Full-time permanent	485	533	519
	Other than full-time permanent	17	19	18
	Statisticians	4	4	5
Energy Information Administration	Total	374	369	375
	Full-time permanent	358	352	360
	Other than full-time permanent	16	17	15
	Statisticians	54	55	55
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	Total	127	140	144
	Full-time permanent	123	136	143
	Other than full-time permanent	4	4	1
	Statisticians	31	36	36
National Center for Education Statistics	Total	116	108	115
	Full-time permanent	116	107	115
	Other than full-time permanent	0	1	0
	Statisticians	87	78	85
Bureau of Justice Statistics	Total	60	57	47
	Full-time permanent	51	52	45
	Other than full-time permanent	9	5	2
	Statisticians	33	31	34

*Note: Census Bureau figures do not include decennial census staffing. In FY 2002, the decennial staff included 1,306 full-time permanent and 741 other than full-time permanent employees. FY 2003 these numbers are 1,926 and 1,370, respectively, and in FY 2004 these levels will be 1,645 and 2,726 respectively.

Glossary of Department and Agency Abbreviations

ACF	Administration for Children and Families (HHS)
AoA	Administration on Aging (HHS)
AHRQ	Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (HHS)
AID	Agency for International Development
ARS	Agricultural Research Service (Agriculture)
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (HHS)
BCBP	Bureau of Customs and Border Protection (Homeland Security)
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)
BVA	Board of Veterans' Appeals (VA)
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS)
Census	Census Bureau (Commerce)
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (HHS)
Corps	Army Corps of Engineers (Defense)
CPSC	Consumer Product Safety Commission
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
EH	Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (Energy)
EIA	Energy Information Administration (Energy)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EP&R	Emergency Preparedness and Response (Homeland Security)
ERS	Economic Research Service (Agriculture)
ESA/DOC	Economics and Statistics Administration (Commerce)
ESA/DOL	Employment Standards Administration (Labor)
ETA	Employment and Training Administration (Labor)
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration (Transportation)
FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service (Agriculture)
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation (Justice)
EP&R	Emergency Preparedness and Response (Homeland Security)
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (Transportation)
FMCSA	Federal Motor Carrier Safety 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)
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)
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)
NCCAM	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (HHS)
NCES	National Center for Education Statistics (Education)
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics (HHS)
NCI	National Cancer Institute (HHS)
NEI	National Eye Institute (HHS)
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (Commerce)
NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (HHS)
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (Transportation)
NIA	National Institute on Aging (HHS)
NIAAA	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (HHS)
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (HHS)
NIAMS	National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (HHS)
NIBIB	National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (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)
NIDCR	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (HHS)
NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (HHS)
NIEHS	National Institute on Environmental Health Sciences (HHS)
NIGMS	National Institute of General Medical Sciences (HHS)
NIH	National Institutes of Health (HHS)
NIMH	National Institute of Mental 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)
OFHEO	Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (HUD)
OIS	Office of Immigration Statistics (Homeland Security)
OMB	Office of Management and Budget (Executive Office of the President)
OPA	Office of Population Affairs (HHS)
OPP	Office of Policy and Planning (VA)
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)
PTO	Patent and Trademark Office (Commerce)
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)
SRS	Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF)
SSA	Social Security Administration
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey (Interior)
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration (VA)
VHA	Veterans Health Administration (VA)

Selected Federal Statistical World Wide Web Sites

(As of August 2003)

FedStats—"One-Stop Shopping"

www.fedstats.gov

Executive Office of the President (EOP)

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/
(Go to "Statistical Programs and Standards")

Federal Statistics Briefing Rooms
www.whitehouse.gov/news/fsbr.html

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology
www.fcsm.gov/

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

www.usda.gov/

ARS—Agricultural Research Service
www.ars.usda.gov/

Food Survey Research Group
www.barc.usda.gov/bhnrc/foodsurvey/home.htm

ERS—Economic Research Service
www.ers.usda.gov/

FAS—Foreign Agricultural Service
www.fas.usda.gov/

FNS—Food and Nutrition Service
www.fns.usda.gov

FS—Forest Service
www.fs.fed.us/
Forest Inventory and Analysis
http://fia.fs.fed.us/

NASS—National Agricultural Statistics Service
www.usda.gov/nass/

NRCS—Natural Resources Conservation Service
www.nrcs.usda.gov/
(Go to "Technical Resources")

Department of Commerce (DOC)

www.doc.gov/

BEA—Bureau of Economic Analysis
www.bea.gov/

Census Bureau
www.census.gov/

ESA—Economics and Statistics Administration
www.esa.doc.gov/

ITA—International Trade Administration
www.ita.doc.gov/

Tourism Industries
http://tinet.ita.doc.gov/

Office of Trade and Economic Analysis
www.ita.doc.gov/td/industry/otea

NOAA—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
www.noaa.gov/

NMFS—National Marine Fisheries Service
www.nmfs.noaa.gov/

Fisheries Statistics and Economics
www.st.nmfs.gov/

NESDIS—National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service
www.nesdis.noaa.gov/

USPTO—Patent and Trademark Office
www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taf/index.html

Department of Defense

www.defenselink.mil/

Corps—Army Corps of Engineers
www.iwr.usace.army.mil/ndc/wcsc.htm

DIOR—Directorate for Information Operations and Reports
www.dior.whs.mil

DMDC—Defense Manpower Data Center
www.dmdc.osd.mil/
(Go to Public Sites, then to DMDC Profile)

Department of Education

www.ed.gov/

NCES—National Center for Education Statistics
www.nces.ed.gov/

Department of Energy

www.energy.gov/

EIA—Energy Information Administration
www.eia.doe.gov/

EH—Office of Environment, Safety and Health
http://tis.eh.doe.gov/portal/home.htm

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

www.dhhs.gov/

OASPE—Office of the Secretary
http://aspe.dhhs.gov/statinfo/

ACF—Administration for Children and Families
www.acf.dhhs.gov/

AHRQ—Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
www.ahrq.gov/
(Go to "Data & Surveys")

ATSDR—Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/

CDC—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/
(Go to "Data and Statistics")

CMS—Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
www.cms.gov/
(Go to "Publications")

HRSA—Health Resources and Services Administration
www.hrsa.gov
(Go to "Data and Statistics")

IHS—Indian Health Service
www.ihs.gov

NCHS—National Center for Health Statistics
www.cdc.gov/nchs/

NIH—National Institutes of Health
www.nih.gov/
(Go to "Health Information" or "Scientific Resources")

OPA—Office of Population Affairs
http://opa.osophs.dhhs.gov/

SAMHSA—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov/
(Go to "Statistics/Data")

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

www.dhs.gov/

Bureau of Customs and Border Protection
www.cbp.gov

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EP&R)
www.fema.gov/

OIS—Office of Immigration Statistics
www.bcis.gov
(Go to "Immigration Statistics")

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

www.hud.gov/

Housing
www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/index.cfm

OFHEO—Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight
www.ofheo.gov

PD&R—Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research
www.huduser.org/

P&IH—Office of Public and Indian Housing
www.hud.gov/offices/pih/index.cfm

Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov/

BoR—Bureau of Reclamation
www.usbr.gov/main/index.html

FWS—United States Fish and Wildlife Service
http://info.fws.gov/databases2.html
Division of Federal Aid
http://fa.r9.fws.gov/

MMS—Minerals Management Service
www.mms.gov
(Go to "Library")

NPS—National Park Service
www.nps.gov
(For public use statistics: *www.nature.nps.gov/stats/*)

USGS—United States Geological Survey
www.usgs.gov/

Department of Justice

www.usdoj.gov/

BJS—Bureau of Justice Statistics
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/

BoP—Bureau of Prisons
www.bop.gov/

DEA—Drug Enforcement Administration
www.usdoj.gov/dea/
(Go to "Statistics")

FBI—Federal Bureau of Investigation
www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm

Department of Labor (DOL)

www.dol.gov

BLS—Bureau of Labor Statistics
http://stats.bls.gov/

ESA—Employment Standards Administration
www.dol.gov/esa/

ETA—Employment and Training Administration
www.doleta.gov/

America's Labor Market Information System
www.lmi-net.org/

MSHA—Mine Safety and Health Administration
www.msha.gov/

OASP—Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy
www.dol.gov/asp/

National Agricultural Workers Survey
www.dol.gov/asp/programs/agworker/naws.htm

OSHA—Occupational Safety and Health Administration
www.osha.gov/
(Go to "Statistics")

Department of Transportation (DOT)

www.dot.gov

BTS—Bureau of Transportation Statistics
www.bts.gov/

FAA—Federal Aviation Administration
www.faa.gov/

FHWA—Federal Highway Administration
www.fhwa.dot.gov

FMCSA— Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
www.fmcsa.dot.gov
(Go to "Facts & Figures")

Analysis and Information Online
http://ai.volpe.dot.gov/

FRA—Federal Railroad Administration
www.fra.dot.gov/

Office of Safety Analysis
http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/

FTA—Federal Transit Administration
www.fta.dot.gov/
(Go to "National Transit Library")

MARAD—Maritime Administration
www.marad.dot.gov/
(Go to "Publications & Statistics")

NHTSA—National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
www.nhtsa.dot.gov

National Center for Statistics and Analysis
www.nhtsa.dot.gov/
(Go to "Crash Statistics")

RSPA—Research & Special Programs Administration
www.rspa.dot.gov

TSA—Transportation Security Administration
www.tsa.gov
(Go to "Briefing Room")

Department of the Treasury

www.ustreas.gov

IRS—Internal Revenue Service
www.irs.ustreas.gov/

SOI—Statistics of Income
www.irs.ustreas.gov/
(Go to "Tax Stats")

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

www.va.gov/vetdata/

Agency for International Development (AID)

www.usaid.gov/

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

www.cpsc.gov/about/clrnghse.html

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

www.epa.gov/
(Go to "Information Sources," then go to "Databases & Software")

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

www.eeoc.gov
(Go to "Statistics")

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

www.nasa.gov/

National Science Foundation (NSF)

www.nsf.gov/
(Go to Science Statistics)

Small Business Administration (SBA)
www.sba.gov/advo/stats/

Social Security Administration (SSA)
www.ssa.gov/
(Go to "History, Research, & Data")