



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

THE DIRECTOR

July 6, 2000

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 2001* report that is required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 [Section 3504(e)(2) of Title 44, United States Code].

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provides overall coordination for the Federal statistical system. We take seriously our responsibility to ensure that our Nation's key statistics remain relevant, accurate, and timely. The enclosed report outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's FY 2001 budget. We believe that current funding levels for the Government's statistical agencies have not kept pace with recent changes in our economy and society. The President's budget proposes carefully targeted investments that will 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. Economic data are key indicators for fiscal and monetary policy; they also underlie Federal, State, and local income projections, investment planning, and business decisions. Without the improvements proposed for FY 2001, 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,

Jacob J. Lew
Director

Enclosure

Identical Letter Sent to the President of the Senate

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Introduction

Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2001 outlines the funding proposed for Federal statistical activities in the President's budget. The budget requests an estimated \$3,944.4 million for statistical work to be carried out in FY 2001, including \$392.8 million for Census 2000. Approximately 40 percent of the overall funding for the statistical system (excluding funding for the decennial census) provides resources for ten agencies that have statistical activities as their principal mission. The remaining funding is spread among approximately sixty agencies that carry out statistical activities in conjunction with other program missions, such as providing services or enforcing regulations.

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

The report fulfills a responsibility of OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Section 3504(e)(2) of Title 44, United States Code) to prepare an annual report on statistical program funding. The report has three chapters. Chapter 1 outlines the effects of Congressional action on the President's FY 2000 budget request and the funding for statistics proposed in the President's FY 2001 budget. Chapter 2 highlights program changes for Federal statistical activities proposed in the President's FY 2001 budget. Chapter 3 describes a number of ongoing and new interagency initiatives to improve Federal statistical programs. In addition to detailed budgetary resources data, the appendices include information on staffing levels for the principal statistical agencies.

This 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 "Information & Regulatory Policy"). The report is also located at the one-stop shopping site for Federal statistical data: www.fedstats.gov/ (go to "Policy"). At both sites users may also access the FY 1997 to FY 2000 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 1999, FY 2000, and FY 2001. It highlights the effects of Congressional action on the President's FY 2000 budget request for Federal statistical activities and outlines recommended changes in funding for these programs for FY 2001. 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 2001 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 1999, or estimated direct funding for statistical activities of at least \$500,000 in either FY 2000 or FY 2001. 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:
 - 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;
 - collection, processing, or tabulation of statistical data for publication, dissemination, research, analysis, or program management and evaluation;
 - 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. In addition, a statistical program is not always executed by the agency that sponsors it. In these instances, the work is done on a reimbursable basis by another Federal statistical agency or by a private organization under contract.
 - Whether statistical work is done inside or outside the agency, the direct obligations reflect the level of statistical activities in support of the agency's mission. Table 1 presents direct program funding for FY 1999, FY 2000, and FY 2001 for major statistical programs, by department and agency.

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs,
FY 1999–2001**
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	1999 Actual	2000 Estimate	2001 Estimate
AGRICULTURE			
ARS	3.5	2.6	2.6
ERS	62.5	65.4	55.4
FAS	29.7	30.5	31.1
FNS	2.0	1.0	17.2
FS	14.4	18.2	18.2
NASS	104.0	99.3	100.6
NRCS	107.3	109.5	117.5
COMMERCE			
BEA	43.1	43.8	48.9
CENSUS	1,390.7	4,769.8	739.2
Current	156.1	160.0	193.8
Periodic	1,234.6	4,609.8	545.4
Census 2000	1,078.6	4,467.5	392.8
ESA	5.3	5.6	5.8
ITA	3.7	2.8	5.3
NOAA	53.4	54.5	60.6
NMFS	30.1	31.2	36.7

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs,
FY 1999–2001—Continued**
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	1999 Actual	2000 Estimate	2001 Estimate
DEFENSE			
CORPS	4.5	4.4	5.2
DIOR.....	2.2	2.1	2.1
DMDC.....	4.2	6.5	7.3
EDUCATION			
NCES	112.4	125.9	137.9
ENERGY			
EH	24.0	23.5	23.5
EIA	70.2	72.4	75.0
HHS			
ACF.....	35.4	36.4	35.9
AHRQ	83.4	95.6	122.4
ATSDR.....	5.0	4.5	4.0
CDC	227.7	253.9	274.5
NCHS	94.5	105.0	110.0
HCFA	15.3	11.0	14.7
HRSA	16.0	16.5	18.8
IHS	2.6	2.7	2.9
NIH	384.1	427.0	443.8
NCI.....	100.3	108.9	113.4
NEI.....	0.8	0.9	1.0
NHLBI.....	59.8	63.5	65.5
NIA.....	5.2	5.5	6.2
NIAAA.....	7.0	9.0	9.0
NIAID.....	40.0	41.0	42.0
NIAMS.....	0.4	0.4	0.4
NICHD.....	25.9	29.5	31.0
NIDA.....	54.2	61.0	63.5
NIDCD.....	2.0	2.0	1.2
NIDDK.....	48.0	54.9	58.2
NIDCR.....	1.8	1.9	1.9
NIEHS.....	30.0	37.0	39.0
NIGMS.....	0.1	0.1	0.1
NIMH.....	6.0	9.0	9.0
NINDS.....	1.5	1.2	1.2
OD.....	1.1	1.2	1.2
OASPE.....	24.0	24.3	24.0
OPA.....	1.6	1.5	1.6
SAMHSA.....	118.3	136.1	128.8
HUD			
Housing.....	1.6	1.6	1.8
OFHEO.....	5.0	6.0	7.0
PD&R.....	31.8	28.2	30.8
P&IH.....	8.5	13.5	7.5

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs,
FY 1999–2001—Continued**
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	1999 Actual	2000 Estimate	2001 Estimate
INTERIOR			
FWS	3.3	3.8	9.0
MMS	2.3	2.8	2.9
NPS	1.6	1.6	1.6
BoR	3.3	3.3	3.3
USGS	60.1	54.8	65.9
JUSTICE			
BJS	29.7	30.1	38.4
BoP.....	10.6	7.9	8.2
DEA	0.5	1.0	1.0
FBI	5.1	5.3	5.5
INS	2.0	2.8	3.0
LABOR			
BLS	397.7	413.2	453.6
ESA	5.0	3.1	4.1
ETA	81.9	130.1	155.1
MSHA.....	2.5	2.5	3.9
OASP.....	1.5	2.9	1.5
OSHA.....	17.3	25.5	28.5
TRANSPORTATION			
BTS	31.0	31.0	31.0
FAA	3.2	3.0	3.0
FHWA	31.0	27.3	25.4
FRA	2.4	2.5	2.6
FTA	2.3	2.5	2.5
MARAD.....	1.8	1.8	1.9
NHTSA	21.7	21.0	34.8
OST	1.1	1.3	1.4
RSPA	5.6	6.7	7.0
TREASURY			
Customs.....	13.7	14.1	14.6
IRS	39.8	45.1	47.6
OR	11.8	13.9	14.2
SOI	28.0	31.2	33.4
VETERANS AFFAIRS			
VHA	70.7	77.3	82.1
VBA	1.5	1.5	1.6
NCA	0.2	0.2	0.2
OPA	5.0	5.4	8.0
OTHER AGENCIES			
AID	18.1	19.0	19.0
CPSC.....	6.0	6.0	7.0

**Table 1. Direct Funding for Major Statistical Programs,
FY 1999–2001—Continued**
(In millions of dollars)

Department/Agency	1999 Actual	2000 Estimate	2001 Estimate
EEOC	1.0	1.0	1.0
EPA	191.9	184.2	180.4
FEMA	1.5	2.8	3.6
NASA	16.9	16.9	16.9
NSF	70.8	75.6	86.9
SRS	14.3	14.9	16.9
SBA	0.8	1.1	1.5
SSA	6.6	6.6	7.0
Total	4,166.4	7,741.2	3,944.4
Total w/o Census 2000	3,087.8	3,273.7	3,551.6

Note: Figures shown in Table 1 have been provided by the agencies and are derived from the program and financing schedules for these agencies in the President's FY 2001 budget. The amounts for BJS and NCES include estimated salaries and expenses that are not directly appropriated. The FY 2001 amount for BLS includes \$20.7 million in budget authority for activities transferred from ETA. Components may not add to stated totals because of rounding.

Highlights of Congressional Action on the President's FY 2000 Budget Request

The figures for FY 2000 in Table 1 reflect Congressional action on the President's budget request for funding of statistical activities. The following are highlights of the impact of these appropriation levels on the programs of the principal statistical agencies:

Bureau of the Census: The FY 2000 appropriation of \$4.8 billion was \$36 million below the President's request. As a result of this decrease, the Current Industrial Reports program was curtailed, the implementation of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in current economic surveys was postponed and the development of historic time series data for NAICS service industries was abandoned, the last wave of the 1996 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) was canceled, and the planned conversion of the automated survey questionnaire and control systems from DOS-based software to a graphical user interface based software was delayed. The Medicare, Medicaid, and State Children's Health Insurance Act also appropriated an additional \$10 million 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.

Bureau of Economic Analysis: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$5.7 million below the President's request. As a result of this decrease, no funds were provided to support the initiatives proposed for maintaining and improving the Nation's economic accounts and for upgrading BEA's information technology; moreover, the appropriated funds were insufficient to cover mandatory increases in personnel and rent costs.

Bureau of Justice Statistics: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$7.0 million below the President's request. With the amount provided, Congress included \$400,000 to support the National Victims of Crime survey and \$400,000 to compile statistics on victims of crime with disabilities, and it directed BJS to implement a voluntary annual reporting system of all deaths occurring in law enforcement custody.

Bureau of Labor Statistics: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$7.8 million below the President's request, but BLS took no programmatic reductions.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics: The FY 2000 appropriation matched the President's request, supporting continuation of the agency's base programs.

Economic Research Service: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$9.7 million above the President's request. Congressional action resulted in an increase of \$12.2 million to evaluate food stamp, child nutrition, and women's, infants', and children's programs, which the Administration had proposed be funded through the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service. The appropriation did not, however, support requests for funds for an initiative on the economic incentives for carbon sequestration and trace gas emissions control in agriculture; for U.S. Global Change Research Program National Assessment activities; for enhanced commodity market analysis; for meeting the analytical information needs of small farmers, niche marketers, and others in the agricultural sector; for assessing the potential impacts of electric utility deregulation; or for pay costs.

Energy Information Administration: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$0.3 million below the President's request. As a result, funding earmarked for upgrading EIA's investment in international analysis and modeling capabilities was reduced.

National Agricultural Statistics Service: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$1.2 million below the President's request. As a result, computer acquisitions for a NASS cooperative office in Puerto Rico were delayed, fewer states and crops were added to the pesticide use survey program, and the Mid-Atlantic Pilot Project to measure chemical usage on cropland was not funded. A total of \$16.5 million was received for the Census of Agriculture, including \$1.9 million for the decennial Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey to prepare for the 2002 Census of Agriculture. The appropriation funded the establishment of a permanent NASS cooperative office in Puerto Rico and provided \$2.5 million within the President's Food Safety Initiative to establish baseline data for agricultural practices as they relate to microbial food safety issues. In addition, the appropriation provided funds for a new pesticide use survey of important horticulture and greenhouse industries as well as for expansion of existing pesticide use surveys to include more commodities. A re-

duction of \$8.4 million in funding for NASS reflects the cyclical funding of the Census of Agriculture.

National Center for Education Statistics: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$13.5 million below the President's request. As a result, NCES scaled back Higher Education Act data collection and analysis activities, canceled the College Cost Study, and reduced longitudinal studies, including the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study.

National Center for Health Statistics: The FY 2000 appropriation was \$4.6 million below the President's request. As a result, NCHS' goal to fill some critical data gaps through new, targeted surveys will not be achieved in 2000. Improvements in timeliness of release of data from NCHS surveys and data systems will not be achieved as quickly as anticipated. Additionally, the National Vital Statistics Program will not be able to support efforts by states to implement electronic systems that would lead to further improvements in quality and timeliness.

FY 2001 Budget Highlights

As shown in Table 1, the FY 2001 budget submitted by the President for statistical activities covered by this report is estimated at \$3,944.4 million. This year's proposed budget includes a number of key cross-agency initiatives designed to address some of the most serious shortcomings in the Nation's statistical infrastructure. These initiatives include:

- seeking, as a top priority, new statutory authority for the limited sharing of confidential statistical information among specific Federal statistical agencies solely for statistical purposes, in order to increase the accuracy of statistical estimates and the efficiency of Federal data collection systems;
- developing an integrated statistical base for analysis of the effects of e-business across the Nation's products and industries, including changes in the structure of investment, pricing, and distribution practices;
- improving coverage of the construction and service sectors in the Producer Price Index (which may also produce methodological techniques that further improve the Consumer Price Index) and enhancing coverage of the service sector in BLS productivity estimates;
- providing consistent, accurate, and current demographic information for all states as well as for sub-state areas with populations greater than 65,000 through the American Community Survey program, which will result in numerous data improvements and efficiencies including far more timely data to distribute close to \$200 billion in Federal funds annually to states and local areas; and
- supporting the tabulation, analysis, and dissemination of Census 2000 data and related evaluations of their accuracy and coverage in order to reap the benefits of Census 2000 investments.

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

Bureau of the Census: Increases are requested for an annual survey of minority owned businesses (+\$1.5), measurement of electronic business (+\$8.5), improvements to export coverage (+\$1.4), improved measurement of economic well-being (+\$6.1), restoration of a portion of the reductions made in FY 2000 to the base for current statistics (+\$12.0), American Community Survey (+\$3.4), and demographic surveys sample redesign (+\$3.7). Decreases are requested for economic censuses (-\$6.6), the census of governments (-\$.9), and the decennial census (-\$4,074.7).

Bureau of Economic Analysis: Increases are requested to incorporate e-business in the economic accounts (+\$3.0) and to enhance the security of BEA data (+\$0.5).

Bureau of Justice Statistics: Increases are requested to produce a measure of crime victimization of the disabled population (+\$0.3), collect data on hate crimes (+\$1.0), collect data from law enforcement agencies and the public on the nature and consequences of routine traffic stops (+\$0.8), conduct a census of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal criminal justice agencies (+\$2.0), improve electronic collection and dissemination of data (+\$0.5), measure the consequences of computer crime (+\$1.0), and develop statistical measures designed to examine concerns about racial disparity in the administration of justice (+0.5).

Bureau of Labor Statistics: The budget request includes increases for collecting data on how Americans spend their time in paid work as well as in unpaid work and other non-market activities (+\$4.3), enhancing employment statistics at local levels and providing employment projections at state levels in the Labor Force Statistics Activity and the Employment Projections Activity (+\$3.8), expanding price, output, and productivity measures within the Prices and Cost of Living Activity and the Productivity and Technology Activity (+\$3.2), and tracking discrimination in labor markets (+\$0.5). By shifting \$20.7 within the Department of Labor, the request centralizes the Federal-state production of labor market information.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics: The budget request provides for the same level of program activities as in FY 2000.

Economic Research Service: The budget request includes increases for an initiative on structural changes and market concentration in food and agriculture (+\$1.1), a global research and outreach initiative (+\$0.5), and an initiative on the economic incentives for carbon sequestration and trace gas emissions control in agriculture (+\$0.7). It also includes a decrease for the evaluations of food stamp, child nutrition, and WIC programs that the Administration has proposed be funded through the department's Food and Nutrition Service (-\$12.2).

Energy Information Administration: The budget request reflects increases for continuing the improvement of natural gas surveys and data systems (+\$0.6), continuing the enhancement of international analysis and modeling (+\$1.0), upgrading the data quality of several petroleum and natural gas surveys and data systems (+\$0.9), upgrading the data and information processing infrastructure (+\$0.5), maintaining natural gas sampling frames (+\$0.2), and continuing the operation of the consumption surveys (+\$0.6).

National Agricultural Statistics Service: Increases are requested for three new initiatives: expansion of Hog and Pig reports to a monthly basis (+\$0.7), a pesticide use survey of the horticulture and greenhouse industries (+\$0.8), and improved security for the NASS computer system given the market sensitivity of NASS reports and the importance of confidentiality for data providers (+\$1.4). A decrease (-\$1.9) is proposed for the Agricultural Economics and Land Ownership Survey which is conducted on a cyclical basis once every 10 years.

National Center for Education Statistics: Increases are requested for enhancements to the Institutional Census Surveys program (+\$7.3), primarily to redesign and operate the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System; the Longitudinal Surveys program (+\$6.3), including the Birth Cohort and Kindergarten Cohort of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study; and Statistical Standards and Reporting (+\$3.1) to enhance the quality and usefulness of NCES' statistical data collections.

National Center for Health Statistics: Increases are requested to maintain existing data systems and begin to meet challenges in redesigning and improving systems to meet new needs, including the continued viability of important national data sources used to inform health policy, research, and public health interventions (+\$5.0).

Reimbursable Programs

Agencies whose missions are primarily or entirely statistical often perform statistical work for others on a reimbursable basis. These reimbursements come from other agencies within the same department or from other Federal agencies, state governments, and occasionally the private sector or foreign governments. Some agencies that have reimbursable programs, for example, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (OASPE) in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), do not necessarily perform all the work. Rather, part of the reimbursable program money is used to purchase statistical work from other Federal agencies or the private sector.

Table 2 presents a list of agencies that 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 2001. As shown in Table 2, of the estimated total of \$404 million in reimbursable work, an estimated \$322 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 2001, the Census Bureau has the largest reimbursable program, estimated at \$188.4 million. Most of this work (\$184.7 million) entails data collections and preparation of tabulations for other Federal agencies. In particular, the Census Bureau expects to perform approximately \$64.1 million of reimbursable work for the Department of Labor to collect labor force and consumer expenditure data for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Table 2. Estimated Agency Reimbursements for Statistical Activities, FY 2001
(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Reim- bursable Program	State/local Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
Census.....	739.2	188.4	0.0	3.7	184.7
USGS.....	65.9	103.7	58.7	2.9	42.1
NCHS.....	110.0	33.9	0.0	0.9	33.0
BLS.....	453.6	10.4	0.1	1.4	8.9
NASS.....	100.6	10.0	2.0	0.0	8.0
FS.....	18.2	8.9	2.7	0.0	6.2
OASPE.....	24.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	8.0
NRCS.....	117.5	6.8	4.1	0.0	2.7
NOAA.....	60.6	6.2	0.2	3.6	2.4
FAS.....	31.1	5.1	0.0	0.0	5.1
NCES.....	137.9	3.9	0.0	0.1	3.8
BJS.....	38.4	3.2	0.0	0.0	3.2
SRS.....	16.9	2.1	0.0	0.0	2.1
CPSC.....	7.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
ACF.....	35.9	1.8	0.0	0.0	1.8
BEA.....	48.9	1.8	0.0	0.6	1.2
SOI.....	33.4	1.6	—	0.1	1.5
EPA.....	180.4	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2
FHWA.....	25.4	1.1	1.0	0.0	0.1
OASP.....	1.5	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.9
ATSDR.....	4.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6
EIA.....	75.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5
ERS.....	55.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
MARAD.....	1.9	0.4	0.0	—	0.4
VHA.....	82.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
CDC (w/o NCHS).....	165.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3
SSA.....	7.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2
HRSA.....	18.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
ITA.....	5.3	0.2	—	0.1	0.1
FBI.....	5.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Total.....	2 666.7	404.4	68.8	13.6	322.0

Reimbursements from the private sector also include funds received from foreign governments. Agencies receiving funds from foreign governments are: Census (\$1.0 million); BLS (\$0.6 million); NOAA (\$0.2 million); and NCES (\$0.1 million). Components may not add to stated totals because of rounding. The symbol “—” indicates that the amount reported by the agency was less than \$50,000.

Examples of reimbursable work that the Census Bureau expects to perform for other Federal agencies include: the National Schools and Staffing Survey, the Private Schools Survey, and the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System Survey for the National Center for Education Statistics; the National Health Interview Survey, the National Hospital Discharge Survey, the National Home and Hospice Survey, and the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey for the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS); the American Housing Survey and the Housing Sales Survey for the Department of Housing and Urban Development; the National Crime Survey, the Children in Custody Survey, and the National Prisoner Statistics Program for the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the Commodity Flow Survey and Travel Survey for the Department of Transportation; and the Survey of College Graduates for the National Science Foundation. In addition, the Census Bureau receives funds from the Agency for International Development (\$4.9 million) and from foreign governments (\$1.0 million) for training and advising in statistical techniques.

The Water Resources Division in the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has the second largest reimbursable program, estimated at \$103.7 million. Among the Federal agencies, USGS performs the largest amount (\$58.7 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 the second largest amount of statistical work for other Federal agencies (\$42.1 million), including hydrologic data collections and analyses for the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, State, and Transportation; the National Park Service and other agencies in the Department of the Interior; the Environmental Protection Agency; FEMA; and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

A large portion of the reimbursable work in HHS is done within the Department. This reimbursable work is conducted through the use of grants, contracts, and interagency agreements within HHS. For the most part, intradepartmental transfers from the Public Health Service's One Percent Evaluation Fund will be used for statistical analysis of the Health Insurance and Expenditure Survey, the Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys, and the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project.

Most of the reimbursable statistical work performed by NCHS (\$33.9 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) (\$19.6 million). Overall, the CDC does a majority of its reimbursable work for HHS agencies. All of the reimbursable work at OASPE is for other Federal agencies, providing support for health, income assistance, and social service projects.

Approximately 70 percent of the reimbursable work carried out by BLS for other Federal agencies is done for other agencies in the Department of Labor. This work includes an estimated \$6.2 million that will be transferred to BLS from the Employment and Training Administration for the Mass Layoffs Sta-

tistics Program, for surveys of training availability in companies and of displaced workers, and for the National Longitudinal Wage Data Base project.

Intradepartmental transfers also support much of the reimbursable work shown in Table 2 for Department of Agriculture (USDA) agencies. Approximately \$6.9 million of NASS's reimbursable work is done for other agencies in USDA. In particular, NASS will receive \$4.2 million from the Economic Research Service (ERS) for the Agricultural Resource Management Study. NASS will also be reimbursed by the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) for providing training and technical assistance in statistics (\$900,000). ERS will receive approximately \$375,000, which FAS will pay ERS to provide technical assistance in China. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will receive approximately \$3.7 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.

Table 3. Estimated Agency Purchases of Statistical Services, FY 2001
(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/local Governments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
BLS.....	453.6	180.0	91.0	17.0	72.0
ETA	155.1	154.0	154.0	0.0	0.0
SAMHSA	128.8	125.5	39.2	85.8	0.5
NCES.....	137.9	124.0	2.0	110.6	11.4
NCHS.....	110.0	96.6	15.6	51.5	29.5
CDC (w/o NCHS)....	164.5	92.1	42.0	44.4	5.6
NSF (w/o SRS)	70.0	70.0	0.0	66.9	3.1
NIH	443.8	63.4	4.4	36.9	22.1
AHRQ	122.4	47.3	0.0	40.8	6.5
BJS.....	38.4	36.4	5.9	3.4	27.1
ACF	35.9	35.9	0.0	27.9	8.0
NHTSA	34.8	34.8	10.0	22.3	2.5
OASPE	24.0	32.0	0.0	26.4	5.6
PD&R	30.8	30.8	0.0	5.8	25.0
EIA.....	75.0	28.7	1.0	25.3	2.5
EPA.....	180.4	25.2	2.5	20.6	2.1
FHWA.....	25.4	24.4	9.8	10.2	4.3
EH.....	23.5	23.5	0.0	0.0	23.5
NASS.....	100.6	21.0	19.4	0.0	1.6
AID.....	19.0	19.0	0.0	14.5	4.5
SRS.....	16.9	19.0	0.0	16.1	2.9

**Table 3. Estimated Agency Purchases of Statistical Services,
FY 2001—Continued**
(In millions of dollars)

Agency	Direct Funding	Total Purchases	State/local Govern- ments	Private Sector	Other Federal Agencies
FNS.....	17.2	17.2	0.0	17.1	0.1
HCFA.....	14.7	14.7	0.0	14.6	—
ERS.....	55.4	7.9	2.4	0.8	4.7
NOAA.....	60.6	7.7	4.5	3.2	0.0
RSPA.....	7.0	6.3	0.0	6.3	0.0
BTS.....	31.0	6.1	0.0	0.0	6.1
FAS.....	31.1	5.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
OPA (VA).....	8.0	5.0	0.0	4.7	0.3
ITA.....	5.3	3.8	0.0	2.2	1.6
HRSA.....	18.8	3.5	0.0	1.3	2.2
BoR.....	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0	3.3
FEMA.....	3.6	3.2	0.0	3.2	0.0
OSHA.....	28.5	3.1	0.0	3.1	0.0
CPSC.....	7.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
FAA.....	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.6	2.4
ARS.....	2.6	2.6	0.0	2.6	—
FTA.....	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
VHA.....	82.1	2.5	0.1	2.4	0.0
ESA (DOL).....	4.1	2.4	0.5	0.6	1.3
OASP.....	1.5	2.4	0.0	2.4	0.0
OFHEO.....	7.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Corps.....	5.2	1.7	0.0	0.8	0.9
FRA.....	2.6	1.7	0.0	1.3	0.3
OPA (HHS).....	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.4	1.2
Census.....	739.2	1.4	0.0	0.3	1.2
NPS.....	1.6	1.3	0.7	0.0	0.6
ATSDR.....	4.0	1.2	0.2	1.0	0.1
INS.....	3.0	1.1	0.0	0.2	0.9
Total.....	3,542.3	1,400.8	405.2	703.0	292.5

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. The Science Resources Studies Division of the NSF and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation in HHS, 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 four largest purchasers of statistical services are the Bureau of Labor Statistics (\$180.0 million); the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) (\$154.0 million); the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (\$125.5 million); and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) (\$124.0 million). They are followed by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) (\$96.6 million), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (without NCHS) (\$92.1 million), and the National Science Foundation (without the Science Resources Studies Division) (\$70.0 million). During FY 2001, Federal agencies covered by this report will purchase an estimated \$1,404 million in statistical services, as shown in Appendix A. Of this total, over half of the services will be purchased from the private sector.

The largest purchasers of statistical services from the states are ETA (\$154.0 million); BLS (\$91.0 million); CDC (without NCHS) (\$42.0 million); SAMHSA (\$39.2 million); and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) (\$19.4 million). The ETA funds support American's Labor Market Information System. The BLS funds support the cooperative labor force statistics program. The CDC funds reimburse the states for their participation in the collection of vital statistics and for their cooperation in the reporting of diseases. The SAMHSA funds are provided to states to implement the minimum data standards developed by the Mental Health Statistics Improvement Program and to develop an assessment of their needs for substance abuse treatment and prevention services under the block grant program. The NASS funds support data collection services provided by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. 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 2001, 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 \$705 million in statistical services from the private sector during FY 2001. Of that total, approximately \$375 million (or 53 percent) in purchases from the private sector are made by the following five agencies: NCES (\$110.6 million), CDC and NCHS (\$95.9 million total), SAMHSA (\$85.8 million), and NSF and SRS (\$83.0 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 2001 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 principal agency that produces general-purpose health data is the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NCHS is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of statistics on the nature and extent of the health, illness, and disability of the U.S. population; the impact of illness and disability on the economy; the effects of environmental, social, and other health hazards; the use, cost, and financing of health care services; health resources; family formation, growth, and dissolution; and vital events (i.e., births and deaths). CDC also provides data on morbidity, infectious and chronic diseases, occupational diseases and injuries, vaccine efficacy, and safety studies.

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

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) produces and disseminates scientific and policy-relevant information about the cost, quality, access, and medical effectiveness of health care. AHRQ's Medical Expenditures Panel Surveys provide public and private sector decision makers with 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 subgroups of the population.

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) conducts public health assessments, health studies, and health surveillance for those exposed to hazardous materials, and maintains exposure and disease registries for long-term follow-up or specific scientific studies. ATSDR analyzes the statistical significance of disease, biomarkers, and other health outcomes in the presence of environmental contamination, to establish possible relationships between exposure and health.

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

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

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

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

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

Major program changes and new activities in health statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for NCHS includes an increase of funds to maintain existing data systems and to redesign and improve systems to meet new needs. This funding will support the continued viability of important national data sources used to inform health policy, research, and public health interventions.
- The budget request for NIH includes funds to:
 - expand the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program (which currently consists of 11 state and regional population-based cancer registries covering about 14 percent of the Nation's population) to collect data on a wider range of population groups and on socioeconomic and other factors that underlie cancer trends by adding as many as four new state registries (up to ten additional states will receive supplementary funding to upgrade their existing registries to meet SEER standards), and by capturing data on a broader spectrum of American Indian and Hispanic population groups, rural African Americans and whites, and others;

- expand data collection to include more information on patterns of care, outcome measures, and geographical distribution of cancer cases;
 - continue the development of the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network, which will include a consortium of centers that support modeling research of population based trends in risk factors, screening, and treatment related to cancer outcomes; help design, interpret, and extrapolate screening and prevention studies; and evaluate costs and health effects of specific interventions;
 - support statistical activities that relate to maternal-prenatal issues, pediatric developmental issues, and preventative health measures that promote maturity to adulthood;
 - increase the number of grant awards made in the Biometry and Risk Estimation activity to support research and development in toxicity testing and test development, in risk estimation methods, and for other scientific problems in environmental health;
 - expand research that examines ways to improve the validity of self-reported drug use on surveys (e.g., biological measures and improved survey methodologies) and expand secondary analysis of data from prior drug abuse studies;
 - support studies of innovative and state-of-the-art data collection and analytic methodologies for assessments of need for prevention and treatment services for drug abuse at the community level;
 - study the incidence and prevalence of HIV infection among drug abusers who are not in treatment at the community level and the impact of outreach education and counseling interventions on seroincidence and behaviors which put drug abusers at risk for HIV infection; and
 - support the continuation of the National Epidemiological Survey on Alcohol Use and Related Health Conditions.
- The budget request for CDC includes funds to support the continued expansion of the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System to obtain national estimates of all types and external causes of nonfatal injuries treated in hospital emergency departments, and to improve vaccine safety and increase the number of Vaccine Safety Datalink sites.
 - The budget request for AHRQ includes funds to conduct the Medical Expenditure Panel Surveys as well as ongoing data collection efforts and related survey activities, to continue to implement enhancements introduced in FY 2000, to increase statistical analysis for the Health Insurance and Expenditure Survey, to increase grants and contracts for research on health care costs and quality, and to provide new enhancements for the Report to the Nation on the Quality of Health Care.
 - The budget request for IHS includes funds to adjust American Indian mortality statistics in its publications to compensate for miscoding of American Indian race on state death certificates for all data years.

Safety

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

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assists state and local governments in operating and maintaining the National Fire Information Council/National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). FEMA conducts the Firefighter Fatality Study, provides Fire Data Analytical Services, surveys disaster assistance applicants to evaluate the effectiveness of disaster delivery efforts, and provides data on the Capability Assessment for Readiness program of states in 13 emergency management functions.

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

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) collects and analyzes current information on employment and production, as well as on accidents, injuries, and illnesses in the mining industry, including mine, victim, and equipment characteristics, and causal information. The data provide current accident, injury, and illness information to MSHA's inspectorate enforcement personnel, and to engineering, education, and training staff.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) conducts data collection, analysis, and dissemination activities on consumer product-related hazards and potential hazards. As part of its statistical program, CPSC maintains the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System that provides national consumer product-related injury statistics based on the reporting of a sample of hospital emergency rooms.

Major program changes and new activities in safety statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- OSHA plans to begin the collection of OSHA 200 Log data on occupational injuries and illnesses from construction firms with 20 or more employees.

Social and Demographic Statistics

Periodic Demographic Statistics

The principal source of periodic demographic data is the Bureau of the Census, whose major programs in this area include the decennial census, the American Community Survey, and the intercensal estimates program.

Census 2000: In FY 2001, the Census Bureau will complete the field data collection operations for Census 2000. As in past censuses, the downsizing of the workforce will require significant effort for a smooth transition to post decennial census staffing levels. The 520 Local Census Offices will complete data collection activities and will be in the final stages of close out. Data capture ac-

tivities will be nearing completion, as will plans to have the three contracted Data Capture Centers closed by the end of the first quarter of FY 2001. The Census Bureau will continue clerical coding of long form write-in data at its National Processing Center.

For FY 2001, the President's budget includes funding to:

- complete the intensive coverage improvement operations and shut down the large field operations for data capture and non-response follow-up;
- process, tabulate, and disseminate the Census 2000 results;
- provide to the President, by December 31, 2000, the state-level population counts that are required to apportion congressional seats;
- provide to each state by March 31, 2001, the data necessary to determine congressional, state, and local legislative boundaries;
- complete the last phases of the field work for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation survey, which provides a quality check on Census 2000 results; and
- archive census data, conduct evaluations, and document the Census 2000 operations and systems performance.

American Community Survey: The American Community Survey (ACS) collects current, small-area data historically gathered on the decennial census long form. In FY 2001 data will continue to be collected in 31 sites to support analyses for small geographic areas, such as census tracts, that require accumulations of several years of data. Requested funding will support critical tests for conducting the ACS in unique geographical areas and with unique population groups, including developing methodology for interviewing in rural Alaska and examining the feasibility of conducting a mail survey in Puerto Rico. In addition, ACS data will be compared to Census 2000 results.

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

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, and information collected under reimbursable programs on health, crime victimization, housing, voting, consumer expenditures, travel, and child care. 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 and financial functions such as the DOD Personnel Survey Program, the Enlistment and School Testing Programs, the Market Research Program, the Actuary Program, and Operation Mongoose, a financial fraud and abuse program.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The statistical activities of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) include developing estimates and projections of the veteran population, collecting information on the socioeconomic characteristics of veterans and the care provided to veterans in VA health care facilities; conducting surveys that provide information on the users and nonusers of VA benefit programs, as well as veteran satisfaction; performing medical research; evaluating VA programs; and conducting performance measurement studies.

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

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) collects data from public and private employers and union and labor organizations about the composition of their workforces by sex, 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 National Science Foundation's (NSF) Science Resources Studies Division (SRS) 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. The division also collects data on the Nation's investments in research and development, along with international comparisons of these

measures. In addition, NSF provides funding to support biological sciences research data bases and social science research studies, such as the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, the General Social Survey, and the National Election Studies, as well as surveys and data collection methodologies to assess the state of U.S. education and the impact of NSF programs on curriculums in science and mathematics.

The 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 2001 are:

- The Census Bureau's budget request includes a new program initiative for Improved Measurement of Economic Well-Being. The new measure will use more detailed data that are collected as part of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), rather than data from the Current Population Survey. SIPP will be expanded to include three overlapping panels in order to produce more accurate, consistent, year-to-year comparisons. The Census Bureau is also seeking increased funding to support sample redesign activities common to all major recurring household surveys the agency conducts.
- The increase in statistical activities for DMDC reflects additional requirements for market research to support military recruiting efforts.
- The budget request for FNS includes funds to restore research and evaluation activities in food and nutrition assistance programs for analyses of proposed policy changes and program improvements.
- The budget request for NSF includes funds to continue the redesign of the data system on the labor force of scientists and engineers.
- The budget request for OPA includes funds to support data collection for the sixth cycle of the National Survey of Family Growth.
- The budget request for HUD includes decreases due to the FY 2000 completion of studies of public housing operating costs, excessive per unit costs in Public Housing Authorities, and tenant responses about housing quality.
- The budget request for VA includes funds to accommodate actuarial data development activities, including veteran population estimates and projections; to conduct analyses on the National Survey of Veterans data set; to begin a national survey of female veterans; to enrich data bases through the matching of VA administrative files with HCFA and DOD files for various types of veterans, including minority and homeless veterans; and to conduct new surveys to gauge the customer satisfaction of veterans and beneficiaries who utilize Veterans Benefits Administration services.
- The budget request for AID includes funds to focus on measuring the impact of AID programs on key indicators to provide core data needed for program planning, monitoring, and evaluation.

Crime and Justice Statistics

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is the statistical arm of the Department of Justice. BJS 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) 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) 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, and Hate Crime Statistics Collection. 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. Additionally, statistical information on arrests, property loss, and other factors relevant to criminal activity is aggregated.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) produces and analyzes data on immigrants, refugees, temporary visitors (non-immigrant), naturalizations, and apprehension and removal of illegal aliens to meet increased demands for data 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.

Major program changes and new activities in crime and justice statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for BJS includes funds to:
 - enhance the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to enable production of a measure of victimization of the disabled population in the United States;
 - develop and implement a program to produce consistent annual measures of the incidence of hate crimes and to estimate the extent and nature of change from year to year;
 - design and field a statistical series to gather administrative data from law enforcement agencies and to conduct a supplement to the NCVS (in alternate years) on the nature and consequences of routine traffic stops;
 - conduct a national census of tribal criminal justice agencies and undertake related statistical activities to improve understanding of crime and the administration of justice among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

- begin converting existing paper-based collections of administrative data from state and local units of government to Internet-based, paperless collection programs, as well as upgrading web-based data dissemination efforts by making available to users the most current technologies for accessing BJS data sets and conducting analyses online;
 - establish an ongoing national statistical series focused on measuring the magnitude and consequences of computer crime, including data on criminal activities involving access or use of networks, damage to systems of records, theft of intellectual property, and crimes involving economic fraud or gain; and
 - develop and monitor statistical measures to examine case processing data for disparities in the administration of justice in order to estimate the extent to which non-legally relevant factors such as race, age, sex, or income are associated with case handling and outcomes.
- The INS budget request includes an increase in funds to produce reports on the foreign born population based on data collected in Census 2000.

Education Statistics

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

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

Major program changes and new activities in education statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for NCES supports the congressionally mandated redesign of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, including the development of new items such as student budgets, rates of receipt and average amount received for Federal, state, and institutional grants and loans; expenditures by institutions for salaries and benefits; and expenditures for academic support services and research. The request also supports a mandated study of expenditures at institutions of higher education, the Birth Cohort of the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study of children born in FY 2000 that will follow them through the sixth grade, and the Educational Longitudinal Study of 2002 that will provide information on high school students in the coming decade.
- The budget request for NCES' National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) includes funds for reporting the results of NAEP 2000, which will produce decennial benchmarks in mathematics and science for partici-

pating states and the Nation. The request will also support NAEP 2001, which will include national assessments in U.S. history and geography, and fund continued state and local participation in NAEP by providing support for analyzing and using NAEP data for improving instructional programs, benchmarking NAEP with state assessments, and developing new products and services.

- The budget request for NSF includes funds to redesign the major data system on the labor force of scientists and engineers that will lead to long term cost savings, enhanced data quality and relevance, and an improved design for the survey system.

Transportation Statistics

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

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

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

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

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) maintains the primary data base for statistics on the transit industry, known as the National Transit Database (NTD). 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 Maritime Administration (MARAD) 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) collects information on motor vehicle related accidents and fatalities and highway safety. In addition, NHTSA's pilot Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System links police reports of crashes with medical treatment data for seven states.

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

Major program changes and new activities in transportation statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for BTS includes funds to:
 - develop the vehicle registration data collection initiative;
 - develop and assess measures of risk versus measures of exposure to improve the quality of transportation safety data;
 - establish, operate, and begin to maintain the Intermodel Transportation Data Base that will include information on the volume and patterns of movement of people and goods, the location and connectivity of transportation facilities and services, and national expenditures and capital stocks for transportation; and
 - develop state level reports on transportation activity and economics.
- The NHTSA budget request includes funds to:
 - broaden the availability of the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) through electronic media and link it with other national data bases to expand the agency's ability to address highway safety issues;
 - expand the National Automotive Sampling System to provide detailed information about real world crashes involving vehicles with advanced safety devices for occupant protection systems, examine the impact of the interaction of light trucks with the general population of automobiles, and determine the real world effectiveness of child safety seats in reducing injuries to children involved in motor vehicle crashes;
 - upgrade customer service response tracking systems by improving the timeliness of responding to customers' requests for the latest traffic safety crash data and information through technological and process improvement activities; and
 - expand Special Crash Investigations to provide detailed information about crash worthiness and occupant protection of alternative fuel vehicles, effectiveness of compartmentalization versus seat belts in school bus crashes, uses of advanced notification and occupant protection systems, and performance of occupant protection systems in vehicles with adaptive controls for the physically challenged.
- The Corps will complete the reengineering of the system for waterborne foreign transportation program products in partnership with MARAD.

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. It conducts research and studies to provide baseline data and to evaluate and support environmental monitoring systems.

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

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

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

Major program changes and new activities in environmental statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The EPA budget request includes funds to conduct surveys of Indoor Air Quality in commercial buildings and schools; conduct a Radon Awareness Survey; include asthma awareness and action survey questions in the National Health Interview Survey; and prepare the second Drinking Water Needs Survey.
- The USGS budget request includes funds to enhance USGS's ability to provide real-time streamflow data for flood forecasting and provide information for flood hazard mitigation by adding streamgages, upgrading instruments, and adding telemetry; to accelerate the process of providing more detailed stream and watershed geographic locations to facilitate data sharing; and to develop improved simulation tools to predict outcomes of water management decisions.

Energy and Minerals

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

sis 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 through the EIA Internet home page and CD-ROM.

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

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

Major program changes and new activities in energy statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The EIA budget request includes funds to:
 - continue a multiyear project to realign consumption survey coverage with the distribution of residential and commercial building populations identified in Census 2000;
 - continue multiyear projects to overhaul electricity and natural gas surveys and data systems to reflect changes in the Nation’s restructured electricity generation and distribution systems and natural gas industry;
 - continue to upgrade international energy analysis and projection capabilities to address increasing demands to assess the impact of carbon mitigation strategies, focusing on the areas of regulation, technological improvement, and international carbon permit trading; and
 - address critical petroleum and natural gas data quality issues by identifying the causes of data quality deterioration and implementing processes to improve and maintain the quality of energy data.

Soil, Forest, Fish, Wildlife, and Public Lands

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

conducts a national resources inventory, providing data on the status and condition of natural resources on non-Federal lands.

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

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

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

The USGS' Biological Resources Division collects and analyzes data on birds and fish to determine trends in environmental contamination, tracks species and their habitats, and studies migratory game and nongame birds. Data from the annual breeding bird survey are used to identify species whose populations are declining and which may eventually become candidates for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in NOAA focuses on domestic commercial and recreational fisheries, fishery management monitoring, and stock assessments of the health of living marine resources. NMFS is responsible for 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) 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.

Major program changes and new activities in statistics concerning soil, forest, fish, wildlife, and public lands planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for NRCS includes funds to accelerate the acquisition of digital orthophotography maps and data digitization; analyze data from the National Resource Inventory and implement the continuous resource inventory process; and continue the acceleration of the digitization of existing soil surveys that provide information for water quality, waste disposal, and wetland programs.
- The budget request for FWS includes funds to conduct the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation to measure fishing and hunting activities and provide reliable state level data and detailed information about wildlife watching activities.
- The NMFS budget request includes funds to develop a core economic data collection program to fill gaps and perform economic analyses to determine impacts on local fishing communities of the Sustainable Fisheries Act. The

targeted data will provide more specific industry and firm level detail than is currently available from any existing state or Federal source. The NMFS will also initiate a multiyear implementation of the requirements to comply with Section 401 of the Sustainable Fisheries Act for a national fisheries information system.

Economic Statistics

Periodic Economic Statistics

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

Major program changes and new activities in periodic economic statistics activities planned for FY 2001 are:

- FY 2001 is the second year in the six year 2002 Economic Censuses funding cycle. The focus of activity for FY 2001 is planning the 2002 Economic Censuses.
- FY 2001 is the second year in the five year cycle of the 2002 Census of Governments. Activities include preparing for and starting data collection, developing and testing data analyses, charting organizational changes and designing appropriate universe files, and initiating work on data dissemination.

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; foreign trade, including imports, exports, and trade monitoring; and state and local government activities. The Census Bureau also maintains 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 in the Department of Commerce (ESA/DOC) carries out Congressionally-mandated studies, such as the annual assessment of foreign direct investment in the United States. ESA disseminates current economic statistics through an electronic system known as *STAT-USA*.

The statistical activities of the International Trade Administration (ITA) in the Department of Commerce involve data on imports, exports, production, prices, foreign direct investment in the United States, and other economic data

to analyze domestic and foreign market situations. ITA also tracks data on tourism industries and international travel to and from the United States for many private sector firms.

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

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

The Small Business Administration (SBA) maintains data bases on small businesses including the Business Information Tracking Series (BITS) and conducts economic and statistical research into matters affecting small businesses.

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Science Resources Studies Division (SRS) 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 Office of Research (OR) of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) carries out statistical activities to design and develop work load selection systems, studies for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of operational programs, and service-wide projections of work load. The OR and the District Office Research and Analysis (DORA) offices perform statistical activities to sample internal and external multiyear data on both nationwide and local levels, and conduct related data analyses. The OR office provides work load guidance and oversight to the 33 field DORA offices.

Major program changes and new activities in current economic statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The Census Bureau budget request includes funds to:
 - measure electronic business by changing data collection processes to reflect the shift in commercial and industrial practices in electronic commerce and the growth of Internet-related businesses;
 - conduct the Survey of Minority Owned Business Enterprises (SMOBE) annually to respond to the need for more timely data for government, business, and academic customers who use the data to inform policy, program, and business decisions; and
 - improve the timeliness, quality, and coverage of export trade statistics; targeted outreach and education efforts will help ensure that exporters are aware of their responsibilities under law and regulation, an audit program will be developed to monitor the accuracy of the data and deter willful noncompliance, and a comprehensive plan will be directed at improving the quality of the low value estimates.

- The budget request for ITA includes funds to:
 - finalize the development of a set of Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts (TTSA's) with BEA, and help to set up a permanent set of accounts to establish a more accurate accounting of the impact of travel and tourism on the economy through its estimated contribution to Gross Domestic Product. The TTSA's will also provide policy makers with profiles of the size of tourism demand, and the means to analyze its link with tourism supply and job creation in regional economies;
 - expand the size of the In-Flight Survey of International Air Travelers so that accurate estimates of international travel and passenger fare export and import figures can be submitted and reported by BEA, first by restoring the current respondent base to the 1998 survey level of 80,000 and ultimately by increasing it to a respondent base of 141,000; and
 - continue the Trade Data Enhancement Initiative by covering infrastructure, data tabulation, and personnel costs associated with the Exporter Data Base (EDB) project that provides an annual statistical profile of the U.S. exporting companies—their number, industry composition, size, geographic distribution, total employment, activities in key markets, and other characteristics.
- The NSF budget request includes funds to broaden the types of surveys SRS uses to collect timely and policy-relevant information on high priority topics related to science, engineering, and technology, and to redesign the entire set of R&D surveys so that they will reflect the reality of the changing nature of research and development.

National Accounts

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

Major program changes and new activities in national accounts planned for FY 2001 are:

- BEA proposes to incorporate e-business (electronic commerce) in the economic accounts. Because of the lack of funding for prior year initiatives that would have fixed discrepancies in BEA's economic accounts and set the stage for identifying and recording e-business transactions, BEA must update its accounts in FY 2001 as a first step to identifying e-business income. Thus, in FY 2001 BEA plans to:
 - develop new GDP computer processing systems that fully incorporate recent e-business-related improvements in the GDP accounts, such as new measures of computer software, new measures of electronic and other banking services, and expanded chain index information, which will provide the infrastructure needed to account for e-business;

- begin to address e-business-related gaps in key components of GDP, gross domestic income, quality-adjusted prices, and international trade, thereby improving the ability to measure e-business; and
- develop new estimates that will measure the effects of e-business on industries, incomes, and types of products at the national, international, regional, and state levels after the above steps have established the necessary statistical infrastructure.
- In addition, funding is requested for BEA to implement a set of security enhancements that will provide BEA's data base with state-of-the-art protection from computer "hackers" and any other unauthorized access.

Statistics of Income

The Statistics of Income (SOI) Division in the Internal Revenue Service provides annual income, financial, and tax data, based for the most part on individual and corporate tax returns and on returns filed by most tax-exempt organizations. SOI also provides periodic data based on other returns, such as those filed by estates, for estimating wealth of the living top wealth holders, as well as on various other tax and information returns and schedules, for producing such estimates as U.S. investments abroad, foreign investments in the United States, and gains or losses from sales of capital assets.

Major program changes and new activities in statistics of income planned for FY 2001 are:

- introduction of new panel studies for individual income tax returns, sales of capital asset returns, and elimination of the sales of capital assets cross-section study;
- acquisition of hardware that will provide the capability to load the SOI population files online to provide for longitudinal analysis for the individual income tax return SOI panel files;
- capture of data for foreign partnerships controlled by U.S. taxpayers that are included in SOI's corporation and partnership samples in the Year 2000 Controlled Foreign Partnership study, compilation of data on lifetime taxable gifts for a small sample of individual taxpayers in the 1998 Gift Tax Retrospective Panel Study, and conduct of data capture and editing, using graphical user interface technology, for the 1998 study of Charitable Remainder Trusts; 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 are responsible for various aspects of labor statistics.

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

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

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

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

Major program changes and new activities in labor statistics planned for FY 2001 are:

- The budget request for the BLS provides funds to:
 - extend PPI coverage for the first time to the construction sector of the U.S. economy, and to enhance coverage of the service sector in the PPI and in BLS productivity data, including the development of practical solutions to difficult conceptual issues in the measurement of service sector output and productivity and the development of new industry labor and multifactor productivity series in the service producing sector;
 - begin a new survey measuring how Americans spend their time to permit a broader assessment of national well-being and national production than is presently possible, and to permit comparisons across demographic groups and with other countries;
 - support implementation of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 through the development, maintenance, and continuous improvement of a nationwide employment statistics system, with the first priority meeting customer needs for comparable data across states and local areas;
 - provide technical guidance for a new Federal-State cooperative employment projections program wherein data generated would be comparable among states, and between states and the Nation;
 - improve the statistical quality of local area unemployment statistics used to distribute funds for Federal programs and provide additional demographic and economic detail at the local level; and
 - contract with the National Research Council (NRC) to research ways to expand the Nation's ability to measure discrimination in labor markets and employment relationships.
- The budget request for ETA includes funds to continue to improve ALMIS, America's Labor Market Information System, which provides all American workers and businesses with the information and value-added services to make informed choices in their workforce-related decisions by:

- broadening the range of community organizations and their programs within the Labor Department’s One-Stop Career Center System that provides a standard means for disseminating information on employment and training programs to the states;
 - establishing rural, computer-based learning centers at community and land-grant colleges, community centers or regional high schools, and making one-stop information and services more accessible to individuals with disabilities;
 - expanding the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) that will replace the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles*; and
 - creating new feature and functionality enhancements for “America’s Career Kit” through a consolidated web site that will serve as a single point of contact to a wide range of services, information, and transactions.
- The budget request for OASP includes a decrease of \$1.4 million to reflect the completion of the Family Medical Leave Act Employer-Employee Survey in FY 2000.

Agriculture Statistics

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) collects, summarizes, analyzes, and publishes agricultural production and marketing data on a wide range of items, including number of farms and land in farms; acreage, yield, production, and stocks of grains, hay, oilseeds, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, fruits, selected vegetables, floriculture, and selected specialty crops; inventories and production of hogs, cattle, sheep and wool, goats and mohair, mink, catfish, trout, poultry, eggs, and dairy products; prices received by farmers for products, prices paid for commodities and services, and related indexes; cold storage supplies; agricultural chemical use; and related areas of the agricultural economy. 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 statistical work of the Economic Research Service (ERS) includes research, commodity market projections and outlook analyses, and development of 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) 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 2001 are:

- The budget request for NASS includes funds to:
 - expand Hog and Pig reports to a monthly basis in keeping with the provisions of Title IX-Livestock Mandatory Reporting, passed as part of the FY 2000 agricultural appropriations bill;
 - fund a pesticide use survey of the nursery and greenhouse industry and expand survey coverage to additional states and commodities, allowing accurate assessment of the impact of chemical use as directed by the Food Quality Protection Act;
 - ensure NASS computer system security given the market sensitivity of NASS reports and the importance of confidentiality for data providers; and
 - conduct planning and testing for the 2002 Census of Agriculture.
- The budget request for ERS includes a decrease of \$12.2 million to reflect shifting the food stamp, child nutrition, and WIC program evaluation studies to the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) budget. Funds are requested for initiatives to:
 - conduct research on structural changes and concentration in food and agriculture markets to provide new ways of examining markets and conducting aggressive data collection programs;
 - conduct research and outreach programs on international issues of vital interest to the U.S. food and agriculture sector and on alleviation of causes of global food insecurity; and
 - provide information on the economic incentives for carbon sequestration and trace gas emissions control in agriculture that would assist the agricultural sector in responding to and mitigating the dangerous effects of greenhouse gases.

CHAPTER 3: Long Range Plans

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

Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

In 1995, the Paperwork Reduction Act reauthorization (44 U.S.C. 3504(e)(8)) provided an explicit statutory basis for OMB's council of statistical agency heads. Known as the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP), this group enables OMB to obtain more direct participation from the agencies in planning and coordinating Federal statistical activities. The members of the ICSP currently include the heads of the principal statistical agencies, plus the heads of the statistical units in the Environmental Protection Agency, the 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 overlap and/or cut across agencies; for exchanging information about agency programs and activities; and for providing advice and counsel to OMB on statistical matters. In the past year, agenda topics included establishing priorities for further interagency collaboration and monitoring progress of working groups tasked to address these priorities; continuing efforts to elaborate the potential benefits of interagency data sharing; further enhancing access to products of the Federal statistical system through the *FedStats* Internet site; facilitating agency involvement in identifying and addressing areas to augment or revise OMB statistical policy guidance; extending a collaborative program to undertake research in various aspects of survey methodology; fostering comparability and conceptual currency for measuring educational attainment; reviewing recommendations for metropolitan area standards; developing best practice guidelines for contracting for Federal surveys; and considering ways to strengthen interaction with the Committee on National Statistics. A key accomplishment of the ICSP during 1999 was the completion of new collaborative arrangements to support and enhance the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, established in 1993 to provide training for current and future employees in the special mix of skills needed to carry out Federal statistical surveys; curriculum offerings in economic statistics have been expanded, a series of certification programs has been inaugurated, and the first cohort of students is expected to enter the Ph.D. program in fall 2000 complementing the current Masters programs. In addition, the ICSP has sponsored a working group to develop performance measures for statistical agency programs, an initiative that is expected to lead to the identification of best practices, the development of benchmarks for comparison, and continual improvements in the processes the agencies measure.

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

- addressing significant statistical issues for improving the measurement of income and poverty, including the availability of data to implement new definitions;
- organizing efforts to meet emerging welfare and health data needs, through the design of new questions or rethinking of existing surveys and the development of collaborative arrangements with the states;
- strengthening data on national and personal income by filling gaps in existing data sources;
- developing plans for better coordination and integration of data on employer provided health benefits and other forms of non-wage compensation;
- improving availability and use of education data by applying consistent definitions, thereby permitting better integration of data from different sources;
- reinvigorating the Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics to foster collaboration among Federal agencies that produce or use statistical data on the older population; and
- increasing access to Federal statistics through One-Stop Shopping on the World Wide Web.

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

Statistical Confidentiality and Data Sharing

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

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

confidentiality framework. As a first step, OMB issued on June 27, 1997, the Federal Statistical Confidentiality Order. This order 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.

The centerpiece of the Administration's longer term initiatives to address these challenges is a legislative proposal that would ensure consistent and uniform application of the confidentiality privilege and permit limited sharing of data among designated agencies for exclusively statistical purposes. Under this proposal, eight Federal agencies would be designated as Statistical Data Centers: the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Agricultural Statistics Service, National Center for Education Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, the Energy Consumption Division of the Energy Information Administration, and the Science Resources Studies Division of the National Science Foundation. A key component of the proposed legislation is functional separation—data or information acquired by an agency for purely statistical purposes could be used only for statistical purposes and could not be shared in identifiable form for any other purpose without the informed consent of the respondent. The procedural strategy for implementing the legislation would involve written data sharing agreements between or among statistical agencies.

The Administration's proposed legislation was first introduced on a bipartisan basis in the House of Representatives in 1996. Passed by the House on October 26, 1999, the Statistical Efficiency Act of 1999 (H.R. 2885) will even out statutory protections for confidentiality of statistical data and permit sharing of data for statistical purposes among designated agencies. Enactment of this legislation will provide the means to enhance the efficiency of the Federal statistical system, reduce reporting burden on the public, and strengthen the quality and usefulness of the Nation's Federal statistics for economic and social policy decisions.

A companion legislative proposal would make complementary changes to provisions set forth in the "Statistical Use" section of the Internal Revenue Code. These changes would represent the first major revision of these policies in 20 years, reducing the amount of sensitive tax information that will change hands to support statistical programs while substantially increasing the effectiveness of that support. This objective would be achieved by carefully defining statistical needs and taking advantage of the efficiencies that can be achieved by modern sampling methods. The complementary proposal has been endorsed by the Treasury Department and previously submitted to the Congress.

In addition to pursuing legislative approaches, in 1997 the interagency Confidentiality and Data Access Committee was established under the auspices of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. The group discusses common technical and non-technical issues involving data access, confidentiality, and disclosure limitation. During the past year, the group published a "Checklist on the Disclosure Potential of Proposed Data Releases." The checklist includes a series of questions designed to assist agencies in determining the

suitability of releasing public-use microdata files or tables that present data collected from individuals and/or organizations under an assurance of confidentiality. The group has several other projects underway that will, for example, develop “auditing” software to assess the degree of protection afforded confidential information presented in statistical tables.

One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistical Data

It is difficult for the general public, and even frequent data users such as social science researchers, to know about and to access the entire wealth of information produced by the Federal statistical system. With widespread adoption of the Internet’s World Wide Web, individual statistical agencies have made tremendous progress in developing easy access to their data. Data users accessing information electronically from one Federal agency are learning about related statistics available from other agencies, thanks to cross-agency links that some agencies now provide. Noting these successes, the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy agreed that a coordinated interagency effort promised even broader and simpler access to the full range of Federal statistics.

In mid-1997, building on the foundation of the Federal Statistics Briefing Rooms (www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/esbr.html or www.whitehouse.gov/fsbr/ssbr.html), the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy released *FedStats*. 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 more than 3.5 million user sessions and has garnered enthusiastic public support. The site has been well received by such media as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, the Associated Press wire service, *Federal Computer Week*, *ABCNews.com*, *Lycos*, and *USA TODAY Online*. *Yahoo Internet Life Magazine* named *FedStats* one of the fifty most useful sites on the Internet two years in a row.

The Interagency Council on Statistical Policy’s Task Force on One-Stop Shopping for Federal Statistics plans to continue improving *FedStats*, based on the suggestions and comments received on the site, and intends to expand its coverage of Federal statistical sources. The *FedStats* site provides a user gateway to information at approximately 100 Federal agencies and is currently providing enhanced search capabilities by indexing 40 of their web sites. The task force recently has added sections on *FedStats*’ disability and privacy policies, 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. The task force is currently enhancing *MapStats* access to Federal geographic data bases that permit searches for the range of information available about a given locality, expanding the Statistical Policy section to include basic statistical legislation and policy guidance documents,

and creating an innovative *FedStats* section to increase the statistical literacy of site visitors. In 2001, the task force will continue to respond to user requests for a broader scope of subjects, more detailed data on those subjects, the ability to customize user searches, and easier overall access to the 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 16 agencies currently serve on the FCSM.

The current charter of the FCSM, originally based on the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, and consistent with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, defines its major goals as:

- communicating and disseminating information on statistical practice among all Federal statistical agencies;
- recommending the introduction of new methodologies in Federal statistical programs to improve data quality; and
- providing a mechanism for statisticians in different Federal agencies to meet and exchange ideas.

FCSM has a broad array of activities. Currently, FCSM subcommittees are examining customer satisfaction surveys for Federal statistical agencies and data quality issues. In addition, FCSM and ICSP are cosponsoring a grants program that is managed by the National Science Foundation (see next item). Over the years, FCSM has published 28 Statistical Policy Working Papers that present the final reports of subcommittees and proceedings from FCSM seminars and conferences. The papers are available through FCSM's website (www.fcsm.gov). In November 1999 FCSM held its first research conference. Research conferences will be held every two years and will alternate with statistical policy seminars. In November 2000, FCSM will hold the fifth in its series of statistical policy seminars, "Integrating Federal Statistical Information and Processes."

Collaborative Research on Survey Methodology

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

Although proposals submitted for this competition were allowed to address any aspect of survey methodology, priority was 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 encouraged collaborations among the relevant sciences, including the social, behavioral, and economic sciences, statistics, and computer science.

In FY 1999, NSF and participating Federal statistical agencies collaborated to provide multiyear funding for four research projects and a total of six awards. The first wave of projects has focused on the development and testing of a computer tool that critiques survey questions, cognitive issues in the design of web surveys (two awards), an analysis of seam effects in panel surveys, and the development of statistical methods for small area estimation (two awards). Additional funds have been provided for the FY 2001 competition by the Census Bureau and the National Center for Education Statistics to encourage proposals for small area estimation research. The new two-year program announcement will have submission dates of November 1, 2000, and November 1, 2001.

2000 Decennial Census

While the vast majority of Census 2000 field data collection activities will be completed in FY 2000, there are multiple activities still to be conducted in FY 2001. A major focus of Census Bureau efforts will be the accurate processing, tabulation, and dissemination of Census 2000 results for reapportionment, redistricting and the allocation of Federal funds. As mandated by the Constitution, the Census Bureau will prepare and distribute to the President by December 31, 2000, the data used to apportion the House of Representatives. Public Law 94-171 requires the Census Bureau to prepare and deliver, by March 31, 2001, the census data used by states for redistricting. The Census Bureau also will prepare and disseminate additional data products and geographic products. The program goal is to produce easy-to-use products that meet the diverse needs of data users. The Census Bureau will offer data on CD-ROM and on the Internet, and a limited number of products will be available in print.

Another key effort in 2001 will be to evaluate the data collected from the Census 2000 supplemental survey to generate the Census Long Form Transitional Database. This project will measure the quality and usability of long form socioeconomic data collected independently of the decennial census. It is another step in the transition to a 2010 census that will not require a long form. This data collection and the associated analyses and comparison to Census 2000 data will provide further evidence to be used in decisions regarding the 2010 census.

In addition, during FY 2001 the Census Bureau will conduct evaluations designed to obtain information about Census 2000 data and operations. The components of the evaluation program will cover all major aspects of Census 2000. The results will inform data users about the quality of Census 2000 data and provide insight into the methodologies that should be improved for Census 2010. Evaluations will cover a number of areas, including the promotion and outreach effort, hiring practices, major systems built for Census 2000, statistical estimation and error modeling measures, and the questions and re-

sponse categories included in the census, as well as the completion of quality assurance evaluations. The results of the evaluations will allow the Census Bureau to assess the effectiveness of a variety of programs, such as the expenditure of advertising dollars to increase participation in the census. Results of the evaluations will begin to be released in FY 2001.

American Community Survey

The American Community Survey (ACS)—begun in 1996 in four sites and active in 31 sites since 1999—is well on its way to achieving its goal of providing timely annual information about the economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population to Federal, state, and local decision makers. Assuming continued Congressional support for the necessary funding, the ACS will be conducted nationwide in 2003. Beginning in 2004, community profiles will be provided every year for geographic areas with populations greater than 65,000. By the year 2008, communities of all sizes—even those below 15,000 population—will have profiles based on multiyear estimates that will be updated every year. The ACS is expected to eliminate the need for the long form in the 2010 census (the current source for this detailed information), thereby focusing that effort solely on counting the population. During 2001, data will continue to be collected in the 31 sites to allow intensive analysis for the smallest geographic areas, such as census tracts, that require accumulations of several years of data.

Sample Redesign for Demographic Surveys

The demographic surveys sample redesign program provides new, updated samples for the major recurring household surveys (such as the Current Population Survey, the Consumer Expenditures Survey, the American Housing Survey, and the Survey of Income and Program Participation) following each decennial census. In close collaboration with other Federal statistical agencies, the Census Bureau selects new samples for these ongoing household surveys to reflect the distribution of the population revealed by the decennial census.

The process of updating the frame and integrating sample designs involves conducting interagency research and reaching agreement on changes for the samples, developing computer systems to construct sampling frames and select samples, and developing and updating the frame itself. The simultaneous approach used in redesigning these survey samples achieves greater productivity, is cost efficient, and ultimately reduces respondent burden. For example, the area probability samples make use of the same areas, thereby minimizing the costs of updating and completing the mailing list to obtain street addresses an interviewer can visit. Perhaps most important from the survey respondents' perspective is the fact that treating the surveys together assures that a household selected to be in the sample for one survey will not be selected for another major demographic survey.

The sample redesign program is a collaborative effort of the Census Bureau and other Federal statistical agencies for whom 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 remaining portion of redesign work that

cannot be uniquely identified with a particular survey is funded in the budget of the Census Bureau. Thus, the approach combines central funding with user fees 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 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 collection and reporting of Federal data on child and family issues and conditions. In April 1997, the President formally established the forum through Executive Order No. 13045. He called on its members to develop priorities for collecting enhanced data on children and youth, improve the reporting and dissemination of information on the status of children to the policy community and the general public, and produce more complete data on children at the state and local levels.

America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2000 is the fourth report in an annual series prepared by the forum agencies. The report, released in July, presents 23 key indicators on important aspects of children's lives, including their economic security, health, behavior and social environment, and education. These indicators are easy to understand by broad audiences, objectively based on substantial research connecting them to 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 2000 report updates information displayed in the 1999 report, maintains comparability with previous volumes, and incorporates several improvements. For example, two data gaps that were identified in earlier reports are addressed by establishing a background indicator to measure child care utilization and providing further details on children's living arrangements. In addition, this year's report includes a background measure on exposure to air pollution and on the causes of children's deaths. *America's Children 2000* continues the tradition of including special features to present data that are not available with sufficient frequency to be considered as regular key indicators, but nevertheless provide important information on child well-being. The special feature indicators in the 2000 report are measures of children's knowledge and skills at kindergarten entry and measures of youth involvement in volunteer activities. During FY 2001, forum agencies will continue working to close critical data gaps, particularly in areas such as the measurement of child disability, 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 such as fatherhood, marriage and cohabitation, the comparability of background variables, and ways to present the status of children's mental health.

In November 1999, Vice President Gore's National Partnership for Reinventing Government commended the *America's Children* reports and the extraordinary cooperation they represent. The efforts of the forum were recognized for their contributions to the development of Federal, state, and local policies and programs to improve the lives of children and youth. The Hammer Award, presented to teams of Federal employees and their partners who have made significant contributions that support reinventing government principles, captures the essence of the forum's innovative, determined spirit to advance understanding of where the Nation's children are today and what may be needed to bring them a better tomorrow.

To further the reach of its efforts, the forum's award-winning website (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. It includes *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2000*, other forum reports, information about the overall structure of the forum, and news on current activities. A database is in development which will enable searches by subject for data, contacts, and related sites. Additional links to state, local, and international resources for child well-being data are being added, as well as related research reports.

Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics

In 1986, the National Institute on Aging, in cooperation with the National Center for Health Statistics and the Bureau of the Census, established the Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics to foster 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.

In response to changes in the Federal statistical system, this forum was reorganized in 1998. As part of this reorganization, six additional agencies (Administration on Aging, Health Care Financing Administration, Social Security Administration, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Management and Budget, and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS) were invited to become organizing members of the forum.

The inaugural meeting of the "new" forum was held in March 1999. At that meeting, the organizing members agreed that the forum should focus its efforts on developing a chart book (similar to the highly successful report, *America's Children*), exploring opportunities to integrate data for research applications, and initiating projects to improve measurement methods and data

quality. A planning committee was established to oversee the activities of the forum and its three working groups on the Indicators Chartbook, Integrated Data, and Measurement Methods and Data Quality.

During the past year, the forum's primary activity has been the preparation of a chartbook, *Older Americans: Key Indicators of Well-Being, 2000* that is scheduled for publication in summer 2000. This inaugural interagency effort to produce a chartbook of indicators of well-being among the population age 65 and over in the United States will include approximately 30 indicators concerning older Americans' economic condition, health status, health risks and behaviors, and health care. Future chartbooks are scheduled to be published on a periodic basis, every three to five years. In the coming year, the forum will focus its activities on "integrated data" and will establish a working group to explore opportunities and initiate projects to improve measurement methods and data quality.

Establishing Comparability in Measures of Educational Attainment

Analyses of social and economic issues often use educational attainment as an explanatory variable. 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. There are, in many cases, differences that appear to be minor but are in fact analytically significant and result in difficulties when comparing data across surveys. For example, some surveys ask about years of school completed, some ask about degrees attained, and others ask a combination of the two.

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. While there may be some need for continuing differences among educational attainment measures, access to a series of recommended, standard ways to inquire about different aspects of educational attainment should improve the usefulness of data.

To address this opportunity for improved collaboration highlighted by the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, OMB has established the Federal Interagency Committee on Measures of Educational Attainment. Chaired by the National Center for Education Statistics, the committee has been chartered to review various measures for collecting and reporting data on educational attainment that are used by Federal statistical agencies. More specifically, this 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.

Last year, the committee presented its recommendations for standard measures of educational attainment. Based on its review of questions, needs, and previous research, the committee endorsed 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 submitted its plan to the ICSP.

Over the next year, the committee will begin a program of research on measuring nontraditional education. The initial phases of this research will include a literature review and a web-based search to identify more fully the range of certificates and licenses offered by institutions. Depending on the outcomes of the initial phases of the research, the committee anticipates further efforts that would involve cognitive work to gain knowledge about how respondents are reporting nontraditional education activities.

Improving and Integrating Health Surveys

Unprecedented changes in health care and welfare are making investments in information a key priority within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). There is significant demand, as well as growing opportunity, for using new approaches to monitoring, assessing, and evaluating key public health, health policy, and welfare policy changes.

Beginning in 1995 with its Survey Integration Plan, HHS has taken steps to improve the coordination and integration of surveys (including linkages, analytic coordination, and sample integration). Steps have included the integration of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), the integration of several HHS surveys of employer-provided health insurance benefits, and the coordination of questionnaire content across surveys to enhance analytic linkages. HHS is also continuing to implement long-range efforts to integrate surveys and to make strategic investments to meet critical data needs.

Several specific steps currently under way within HHS provide examples:

The fourth National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) began field operations as a continuous survey in March 1999, after extensive scientific input, development, and testing. NHANES literally takes the pulse of America, and is one of the primary tools for monitoring the health of the American people. NHANES and companion surveys set the agenda for prevention by documenting health conditions, showing the relationships between risk factors and illness, and identifying opportunities for prevention programs. Unique among Federal statistical efforts, NHANES is based on sophisticated mobile laboratory and examination centers that travel across the

United States to obtain standardized medical information from direct physical examinations, diagnostic procedures, and laboratory tests.

Data on racial and ethnic populations are of critical concern to ongoing public health programs, and have been given new emphasis through the President's Initiative on Race and the Healthy People 2010 objectives for the Nation. NCHS is developing the Defined Population Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (DP-HANES) as one new approach to obtain data on racial and ethnic populations. DP-HANES is an examination survey that can quickly and cost effectively obtain objective measurements. This special study will be tied to the more comprehensive NHANES and allow for comparisons across racial and ethnic groups while allowing for a more flexible survey approach. NCHS is currently exploring cooperative agreements and other funding strategies to implement this new survey approach.

In 2000, the State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS) will be used for a special HHS Health Resources and Services Administration sponsored study of children with special health care needs. Over a longer term, SLAITS will be used for systematic, ongoing monitoring of health insurance, access to health care and utilization, and health status at the state level to assist in policy development, evaluation, and research. Key features of this effort include integration of the telephone survey mechanism used for the National Immunization Survey with the questionnaire content of the NHIS and other ongoing national surveys.

States are taking steps toward implementation of revised "standard certificates" for births and deaths—the basis for fundamental measures such as prenatal care, teen and out of wedlock births, infant mortality, causes of death, and life expectancy—with implementation in 2003. With this implementation come new opportunities for fully automating vital registration and greatly improving timeliness and data quality. States will look to NCHS for leadership, technical assistance, and funding to bring about these changes.

NCHS and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) are proceeding with plans to integrate and link the NHANES and USDA's Continuing Survey of Food Intake for Individuals in 2003. This integration will be based in part on the dietary intake interviews that will take place in NHANES mobile examination centers, and in part on telephone interviews. With this integrated approach, NCHS and ARS can efficiently meet the needs for data on population groups, and accomplish a long-standing goal of the National Nutrition Monitoring System.

Perhaps more than any other sector of the economy, the health care delivery system is undergoing fundamental changes. The ways health practitioners are organized, affiliated, and financed, and the rules and incentives under which they work, are changing. Many of these changes are driven by increasing managed care penetration and associated cost considerations, while other changes are driven by legal, regulatory, professional, and other considerations. NCHS is working with the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, the HHS Data Council, and others on the development of a 21st century vision for health statistics. This vision process is designed to help shape the Nation's health statistics system for the 21st century. It is beginning with a dialogue on future health and health care trends, information and communi-

cations technology, and public policies. By its end, this process will identify forces that will shape health information needs and opportunities for the future that will help guide policy and planning for health statistics programs.

Extending Capabilities to Measure Discrimination

Equal opportunity to participate as a full and functioning member of American society is vitally important to all Americans. Evidence of racial and ethnic discrimination—exclusion based primarily on race or ethnicity—suggests that equal opportunity has not yet been fully achieved. To document current differences in well-being by race and Hispanic origin, several of the Federal statistical agencies worked with the Council of Economic Advisers during 1999 to prepare a compendium of key indicators of disparity in areas such as education, labor markets, health, and crime. The information presented in *Changing America: Indicators of Social and Economic Well-Being by Race and Hispanic Origin* provides a benchmark for measuring future progress.

Unfortunately, the presence or absence of discrimination is not something that can be easily deduced simply by looking at existing data. Observed differentials by race and ethnicity may or may not signal discrimination. For instance, lower average wage levels for one group may result from lower education levels, rather than labor market discrimination due to race or ethnicity.

To deduce whether and how much of a statistical differential is due to discrimination requires a sophisticated, carefully designed methodology that allows separation of discriminatory behavior from other differences that should validly affect outcomes. Such methods are complex and difficult to design; there are strengths and weaknesses associated with all commonly used methodologies to deduce the presence of discrimination.

To address the critical need to improve and extend current capabilities to measure and track discrimination in key sectors of society, the President's budget for FY 2001 proposes to continue development of a coordinated research agenda and related work plans for new analyses. This initiative focuses on measuring discrimination in five areas: education, health services and treatment, labor markets and employment relationships, housing markets and access to credit, and criminal justice. The goal of this multiyear effort is to expand existing knowledge on appropriate and credible ways to measure the presence of discrimination, and to support empirical studies that measure the scope of discrimination using new and existing techniques and data.

Strengthening Economic Statistics

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

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) began this effort in 1994 by reviewing the performance of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and other economic accounts data and formulating a Strategic Plan for maintaining and improving

its national, regional, and international accounts. The scheduled improvements included updated measures of output and prices; more comprehensive and accurate measures of investment, savings, and wealth; and improved coverage of international trade and finance.

Although slowed by the lack of funding for budget initiatives related to the Strategic Plan, BEA has made significant improvements in the national economic accounts in recent years. For example, BEA has introduced chain-weighted indexes of real GDP and prices, the new North American Industry Classification System, quality-adjusted measures of output and prices for certain high-tech products, measures of investment and capital that treat government purchases of equipment and structures symmetrically with private investment, improved measures of depreciation, broader coverage of international trade in services, and new measures of portfolio investment abroad. In addition, BEA has resumed the regular preparation of annual input-output accounts and the capital flow tables. The Bureau of Transportation Statistics, working with BEA, led the development and release of *Transportation Satellite Accounts: A New Way of Measuring Transportation Services in America*.

In October, 1999, BEA took another significant step in its effort to keep pace with the rapidly changing economy by releasing a comprehensive (benchmark) revision of the National Income and Product Accounts. This revision included such improvements as recognizing business and government expenditures for software as investment, treating government employee retirement plans similarly to private pension plans, incorporating improved estimates of the real value of unpriced banking services, and carrying back to 1978 the geometric-mean-type consumer price indexes used to deflate consumer expenditures.

BEA will continue to make improvements in its national, international, and regional economic accounts, but the pace will be determined by the funding for its budget initiatives. For example, BEA's FY 2000 initiatives, which were not funded, would have updated and improved the source data for GDP and national income; the methods, concepts, and structure of the economic accounts; and BEA's information technology architecture. BEA's FY 2001 initiative focuses on incorporating e-business into the economic accounts, but because of budget-related delays in earlier planned improvements, BEA will first have to update its economic accounts data and systems to establish the necessary statistical infrastructure. Then, in FY 2002, BEA plans to move ahead, working with the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to develop new source data and methods to produce the first detailed and comprehensive picture of e-business, including data on its volume, its impact on GDP and the U.S. economy, its cross-industry impact, its regional impact, and its impact on incomes and prices.

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 the economic market. While the burgeoning use of e-business is widely acknowledged and discussed, it remains largely undefined and unrecognized in official economic statistics. This lack of critical knowledge will lead to less relevant and misleading official statistics.

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 this problem, the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics are working together to measure digital-business. Key early phases in a comprehensive measurement program include the development of concepts and definitions and the initial measurement of e-business in retail sales.

The FY 2001 President's budget includes funds to establish a comprehensive e-business measurement program. This program will provide official measures of e-commerce sales and e-business activity, develop systematic measures of how the use of e-business processes is changing traditional business practices and assess how these changes are affecting existing measures of economic activity, develop and initiate new measures of e-business infrastructure investments by U.S. businesses, and extend the use of electronic communication and reporting methods throughout business statistics data collection programs.

Revising and Improving 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 Federal 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. Because of its extensive use and impact on the U.S. economy, it is essential to maintain the currency of this economic indicator.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has undertaken a comprehensive updating of the index approximately every 10 years. The decennial revision now nearing completion includes activities designed to reflect changes in the geographic distribution of the population and in consumers' buying habits, to incorporate improvements in technology and index methodology, and to redesign survey questionnaires and computer systems to make the index a more accurate and reliable reflection of economic conditions.

There have been several achievements since work began in 1995 on this revision. The CPI for the month of January 1998 was calculated using new expenditure weights updated from the 1982 through 1984 period to the 1993 through 1995 period. Effective with data for January 1999, a new sample of housing units and a new estimation methodology are being used to track

housing costs. In February 1999, BLS began using the results from the new Telephone Point of Purchase Survey to start outlet sample rotation. The telephone-based survey has three advantages over the previous personal visit survey: the results are more comprehensive, the method is more flexible, and the telephone-based survey can be adjusted to replenish samples that experience rapid attrition. In a separate change that was not a part of the revision as originally conceived, effective with data for January 1999, the geometric mean formula has replaced the arithmetic mean formula in selected categories of the index. The new formula better accounts for consumer substitution in response to relative price change.

Work also continues on other planned activities associated with the CPI improvement initiative. These activities include improvements that will make it possible to complete the next CPI weight update more rapidly, improve the measurement of change in the quality of goods and services, provide a basis to bring new goods into the CPI on a more timely basis, and allow BLS to produce alternate measures of change in the cost of living. The new capacity to develop revised weights will be in place in 2001, and the CPI market basket weights will be updated effective with data for January 2002 and every two years thereafter.

Expanding Service Sector Price, Output, and Productivity Measures

The service sector has become the dominant component of the U.S. economy. This has created a critical need for accurate statistical indicators for the service sector, including additional measures of output and productivity. The Producer Price Index (PPI) is the principal source of information on inflation in the business sector of the United States. Because the PPI measures price change at the first link in a long chain of transactions leading to final demand in the U.S. economy, it is closely monitored by both public and private sector policymakers as a leading indicator of inflation. The PPI also 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 of industrial productivity.

Federal and private users of the PPI, and of price statistics in general, have stated the critical need for program coverage to continue to expand in the service sector as well as be extended to the construction sector of the U.S. economy. The lack of comprehensive price indexes for these important production sectors may be compromising the measurement of real growth in the economy. To address these needs, BLS plans 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.

BLS also will increase the coverage of the service sector in its productivity statistics, which will aid policymakers and researchers in the analysis and understanding of the service sector overall. Analysis of conceptual issues may allow existing data to be utilized more effectively in industry productivity studies. The proposal also will evaluate the existing relevant data for possible use in

new productivity and unit labor cost measures for service industries and will determine where appropriate data are not available. This evaluation may lead to the collection of needed data by government agencies. In addition, BLS has requested resources to develop practical solutions to difficult conceptual issues in the measurement of service sector output and productivity, to develop new industry labor and multifactor productivity series in the service producing sector, to construct a new data set of unit labor cost measures for service sector industries, and to evaluate the data that are available for possible use in productivity statistics for all service producing industries lacking such statistics.

Enhancing the Employment Cost Index Component of the National Compensation Survey

The Employment Cost Index (ECI) is the principal Federal economic indicator that provides the Nation's most comprehensive measure of changes in employer costs for all compensation (including wages, salaries, and employer provided benefits). The index is used by a wide variety of public and private sector analysts to measure both inflationary pressures and compensation cost levels, and by wage and salary administrators to monitor and adjust wages and benefits. The continuing work to expand the ECI sample will improve the ability of the survey to measure changes in compensation; increase the industry, occupational, and geographic detail of published data; and enhance the capacity to link data on benefit costs, prevalence, and plan features.

Policy makers, 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. By increasing the precision of estimates, smaller changes in wage, benefit, and compensation costs will be identified as being statistically significant. A decision was made, therefore, to increase the size of the ECI sample and reduce the sample error for the ECI estimates by 18 to 20 percent, thereby improving the ability of the survey to pinpoint statistically significant changes in compensation as well as permitting the publication of series for additional industries and occupations.

The sample increase not only will enhance BLS' ability to publish data on key employee benefit plans, but also will bolster opportunities to link data on costs to specific plan benefits. These linked data will allow policy makers to analyze the impact on plan costs of changes in plan benefits. Examples of the analyses that may be made possible by this expansion include studying the impact on health insurance plan costs of making changes to managed care provisions; examining the relationship among pension plan costs, pension benefits earned by employees, and Social Security coverage; and exploring the interplay among sick leave, health insurance, and workers compensation plan benefits and costs.

The ECI enhancement proposal also includes a research element that may lead to additional capabilities. BLS may be able to publish indexes for several of the major individual employee benefits, such as health insurance, retirement

or legally required benefits plans, in addition to the current series that show changes in total benefits costs. Individual benefit indexes would help policy makers and analysts identify trends in major types of benefits. The redesign also may allow more frequent updating of cyclical types of compensation such as work schedules, overtime, and shift differentials. The new data base will offer more detailed insights into which industries, occupations, geographic regions, or specific forms of compensation are most affecting the acceleration or deceleration of compensation costs.

Improving the Nationwide Employment Statistics System

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 requires the Secretary of Labor to oversee the nationwide employment statistics system. The law identifies as the first priority, meeting customers' needs for comparable data across states and local areas. During the past year, BLS and the Employment and Training Administration worked jointly with the states to develop a proposal to enhance, expand, and strengthen local area data outputs from BLS Federal-state programs.

Currently, all state labor market information agencies develop state employment projections to use in activities such as career guidance, education, planning, and economic development. There has been little recent investment in the procedures used to prepare these projections; moreover, the procedures used to develop and disseminate the projections vary among states. As a result, the quality of information about future employment opportunities available to the public is not so high as it could be and varies from state to state. As part of the joint proposal, BLS will provide technical guidance for a new Federal-state cooperative employment projections program.

In addition, BLS plans to improve the statistical quality of local area unemployment statistics used to distribute funds for Federal programs, and to provide additional demographic and economic detail at the local level. These efforts will enable BLS to produce more accurate labor force estimates with smaller revisions, improve the targeting of program funds, and increase the quality and quantity of current labor market information for states and local areas.

Inaugurating a Time Use Survey

At the present time, the United States does not have an ongoing, nationally representative survey of time use. Information from such a survey would permit a broader assessment of national well-being and national production than is presently possible, and would permit comparisons across demographic groups and with other countries. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is planning a new survey that will expand understanding of the nonmarket activities of working Americans to assess the contribution those activities make to the quality of life and national well-being. The program also will provide diary estimates of time spent in market work, which will be used to assess the quality of existing estimates of hours of work.

A time use survey will contribute to knowledge in many areas, such as time invested in the care of the young and the elderly in our society; time spent in

house cleaning, home repair, and shopping; variations in time use between single-parent and two-parent families; and time invested in skill acquisition. Such a survey will provide nationally representative estimates of time Americans spend in various activities, performed alone or in conjunction with other activities.

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, it has become clear that 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, 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 plans to continue meeting on a periodic basis to implement recommendations and extend coordination among the member agencies. For example, the feasibility of a coordinated extraction of health plan information for both MEPS-IC and NCS will be explored in depth. The advantages of a single extraction include resource savings, support of common definitions, and single interpretation of benefits plan data. In addition, the committee will 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. Lastly, the committee plans to develop a web site to facilitate communication and dissemination of its activities and recommendations among interested parties.

Re-engineering the Agriculture Statistics Program

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) continues its efforts to re-engineer its entire agricultural statistics program, from development of data collection instruments and instructions to data processing, analysis, data warehousing, and ultimately the design and release of data products. The impetus for the Project to Re-engineer and Integrate Statistical Methods (PRISM) was the transfer of the census of agriculture program to NASS on October 1, 1996. The transfer of this major agricultural data program has provided NASS with the opportunity to conduct an in-depth program review to determine the content, scope, coverage, and frequency of all NASS reports, including the annual statistics program as well as the 2002 Census of Agriculture. Processing systems are being reviewed and new ones developed to standardize processing across all future NASS surveys and censuses and to make use of emerging technologies such as forms scanning, optical character recognition, and web-based data collection. The PRISM effort will improve NASS's coverage of the agricultural industry, improve efficiency, and reduce respondent burden. This long term effort will allow NASS to be more responsive to emerging data needs, such as genetic engineering, the changing structure of agriculture, the need for small area and spatial statistics, the increasing demand and scope for environmental statistics, and the use of electronic commerce in the agricultural sector.

North American Industry Classification System

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

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

NAICS implementation began with the 1997 data year in Canada and the United States, and the 1998 data year in Mexico. U.S. agencies will implement NAICS from 1999 to 2004. For example, among the first major data programs to use the new system are the 1997 Census of Agriculture, with the February 1999 data release; the 1997 economic censuses, with advance statistics released in March 1999; and the 1997 Foreign Direct Investment Benchmark Survey. For

most current economic surveys conducted by the Census Bureau, NAICS data will be introduced over several years: for manufacturing data, with the 1998 reference year; for services data, 1999; and for economic indicator data, such as Monthly Retail Sales, 2001. At the Census Bureau, NAICS related work will continue beyond 2001 as various programs convert to NAICS through 2002. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is continuing to recode each workplace in its establishment list using the new classification system. States are carrying out this recoding as part of the BLS Federal/state cooperative statistics program; it will be completed in late 2001. NAICS related work at the Bureau of Labor Statistics will continue beyond 2001 as various programs convert to NAICS through 2005. Data series may not always be revised for years before the respective program's implementation of NAICS United States; instead, bridges will be developed to permit comparisons of pre-and post-NAICS data.

INEGI, OMB, and Statistics Canada have put in place a process to make sure that the implementation of NAICS is comparable across all three countries. Regularly scheduled meetings among the three countries will ensure that there is a smooth transition to NAICS. In addition, the three countries are reviewing and updating NAICS continuously to ensure that new activities are promptly recognized and to extend NAICS to the 5-digit industry level in those sectors where agreement is now at only the sector, subsector, or industry group level. The first update for NAICS will take place in 2002, when comparability for the three countries will be extended to the Construction sector. NAICS 2002 will also recognize changes occurring as a result of the growth of the Internet by reorganizing and recognizing new industries in the Information, Wholesale, and Retail Trade sectors. The Bureau of Labor Statistics will publish data based on the NAICS 2002 basis.

North American Product Classification System

In a February 1999 *Federal Register* notice, OMB proposed the development of a comprehensive classification system for 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 but 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 anticipates that conceptual and data collection issues involved in developing applicable measures for them will require innovative, comprehensive efforts to ensure that the resulting classifications are conceptually sound, feasible to implement, and relevant. Consequently, the overall initiative will be implemented in two phases. An interim, or exploratory, phase to be completed during 2000 (Phase 1) will develop preliminary product classifications for a subset of NAICS service industries. Phase 1 will be confined to identifying and classifying the products produced by the industries in four selected NAICS service sectors—Information; Finance and Insurance, except Insurance; Professional, Scientific, and

Technical Services; and Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services. These results will be incorporated in the 2002 economic censuses and related programs.

Phase 2 of the initiative will be launched after the 2002 economic censuses. Exploiting the lessons and insights gained from the deliberations of Phase 1 and the data collection activities of the 2002 economic censuses, this phase will develop a complete and fully integrated product classification system that extends to all NAICS industries, including the full range of service sectors. The results of Phase 2 are expected to be incorporated in the 2007 economic censuses and related programs.

Standard Occupational Classification System

In 1994, OMB chartered the Standard Occupational Classification Revision Policy Committee (SOCRPC) to take a fresh look at the concepts, methodologies, procedures, and uses of occupational classifications for statistical purposes. The SOCRPC was charged with revising and modernizing the SOC and integrating the structure of the SOC and the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles* in time to incorporate the new SOC classifications in the analysis of 2000 decennial census data. The revision is intended to produce a pragmatic occupational classification system that will support economic analysis, strengthen the ties between education and work force data, unify Federal agency occupational classification usage, and foster international comparability.

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

OMB issued the 1998 *Standard Occupational Classification* (SOC) in September 1999. Staff at several Federal agencies are now preparing the SOC manual. In addition, OMB has established a new committee, the SOC Policy Committee. This new committee will ensure that the successful efforts of the SOC Revision Policy Committee continue, and that the 1998 SOC remains relevant to the world of work while meeting the needs of agencies using occupational data. The committee will consult periodically to perform SOC maintenance functions, such as reviewing the recommended placement of new occupations and updates to occupational definitions. The committee will also facilitate a smooth transition to the 1998 SOC and promote its consistent implementation across Federal agencies. The next major review and revision of the SOC is expected to begin in 2005.

Metropolitan Area Definitions

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

OMB is currently undertaking a thorough review of the concepts and methods underlying the definitions of metropolitan areas that are used for statistical purposes. Initially, a set of research papers commissioned by the Bureau of the Census and an open conference addressed a series of issues, including whether the Federal Government should define metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas, the geographic units to be used in defining areas, the criteria to be used to aggregate the geographic units in defining statistical areas, whether there should be hierarchies or multiple sets of areas in the classification system, the kinds of entities that would receive official recognition in a new system, whether a system should reflect statistical rules only or allow a role for local opinion, frequency of updating, and territorial coverage.

Efforts have focused on research and evaluation related to alternative approaches to defining metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. As part of this work, OMB convened a committee comprising representatives of Federal statistical agencies to review the underlying concepts and recommend revisions, if any, to the current standards. This phase in the metropolitan area standards review included publication on December 21, 1998, of a *Federal Register* Notice (63 FR 70526–70561) that outlined the review task, addressed general definitional issues, and presented four alternative approaches to defining metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas. In addition, a January 1999 seminar and open forum on Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Areas for a New Decade, offered an opportunity for public discussion and comment on the alternatives, as have meetings with a number of professional and stakeholder groups. A second *Federal Register* Notice (64 FR 56628–56644) published on October 20, 1999, solicited public comment on an initial set of changes recommended by the Metropolitan Area Standards Review Committee (MASRC). Following a review of the public comment, MASRC will make final recommendations, which OMB will publish for comment. OMB expects to complete the review and announce any changes to the metropolitan area standards during the second half of 2000.

Classification of Data on Race and Ethnicity

In the *Federal Register* for October 30, 1997 (62 FR 58781 58790), OMB announced “Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity.” These standards superseded the standards originally adopted in 1977. The 1997 standards reflect a change in data collection policy whereby Federal agencies are now required to offer respondents who wish to do so the option of selecting one or more of the five racial categories included in the standard (American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander; and White). As a result of the change in policy for collecting data on race, the categories used to pres-

ent these data in agency analyses and publications must similarly reflect this change.

As a follow-on to the adoption of the 1997 standards, the Tabulation Working Group of the Interagency Committee for the Review of the Standards for Data on Race and Ethnicity developed a report released by OMB on February 17, 1999, entitled Draft Provisional Guidance on the Implementation of the 1997 Standards for the Collection of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity. The guidance focuses on three areas: collecting data using the revised standards, tabulating data collected under the revised standards, and building bridges to compare data collected under the revised and old standards.

Since the draft provisional guidance was issued, additional research and analyses have been completed and discussions with stakeholders within and outside government have been held to develop various implementation plans. In particular, work has focused on designing the data tabulation and presentation plans for Census 2000 data products. In addition, in response to requests from agencies responsible for monitoring and enforcing civil rights laws, OMB led an interagency group to develop guidance (OMB Bulletin 00-02, dated March 9, 2000) that addresses the collection of aggregate data on race when agencies request information from businesses, schools, and other entities, and the allocation by agencies of responses, whether individual or aggregate, for use in civil rights monitoring and enforcement. This guidance ensures 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.

For some aspects of the guidance, the work is ongoing and the guidance will be amended as additional research and analyses are completed. Later in 2000, OMB expects to issue for public comment a revised version of the provisional guidance. OMB's provisional guidance will continue to evolve as data from Census 2000 and other information collections employing the 1997 standards become available.

Definition of Poverty

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

In attempting to demonstrate the potential of the NRC approach, there are significant statistical issues that need to be addressed. These include the availability and reliability of the data required to implement the NRC recommendations; the recommendation to change the primary vehicle for poverty data collection from the March supplement of the Current Population Survey to the Survey of Income and Program Participation; the coverage of the Consumer Expenditure Survey which is limited in its applicability to buying

habits of persons in poverty; and the scope of data development work needed to implement the NRC recommendations for making geographic adjustments, refining cost-of-housing indices, and measuring medical expenditures.

In light of such issues, OMB's Statistical Policy Office formed a working group under the auspices of the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to undertake a thorough review of available options for improving the measurement of income and poverty. The working group has identified research currently underway on the issues raised in the NRC report, as well as issues still needing attention. Using the initial research findings, the working group has coordinated closely with the Census Bureau to advise its development of experimental poverty measures that incorporate relevant NRC recommendations. The Census Bureau issued an initial report, *Experimental Poverty Measures, 1991-1997*, presenting alternative experimental poverty measures in July 1999 as a constructive first step in the development of improved measures of income and poverty. Over the next few years, poverty experts and the public will have an opportunity to scrutinize, comment upon, and suggest ways to improve the experimental measures.

The Administration has proposed an initiative in the FY 2001 budget that will enhance the capability of the Federal Government to measure economic well-being, including poverty. The initiative will enable the Census Bureau to implement the recommendation of the NRC to adapt the Survey of Income and Program Participation for use as the source of official income and poverty statistics.

APPENDICES

Appendix A. Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases, FY 2001

(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.....	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.6	—
ERS	55.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	2.4	0.8	4.7
FAS.....	31.1	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	0.0	5.0
FNS.....	17.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.1	0.1
FS.....	18.2	2.7	0.0	6.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
NASS.....	100.6	2.0	0.0	8.0	19.4	0.0	1.6
NRCS.....	117.5	4.1	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
COMMERCE.....							
BEA	48.9	0.0	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.0	—
Census.....	739.2	0.0	3.7	184.7	0.0	0.3	1.2
ESA.....	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ITA.....	5.3	—	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.2	1.6
NOAA.....	60.6	0.2	3.6	2.4	4.5	3.2	0.0
DEFENSE							
CORPS	5.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.9
DIOR.....	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DMDC.....	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EDUCATION.....							
NCES.....	137.9	0.0	0.1	3.8	2.0	110.6	11.4
ENERGY.....							
EH.....	23.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.5
EIA.....	75.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.0	25.3	2.5
HHS.....							
ACF	35.9	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	27.9	8.0
AHRQ.....	122.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.8	6.5
ATSDR.....	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.1
CDC (w/o NCHS)..	164.5	0.0	0.0	0.3	42.0	44.4	5.6
HCFA	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.6	—
HRSA	18.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.3	2.2
IHS.....	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NCHS.....	110.0	0.0	0.9	33.0	15.6	51.5	29.5
NIH	443.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	36.9	22.1

**Appendix A. Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases,
FY 2001—Continued**
(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
OASPE	24.0	0.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	26.4	5.6
OPA	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.2
SAMHSA	128.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	39.2	85.8	0.5
HUD							
Housing	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
OFHEO	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
PD&R	30.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	25.0
P&IH	7.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
INTERIOR							
FWS	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MMS	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NPS	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.6
BoR	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3
USGS	65.9	58.7	2.9	42.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
JUSTICE							
BJS	38.4	0.0	0.0	3.2	5.9	3.4	27.1
BoP	8.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
DEA	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FBI	5.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
INS	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.9
LABOR							
BLS	453.6	0.1	1.4	8.9	91.0	17.0	72.0
ESA	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	1.3
ETA	155.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	154.0	0.0	0.0
MSHA	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
OASP	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	2.4	0.0
OSHA	28.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0
TRANSPORTATION...							
BTS	31.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1
FAA	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	2.4
FHWA	25.4	1.0	0.0	0.1	9.8	10.2	4.3
FRA	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.3
FTA	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0
MARAD	1.9	0.0	—	0.4	0.0	0.3	—
NHTSA	34.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	22.3	2.5
OST	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RSPA	7.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0
TREASURY							
Customs	14.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Appendix A. Direct Funding, Reimbursable Programs, and Purchases,
FY 2001—Continued**
(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
IRS	47.6	0.0	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.1
OR.....	14.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SOI.....	33.4	—	0.1	1.5	0.0	0.5	0.1
VETERANS AFFAIRS..							
VHA	82.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	2.4	0.0
VBA	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NCA	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
OPA.....	8.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.3
OTHER AGENCIES							
AID.....	19.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.5	4.5
CPSC	7.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
EEOC.....	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
EPA	180.4	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.5	20.6	2.1
FEMA	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0
NASA	16.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NSF.....	86.9	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	83.0	6.0
SRS.....	16.9	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	16.1	2.9
SBA.....	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3
SSA.....	7.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL.....	3,944.4	68.8	13.6	322.0	405.2	704.7	293.6

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

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 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
Census*	Total.....	7,848	7,648	8,109
	Full-time permanent	3,416	3,756	3,960
	Other than full-time permanent.	4,432	3,892	4,149
	Statisticians	1,461	1,368	1,544
BLS	Total.....	2,595	2,632	2,690
	Full-time permanent	2,120	2,177	2,288
	Other than full-time permanent.	475	455	402
	Statisticians	181	180	187
NASS	Total.....	1,104	1,125	1,118
	Full-time permanent	1,052	1,060	1,058
	Other than full-time permanent.	52	65	60
	Statisticians	580	575	572
ERS	Total.....	523	523	534
	Full-time permanent	462	462	473
	Other than full-time permanent.	61	61	61
	Statisticians	4	4	4

Principal Statistical Agency Staffing Levels—Continued

Agency	Staff	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
NCHS	Total.....	511	558	568
	Full-time permanent	449	497	506
	Other than full-time permanent.	62	61	62
	Statisticians	180	199	203
BEA	Total.....	509	509	533
	Full-time permanent	499	493	517
	Other than full-time permanent.	10	16	16
	Statisticians	5	5	5
EIA	Total.....	374	375	375
	Full-time permanent	354	360	360
	Other than full-time permanent.	20	15	15
	Statisticians	60	60	60
NCES	Total.....	115	116	116
	Full-time permanent	115	116	116
	Other than full-time permanent.	0	0	0
	Statisticians	75	77	77
BJS	Total.....	55	55	55
	Full-time permanent	48	48	48
	Other than full-time permanent.	7	7	7
	Statisticians	36	36	36
BTS	Total.....			
	Full-time permanent	49	59	74
	Other than full-time permanent.	1	1	1
	Statisticians	9	11	15

*Notes: Bureau of the Census figures do not include Decennial Census staffing. In FY 1999, this staff included 1,820 full-time permanent and 23,688 other than full-time permanent employees. In FY 2000 these numbers were 3,474 and 707,202, respectively, and in FY 2001 these levels will be 3,473 and 12,992, respectively.

Glossary of Department and Agency

Abbreviations

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

FAS	Foreign Agricultural Service (Agriculture)
FBI	Federal Bureau of Investigation (Justice)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (Transportation)
FNS	Food and Nutrition Service (Agriculture)
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration (Transportation)
FS	Forest Service (Agriculture)
FTA	Federal Transit Administration (Transportation)
FWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Interior)
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration (HHS)
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
Housing	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing (HUD)
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration (HHS)
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
IHS	Indian Health Service (HHS)
INS	Immigration and Naturalization Service (Justice)
IRS	Internal Revenue Service (Treasury)
ITA	International Trade Administration (Commerce)
MARAD	Maritime Administration (Transportation)
MMS	Minerals Management Service (Interior)
MSHA	Mine Safety and Health Administration (Labor)
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASS	National Agricultural Statistics Service (Agriculture)
NCA	National Cemetery Administration (VA)
NCES	National Center for Education Statistics (Education)
NCHS	National Center for Health Statistics (HHS)
NCI	National Cancer Institute (HHS)
NEI	National Eye Institute (HHS)
NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (HHS)
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (Transportation)
NIA	National Institute on Aging (HHS)
NIAAA	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (HHS)
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (HHS)
NIAMS	National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (HHS)
NICHD	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (HHS)
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse (HHS)
NIDCD	National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (HHS)

NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (HHS)
NIDCR	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (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 Institutes 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)
OMB	Office of Management and Budget (Executive Office of the President)
OPA	Office of Planning and Analysis (VA)
OPA	Office of Population Affairs (HHS)
OR	Office of Research (IRS)
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Labor)
OST	Office of the Secretary of Transportation (Transportation)
PD&R	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research (HUD)
P&IH	Office of Public and Indian Housing (HUD)
RSPA	Research and Special Programs Administration (Transportation)
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (HHS)
SBA	Small Business Administration
SOI	Statistics of Income Division (Treasury)
SSA	Social Security Administration
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey (Interior)
VA	Department of Veterans Affairs
VBA	Veterans Benefits Administration (VA)
VHA	Veterans Health Administration (VA)

Selected Federal Statistical World Wide Web Sites

(As of May 2000)

FedStats—"One-Stop Shopping"

www.fedstats.gov

Executive Office of the President (EOP)

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/

Federal Statistics Briefing Rooms

www.whitehouse.gov/WH/html/govstats.html

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

www.fcsm.gov/

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

www.usda.gov/

ARS—Agricultural Research Service

www.ars.usda.gov/

ERS—Economic Research Service

www.econ.ag.gov/

FAS—Foreign Agricultural Service

www.fas.usda.gov/

FNS—Food and Nutrition Service

www.usda.gov/fcs/

FS—Forest Service

www.fs.fed.us/

(Go to "Products")

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.doc.gov/

Bureau of the Census

www.census.gov/

ESA—Economics and Statistics Administration

www.esa.doc.gov/

ITA—International Trade Administration

www.ita.doc.gov/

NMFS—National Marine Fisheries Service

www.nmfs.gov/

NOAA—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

www.noaa.gov/

Department of Defense

www.defenselink.mil/

CORPS—Army Corps of Engineers

www.wrsc.usace.army.mil/ndc/wcsc.htm

DIOR—Directorate for Information Operations and Reports

web1.whs.osd.mil/diorhome.htm

DMDC—Defense Manpower Data Center

www.dmdc.osd.mil/

Department of Education

www.ed.gov/

NCES—National Center for Education Statistics

www.nces.ed.gov/

Department of Energy

www.doe.gov/

EIA—Energy Information Administration

www.eia.doe.gov/

EH—Office of Environment, Safety and Health

www.eh.doe.gov/

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

www.dhhs.gov/

OASPE—Office of the Secretary

aspe.os.dhhs.gov/datacncl/

ACF—Administration for Children and Families

www.acf.dhhs.gov/

AHRQ—Agency for HealthCare Research and Quality

www.ahrq.gov/

(Go to “Data”)

ATSDR—Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry

atsdr1.atsdr.cdc.gov/

CDC—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/

(Go to “Data and Statistics”)

HCFA—Health Care Financing Administration

www.hcfa.gov/

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

HRSA—Health Resources and Services Administration

www.hrsa.dhhs.gov/

(Go to “Overview and Programs”)

IHS—Indian Health Service

www.ihs.gov/

NCHS—National Center for Health Statistics

www.cdc.gov/nchswww/

NIH—National Institutes of Health

www.nih.gov/

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

OPA—Office of Population Affairs

www.dhhs.gov/progorg/opa/

SAMHSA—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

www.samhsa.gov/

(Go to “Statistics”)

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

www.hud.gov/

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

www.huduser.org/

Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov/

Bureau of Reclamation

www.usbr.gov/

FWS—United States Fish and Wildlife Service

www.fws.gov/

MMS—Minerals Management Service

www.mms.gov/

NPS—National Park Service

www.nps.gov

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/

(Go to “Uniform Crime Reports”)

INS—Immigration and Naturalization Service

www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/aboutins/statistics/index.htm

Department of Labor (DOL)

www.dol.gov
(Go to “Statistics & Data”)

BLS—Bureau of Labor Statistics
www.bls.gov/

ETA—Employment and Training Administration
www.doleta.gov/
(Go to “America’s Labor Market Information System”)

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

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

OSHA—Occupational Safety and Health Administration
www.osha.gov/
(Go to “Statistics & Inspection Data”)

Department of Transportation (DOT)

www.dot.gov

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

FAA—Federal Aviation Administration

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

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

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

MARAD—Maritime Administration
www.marad.dot.gov/
(Go to “Publications”)

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

Department of the Treasury

IRS—Internal Revenue Service

www.irs.ustreas.gov/

SOI—Statistics of Income

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

United States Customs Service

www.customs.treas.gov/

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

www.va.gov/

Agency for International Development (AID)

www.info.usaid.gov/

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

www.cpsc.gov/

(Go to “About Us;” go to “CPSC’s Clearinghouse”)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

www.epa.gov/

(Go to “Data bases & Software;” go to “Information Sources”)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

www.fema.gov/

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

www.nasa.gov/

National Science Foundation (NSF)

www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/stats.htm

Small Business Administration (SBA)

www.sba.gov/advo/stats/

Social Security Administration (SSA)

www.ssa.gov/

(Go to “Policy, Research, & Statistics”)