Disclaimer: This report is released to inform interested parties of research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.
Topics to Cover

- Introduction to Governments Division Statistics
- Basic Programs
- Federal Statistics
- Conclusion
Introduction to Governments Division

• Main Purposes of Governments Division Programs:
  – Provide economic statistics about governments
  – The public counterpart to business, industry, and services economic data
  – Activity of governments over time

• Response is Voluntary

• Virtually no Confidentiality Restrictions
Introduction to Governments Division

• Government as an employer (March 2007):
  – 14.5% of civilian labor force
  – 1.8% - Federal government
  – 12.7% - State and local government
  • 3.4% State Government
  • 9.3% Local Government

Source: BLS/Census
Introduction to Governments Division

Governments as Producers

2008 Q2 Share of Gross Domestic Product

20.1% - for all governments
7.3% - Federal government
12.8% - State and local government

Source: BEA
Introduction to Governments Division

Governments as Economic Entities
2008 Q2 As Source of Personal Income

25.2% - from government sources
– 9.3% from salaries and wages
– 15.9% from transfer payments to persons

Source: BEA
Governments and the Fortune 500

- Measuring corporate sales and government revenue, all states make the fortune 500 list:
  - Two among the top ten (CA = 5 & NY = 8)
  - Sixteen among the top one-hundred
  - SD (smallest state government) about 350th on list

- If we include local governments:
  - Fifty-none governments make the list.
Introduction to Governments Division

Main Users of Governments Division Data

- Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Federal Reserve Board
- Congress and state legislatures
- Public interest groups
- Public policy and Public research groups
- Businesses
- Academics
- State and local governments
Introduction to Governments Division

Primary emphasis:
– State and local governments

Some Federal government data, including:
– Employment and payroll data
– Expenditures, by function, program, and geography
Topics to Cover

- Introduction to Governments Division Statistics
- **Basic Programs**
- Federal Statistics
- Conclusion
Basic Programs - Overview

• Government Organization
  How many governments are there?
  How are governments defined?

• Government Finances
  How much money do governments take in?
  How much do governments spend? On what?
  What’s government debt load?

• Government Employment
  How many public employees?
  What do they do (major function)?
  How much are they paid?
Basic Programs - Government Organization

Why is Understanding Government Structure Important?

• What is included, and what isn’t? (comparison with other data sources)
• How are basic services provided in each state, and sometimes each locality? (comparisons of services within, and across states)
• Which comparisons are valid, and which are not?
Basic Programs - Government Organization

• There are about 90,000 governments in the US (2007 official count = 89,476)

• Illinois had the most governments (6,994) and Hawaii the fewest (19)

• Cook County, Illinois, had more governments than any other county (539)

• Texas led nation with 254 county governments, Connecticut and Rhode Island have none.
Definition of government

- Existence as an organized entity – legal organization & corporate powers
- Governmental character – public officers & accountability
- Substantial autonomy
- Fiscal independence
Basic Programs - Government Organization

How Are Governments Structured?

- Core Government
  - Executive, Legislative, and sometimes Judicial
- Dependent Agencies
  - Component Units
- Jointly Governed Activities
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<td>Total governments</td>
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</table>
Basic Programs - Government Organization

CITY OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK ID no. 33 2 031 001.

Board of Education of New York City School District
City University of New York (community colleges)
Fashion Institute of Technology, Manhattan
Airports (John F. Kennedy International and La Guardia)

Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation

Brooklyn Public Library (public libraries in Brooklyn)
Business Improvement Districts (BID)

Business Relocation Assistance Corporation of New York City
City ferries to Staten Island (Dept. of Transportation)

City markets and piers (Department of Ports and Terminals)

City public health services (Department of Health)
City water and sewer system (Dept. Environmental Protection)
Community planning districts

Economic Development Corporation of New York City

Financial Services Corporation of New York City
Municipal broadcasting station WNYC (Dept. of General Services)
New York City Educational Construction Fund
New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation
New York City Housing Authority (assisted housing)
New York City Housing Development Corporation

Housing New York Corp.
Residential Mortgage Insurance Corporation
New York City Industrial Development Agency

New York City Municipal Water Finance Authority
New York City Off-Track Betting Corporation
New York City Public Development Corporation

New York City School Construction Authority

New York City Transit Authority (NYCTA)

Manhattan and Bronx Surface Transit Operating Auth. (MABSTOA)
South Brooklyn Railway Company (freight service only)

New York City Transit Construction Fund
New York City Transitional Finance Authority

New York City Water Board

Queens Public Library (public libraries in Queens)
Shea Municipal Stadium, Queens

Special Assessment Districts (SAD)

Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (operates Battery Parking Garage,
Bronx-Whitestone Bridge, Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel, Cross-Bay Veterans
Memorial Bridge, East Side Airlines Terminal and Parking Garage, Henry
Hudson Bridge, Marine Parkway Bridge, New York Coliseum, Queens-
Midtown Tunnel, Riis Park Parking Field [Queens], Throgs Neck Bridge,
Triborough Bridge, and Verrazzano Narrows Bridge)

Trust for Cultural Resources

United Nations Development District and Corporation
Basic Programs - Government Finances

• Governments as single units
• Measure
  – Revenues by Type
  – Expenditures by Character and Function
  – Debt
  – Assets (cash and securities)
• Does not Measure
  – Programs
  – Funds
Basic Programs - Government Finances

• Government Fiscal Year
  – Defined as July 1 to June 30
  – Exceptions (state-level)
  – Local government implication

• Pension Systems
  – Defined Benefit Plans
  – Defined Contribution Plans
  – Other Post Employment Benefits
Basic Programs - Government Employment

Two major data elements
  • Number of employees – Full and part-time
  • One-month payroll (March)

About 25 different functions
  • Highways, police, welfare, education
  • Functions defined same as for finances
Basic Programs - Periodicity of Data

• Quarterly – Taxes, finances of Public Employment Retirement Systems
• Annually – Finances, Employment
• Census of Governments
  – Quinquennial – every five years since 1957
  – Organization, finance, employment
• No difference in data elements or content for Annual vs. Census
• Difference in scope
  – Census = Universe
  – Annual = Sample
Basic Programs – Data Uses

• Calculation of important economic measures
  – GDP – Bureau of Economic Analysis
  – Flow of Funds – Federal Reserve Board

• Time series analysis

• Comparative analysis
## Basic Programs – Data Uses

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<th>State</th>
<th>Total %</th>
<th>Total Sales and Gross Receipts</th>
<th>General Sales</th>
<th>Selective Sales</th>
<th>License Taxes</th>
<th>Individual Income</th>
<th>Corporation Income</th>
<th>All Other Taxes</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
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Federal Statistics - Expenditures

Consolidated Federal Funds Report (CFFR)
Federal Government Domestic Outlays by:

- Geographic Area – state, county, place
- Type of Outlay – grants, direct payments, procurement contracts, salaries and wages
- Specific Program – Medicaid, Social Security, food stamps, military pay, Highway Trust Fund, student loan subsidies, and more
Federal Statistics - Expenditures

Federal Assistance Award Data System (FAADS)

• A central collection of selected Federal financial assistance awards

• Primarily concerned with:
  – Assistance to state and local governments
  – All major programs providing transfer payments to individuals
  – Discretionary project grants
  – Loans
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Conclusion

• Primary Mission – collect, analyze, and publish data on state and local government organization, finance, and employment.

• GOVS also contracts with other agencies to collect, analyze, and publish data on federal expenditures, criminal justice programs, and schools.
Conclusion

• For more information –
  http://www.census.gov/govs/www/index.html

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