

**NWX-US DEPT OF COMMERCE**

**Moderator: Gregory Pewett  
May 24, 2018  
1:00 pm CT**

Coordinator: Good afternoon and thank you all for standing by. At this time I would like to inform all participants that your lines have been placed on a listen only mode until the question and answer session of today's call.

Today's call is also being recorded. If anyone has any objections you may disconnect at this time.

And I would now like to turn the call over to Melinda Caskey. Thank you. You may begin.

Melinda Caskey: Thank you so much for attending today. This is the 2018 Economic Programs Webinar Series. This webinar is number three, Governments.

We're here at our headquarters in Maryland. And we're going to be talking about state and local government data.

This is part of a six part series that we're going to be doing over the next six months. Each of the webinars is going to focus on a key sector of the U.S.

economy or a key topic we get a lot of questions about here at the Census Bureau.

While the six topics you see on the right are already selected, we would love your feedback on additional topics you'd like us to cover. We're enthusiastic about our surveys and our data. Reach out to us and we'll be happy to help you.

We're going to be using real user stories about how people are using Census Bureau data. We'll have time for Q&A with subject matter experts at the end of the presentation. And we'll also have contact information for you to email questions to us after the webinar is over.

We're going to record and post the webinar online for later reference. We'll include not only the recording itself but the transcript and the slides as well.

If you missed the Healthcare or Employment Webinars, those were filled with great information and are already available to view. This link will teach more about the webinar series.

Today again we're going to be focusing on the Census Bureau data for state and local governments. The table to the right lists census programs that provide data for this sector of the U.S. economy. Other census programs provide related data on private sector employment and private sector financial and business data.

But we're not going to spend time talking about those programs today. One important thing to point out that makes public sector very special in the Census Bureau is that all of our data is publicly available. None of it is

subject to confidentiality rules. Most sources are readily available online or by simply requesting it from the offices that compile the data.

So why would the Census Bureau create these surveys if the data is posted in other places?

First, and most obviously, we are able to pull all of it together in one place, multiple year, many different types and levels of government all in one place.

Second, our expert analysts compile the data into a system of variables that allows comparison between governments. Governments report their data in whichever way it makes sense for them and best serves their citizens while following accounting standards. That can create problems if you're trying to compare two different governments. The Census Bureau eliminates the largest reporting differences and lets you skip right to the comparisons.

I've recently relocated from Wyoming to Virginia. In some ways I feel like I'm living on a completely different planet. I've selected several different data items that have helped me to better grasp the differences between my old home and my current – and my new home.

We can only cover a portion of the rich data available. But I hope that this will peak your interest in exploring it more.

A quick overview of the Census Bureau, first, we are the largest of 17 federal statistical agencies. We're well known for our decennial population and housing census conducted every ten years. But we also conduct a wide variety of other demographic surveys including the American Community Survey.

We also conduct over 40 different economic programs and business surveys. For these programs publication can occur monthly, quarterly, annually or during the longer census cycle.

A few are listed on the right. At the top you see the decennial census which is every ten years. The Economic Census and the Census of Governments are every five years, a couple of our annual surveys, the American Community Survey and the Annual Retail Trade Survey and a couple of the monthly surveys, the New Residential Construction Survey and the Monthly Report on U.S. International Goods and Services. This is just a few of the more than 130 different demographic and economic surveys we conduct.

The Economic Census is the biggest and most comprehensive of our economic programs. Our government data however depends on the census of the government. Data collection for 2017 is already well underway. It's our mission to be the leading source of quality data about America's people and the economy.

When you're using census data please keep this pyramid in mind. As a rule of thumb, the most current data we have, the monthly and quarterly data, is the least detailed. Monthly and quarterly typically have smaller samples but the timeliness of the data allow for quick analysis of short term trends. Annual surveys have larger samples and offer up-to-date trend information in the middle term.

As you move to the least current data, the census data, it is the most detailed data that we offer. It helps to understand this when you're looking for specific data.

Some key terms from the census of government, first government units, sometimes what constitutes a government unit is obvious and sometimes it's not as clear. The Census Bureau has defined what it means to be a government unit. Some criteria we use to decide are is it organized, it has governmental character, and discretion in managing their own affairs. It can be at a state or local level and do not have to be an independent agency. They can be a dependent or subordinate agency. Government units have a diverse variety of organizational arrangements.

Second public employees; the public sector is only concerned about employees that work for governments and government units. We do not count private sector employees even if they work in the same industry. For example, sanitation employees can work for the government or for a private company. We only count the government's employees.

The parallel private sector employment data was the subject of our last webinar. (Linda) and (Arlene) did an excellent job explaining how to get the most out of that data.

I also want to take a moment to define special district. For those of you who are not familiar with what these are, they are government units that perform one or a limited number of functions. They're as unique and varied as the states that created them.

A few common examples which you might be familiar with are airports, cemeteries, fire protection districts, highway systems, transit systems and others.

How does the census determine what government units are in Virginia?

We first identify any changes that have taken place. We conduct state legislative research and directory research to determine if a government unit has been added or removed. We also conduct the Government Unit Survey which allows us to update addresses, contact information and organizational information for government units.

The 2017 data is being compiled now and should be available March of 2019. You can view the 2012 Census of Governments Organization data now. I've linked to the 13 primary summary tables of the data on the right hand side and you can also read the Individual State Descriptions Publication, which is linked to on the right. That image is a cover of the publication.

If you are interested in governments or if you use government data you will find the state, individual state descriptions to be very interesting. It is comprehensive, easy to read and it makes the data really come alive.

Additionally, it can illustrate important distinction and prevent you from drawing the wrong conclusions when looking at the data. Let me give you an example.

I have kids in the K-12 education system. So I want to find out how well Virginia finances their public education system.

I find out from the data that at the local level Virginia spent \$16 billion on K-12 education in 2015.

Looking at spending for other states, I find that local governments in Hawaii spend nothing on K-12 education. Immediately my mind asks, how is that possible?

I look in the individual state descriptions and I see that Hawaii has only one public education system and that is the state Department of Education. So I look at the state data and sure enough the State of Hawaii spent \$1.9 billion on K-12 education in 2015.

This type of difference can play out in many ways like state run liquor stores or municipal utilities versus private utilities. Understanding the differences in how states govern is a key to understanding their data.

Now that I'm a citizen of Virginia I want to know more about the different ways that the work of government is done here. What are some of Virginia's government units?

Looking at the Census of Governments Organization data is a good way to get a picture of that. Let me show you.

Within the State of Virginia there are 653 government units as of June 30, 2012. You can see the breakout inside of the state shape there. It includes 193 special districts which we defined earlier. Some of these special districts you can see on the left include the Bristol Virginia Utilities, the Chesapeake Hospital of Authority, the Williamsburg Area Transit Authority. This is just a brief laundry list that tells us what types of government activities Virginia has created to manage the work of the government.

Now let's compare that to Wyoming. Wyoming had 628 special districts. As you can see from that brief list the character of these special districts is really enlightening, Grazing Board, Livestock Board, Predatory Animal District, Rabies Control District, Rural Healthcare District. Someone who didn't know anything about either state, someone from another country perhaps could tell a

lot about the differences between these states just by looking at the different types of special districts they created to manage the business of governing.

In Wyoming defense, they aren't exactly a rectangle like I've drawn here. The curvature of the Earth means the northern border is slightly shorter than the southern border. But however in a recent trip to the National Building Museum here in Washington, D.C. the gift shop has cutting boards that you can buy for your kitchen shaped like your home state. They had Virginia of course. Maryland was a woodworking miracle with the Chesapeake Bay partially dividing it up the center.

Then I thought about Wyoming and something struck me. I have been using a Wyoming shaped cutting board my whole life. I truly am a native.

Many federal employees like myself live and work in Virginia. But I wondered how many state and local government employees work in Virginia as well.

Our Annual Survey of Public Employment and Payroll tells us what we need to know. The 2016 data can be viewed now. And they're already hard at work on the 2017 Census of Governments data.

American Fact Finder has the data. And a new data tool that I've added to the data tool sidebar is the State and Local Government Snapshot. It can help us answer the question what government function has the most employees in Virginia.

I want to take a minute to show you this visualization which we published in February. The purpose was to make comparing data across state and local

governments easier. I hope you'll take a little time to check it out on your – when you can.

This is a live version of the data tool. You can see at the top that you can select different years in a dropdown menu here. The center dropdown menu allows you to decide whether you want to look at local governments, state governments or state and local governments.

You can select the state you're interested in here. And the variables that we have in this toolbar include expenditures, revenues and employment. It automatically opens in expenditures. Let me show you quickly what revenues looks like. You can see all of our function bars have changed to reflect the taxes, the current charges and the intergovernmental transfers for these systems.

But we're interested in employment data. We will select employment. And it will update all of our variables to reflect employment categories.

And let's select Virginia. You can see that all the numbers updated. We can see right away a quick answer to our question. We wanted to know what category of public employees was the largest in Virginia. In the pies at the top we can see this blue wedge is the largest which corresponds to education. When we hover over it we can see a percent of total.

We can also see that that same pattern exists nationally. Education employment is the largest category when we include all state and local governments. We also can select the education function.

As you can see the map has updated to show only employment in education nationwide. Below the map we can modify the states that we are comparing

by selecting or deselecting. We can add Wyoming. And now we can compare Wyoming and Virginia directly on the visualization for different categories simultaneously.

At the bottom of the visualization is some – one of the most excellent parts of the tool. Perhaps not the most exciting but it is important because it tells you exactly the name of the census variable and the published numbers that are included in each category.

Here since we selected education input, you can see the exact variable names that this tool compiles to generate its figures. It pulls the exact same data that you would find in AFF but it just displays it in a completely different way.

So we discovered from our exploration that in state and local government employment a majority worked in education. Here we're only showing the top ten categories for Virginia and not all of the functions that public sector employment collects data for.

And we couldn't compare Wyoming to Virginia on this same chart. Our 2017 Advanced Population Estimates for Wyoming say that there are only just over 579,000 people in the entire state of Wyoming. If we plotted them side-by-side, the difference in scale would dilute the story.

But we can see something very interesting if we put them side-by-side as a percent of total employment.

Here Wyoming is in blue and Virginia in orange. Now these are the same numbers for Virginia in the same descending order expressed as a percent of total employment. We can already see some deviation in their employment

patterns. For both K-12 education and higher education employment as a percent of total is higher in Virginia.

But for hospitals Wyoming has significantly more government employees as a percent of total than Virginia. My colleagues and I were guessing that it may be tied to the proportion of private hospitals versus public hospitals in each state. But that's outside of our expertise. It makes an interesting research question.

In fact the interplay between the public and the private sector and how they provide services to the people is a rich area for investigation. And sometimes it's not public versus private sector but the very nature of the public service that explains the differences. Like mass transit or port revenue, in some locations it just doesn't make sense to try to make comparisons.

I want to take a moment to remind you that employment – that payroll numbers are also available for the state and local employment data. It is an excellent bank of information that we don't have time to dive into now. But I hope you'll find your way there and do some exploring.

I spend my time working in public pensions so it's a topic of great interest to me. And it's also been a hot topic in the news lately. So I suspect it's also a topic of interest to some of you.

Our Annual Survey of Public Pensions measures Defined Benefit Plans. I added the name of the table from American Fact Finder so you can be sure you get to the right place.

In AFF you will see it is called State and Locally Administered Defined Benefit Pension Systems. The 2016 data is available now. And we're working hard to finalize the 2017 number from the Census of Governments.

As you can see from these figures state and local governments in Virginia pay about \$5.5 billion per year in benefit payments. Wyoming pays about \$5.1 billion per year. But you can also see the differences in the numbers of beneficiaries.

Looking at the average annual benefit payment per retiree, we can see there is a difference between the two, \$22,540 for Virginia versus \$19,402 for Wyoming.

I would suggest this is not a huge difference but someone else might disagree though. Let's compare that to the U.S. averages.

The average annual benefit payment of \$27,415 is higher than Virginia and Wyoming. Something I really hope you take away from this is the scope of the cash and investments in public pensions in the United States, \$3.7 trillion and very little of this money is sitting lying dormant. Most of it is being invested and reinvested. Shares are bought and sold shifted from one sector to another. Investments by public pensions are an important contributor to the health of the capital markets in the United States.

Additionally, consider that over 10 million retirees receive some level of income support from these public pensions. That \$2.8 billion becomes an economic stimulus as retirees spend their pensions for things they want and need.

Since we were talking about the assets being bought and sold and shifted I included this chart. This is from our Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions which is a panel of the 100 largest public pensions. This demonstrates their asset allocations between Quarter Two of 1968 and Quarter One of 2017.

In some cases it's a change in the Census Bureau's data gathering that explains the change. For example, the decision to report international securities separate from other securities starting in Quarter Three of 2000 caused the appearance of the blue on the right hand side.

But sometimes it can be a change in the rate of returns for an asset like the orange bubble of government securities in the center. This reflects a period of higher returns for these instruments. Public pensions have published quarterly data up to Quarter Four of 2017.

This graph is also an excellent reminder that looking at long term historic census data can tell a story just as exciting as our recent releases.

I really wanted to talk about sea and inland ports. And my coworker said why Melinda? Wyoming doesn't have any ports. Didn't you say you were going to be comparing Wyoming and Virginia in your presentation?

And all I can say in my defense if I get really excited every time I see boats or ships or docks. It doesn't even matter the size.

When we went to Norfolk we saw Naval Station Norfolk, home of the Atlantic Naval Fleet. And I nearly swerved out of my lane on the Hampton Road Bridge leaning over and pointing and shouting at the boys basically. Freaking out at all of the aircraft carriers and destroyers and cruisers, docks right there.

In Wyoming if you decided you wanted to take a canoe down the river, you'd probably end up carrying it on your back a good part of the time. That is how seafaring Wyomingites are. So it was a big day for me.

But sea and inland ports are also economically important to the communities where they're located. Right next to Naval Station Norfolk is an important shipping port. In fact Virginia has ten inland and sea ports that earned over \$440 million in revenue for state and local governments in 2015.

I wanted to compare Virginia to some other states to see how port revenues impact their economy. Illinois has 14 ports. They ship goods around the Great Lakes Region and destinations east earning their state and local governments \$14 million in 2015.

Texas has 23 ports earning their state and local governments almost \$400 million.

And I just had to add Idaho to the list. I had no idea, my old neighbor to the west had an inland port. It's the farthest port east of the West Coast. The Port of Lewiston generated over \$1 million of revenue for the state and local governments of Idaho in 2015. Their primary shipments are wheat and grains from Wyoming, Montana and the Dakotas. They send it out of the mouth of the Columbia River at Astoria, Oregon to Asian markets and destinations west. I had no idea about that but I think it is very cool.

Something that took some getting used to when I moved from Wyoming to Virginia was the differences in taxes. Wyoming has a distinctly different mix of revenue sources than most other states. Mineral royalties and mineral lease

bonus payments, severance taxes on mineral production, are some of the revenue streams that Wyoming is able to rely on more than other states.

Our Quarterly Summary of State and Local Tax Revenue gives us timely data on the revenue earnings of state and local governments. Quarter Four of 2017 is already available.

And again the state and local government snapshot includes tax information.

For this map I clipped a portion of the state and local government snapshot tool that shows income taxes of state and local governments in 2015. When you use the tool you'll find that if the value is zero or does not apply for that state the map will leave out that state.

Some people would prefer that the shape of the state be shown. And I understand that. But it does add to the viewing drama to see these big white missing holes in the map. As you can see Wyoming has no income tax along with several other states.

Even though I knew my taxes would be different in Virginia it was still a shock when I got my first paycheck here. I felt 16 again and not really in a good way.

Income tax is an important source of revenue for Virginia however comprising 18.5% of general revenue.

Now that I've been here for a while and I see good things happening with my tax dollars I feel better about the taxes that I pay. I like my community and I want it to be financially secure so it can continue to be a good place for my family.

I might have just missed discussing your favorite topic. You might have something in mind right now that you wish I would cover. Unfortunately our time together is limited.

But I want you to come away from this webinar knowing that you can get the numbers you need and be confident in using them. Understanding the data we collect and how it all fits together can really help you to get the most out of what you find.

In that spirit, I made two tree diagrams that might help you when you're exploring the data. The first is the revenue tree. This gives an idea of the variables and the structure of the Census Public Sector Revenue data. Remember when we talked about how our analysts compile the data?

Well this is the general framework they try to conform to. Please remember that not all government units will have all of these items. You can imagine the revenues of a school district might have revenue from the local government, revenue from interest earnings and school lunch sales. We don't really expect our primary schools to have robust diverse revenue streams. Even a large complex state might not have all of these branches.

But this is to demonstrate how all of these things come together.

As you saw in the revenue tree some of these items nest together. So you should be aware of that when you're looking at the data. From the bottom we see that \$12.2 billion of individual income tax revenue is actually a part of the \$21.2 billion in total taxes which is a part of the \$51.7 billion in total revenue.

So I hope this brings some clarity about the relationships between the variables.

I also made an expenditure tree which gives you the same type of information about the relationships among the variables but it also highlights the variety of functional categories that expenditures are classified by. On the right you can see that we break out capital outlays as well.

Just like the revenue tree, not all government units will have all of these branches. This is only to display the variable relationships. These revenue and expenditure trees are only two parts of the data that we collect on government units.

These are some of the other categories of financial data which we won't have time to cover today. Debt flows include payments on debt, new debt incurred, and existing short and long term debt obligations. Asset holdings can include cash and investments held by a government unit for use in their operations or activities of that government unit or they can be assets held in trust accounts which cannot be used for any other purpose than the fulfillment of the obligations of the trust.

The top three trusts include pensions, workers compensation and unemployment. Other trust accounts can and do exist. But these are the big three.

We also measure the activities related to those trust accounts. This includes contributions to the trust, benefits paid out, and gains on the assets of the trust. In pensions we measure realized and unrealized gains of the pension asset portfolio as they're usually held long term and valuation over time is important.

We hope you'll find your way over and check out some of these other data categories.

So where does this data come from and how can we ensure its quality?

We rely on you to make all of this possible. When you have the data that you need to make decisions to evaluate policies, you really shine. And when you shine we shine. We rely on all of you to keep this good stuff coming. When you're interested in our data and you attend our webinars and you ask us questions, it really fuels our fire to do our very best work and to constantly improve in everything we do.

So thank you for that. You can also encourage your state and local government officials to respond to our surveys on finance, employment and public pensions. And if you're a business owner or you know business owners, encourage them to log in and respond to our Economic Census. You can see an image on the sidebar there of some promotional materials we have for the Economic Census.

We're also gearing up for the 2020 Decennial Census so a grandfather of all censuses which we hopefully all will be participating in.

Some of you who are participating in the Economic Census need some important information. We talked about how the economic and government censuses are conducted every five years. One really important difference is that responding to the Economic Census is required by law. All responses are confidential. We only use company data for statistical purposes.

The Census Bureau and all of its employees are required by law to keep your information private and secure. The Census of Government data however is publicly available and responses to our surveys are voluntary but highly encouraged.

Response to the Economic Census is online so it should be faster and with improved accuracy.

But the most important thing about the Economic Census and the Census of Governments is that all of the data is free and available to everyone to guide business decisions and policymaking.

Some things you might expect to find on your Economic Census Form are basic business information such as location, industry, sales receipts and revenue, employment and payroll data as well as industry specific questions. We're continually updating our surveys in response to the demands of the people who use our data and to reflect changes in the economy.

And for example, our new section on retail health clinics and on management practices of healthcare service providers reflect some changes in our nation's economy.

The surveys are out there already. We had our official kickoff and promotion. Respondents have a unique code that they can use to respond to the survey online.

The deadline for the Economic Census is June 12, 2018. If you are a respondent you will set up an online account at a secure web site to complete the survey. As always help is available online and by phone.

If you're part of an organization that is distributing information to your members to encourage them to respond to the Economic Census remember that due date reminders should go out on June 7th by email to give your members time to respond by the June 12th deadline.

And again our ability to provide top quality data for you to grow your business, analyze the market or make important decisions depends on us working as partners. Your responses become our results.

So in summary, having the data that you need to make decisions and evaluate policies is critical. Decisions made in the dark with a lack of information rarely turn out to be good decisions.

Having ready access to data on government finance and employment improve our civic lives by allowing us to feel like full participants in our state and local governments. That is the foundation of our democracy after all.

And being able to trust that your data source is the highest quality data available gives you confidence in your conclusions. In our rapidly evolving information age being able to sift through the truckloads of bad information and go right to the census data you know you can rely on, saves time and energy and yields better results.

And don't forget our next webinar will be on construction data. And I got a sneak peek of some of this presentation and it is going to be awesome, capital An awesome.

I was going to give you some teaser bullets on the slide here to tell you what to expect so I started with housing starts, building permits, construction inventories, imports and exports, the construction business statistics, rental

housing finance, the American Community Survey and then I realized that the bullets were getting really out of hand.

And I had only scratched the surface of what this presentation is going to include. So you'll just have to tune in on June 20th to get the full effect.

Thank you so much for being here. It really does mean a lot to us when people are interested in the work we do. My contact information is here. And if I can't answer your question, I can definitely get you in touch with the person who can. You can always email [census.askdata@census.gov](mailto:census.askdata@census.gov) any time. And the Data Specialist there can get you to the right place. We want to hear from you.

And with, that we can open it up for questions if you don't mind (Sue).

Coordinator: Thank you. We will now begin the question and answer session. If you would like to ask a question, please ensure your phone is unmuted and please press star followed by 1. You will be prompted to record your name. Please state your first and last name so that I may introduce you properly to ask your question. We do ask that you limit yourself to one question and one follow-up question. If you do wish to ask further questions please reenter the queue.

Again please press star followed by 1 to ask a question. One moment please, while we wait for questions to come in.

Our first question comes from (Gustavo Montoya). You may go ahead.

(Gustavo Montoya): Thank you for the presentation. It's fantastic. My question is this data available via APIs?

Man 1: Not yet. We're working on that. The bureau has a new initiative called SAHIE which will be consolidating all the various APIs.

The dates on that are a little bit sketchy at this point but we're hoping sometime by the end of the calendar year we should have something out on API.

(Gustavo Montoya): Okay. And could I ask one more question if that's okay?

Man 1: Sure.

(Gustavo Montoya): Is – I notice that there was healthcare and there was employment. Is there anything of the census related to agriculture as an industry?

Man 1: So the agricultural census is actually conducted by the Department of Agriculture. That used to be a Census Bureau run program until I think around the mid-90s.

But you can contact the Department of Agriculture and get that information on that sector of the economy.

Coordinator: Thank you. The next question comes from (Warren Brown). You may go ahead.

(Warren Brown): Hi. Thank you for the excellent webinar. I have a question. And I have a project. I want to download fiscal data on all municipalities in the U.S. And then I want to link it to data from the American Community Survey on municipalities.

And I'm wondering if there is training materials to show us how to do such a, you know, large scale download, manipulate the files and combine them with other municipal data that the Census Bureau provides.

Man 1: I'm not aware of any training materials. What I can tell you is the obvious link between say the government's data and the American Community Survey would be the municipal zip codes. But as far as linking data sets, you know, it's kind of buyer beware.

And the other thing I would caution you on with doing that sort of project is that different data sets use kind of a different definition of what is a municipality.

So for example, with the government's data set you're getting the, say the employment or financial data for that specific municipality. With a lot of the demographic surveys what you're getting is the data for that municipal area. And that's an important distinction because a lot of governments defy conventional boundaries.

And so for example, you can have a municipality. Within that municipality you can have an independent school district. The county may be conducting business in that municipality and several special districts.

So it's just something to keep in mind and it may not necessarily be apples to apples. And really your best bet is kind of going over the materials on each data set that you want to combine to make sure that what you're trying to do is compatible.

(Warren Brown): Thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you. The next question comes from (Will Rochelle). You may go ahead.

(Will Rochelle): Hey how are you doing? Thank you so much. I guess my question is as far as the local data support is there any type of training as far as maybe some hands on? I know we got a lot of webinar and kind of give some general information. But anything that's available if we're trying to, you know, teach people in our community to be able to pull this data?

I mean the local libraries do some of that but nothing to the skillset as far as what the census offers. And I guess that's my question.

Man 1: You know I think and I would sort of defer that to the outreach area that's here. This is something...

(Will Rochelle): Okay.

Man 1: ...that's been brought up before. It's like why don't you guys do some YouTube videos or something like that.

And I think it's a valid suggestion. One thing I will mention is that in every state the Census Bureau has a state data center. And a lot of those it could be a state library, it could be some other institution. You should be able to find the state data center for your state on our web site.

And they often provide that sort of educational background in your specific state.

(Will Rochelle): Okay. Thank you very much. And then as we move more into some of the more data gathering for the new census any thoughts about any kind of

training to advance that (unintelligible)? Any thoughts about that, you know, upcoming, you know, as far as training that's going to be very specific to understand how to pull that data as you get and what data (unintelligible)?

((Crosstalk))

Man 1: I would imagine that – so you're talking about the population census essentially.

(Will Rochelle): Correct. Yes, right.

Man 1: Yes. My guess is that that probably is – that's not our area. But my guess is that probably is in development. And you'd see that sometime around the time we actually started releasing data.

Coordinator: Thank you. The next question comes from (Abe Fark). You may go ahead.

(Abe Fark): Hi. First, thank you for the webinar. My question is about something that wasn't covered, just wondering if it's going to be covered in the construction webinar. We're wondering about housing and, you know, new housing and housing starts if that's something that's going to be covered in the June webinar.

Melinda Caskey: Yes. (Phil) is going to be talking exactly about the housing starts. You know...

(Abe Fark): Okay.

Melinda Caskey: ...we've got different timeframes where we publish that information.

But he's tying it together to related information like permitting which you might find a good combination of materials there. But for sure, I've seen that presentation. And it will be covered. So be sure to...

(Abe Fark): Okay.

Melinda Caskey: ...tune in.

(Abe Fark): June 20th.

Melinda Caskey: June 20th, that's exactly right.

(Abe Fark): Okay awesome. That's my only question. Thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you. At this time there are no further questions. As a reminder, please press star followed by 1 if you would like to ask a question, one moment please; one moment for the next question.

Man 1: Good point.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Debbie Pettis). You may go ahead.

(Debbie Pettis): Yes hi. I was not able to view the entire webinar. Is it available somewhere on your web site where I can go and view the entire webinar?

Melinda Caskey: Yes. In fact we'll have the webinar, slides and the transcript so even if I have stumbled over some words you should be able to re-listen to that part of the material.

But the – I'm advancing backward to one slide where you can see the web site at [census.gov/data/training-workshops.html](https://census.gov/data/training-workshops.html).

And you'll find the other webinars posted there as well besides this government webinar. I don't think it's instantaneous though so probably check back in a day or two or give them a chance to get it posted.

(Debbie Pettis): Thank you.

Coordinator: Thank you. The next question comes from (Akesha Singleton). You may go ahead. Oh it looks like she did remove herself. One moment for the next question and again for the other participants please press star followed by 1 if you would like to ask a question.

Our next question comes from (Deborah Jordan). You may go ahead.

(Deborah Jordan): Good afternoon. I'm just now getting on the conference call as well. Thank you for having this webinar. I am just now getting into gathering statistics from the Census Bureau in regards to a project that we're working on in Dayton, Ohio for senior homeowners as far as providing fall prevention for our clients.

And I was wondering how would I go about highlighting specific homeowners in our area 60 and up? Am I able to capture that type of information?

Thank you.

Melinda Caskey: Yes. We've actually got really good demographic information and they've divided it by age group. They've developed a new mapping system. That you

can arrow – drill down exactly onto your community and it will tell you the demographics on a census tract level of data. So that's about the finest detail that you could get from the census but that's very fine detail.

(Deborah Jordan): Okay thank you so much.

Coordinator: Thank you. The next question comes from (Johnny Root). You may go ahead.

(Johnny Root): Hi everyone. Thank you for the information that you guys provided in this webinar. My question is if it's possible to get the same information that you guys provide for the states to U.S. territories.

Man 1: Okay so as far as the state and local spending the answer to that is no. We've looked into that fairly recently but there – essentially it's really come down to a matter of funding for us. And in order to include the territories in the census government it would take a bit of a funding boost which, you know, obviously in this current climate we're not getting.

What I will tell you is that Puerto Rico does have some things out on their own and I know that they do have a central program where they track the spending of their municipalities. But you have to contact the commonwealth directly for that.

(Johnny Root): Thank you, all right.

Coordinator: Thank you. At this time there are no further questions. Again as a reminder, please press star followed by 1 if you would like to ask a question, one moment please. There are no further questions at this time.

Melinda Caskey: Thanks (Sue).

Man 1: Yes.

Melinda Caskey: So this concludes webinar number three of the 2018 Economic Programs Webinar Series. Please do tune in for the next webinar on June 20th. And we'll be glad to hear any of your questions or comment that you have about this series. Thank you so much.

Coordinator: Thank you. And that concludes today's conference call. All participants may disconnect.

END