# 2015 State & Local Government Employment & Payroll Individual Unit File Disclaimer

The individual unit data are edited by analysts solely with the purpose of creating the most accurate estimate at the state and type of government level, and should not be viewed as an accurate time series for any individual unit.

If these data are released to others, you may cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the data; however, the following reliability and cautionary statements should be included with the release:

- The Census Bureau has not reviewed the individual unit data as separate time series, therefore caution must be exercised in their use and interpretation.

- Data users who create their own estimates using data from these files should cite the Census Bureau as the source of the original data only. The Census Bureau has not sanctioned, conducted, or reviewed any analysis using these estimates. Conclusions drawn from any analysis of this data are the sole responsibility of the performing party.

- Although every effort is made in all phases of collection, processing, and tabulation to minimize errors, the sample data are subject to nonsampling errors (such as, inability to obtain data for every variable from all units in the sample, inaccuracies in classification, response errors, misinterpretation of questions, mistakes in keying and coding, and coverage errors). These same errors may be evident in census collections and may affect the Census of Governments data used to adjust the sample during the estimation phase and used in the imputation process.

- A discussion of the methodology and processing used for the Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll can be found at http://www.census.gov/govs/apes under the 'About the Survey' and 'How the Data are Collected' tabs.

- Tables explaining the contents of the text-based .dat files and excel worksheets are contained in the individual unit file technical documentation (2015 ASPEP Individual Unit File Tech Doc.pdf).

- The Census Bureau recommends that any results based on these data should include cautionary statements concerning the data limitations and the potential influences of sampling and non-sampling errors, as noted above.