



A message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau...

The U.S. Census Bureau is requesting your help with the third component of the 2012 Census of Governments, Survey of Local Government Finances. This survey, authorized by Title 13, United States Code, Section 161, provides measures of revenue by source, expenditures by character and function, indebtedness by term, and cash and investments by purpose for approximately 90,000 state and local governments in the United States.

The 2012 Census of Governments is the only comprehensive source of information on the finances of all state and local governments in the United States. The information collected serves as an integral part of the foundation for developing national economic and public policy by measuring public activity. The successful completion of the Census of Governments will directly impact your government and the communities you serve by producing statistics about government organization, public employment, and government finance.

You may respond to this survey online at the following address: **[respond.census.gov/alfin](https://respond.census.gov/alfin)**. Use the user ID and password on the paper form to log in and complete the form online. If you prefer to respond by mail, answer the questions on the form and return the form in the enclosed envelope. Respond either by mail or online - but not both.

If you need assistance with your response, please contact us by phone at 1-800-832-2839 weekdays between 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM ET, or by email at [govs.finstaff@census.gov](mailto:govs.finstaff@census.gov).

Please retain a copy of your response for your records.

Thank you for participating in the Census of Governments, Survey of Local Government Finances. The Census Bureau appreciates your help.

Enclosures