The U.S. Census Bureau is responsible for producing data about the nation’s state and local governments including counties, municipalities, townships, special districts, and school districts. The Annual Survey of Local Government Finances is one of the tools that is used to collect data on local government financial activity.

**Why did I receive this survey?**

Authorized by Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 182, the U.S. Census Bureau surveys local governments annually. The Census Bureau selects approximately 11,000 governments to participate in the annual survey.

Your response to this survey is important. As part of this sample, your response may represent many other governments. These data will provide information about government financial activity and help federal, state, and local government officials make informed decisions. This survey provides the only comprehensive source of data on local government finances including revenues, expenditures, financial assets, and debt.

Government financial activity is used in the calculation of the Gross Domestic Product by the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Flow of Funds by the Federal Reserve Board. This information is often utilized by a variety of governments, researchers, and media outlets to inform the public and disseminate data on state and local governments.

**How can I respond to the survey or get help?**

**Respond online**

Instructions, including the User ID and Password are enclosed within this mailing.

**Respond by mail**

If you received a questionnaire in the mail, simply return the completed questionnaire in the prepaid envelope provided.

**Have questions or need assistance?**

Call **1-800-832-2839** weekdays, 7 AM - 5 PM ET or email govs.finstaff@census.gov

**When is my response due?**

Your response is due **December 31, 2014**.

**Percent of Total Local Government General Revenue Received from Property Tax: 2011**

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2011 Annual Survey of Local Government Finances