Importance of the Data

Government is an intricate and perplexing subject to understand at every level. Traditional federalism is no longer the case. We now live in a time when all the layers of government are intertwined and dependent upon one another. Providing every American with the most comprehensive, comparable, and precise account of government financial activity is what the U.S. Census Bureau strives to accomplish with the release of every product. With the release of each product from the Governments Division, we provide policy analysts, researchers, and the general public with a more complete and clearer picture of the U.S. government. Whether it is public employment, government finance, or federal government grants, the picture is complete with the cooperation of thousands of federal, state, and local governments and dependent agencies who supply their data to the Census Bureau quarterly or annually for our surveys, or quinquennially for the Census of Governments. By providing us with this data, we can address the issues that concern state and local governments as well as their relationships to each other and the federal government.

How the Data Are Used

Governments Division's data are used to account for about 12 percent of the nation’s Gross Domestic Product and are the basis for the Flow of Funds for the Federal Reserve and the National Income and Product Accounts for the Bureau of Economic Analysis. These data serve as important indicators for national economic and public policy. Governments Division’s data serve as the foundation for developing national policy and analysis by a variety of entities—

State and Local Governments: Policy Research and Analysis, Allocating Funds, Comparative Analysis
U.S. Congress: Policy Research and Analysis
Private Sector: Research and Comparative Analysis
Teachers and Students: Educational Purposes
Academic Professionals: Policy Research and Analysis, Public Finance
Federal Reserve: Development of the Flow of Funds Accounts
Bureau of Economic Analysis: Development of the Public Sector Component of Gross Domestic Product
Other Federal Agencies: Measure Government Activities, Policy Research and Analysis
General Public: Research and Comparative Analysis

State and Local Government Employment
Total Full-Time Employees 480,228
State: 111,802
Local: 368,426

Total Full-Time Employee Pay $1,602,863,838
State: 401,415,182
Local: 1,201,448,656

State and Local Government Finances (thousands)*
Total Revenues $76,000,643
State: 45,157,349
Local: 41,718,089

Total Expenditures $73,614,942
State: 41,844,861
Local: 42,325,088

State and Local Debt Issued (thousands)
Total $48,469,875
State: 11,406,191
Local: 37,063,684

State and Local Government Cash and Security Holdings (thousands)
Total $115,711,694
State: 78,738,774
Local: 36,972,920

State and Local Receipts From Public-Employee Pension Systems (thousands)
Total $8,625,098
State: 7,996,748
Local: 628,350

State and Local Expenditures on Public-Employee Pension Systems (thousands)
Total $3,710,941
State: 3,373,731
Local: 337,210

Public School System Finances for Elementary-Secondary Education (thousands)
Total Elementary-Secondary Revenues $17,747,052
From Federal Sources: 1,475,463
From State Sources: 7,907,177
From Local Sources: 8,364,412
Total Elementary-Secondary Expenditures $17,370,350

Source: 2007 Census of Governments.

* Duplicative intergovernmental transactions are excluded, therefore subcategories do not add to total.
Federal Government Grants and Other Payments to State and Local Governments (by selected department, in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>U.S. Total</th>
<th>GA Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Grants</td>
<td>$439,794,255</td>
<td>$10,464,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health &amp; Human Services</td>
<td>252,149,602</td>
<td>6,263,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Transportation</td>
<td>47,955,354</td>
<td>1,510,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of HUD</td>
<td>47,970,959</td>
<td>1,146,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>25,492,285</td>
<td>881,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Labor</td>
<td>8,291,178</td>
<td>196,099</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Federal Aid to States.

Rankings / GA
- 9th in population.
- 23rd in overall number of local governments (1,439).
- 2nd in number of counties (154).
- 14th in number of municipalities (535).
- 23rd in number of special district governments (570).
- 24th in number of independent school districts—tied with CO (180).
- 13th in total amount of taxes collected.
- 10th in expenditures on education.

Other Facts
- There are 89,476 local governments in the United States.
- Highest number of local governments—Fulton County area (42).
- Lowest number of local governments—Chattahoochee and Quitman County areas (2).

Data Products

State and Local Government Finances
- State Government Finances Summary and Individual State Tables
- State and Local Government Finances Summary Tables by Level of Government
- Local Government Finance Summary Tables by Type of Government
- State by Type of Government Unit-Level File

Government Employment and Payroll
Federal, State, And Local Government Employment Tables and Files include:
- Number of Employees
- Payroll by Function
- Part-Time/Full-Time Equivalents

Tax Statistics
- State Government Tax Collections by Type of Tax
- Quarterly State and Local Government Tax Revenues
- State Government Tax Collections Summary Report

Federal Spending
- Consolidated Federal Funds Report
- Online Query System for Consolidated Federal Funds
- Federal Aid to States Report

Notes: Since the data in these tables are from a census of all governments, the data are not subject to sampling variability, but are subject to coverage, response, and processing errors as well as errors of nonresponse. For more information on the data limitations, definitions, and methodology, see <www.census.gov/govs>.