Exploring the Intricate Layers of State and Local Governments: Maine

The Governments Division of the U.S. Census Bureau

Issued February 2011

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 these 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 67,197
State: 20,714
Local: 46,483

Total Full-Time Employee Pay $228,657,270
State: 79,507,770
Local: 149,149,500

State and Local Government Finances (thousands)*
Total Revenues $12,481,238
State: 9,548,564
Local: 4,268,660

Total Expenditures $10,862,159
State: 7,932,056
Local: 4,190,558

State and Local Debt Issued (thousands)
Total $7,985,668
State: 5,326,692
Local: 2,658,976

State and Local Government Cash and Security Holdings (thousands)
Total $22,127,898
State: 20,427,835
Local: 1,700,063

State and Local Receipts From Public-Employee Pension Systems (thousands)
Total $1,876,745
State: 1,876,745
Local: –

State and Local Expenditures on Public-Employee Pension Systems (thousands)
Total $563,327
State: 563,327
Local: –

Public School System Finances for Elementary-Secondary Education (thousands)
Total Elementary-Secondary Revenues $2,439,959
From Federal Sources: 198,101
From State Sources: 1,081,891
From Local Sources: 1,059,967
Total Elementary-Secondary Expenditures $2,417,964

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 of Health &amp; Human Services</th>
<th>Total Grants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$252,149,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of HUD</td>
<td>$47,970,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Transportation</td>
<td>$47,955,354</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of Education</td>
<td>$35,142,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>$25,492,285</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Rankings / ME

- 41st in population.
- 34th in overall number of local governments (850).
- 40th in number of counties—tied with NV (16).
- 46th in number of municipalities (22).
- 12th in number of townships (466).
- 40th in number of special district governments (248).
- 32nd in number of independent school districts (98).
- 40th in total amount of taxes collected.
- 41st in expenditures on education.

Other Facts

- There are 89,476 local governments in the United States.
- Highest number of local governments—Aroostook County area (113).
- Lowest number of local governments—Sagadahoc County area (19).

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENTS DIVISION DATA, PLEASE VISIT US AT <WWW.CENSUS.GOV/GOVS>.