Measuring the Health of the Federal Statistical System

Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology 2024 Research and Policy Conference

College Park, MD October 24, 2024

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Commissioner National Center for Education Statistics

Resource Challenges for Principal Statistical Agencies (Budget)

Agency	Budget FY 2022 (in millions of \$)
U.S. Census Bureau	1354.0
Bureau of Labor Statistics	659.5
National Center for Education Statistics	304.9
National Agricultural Statistics Services	190.2
National Center for Health Statistics	180.5
Energy Information Administration	129.1
Bureau of Economic Analysis	111.7
Economic Research Service	87.8
Bureau of Justice Statistics	76.2
National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics	67.7
Statistics of Income Division	40.7
Office of Research, Evaluation, & Statistics	39.4
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	35.0

SOURCE: Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, The American Statistical Association, and George Mason University, "The Nation's Data at Risk: Meeting America's Information Needs for the 21st Century" 2024. Downloaded 7/17/24 from https://www.amstat.org/policy-and-advocacy/the-nation's-data-at-risk-meeting-american's-information-needs-for-the-21st-century.

Resource Challenges for Principal Statistical Agencies (Staff Size)

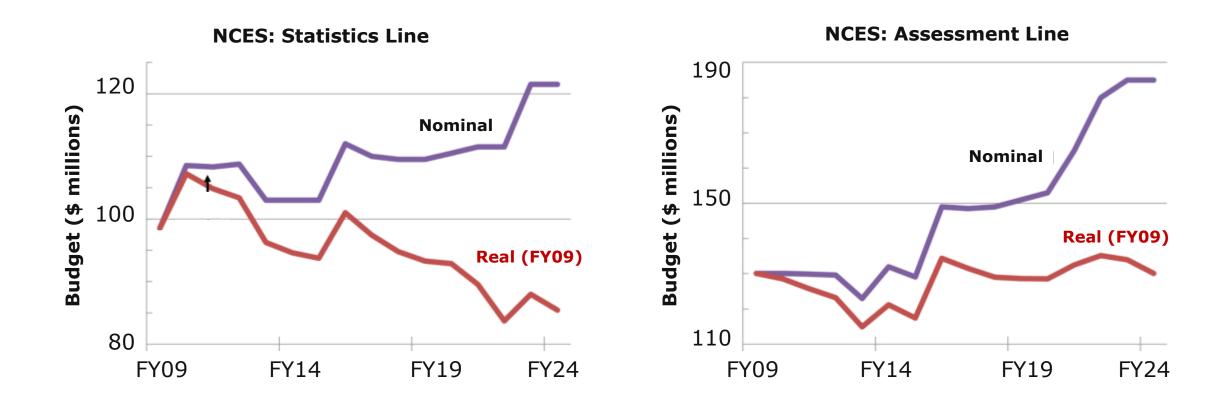
	Staff Size
Agency	FY 2022
U.S. Census Bureau	7377
Bureau of Labor Statistics	2000
National Agricultural Statistics Services	862
National Center for Health Statistics	474
Bureau of Economic Analysis	472
Energy Information Administration	364
Economic Research Service	329
Statistics of Income Division	136
National Center for Education Statistics	84
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	77
Office of Research, Evaluation, & Statistics	66
Bureau of Justice Statistics	52
National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics	51

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Resource Challenges for Principal Statistical Agencies (Budgetto-Staff Ratio)

	Budget of Ratio (\$M) to Staff
Agency	Average FY21-FY22
National Center for Education Statistics	3.75
Bureau of Justice Statistics	1.43
National Center for Science & Engineering Statistics	1.32
Office of Research, Evaluation, & Statistics	0.56
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	0.51
National Center for Health Statistics	0.37
Energy Information Administration	0.35
Bureau of Labor Statistics	0.33
Economic Research Service	0.30
Statistics of Income Division	0.29
Bureau of Economic Analysis	0.23
National Agricultural Statistics Services	0.22
U.S. Census Bureau	0.15

Allocations Congress Made to NCES: Statistics and Assessment



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Thoughts on the Study So Far

Laudable & Timely

- Monitoring the federal statistical system vital to trust and credibility
- > Difficult but important given our decentralized system
- > Timely given new Trust Regulations

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Use of Published Metrics

- Metrics on support of parent agencies can put statistical agencies in awkward position
- Emphasis on **published metrics** can help

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Trends

Evidence Act and Trust Regulations key milestones
Before-and-after trends could make valuable contribution

Thank You!