

ICPSR and Statistical Institutes in the U.S.: Dissemination and Archiving

CESSDA Expert Seminar:
Cooperation between
CESSDA archives and NSIs

Svensk Nationell Datatjänst
Göteborg
16-17 September 2010



The U.S. MODEL

- Or should I say:
 - The European Union model??
- 13 government agencies that have statistical activities as their principal mission
- More than 70 other agencies that carry out statistical activities in conjunction with other program missions, such as providing services or enforcing regulations
- Statistical Budget for FY10: More than \$12 billion (0.02 percent of GDP)

ORGANIZATION

- Coordination through the Chief Statistician, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President
- Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to plan and coordinate Federal statistical activities
- Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology to improve the quality of Federal Statistics and the efficiency and effectiveness of statistical practice

DEPARTMENT	AGENCY
AGRICULTURE	ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE
AGRICULTURE	NATIONAL AGRICULTURE STATISTICS SERVICE
COMMERCE	BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
COMMERCE	CENSUS BUREAU
EDUCATION	NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS
ENERGY	ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS
JUSTICE	BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS
LABOR	BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS
TRANSPORTATION	BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS
TREASURY	INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE: STATISTICS OF INCOME DIVISION
	SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION: OFFICE OF RESEARCH , EVALUATION, AND STATISTICS
	NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION: SCIENCE RESOURCES STATISTICS

ACCESS

- All of the previous information derives from an annual (and required) report from the OMB to the Congress of the U.S. about the national statistical infrastructure: **Statistical Programs of the United States Government: Fiscal Year 2010**
- Access is promoted through reference to 'one-stop shopping for Federal Statistical Data' through a single Web site: FedStats

<http://www.fedstats.gov/>


DISSEMINATION OF DATA

- General Guidelines to statistical agencies:
 - Minimize interval between period when data was collected and when it is made available to the public
 - Provide annual schedule of release dates but timing is the sole responsibility of the agency that is directly responsible for the content of the data
 - Ensure equitable and timely access to the public
 - Provide complete documentation about dissemination policies
 - Fulfill responsibilities to preserve confidentiality and security of respondent data
 - Provide access to statistical products through Internet sites of each agency

DISSEMINATION OF DATA - MICRODATA

- From OMB Policy Directive published in the Federal Register, Vol. 72, No. 46, Friday, March 7, 2008, Notices, pp. 12662-12626:
“When appropriate to facilitate in-depth research, and feasible in the presence of resource constraints, statistical agencies should provide public access to microdata files with secure safeguards to protect the confidentiality of individually-identifiable responses and with readily accessible documentation, metadata, or other means to facilitate user access to and manipulation of the data. “

PRESERVATION ?

- In all of these policy statements and directives:
 - NO CENTRAL POLICY; INDIVIDUAL AGENCY DECISIONS
 - NO DISCUSSION ABOUT LONG-TERM PRESERVATION
- Statistical agencies have different views of their dissemination and preservation responsibilities: some prefer to do all of this work internally and others prefer to contract it out to other organizations like ICPSR 

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ICPSR INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER AGENCIES THAT CARRY OUT STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES

- Administration for Children and Families (CCEERC)
- National Institute on Aging (NACDA)
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (DSDR)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NAHDAP)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHDA)

PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION – FINAL THOUGHTS

- Role of National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
- “Official” government records
- Government/public sector cooperation
- Access to the data by different groups of users in the population
- Trusted Digital Repositories