Statistics About Governments

Main purposes

- Provide economic statistics about governments
- Serve as public-sector counterpart to private sector
- Track activity of governments over time

Response is voluntary

Virtually no confidentiality restriction
State and Local Government Data: Uses

Calculation of important economic measures

- GDP: Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Flow of Funds: Federal Reserve Board
- Other federal agencies including
  - Office of Management and Budget
  - National Center for Educational Statistics
  - National Science Foundation
  - Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
  - Council of Economic Advisors
  - Bureau of Justice Statistics
State and Local Government Data: Uses (cont.)

Time series analysis
Comparative analysis
Public Policy
  - Tax, health, education, welfare, transit, etc.
  - State governments
  - Brookings Institution
  - The Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government
## Statistics on Governments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Survey/Program</th>
<th>Data Items Included</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every 5 Years</td>
<td>Census of Governments</td>
<td>Number of units, employment, finance, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Government Units Survey</td>
<td>Functions performed, authorizing legislation, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Annual Survey of Public Employment and Payroll</td>
<td>Employment, wages, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Survey of State Government Finances</td>
<td>Revenue, expenditures, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Survey of Public Pensions</td>
<td>Contributions, assets, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Survey of Local Government Finances</td>
<td>Revenue, expenditures, debt, assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Survey of State Government Tax Collections</td>
<td>Tax revenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Quarterly Survey of Public Pensions</td>
<td>Contributions, assets, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quarterly Summary of State and Local Government Tax Revenues</td>
<td>Tax revenue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Types of Governments
Measured and Defined

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments: Organization
New Jersey vs. Pennsylvania vs. Maryland vs. Delaware?
Counts of Governments
Is Government Activity Comparable?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>New Jersey</th>
<th>Pennsylvania</th>
<th>Maryland</th>
<th>Delaware</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counties</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>1,015</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Townships</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>1,546</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Districts</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>1,756</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Districts</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,344</td>
<td>4,897</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Census of Governments
Composition of Local Governments
The Evolving Picture of our Governments

Total Number of Local Governments

1952
116,756
- School Districts 58%
- Townships 15%
- Cities 14%
- Special Districts 11%
- Counties 3%

1982
81,780
- Special Districts 34%
- Townships 20%
- Cities 23%
- School Districts 18%
- Counties 4%

2012
90,056
- Special Districts 42%
- Townships 18%
- Cities 22%
- School Districts 14%
- Counties 3%

Note: Details may not sum to totals because of rounding.
Public Finances

Government Finances
- Revenue by type
- Expenditure by character and function
- Debt term
- Cash and Securities by type of holding
## Sources of Tax Revenue – Variety Among States

### Percent Distribution of State Government Tax Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Total %</th>
<th>U.S. Average</th>
<th>Alaska</th>
<th>Delaware</th>
<th>Florida</th>
<th>New Jersey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>82.1</td>
<td>43.0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Sales</td>
<td>31.3</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>60.7</td>
<td>29.9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selective Sales</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Other</td>
<td>41.2</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>5.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Income Taxes</td>
<td>35.9</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>32.8</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>48.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corporation Income</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>40.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Property Taxes</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>&lt;&gt; .01</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Taxes</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>&gt; .02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Details may not sum to totals because of rounding.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 Survey of State Government Tax Collections
Finance Data are Nested

- State Tax
- Public Pension Data
- Public Education Data
- State Finance Data
- State and Local Finance Data
Public Employment

Government Employment
- Full-time employees
- Full-time gross payroll
- Part-time employees
- Part-time gross payroll
- Computed FTE
Governments as Employers
U.S. and New Jersey State & Local Public Employment
Percentage of Full-time Employees by Government Function

- **Education**: New Jersey - 56.6%, United States - 52.3%
- **Public Safety**: New Jersey - 11.3%, United States - 13.2%
- **Health, Hospitals, & Social Services**: New Jersey - 9.7%, United States - 12.0%
- **Governmental Administration**: New Jersey - 8.0%, United States - 6.9%
- **Environment and Housing**: New Jersey - 4.1%, United States - 4.6%
- **Transportation**: New Jersey - 3.0%, United States - 3.7%
- **Other**: New Jersey - 4.1%, United States - 4.0%
- **Utilities**: New Jersey - 3.1%, United States - 3.3%

Note: Details may not sum to totals because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 Annual Survey of Public Employment & Payroll
www.census.gov/econ
Conclusion

Public Sector statistics include

- Organization and structure of local governments
- Finances of governments, including pension systems
- Public employees and their payrolls
Thank you

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