

2016 Annual Conference Association of Public Data Users

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Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

- **Fiscal Year 2017 begins October 1, 2016**
- **Short or Long-Term Continuing Resolution (CR) Necessary**
- **Senate wants CR through December 9**
- **House conservatives want six-month CR**
- **What's the hold up?**
 - **Election year politics**
 - **Policy riders**
 - **Zika funding**



Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

Path to 2017 Resolution

- **Omnibus funding measure –Senate**
- **“Mini bus” approach--House**
- **Likely action during post-election, lame duck session**
- **Greatest fear—no resolution!**
- **Straddling two fiscal years disruptive to surveys, grantees, data users, federal agencies, and the public!**



Fiscal Year 2017 Appropriations

Agencies	FY 2017 Request	Senate Proposal	House Proposal
NIH	\$33.1 B	\$34.1 B	\$33.3 B
Census Bureau	\$1.6 B	\$1.5 B	\$1.4 B
NSF	\$7.5 B	\$7.5 B	\$7.4 B
NCHS	\$160.4 M	\$156 M	\$160.4 M
BLS	\$640 M	\$609 M	\$609 M
IES	\$693 M	\$612 M	\$536 M



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

Census Bureau

- **Senate mark—only allocated 60% of requested increase**
- **No funding anomaly requested in CR**
- **Must continue “ramp up” to 2020 Census**
- **Current funding proposals could force delays and cutbacks in vital tests, information technology systems and operational development, and support activities, such as updating the address list, and developing an effective communications campaign.**

“The bill's inadequate funding of research, testing, and implementation activity for the 2020 Decennial Census would undermine the Census Bureau's efforts to reduce the costs of administering the 2020 Decennial Census by more than \$5 billion.” Statement of Administration Policy, S. 2837, FY 2017 Senate Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill, June 2016



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

National Center for Health Statistics

- **Current base funding below FY 2010 levels**
- **No Prevention and Public Health Fund Support since 2013**
- **Best case scenario—flat funding in 2017**
- **Senate reduces NCHS \$4 million below FY 2016**
- **Possible ramifications?**
 - **Reducing samples of National Health Interview Survey & National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey**
 - **Adversely affect production of state-level estimates**
 - **Adversely affect monitoring of health disparities & production of timely estimates**
 - **Reduce timeliness of estimates of key health indicators**



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

Bureau of Labor Statistics

- **No funding increase since FY 2009**
- **Purchasing power diminished by 12 percent since 2010**
- **Flat funded since 2010 and on track to flat funding in 2017**
- **Impact of flat funding:**
 - **Delaying previously planned and significant program improvements**
 - **Postponing launch of new initiatives**
 - **Cancelling and delaying staff training and development**
 - **Deferring necessary IT upgrades**
- **Long-term implications? Elimination of a program or survey.**



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

American Community Survey

- **Threats against survey's mandatory status arise during annual appropriations debates—especially in the House.**
- **Since 2012, during debate on Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill, House has voted on the floor (roll call or voice vote) to make ACS a voluntary survey.**
- **No floor consideration of FY 2017 CJS bill.**
- **Senate report language praises ACS in FY 2017 CJS bill.**
- **House report language expresses concern about “burdensome nature” of ACS.**
- **Actions being taken by Census Bureau, data users and advocates must continue to ensure survey's mandatory status.**



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

APDU and Data Users Unite!

- The Census Project (www.thecensusproject.org)
- Friends of NCHS (www.academyhealth.org/advocacy)
- Friends of Labor Statistics
(<http://www.copafs.org/projects/blsfriends.aspx>)
- Friends of Institute of Education Sciences
- Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics
(www.copafs.org)
- Consortium of Social Science Associations (www.cossa.org)
- Coalition for Health Funding (www.publichealthfunding.org)
- NDD United (www.nddunited.org)



Challenges Facing Federal Statistical Agencies

Next Steps and Advice—Use the PEPR Approach

- ***Prepare for new Congress and Administration***
- ***Engage policymakers, media, and government affairs teams***
- ***Prepare anecdotes about value of data and statistical agencies***
- ***Respond to action alerts from your own scientific societies***

Thank you for your attention and action!

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