

Federal Statistical System Priority Areas

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Paperwork Reduction Act: Chief Statistician Coordination Responsibilities

Coordinate the activities of the federal statistical system to ensure:

- Efficiency and effectiveness of the system
- Integrity, objectivity, impartiality, utility, and confidentiality of information collected for statistical purpose
- Budget proposals of agencies are consistent with system-wide priorities for maintaining and improving the quality of federal statistics and to prepare an annual report to Congress on statistical program funding

Paperwork Reduction Act: Chief Statistician

Develop government-wide policies, principles, standards, and guidelines concerning: (1) statistical collection procedures and methods; (2) statistical data classification; (3) statistical information presentation and dissemination; (4) timely release of statistical data; and (5) statistical data sources required for the administration of federal programs

Evaluate statistical program performance and compliance with policies, principles, standards, and guidelines

Promote sharing of information collected for statistical purposes consistent with privacy rights and confidentiality pledges

Chair Interagency Council on Statistical Policy

Goal: Modernizing Federal Data Collection and Dissemination for the 21st Century

Current system not sustainable. Changes are needed:

- More integrated statistical data from surveys, administrative records, and commercial data, in order to reduce respondent burden, save money, increase efficiency, improve breadth and depth of high quality information, support program evaluation, and advance evidence-based policy
- More accessible, high quality, public use data, in order to help businesses and communities grow the economy, create jobs, address socio-economic issues, improve quality of life, and offer better services

Change requires collaboration among multiple players: statisticians, RMOs, program managers, evaluators, data scientists (CDOs), and CIOs.

ICSP Cross-cutting Strategic Priorities for the Next 18 Months

Quality: Developing standards and methods for statistical data produced from multiple sources (survey and nonsurvey)

Research access: Continuing to grow and improve Federal Statistical Research Data Centers and develop the next generation of access nodes

Public access: Increasing and improving access to public data and creating value added products

People: Investing in employees and developing additional competencies

State and federal program data: Improving intergovernmental and interagency relationships, in order to acquire and use better quality data

Respondent burden: Developing strategies for countering falling response rates on surveys

Other Considerations

Developing incentives for improving data quality (Federal – local – state)

Removing barriers to data sharing (legal and administrative)

Overcoming challenges with protecting data confidentiality

Coordinating roles and responsibilities of government functions (CIO, CDO, FSS, Evaluators, programs)

Implementing recommendations of Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking (September 7 report) - Intersection with Federal Statistical System

Next Steps: Methodology and Quality Standards

- **Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM)** taking lead to structure the research at the Federal level
- Establishing and restructuring work groups around priority research topics
- OMB may issue RFI on research topics of interest
- FCSM workshops
- Collaborative Effort – need academics, foundations, CNSTAT, local and federal program managers, evaluators, federal statistical agencies

FCSM research and policy conference in March 2018

Next Steps: Removing Barriers to Record Access

- OMB considering recommendations of Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking
- Will be working with agencies on addressing barriers
- Requires coordinated effort at the agency level
- Creating value for data owners at all levels of government
- Stakeholders outside government can play a big role in creating the value proposition

QUESTIONS
