

CONSORTIUM OF SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATIONS

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MEMORANDUM: March 5, 1982

TO: COSSA Members, Affiliates, Contributors, and Friends

FROM: Roberta Balstad Miller, Executive Director

RE: COSSA Legislative Report

This week's COSSA Legislative Report consists of summaries of the effect of budget reductions on major federal statistical agencies. Enclosed are documents prepared by the Census Bureau, the National Center for Education Statistics, the Energy Information Administration, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Information on the effect of budget reductions in other agencies will be available in subsequent issues of the COSSA Legislative Report.

The National Science Foundation budget will be marked up by the House Subcommittee on Science, Research, and Technology on Wednesday, March 10, at 9:30am. The Chairman of the Subcommittee, Congressman Douglas Walgren, is proposing that the Subcommittee raise the authorization for social and behavioral science research to FY 1980 levels. Members of the Subcommittee should be encouraged by their constituents to support the chairman's recommendations for social and behavioral science research. For information on colleges and universities in the districts of members of the Subcommittee, see the COSSA Legislative Report for February 26 or call the COSSA office.

Bureau of the Census
 Program Reductions to Meet Budget Reductions
 (Dollar amounts in thousands)

Funding Summary:

	<u>S&E</u>	<u>Periodic</u>	<u>Reimbursable</u>	<u>Trust</u>	<u>Total</u>
1981.....	\$57,200	\$177,850	\$76,734	\$8,443	\$320,227
1982.....	57,200	87,898	65,000 <u>1/</u>	10,750 <u>1/</u>	220,848
1983.....	64,125	91,294	65,000 <u>1/</u>	10,750 <u>1/</u>	231,169
<u>1/</u> Estimated					

1982 Bureau Program Reductions

- Reduce service industry trade data program
 - Provides monthly national estimates of receipts and trend information for selected service industries, e.g., hotels, motels, health, legal, automotive service, amusement, and recreation. Covers 65 percent of total nongovernment service activities.
- Eliminate monthly department store sales data
 - Provides monthly sales estimates, month-to-month and year-to-year trends, and counts, not sample, of approximately 9,500 establishments. Covers more than 200 local areas--including 172 SMSAs, 45 cities, and 8 central business districts.
- Selected reductions in Current Industrial Reports
 - Program currently provides information on over 5,000 products and more than one-third total value of shipments of manufactured goods--monthly, quarterly, and annual.
 - Cut will curtail monthly surveys.
 - Used by BEA, ITA, and private sector to compute the Index of Industrial Production; quarterly estimates of GNP; programs measuring the impact of imports on domestic production and private sector production scheduling and market analysis.
- Eliminate alternative methods of import valuation
 - Provides statistics on U.S. imports by product, by country, and by country of origin in terms of various valuation methods.
 - Used by Congress, Bureau of Economic Analysis, other government agencies, and the private sector for
 - Measurement of trade between U.S. and/or foreign firms located in the United States and their foreign affiliates; elimination would result in the under-statement of the overall value of U.S. imports since the value of transactions between related parties would not be collected.
- Reduce wholesale trade data program
 - Discontinue sales and inventory estimates by detailed kind-of-business.
 - Discontinue quarterly estimates of stocks and roastings of green coffee.
 - Discontinue estimates of selected canned food stocks timed to coincide with appropriate packing seasons.
- Reduce estimation program for import data program
 - Requires estimation for missing or defective quantity information instead of direct contact with U.S. Customs Service Officials and importers.
 - Errata changes for detailed commodity by country data will not be published or distributed to individual users.

- . Eliminate employer identification export data program
 - Discontinuation of export employer identification data which are used for improving the effectiveness of the export statistical program.
- . Eliminate survey of in-kind benefits to individuals (Survey of Income and Program Participation)
 - Joint Census/HHS project. HHS to curtail funding. Provides data on in-kind benefits.
 - Used for analysis of the effects of welfare reform, tax reform, Social Security changes and funding problems.
- . Reduce postcensal population characteristics program
 - Reduce the program to provide postcensal population estimates for subcounty governments--such as estimates used for Revenue Sharing; eliminate population estimates by congressional district; other programs would be produced every other year rather than yearly.
- . Reduce frequency of fertility data and postcensal population estimates for subcounty governments
 - Eliminate or delay collection of data on fertility and voting. Fertility data, which are used in preparing population productions, would be collected only every other year and data on voting participation would be collected only in years when there is a Presidential election.
- . Eliminate estimates of population for congressional districts
 - Provides total and voting age population by congressional district on an annual basis.
- . Eliminate area sample survey
 - Provides identification through matching of farms missing from the mail portion of the census.
- . Eliminate outlying area censuses
 - Provides information on Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and others.
- . Eliminate follow-on surveys
 - Provides detailed information from a small sample of farmers on special topics requested by both public and private sector data users.
- . Delay purchase of bridge computer
 - Required to satisfy interim production requirements while the Bureau reviews a major system acquisition of resources to satisfy its total ADP requirements through 1994.
- . Reduce space, travel, consulting, equipment, and supplies
 - Reductions are in accordance with Administration policy to reduce runaway deficits and federal spending.

Cuts Due to Loss of Reimbursable Funding From Other Agencies

- . Eliminate survey on gasoline sales
- . Eliminate fuel and electric energy consumed inquiry
- . Supplementary funding of National Travel Survey
- . Although most sponsors have not made final decisions on where to absorb their

see next page

cuts, the Bureau's household surveys will probably have somewhat reduced samples, fewer supplements, and reduced or delayed tabulation packages. In addition, planned or proposed special reports may not be funded and, hence, not produced.

Current Programs Funded by Additional Personnel Furlough
in 1982 if No Pay Supplemental Bill is Approved

- . Survey of Residential Alterations and Repairs
 - Quarterly survey which measures owner expenditures for upkeep and improvement of residential properties.
 - Used by BEA, DOE, HUD, Agriculture, and by manufacturers and suppliers of materials, for
 - National account estimates, impact of energy legislation, analysis of improvements in the housing stock, and by private industry to estimate the size and location of markets for many types of materials.
 - Reduction will provide data on residential alterations and repairs; no data will be provided on upkeep and maintenance. Data will be collected using the Consumer Expenditure Survey; no rural data will be available.

- . State government employment survey
 - Provides only source of public sector employment and payrolls by state, level of government, and function annually; represents 16 percent of total civilian labor force.
 - Used by BEA for public sector components of GNP and National Income Accounts; DOC and BLS to benchmark their monthly employment and earning statistics; and HUD to allocate housing subsidies.

- . Selected Current Industrial Report surveys
 - Program currently provides information on over 5,000 products and more than one-third total value of shipments of manufactured goods—monthly, quarterly, and annual.
 - Used by BEA, ITA and private sector to compute the Index of Industrial Production; quarterly estimates of GNP; programs measuring the impact of imports on domestic production and private sector production scheduling and market analysis.

- . Reduction of housing vacancy survey
 - Provides the only current quarterly statistics on the adequacy of the supply of housing as well as rent and price levels.
 - Users include: BEA to divide housing units between owner and renter; BIE who supplies data to the President's Commission on Housing; and the Federal Reserve System to use in housing market analysis and planning.
 - No other source for data.

- . Eliminate government environmental expenditure surveys
 - Provides annual financial statistics on pollution control expenditures by state and local governments.
 - Used by state, local, and federal governments, including BEA and EPA, to evaluate public costs of pollution abatement.
 - Over 600 national and international data users on publication distribution list.
 - No other source for data.

Added Bureau Program Reductions in FY 1983

Economic Censuses:

- . Delay Commodity Transportation Survey
 - Provides data on transportation characteristics from a sample of manufacturing establishments including commodity, value, weight, type of characteristics, and destination by selected establishments.
 - Used by DOT, ICC, DOE, the Army Corps of Engineers, local governments and private sector market analysts.

- . Eliminate National Travel Survey altogether
 - Provides estimates each five years on the volume and characteristics of travel and demographic characteristics of travelers for nonlocal travel by the civilian population of the United States.
 - Used by the Department of Transportation, state travel planners, and private businesses in the travel industry for promoting tourism, planning travel related facilities, and developing local and regional transportation policy.

- . Reduce geographic detail in Puerto Rico
 - Provides statistics on a quinquennial basis on the level of activity and characteristics of industrial and business activity for Puerto Rico.
 - Used by the government and businesses of Puerto Rico for economic forecasting and planning, market analysis, measurement of legislative and regulatory impact, and benchmarking current economic data programs.
 - With this reduction, nonemployer firms in retail and service industries would be enumerated on a sample basis resulting in reduced geographic detail being published.

- . Reduction in coverage in the Census of Service Industries
 - Provides data every five years on the level of activity and economic characteristics of hospitals; private elementary and secondary schools, colleges, and universities; political organizations; and labor unions.
 - Used by BEA, BIE, SBA, other federal, state, and local agencies, and the private sector for preparation of the GNP accounts, forecasting and planning,
 - These industries were included in the Census of Services for the first time in 1977.

- . Increased use of administrative records
 - Provides basic census data; employment, payroll, sales/receipts, SIC code, geographic information, and legal form-of-organization; for firms without paid employees and small employer businesses.
 - Used by the Bureau in lieu of mailing questionnaires in the economic censuses to small firms, thereby reducing respondent burden and lowering costs.
 - With this budget reduction the use of administrative record data will be expanded for selected industries.

Census of Agriculture:

- . Eliminate area sample survey
 - Provides identification through matching of farms missing from the mail portion of the census.
- . Eliminate outlying area censuses
 - Provides information on Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and others.
- . Eliminate follow-on surveys
 - Provides detailed information from a small sample of farmers on special topics requested by both public and private sector data users.

National Center for Education Statistics

Project/Activities Dropped or Reduced as a Result
of FY 1983 Budget Cuts

- 1) State Technical Assistance Grants - Since 1978 NCES has provided grants to States in elementary/secondary and postsecondary education. The grants were used for activities proposed by States to improve their statistical and data-processing activities. They were intended to develop the long-term capability of the State agencies to collect, process, analyze or report education data. Grants also provided useful models for other States with similar needs. Grants could focus on reducing data burden; improving the timeliness of data reporting; improving the quality, comparability, or utility of data; increasing a State's analytical capability; improving the flow of information to local or other educational agencies; and similar objectives. Because of budget reduction, this program was planned but not funded in FY 1982 or 1983.

- 2) Methodological Research and Technical Development - This program is designed to identify, develop, and implement state-of-the-art solutions to persistent technical problems that inhibit effective use of NCES data, or impede efficient statistical program operations. It encompasses such diverse activities as developing statistical techniques that have general applicability, generating data bases that have significant analytic utility, creating education indicators that provide meaningful descriptions of the education enterprise, and developing additional taxonomic research. The Reduction in funds has resulted in the elimination of funds for external consultation and contracting. These activities continue within NCES but progress is severely slowed because of staffing constraints.

- 3) Survey of Pre-Primary Education Institutions - This survey was designed to accurately determine the numbers of children enrolled in preprimary educational institutions, the types of educational services offered and the staffing provided. At present, there is little information available on the education experiences of children enrolled in these programs or the institutions themselves. This project has been victim of budget reductions for the last three years.

- 4) Decreased Number of Surveys in HEGIS - As a direct result of the FY 1983 budget cuts NCES will reduce the number of surveys to be included in the Higher Education General Information Survey. In addition, the periodicity of all surveys are likely to be extended. The following will be dropped from the FY 1983 HEGIS:
 1. College and University Libraries (staff, salaries and holdings)
 2. Institution Characteristics (a basis for addressing issues such as deferred maintenance, energy consumption, and physical access)
 3. Student Residence and Migration (interstate student enrollment patterns)

FY 1983 Budget Cuts (continued)5) High School & Beyond (HS&B)

- a. HS&B First Follow-up: Transcripts and Admission Test Scores - Budget constraints in FY 1982 have resulted in eliminating this component of the HS&B First Follow-up Survey. It would have provided information more accurately describing high school performance and course patterns taken by students and the effect of high school curriculum on future behavior and success. In addition, it would have allowed assessment of the effect of high school programs on adult vocations by examining admission test scores.

In the FY 1982 and 1983 budgets HS&B Second Follow-up program dollars will cover only about half of the total estimated cost. It is not at all clear, at this point, to what extent projected budget cuts will have on the amount of funds NCES can expect from other Federal agencies in the form of inter-agency transfers. It is also not clear how the FY 1984 budget will be impacted and or allocated.

- 6) Projections Project - This project consists of making projections about future high school and college enrollments, education finance, and teacher supply and demand through the use of computer models. There is a need to update and refine these projection models as well as to develop new ones to include national econometric forecasts.
- 7) Foreign Education Statistics Program - Historically this program has been very modest. There, is however, a responsibility and a need to access and contribute to available "international education statistics." Because of continued funding constraints in FY 1983, NCES will unable to carry out specific comparative analyses or special studies in this area.
- 8) Private School Survey - This survey was designed to develop an information data base that would describe the degree and level of participation of private schools in Title I: Financial Assistance To Meet Special Educational Needs of Children and in Title III: Special Projects. As of this date there is no accurate information on Federal assistance to private schools.
- 9) Analysis Programs - Cuts to the FY 1983 budget will have a substantial negative impact on the amount of analysis in the elementary-secondary and postsecondary education programs. Analysis is considered essential to assess the utility and the quality of the data collected.

FY 1981 Budget Cuts (continued)

- 10) National Longitudinal Study: 5th follow up of high school senior class of 1972 - This study originally planned for fiscal 1983 and now delayed for at least several years, would collect data in two major areas of importance to the education community: continuing educational enrollments and long term consequences of education. At present there is no available data to analyze the economic rate of return relative to education level. Hopefully monies will become available in future years.

Program Reduction Highlights

	Funding (\$000)	Staffing
FY 1982 Appropriation	\$78,919	584
<u>Oil and Gas</u>		
Elimination of the National Oil Import Reporting System extension and consolidation, extension of the Weekly Petroleum Status Report to refinery districts, mid- and long-term analysis in the oil and natural gas areas.	-3,932*	- 35
<u>Coal, Nuclear, Electric, and Alternate Fuels</u>		
Elimination of selected coal, electric, and alternate fuel data systems, elimination of further refinements in existing systems and models; elimination of mid- and long-term analysis in the areas of coal, nuclear energy, electric power, and alternate fuels.	-1,580*	- 32
<u>Energy Markets and End Use</u>		
Elimination of large and complex mid- and long-term integrating models, the Financial Reporting System, and the Energy Emergency Management Information Program; elimination of further refinements in existing systems and models; reduction in the consumption program to a scaled down residential survey.	-5,105*	- 61
<u>Information Management Services</u>		
Elimination of satellite computer to support public and State access to automated public use data; reduction in disk storage and number of terminals; reduction in training and technical support to computer users.	-3,964*	- 2
<u>National Energy Information Center</u>		
Reduction in editorial preparation and dissemination with reduced number of publications.	- 67*	- 7
<u>Statistical Standards</u>		
Reduction in validation and quality assessment reviews of data and models, elimination of field audits, and further development efforts on the data resources directory; reduction in forms clearance, statistical design, statistical procedures, and formation of major frame updates.	-2,088*	- 26
<u>Program Direction and Policy and Management</u>		
Elimination of salaries, benefits, and travel for 169 full-time equivalent staff years who will no longer conduct the above activities, reduction in administrative support services, and provision for severance pay.	-7,583	- 6
Total, EIA FY 1983 Appropriation	\$54,500	415

*Contracts only - funding for staffing included in program direction line.

Bureau of Justice Statistics

- National Crime Survey
 - Reduced scope and size of reinterview program
 - Postponed interviewer refresher training
 - Decreased use of in-person interviewing to 50 percent of sample
 - Cut back other on-going activities to improve data quality.
- Discontinued the annual survey of criminal justice expenditure and employment with the collection of data for fiscal 1979.
- Postponed project to develop economic deflators for trend expenditure data.
- Discontinued annual maintenance of the criminal justice agency sampling universe listing; cancelled the 1982 quinquennial updating of that survey.
- Delayed the development of an improved data access program for users and reduced training and other user services.
- Delayed improvements in the quality and coverage of judicial data and national prosecution statistics.
- Curtailed level of effort in the development of civil justice statistics.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS
Impact of Fiscal Years 1981-82-83 Budget Decisions

A. Surveys eliminated.

- . Family Planning, along with inventory of family planning service sites.
- . Manpower

B. Periodicity of surveys reduced.

- . National-Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey - from triennial to quinquennial.
- . National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey - from quinquennial to decennial.
- . National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey - from annual to triennial.
- . National Master Facility Inventory - from biennial to triennial.
- . National Nursing Home Survey - from triennial to sexennial.
- . Vital Statistics Followback Surveys - from biennial to triennial.
- . National Survey of Family Growth - from triennial to quinquennial.

C. Sample size reduced.

- . National Health Interview Survey - plans for sample size cuts are now being finalized and the number of households surveyed will be reduced by approximately 4,000.

D. Content of survey cut.

- . National Master Facility Inventory - eliminated "other facilities;" cut number of items on nursing homes by approximately 50%.

E. Quality control reduced:

- . Hospital Discharge Survey - modified field quality control program - in the past reabstracting was done in every hospital surveyed; now, the hospital is "skipped" for a year if they met the quality control standard for the previous survey.
- . National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey - coding formerly verified on a 100% basis; now will be done on a 20% sample.
- . National Health Interview Survey - a number of field quality control revisions are planned - reducing interviewers, etc., and, pretests for supplements cut from 2 to 1; quality control on processing/coding being cut in half.

F. Publications and distribution reduced.

- . Reduced mailing lists and curtailed free initial distributions of publications except for libraries and key institutions. Limited free distribution of publications mailed upon request - GPO is now source for most publications.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Programs reduced or eliminated in the 12 percent reduction

1. Labor Turnover survey program eliminated.
2. Current Population Survey - May supplement on multiple jobholding eliminated.
3. Current Population Survey - Redesign to take account of 1980 Census changes delayed.
4. Current Population Survey - Number of households added to improve Local Area Unemployment Statistics reduced.
5. Research to improve State and local area unemployment statistics eliminated.
6. BLS Family Budget program eliminated.
7. Consumer Price Index for Fairbanks, Alaska, eliminated.
8. Pricing samples for Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) reduced. Same prices will be used for the All Urban Index (CPI-U) and the CPI-W.
9. Planned revision of Producer Price Index delayed.
10. Planned completion of Export and Import Price Indexes delayed.
11. Work Stoppage statistics sharply reduced. Coverage will be limited only to strikes covering 1,000 or more workers.
12. Five Industry Wage Surveys eliminated.
13. Analysis of Collective Bargaining Agreement provisions eliminated.
14. Survey of Labor and Materials Requirements in the Construction Industry eliminated.
15. BLS economic growth and occupational outlook program reduced.
16. Reduction in number of occupations in the Occupational Outlook Handbook.

G. Other impacts.

- . Applied Statistics Training Institute and State Agency Development programs terminated.
- . Public Health Conference on Records and Statistics postponed for a year.
- . R & D program reduced, delaying activities in redesign of National Health Interview Survey and other population-based surveys, and other R & D efforts.
- . States have been level-funded in vital statistics for several years, in effect absorbing reductions in "real" funding annually. Additionally, plans for expansion of the number of States covered, and number of data elements collected, have been suspended.
- . Health, U.S. - formerly published annually, now will be published biennially with an "update" in off years, containing detailed tables, highlights, and appendices, but without analytic articles.
- . Planned contracts for analysis of National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey data were not awarded, and a proposed data processing contract was eliminated.