

Statistical Agencies as Data Stewards

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Harness the volumes of economic, social, environmental, and demographic data that the U.S. Federal government collects and produces for more effective use in decision-making.

Objective: To create a coordinated approach to U.S. Federal government data development, use, and management that meets the needs of the public.

Strategies:

- Add more consistent leadership to a decentralized statistical system
- Leverage data as a strategic asset
- Promote the use of U.S. Federal government data for evidence-based policymaking

More Consistent Leadership

- Need a unified approach to data management across the U.S. Federal government
- Need mechanisms to tap U.S. Federal government agencies that collect, store, and manage information
 - New level of cross-government executive leadership
 - U.S. Federal government data working groups

Leverage Data as a Strategic Asset



- Make better use of U.S. Federal government data to grow the economy and increase government effectiveness and transparency
- Pilot applications of new technologies and methods for the protection of privacy and confidentiality
- Partner with industry in ways that add value for businesses while providing quality services for the American public

U.S. Federal Government Data for Evidence-based Policymaking



- Improve relevance of data
- Improve access and use of data
- Inform the acquisition of non-survey-based data sources
- Integrate non-survey, survey, and administrative data

The Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018

- New paradigm requires engagement and cooperation in and across statistical agencies to strengthen data and evidence-building infrastructures
- Lays out the foundation for implementing the federal data strategy

Designation of key leadership positions:

- **Chief Data Officer** - will lead centralized organizational development of processes to leverage data
- **Evaluation Officer** - will provide leadership over the agency's evaluation and learning agenda activities
- **Statistical Official** - will advise on statistical policy, techniques, and procedures

Formation of cross-government coordinating bodies:

- **Chief Data Officer Council** – CDOs from all U.S. Federal government agencies will develop government-wide best practices for use, protection, dissemination, and generation of data, and will promote data sharing across agencies
- **Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building** – A committee of public/private advisors will provide recommendations on data sharing for evidence-building and privacy-enhancing technologies

U.S. Federal Government Data Strategy

– *Initial Implementation*



Key activities over coming months:

- Develop a **data inventory** that will account for all data assets created by, collected by, under the direction of, or maintained by the federal government agency
- Develop a **learning agenda** that will identify, prioritize and establish strategies to answer policy-relevant questions for which the federal government agency will develop evidence to support policymaking and regulatory actions
- Develop **standardized best practices and tools** for making federal government data open to the public

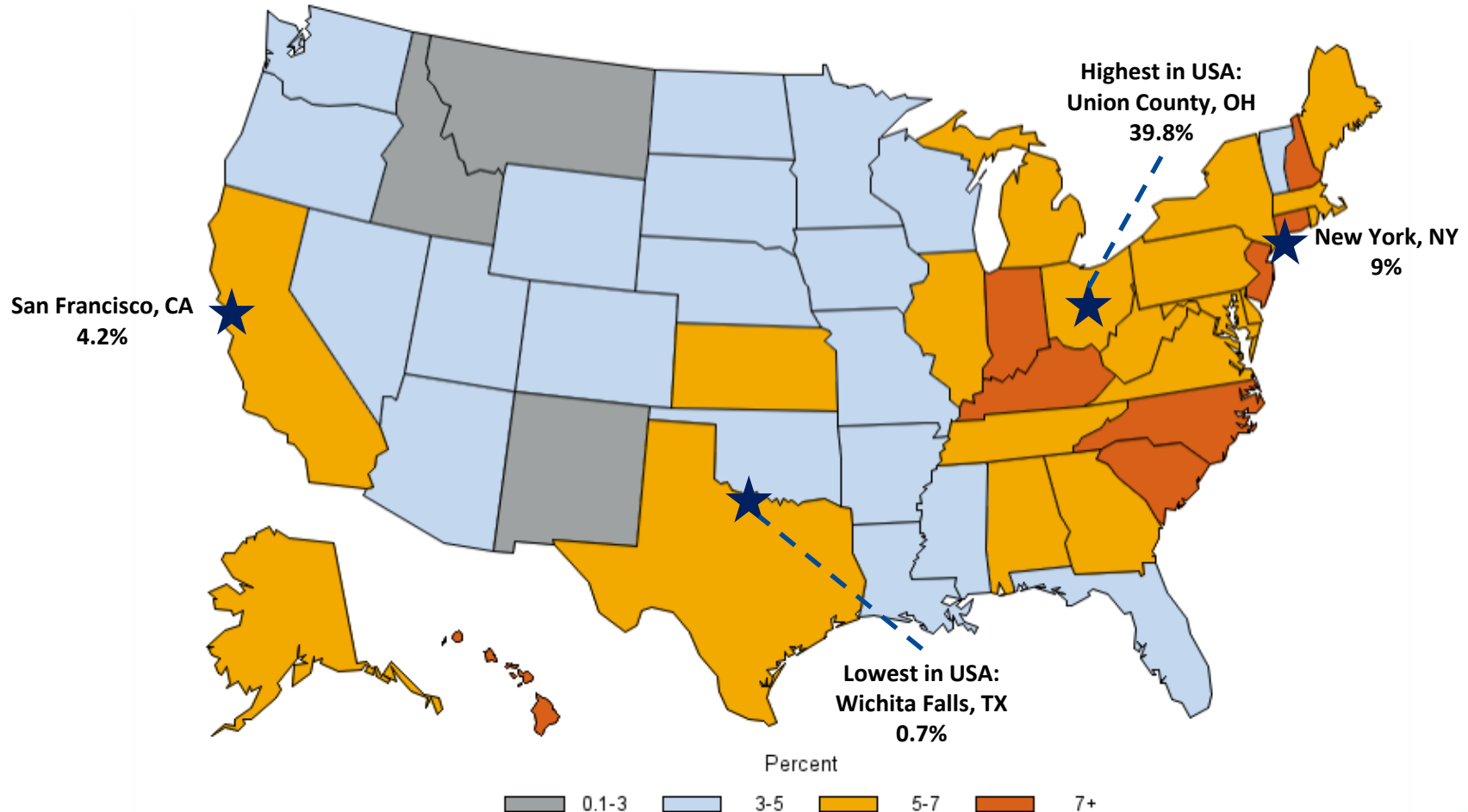
Example: BEA/BLS Data Link Project



- Joint initiative between BEA and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to combine data to produce new research statistics on foreign direct investment in the states, metro areas, and counties of the United States
- Result: New information about each state or local area's employment at companies that are foreign-owned located in the U.S., including:
 - average employment and wages,
 - types of occupations,
 - comparisons of pay at foreign-owned companies versus domestic companies
- Currently considering future extensions and periodic updates to his research

Example: BEA/BLS Data Link Project

Foreign-Owned Business Share of Employment



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