

Survey/Program: Census of Governments: Organization
Year: 2017
Dataset: CG1700ORG
Table Name: Local Governments by Type and State: 2017
Table ID: CG1700ORG02

Release Date: April 25, 2019

Data Items and Other Identifying Records:

Total Local Government Units
Total Local Government Units - County Governments
Total Local Government Units - General Purpose Governments
Total Local Government Units - Subcounty Governments
Total Local Government Units - Subcounty Governments - Municipal Governments
Total Local Government Units - Subcounty Governments - Township Governments
Total Local Government Units - Special Purpose Governments
Total Local Government Units - Special Purpose Governments - Independent School District Governments
Total Local Government Units - Special Purpose Governments - Special District Governments

Geography Coverage:

The counts are provided for all local government units in the United States by state.

Methodology:

The universe of this file is all federal, state, and local government units in the United States. In addition to the federal government and the 50 state governments, the Census Bureau recognizes five basic types of local governments. Of these five types, three are general-purpose governments: County, municipal, and township governments are readily recognized and generally present no serious problem of classification. However, legislative provisions for school district and special district governments are diverse. Numerous single-function and multiple-function districts, authorities, commissions, boards, and other entities, which have varying degrees of autonomy, exist in the United States. The basic pattern of these entities varies widely from state to state. Moreover, various classes of local governments within a particular state also differ in their characteristics. Refer to the [Individual State Descriptions: 2017 Census of Governments](#) for an overview of all government entities authorized by state.

Data are not subject to sampling error, but for information on nonsampling error and definitions, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/gus/technical-documentation/methodology.html>.

Symbols:

X – Not applicable (Represents zero)

Footnotes:

¹ County government counts exclude areas corresponding to counties but having no organized county governments.

² Independent school district government counts exclude school districts operated by a state, county, municipal, or township governments. See Table CG1700ORG09 for counts of dependent school systems.

Source:

U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 Census of Governments: Organization Component Estimates. Data are not subject to sampling error, but for information on nonsampling error and definitions, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/gus/technical-documentation/methodology.html>. Data users who create their own estimates from these tables should cite the U.S. Census Bureau as the source of the original data only.

Contact Information:

U.S. Census Bureau
For general inquiries and data questions:
(888) 202-2691
esmd.gus.psfcb@census.gov