Data Source Summary Tables

Scott Kjorlien July 31, 2023

FOIA Data Summary

voor	mean	max	sum	std	payment count
year					
2006	788.063227	91720.160000	441395789.320000	1676.053254	560102
2007	352.159822	25273.560000	74762121.500000	864.113680	212296
2008	867.341432	668810.000000	10207878350.0000000	2967.924860	11769158
2009	2022.597148	697812.000000	9992060725.000000	4625.206816	4940213
2010	1606.336499	1086026.000000	10615437806.000000	5096.921065	6608477
2011	1470.958900	1911038.000000	7853899680.980000	4967.855619	5339306
2012	2178.236162	2266952.000000	8055749016.280000	6030.282833	3698290
2013	2271.050364	2170375.000000	7470720100.0000000	7338.325679	3289544
2014	4208.686593	5575000.000000	7179329103.000000	12448.263786	1705836
2015	3363.286554	4770000.000000	8333282360.000000	8294.386452	2477720
2016	3071.406894	2255666.000000	10711725040.0000000	7262.809840	3487563
2017	2968.001603	2072055.000000	9527872811.0000000	7634.211381	3210198
2018	3400.242598	952719.000000	11600600872.590000	9075.454236	3411698
2019	4878.413022	1500000.000000	19979521019.040001	14411.917545	4095496
2020	4892.061752	3141886.780000	37812702107.610001	18662.827774	7729400
2021	9509.094366	1495778.520000	762857586.430000	30556.643515	80224

Public Data Summary

year	mean	max	sum	std	payment count
2004	1993.274057	19020.680000	211287.050000	3312.419081	106
2005	1858.106889	347834.200000	1239418612.720000	4715.053319	667033
2006	788.063227	91720.160000	441395789.320000	1676.053254	560102
2007	352.159822	25273.560000	74762121.500000	864.113680	212296
2008	867.341505	668810.000000	10207879211.090000	2967.924844	11769158
2009	2022.597295	697812.000000	9992061451.500000	4625.206540	4940213
2010	1654.828508	4925876.000000	10965568866.500000	7522.878663	6626408
2011	1560.550129	5000000.000000	8855627288.190001	7734.061938	5674683
2012	2223.245277	5000000.000000	8770993864.650000	9345.581981	3945131
2013	2305.052355	4000000.000000	9017546913.820000	9509.806497	3912079
2014	4340.194664	5575000.000000	7806551895.880000	15419.746633	1798664
2015	3393.232514	4770000.000000	8989304069.959999	10954.085504	2649186
2016	3101.867592	6000000.000000	11508682520.040001	12510.590189	3710243
2017	3012.216682	3955922.000000	10263637351.990000	10930.816811	3407337
2018	3537.253462	94000000.000000	12751250456.500000	92089.584690	3604845
2019	4848.169688	3500000.000000	20896707040.360001	15848.308165	4310226
2020	4980.094646	82324957.000000	39357702923.989998	80209.209809	7903003
2021	4069.861817	9924038.000000	16422246507.680000	14343.613493	4035087
2022	7240.447348	4243602.500000	13187642193.080000	22089.057904	1821385

Notes & Takeaway

Beginning in 2010, the two different data sources diverge. The Public Data, found at this site has more records, a greater sum, larger mean payments, and often a higher maximum than does the FOIA'd data. As of July 31, 2023, I have not investigated the source of the discrepancies. My initial hunch is that one or more programs were omitted in the FOIA.

Without digging deeper into the discrepancies, I recommend using the Public Data because

- We can use more recent data
- The public data seems more complete
- It will be easier to incorporate future data sources if USDA updates the public webpage
- There are no additional useful fields from the FOIA'd data that we need to make use of