



BEA Regional Accounts: Research Underway

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Regional Accounts Data

- Personal income
 - State, quarterly and annual
 - Local area, annual
 - Counties, metro areas, BEA economic areas
- Gross State Product (GSP) by industry
 - Annual for 63 industries
- Regional input-output multipliers
 - For user defined regions



Regional Accounts Research Themes

- New statistics
- Accelerated estimates
- Improved estimates
- Other research



New Statistics: More Local Area Data

- Gross metro product (GMP)
 - Initial estimates: allocate GSP by local area earnings data
 - Above problematic for non-labor part of GMP
 - Taxes and gross operating surplus
 - Research using sub-state Census Bureau data
- Metro area disposable personal income
 - Research the estimation of personal current taxes for metro areas
 - Subtracted from personal income to derive DPI



New Statistics: Longer Time Series

- Carry time series back in time on a NAICS basis
 - State and local area earnings back to 1990
 - Will evaluate extent of BLS suppressions of W&S
 - GSP back to 1992
 - Requires back-casting Census Bureau data at Center for Economic Studies
- Historical GSP on SIC basis
 - GSP now released for 1977 forward
 - Update experimental estimates back to 1963
 - Develop estimates consistent with current methodology



New Statistics: Interarea Prices

- Indexes that permit place to place comparisons correcting for price level differences
- Joint with the BLS, using CPI microdata
- Intermediate goal: produce indexes for 38 urban areas
- CPI covers urban areas (87 percent of the population)--state indexes require additional data



New Statistics: Alternative income estimates

- Develop alternative household income measures that better meet user needs to:
 - Measure spending capacity
 - Track tax base
- Presentation today



Accelerated estimates

- Permanent program contingent on future funding
- Metro and county personal income
 - From 17 to 10 months after the end of the year
- Gross State Product
 - From 17 to 6 months after the end of the year
 - June release for total GSP
 - November release for GSP by industry



Acceleration issues

- Limited source data available
 - Many components will need to be extrapolated
 - Often with personal income
- Trade-off between timeliness and accuracy
- Trade-off between accuracy and level of detail estimated
 - For example, total advance GSP is more accurate than advance industry GSP estimates



Improved Estimates: Interarea Variation

- More accurately reflect interarea variation in personal income
 - Employers' contributions for pensions and insurance
- Develop estimates of employer contribution rates from an econometric model
- Presentation today



Improved Estimates: Regional Multipliers

- Improve methods to “regionalize” the national input-output accounts
- Capture interregional flows of goods and people
- Produce value-added multipliers
 - In addition to gross output multipliers currently produced
- Much of this research will be undertaken with Commodity Flows Survey microdata
 - At the Census Bureau’s Center for Economic Studies



Improved Estimates: New Source Data

- IRS Information Returns data at state level
 - Potential information on
 - Pension disbursements and roll-overs to aid in estimating alternative income measures
 - Income of individuals who receive information returns but don't need to file tax returns
 - Improve estimates of property income
 - Information to reconcile state personal income with adjusted gross income



Other Research

- Revise BEA Economic Areas, reflecting
 - New commuting data from 2000 Decennial Census
 - Revised OMB metropolitan area definitions
- Improve Consistency of BEA's Accounts
 - Research differences in taxes on production and imports among BEA accounts and accounts in the Census Bureau's Governments Division