Economic Data Sources

Individual Microdata Sets

Data Ferret (dataferrett.census.gov) as of June 7, 2016
(see http://dataferrett.census.gov/AboutDatasets.html)

The American Community Survey
The American Community Survey (ACS) is a part of the U.S. Census Bureau's Decennial Census Program and is designed to provide more current demographic, social, economic, and housing estimates throughout the decade. The ACS provides information on more than 40 topics, including education, language ability, the foreign-born, marital status, migration and many more. Each year the survey randomly samples around 3.5 million addresses and produces statistics that cover 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year periods for geographic areas in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Public Use Micro Sample (PUMS) Description
Microdata files from the American Community Survey show the full range of responses made on individual questionnaires. For example, how one household or one household member answered questions on occupation, place of work, and so forth. The files contain records for a sample of all housing units, with information on the characteristics of each unit and the people in it.
All identifying information is removed to ensure confidentiality. The records selected are a sample of those households that received the questionnaire. The questionnaire included questions on age, sex, tenure, income, education, language spoken at home, journey to work, occupation, condominium status, shelter costs, vehicles available, and other subjects.
The full range of population and housing information collected in the American Community Survey is available in the PUMS: For most questions asked on the questionnaire, the response is given in these files -- and you design tabulations to aggregate the responses in ways that are useful to you.

Current Population Survey
Purpose: To provide estimates of employment, unemployment, and other characteristics of the general labor force, of the population as a whole, and of various subgroups of the population. Monthly labor force data for the country are used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to determine the distribution of funds under the Job Training Partnership Act. These data are collected through combined computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) and computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI). In addition to the labor force data, the CPS basic funding provides annual data on work experience, income, and migration from the March Annual Demographic Supplement and on school enrollment of the population from the October Supplement. Other supplements, some of which are sponsored by other agencies, are conducted biennially or intermittently.
Periodicity: A continuing survey with interviewing conducted during one week of each month.
Supplements: Additional information about specific supplements can be found on the Census Bureau website at http://www.census.gov/cps/methodology/techdocs.html

Survey of Income and Program Participation
The Survey
SIPP data show sample members lives at discrete points in time, as well as a history of changes in their economic circumstances and household relationships. Understanding survey design, content, and procedures is key for analysts wishing to use SIPP data.

Design of SIPP
The adults followed in each SIPP panel come from a nationally representative sample of households in the civilian non-institutionalized U.S. population. People selected into the SIPP sample are interviewed once every 4 months over the life of the panel. If original sample members 15 years of age or older move
from their original addresses to other addresses, they are interviewed at the new addresses. The survey sample includes children residing with original sample members. If, after the first interview, other people not previously in the survey become part of a respondent’s household, the new people are interviewed as long as they continue living with respondents from the first interview.

**SIPP Contents**

Information collected in SIPP falls into two categories:

**Core:** The core content includes questions asked at every interview and covers demographic characteristics; labor force participation; program participation; amounts and types of earned and unearned income received, including transfer payments; noncash benefits from various programs; asset ownership; and private health insurance. Most core data are measured on a monthly basis, although a few core items are measured only as of the interview date, once every 4 months.

**Topical:** Other questions produce in-depth information on specific subjects and are asked less frequently. Those topical questions are often found in topical modules that usually follow the core content. Topical questions probe in greater detail about particular social and economic characteristics and personal histories. Included are such topics as assets and liabilities, school enrollment, marital history, fertility, migration, disability, and work history. Topical module questions typically collect information on events in the past or characteristics that tend to change slowly, if at all.

**Behavioral Risk-Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)**

The behavioral risk-factor surveillance system (BRFSS) operated for its second year in 1985. BRFSS data were collected from adults in 21 states and the District of Columbia by monthly telephone interviews with use of random-digit-dialing techniques. The interviews were conducted with a standard questionnaire and procedures developed jointly by the state health departments and CDC. The risk factors assessed included self-reported overweight, sedentary lifestyle, uncontrolled hypertension, cigarette smoking, alcohol misuse, and seat belt nonuse for persons 18 years of age and older (Tables 1 and 2). The results presented here are weighted to take into account the age, race, and sex distribution of adults in each state, as well as the respondents' probability of selection, and are therefore representative of the adult populations of the participating states.

**National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)**

Information is collected on all household members. A household adult reports information for a randomly selected child less than 18 years of age in the Child Core questionnaire, and a randomly selected adult reports for him/herself in the Adult Core questionnaire. Questions are designed to retain comparability to previous NHIS surveys for reporting of activity limitation due to physical, mental, or emotional problems. Information on activity limitation is collected on each family member.

**Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES)**

The Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) program consists of two surveys—the quarterly Interview survey and the Diary survey—that provide information on the buying habits of American consumers, including data on their expenditures, income, and consumer unit (families and single consumers) characteristics.

**American Housing Survey (AHS)**

The American Housing Survey (AHS) collects data on the Nation's housing, including apartments, single-family homes, mobile homes, vacant housing units, household characteristics, income, housing and neighborhood quality, housing costs, equipment and fuels, size of housing unit, and recent movers. National data are collected every other year, and data for each of 46 selected Metropolitan Areas are collected about every four years, with an average of 12 Metropolitan Areas included each year. The national sample covers on average 55,000 homes. Each metropolitan areas sample covers 4,800 or more homes.
County Business Patterns (CBP)
County Business Patterns (CBP) is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. The series is useful for studying the economic activity of small areas; analyzing economic changes over time; and as a benchmark for statistical series, surveys, and databases between economic censuses. Businesses use the data for analyzing market potential, measuring the effectiveness of sales and advertising programs, setting sales quotas, and developing budgets. Government agencies use the data for administration and planning. County Business Patterns covers most of the country's economic activity. The series excludes data on self-employed individuals, employees of private households, railroad employees, agricultural production employees, and most government employees. The County Business Patterns program has tabulated on a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis since 1998.

Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA)
The Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA), enacted by Congress in 1975 and implemented by the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation C, requires lending institutions to report public loan data. In this section of the web site, you can find out more about the regulation and its interpretation.

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)
The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) is a national survey designed to meet the need for objective, reliable information about the provision and use of ambulatory medical care services in the United States. Findings are based on a sample of visits to nonfederally employed office-based physicians who are primarily engaged in direct patient care. Physicians in the specialties of anesthesiology, pathology, and radiology are excluded from the survey. The survey was conducted annually from 1973 to 1981, in 1985, and annually since 1989.

National Center for Health Statistics
Mortality - Underlying Cause-of-Death - 1994 (MORT)
The vital statistics general mortality data are a fundamental source of demographic, geographic, and cause-of-death information. This is one of the few sources of comparable health-related data for small geographic areas and a long time period in the United States. The data are also used to present the characteristics of those dying in the United States, to determine life expectancy, and to compare mortality trends with other countries. Preliminary and final annual data are available.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) has been designed to collect information about the health and diet of people in the United States. This survey teaches us about the health and diet of people in the United States. Over the years, this survey has lead to improvements in the food we eat and the health care we receive.

National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS)
The National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) is designed to collect data on the utilization and provision of ambulatory care services in hospital emergency and outpatient departments. Findings are based on a national sample of visits to the emergency departments and outpatient departments of noninstitutional general and short-stay hospitals, exclusive of Federal, military, and Veterans Administration hospitals, located in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The survey uses a four-stage probability design with samples of geographically defined areas, hospitals within these areas, clinics within hospitals, and patient visits within clinics. Annual data collection began in 1992.
National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (FHWAR)

Presents microdata records (with any information that might identify a specific person or household removed) on individuals involved in fishing, hunting, and other wildlife-associated recreation, such as wildlife observation, photography, and feeding. Data include state in which these activities occurred; number of trips taken; duration of trips; and expenditures for food, lodging, transportation, and equipment. The survey was conducted by the Census Bureau for the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, which prepares printed reports in this field.

New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS)

The 2008 survey, which reveals a synopsis of the City's housing market between February and June 2008, found that the citywide net rental vacancy rate was 2.88 percent, down from 3.09 percent in 2005. The City's total housing stock rose to more than 3.33 million units, the largest in the 43-year period since the first survey was conducted in 1965, and all five boroughs saw an increase in housing. New Yorkers' satisfaction with their neighborhoods and overall building conditions reached their highest ever levels since they were first measured, 30 years ago and 43 years ago, respectively. The survey, conducted every three years, is required by State and City rent-regulation laws to determine New York City's overall vacancy rate for rental housing.

Public Libraries Survey (PLS)

The Public Libraries Survey is a statistical survey that collects information on public libraries throughout the United States. A public library is established under state enabling laws or regulations to serve a community, city, or region, and provides at least the following:

1. an organized collection of printed or other library materials, or a combination thereof;
2. paid staff;
3. an established schedule in which services of the staff are available to the public;
4. the facilities necessary to support such a collection, staff, and schedule, and;
5. is supported in whole or in part with public funds.

The Public Libraries Survey dataset is comprised of three distinct components:

1. the Public Library Data File,
2. the Public Library Outlet Data File, and
3. the Public Library State Summary/State Characteristics Data File.

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) began this nation-wide library statistics program in 1989, which now includes the Academic Libraries Survey and the School Library Media Center Survey. Effective October 1, 2007, the Public Libraries Survey and the State Library Agencies Survey were moved to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

Small Area Health Insurance Estimates for Counties and States (SAHIE)

The Census Bureau's Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) program produces estimates of health insurance coverage for states and all counties. In July 2005, SAHIE released the first nation-wide set of county-level estimates on the number of people without health insurance coverage for all ages and those under 18 years old. In October 2008, SAHIE released 2005 estimates of health insurance coverage by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and income categories at the state-level and by age, sex, and income categories at the county-level.

Small Area Income & Poverty Estimates for School Districts, Counties, and States (SAIPE)

The U.S. Census Bureau, with support from other Federal agencies, created the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) program to provide more current estimates of selected income and poverty statistics than those from the most recent decennial census. Estimates are created for school districts, counties, and states. The main objective of this program is to provide updated estimates of income and poverty statistics for the administration of federal programs and the allocation of federal funds to local jurisdictions. Estimates for 2006 and 2007 were released in

Social Security Administration (SSA)
OASDI is the familiar Social Security social insurance program into which participants make payroll contributions based on earnings. Benefits are paid to insured workers and eligible family members when they retire or become disabled and to the survivors of deceased workers.

Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD)
The SPD survey measures: program eligibility and participation for the full range of welfare programs; money income, in-kind benefits, and services received from programs; employment, earned income, and income from other economic sources; family composition; and child outcomes including key features of the environments of children (because reforms may have positive or negative consequences for children through these intervening mechanisms).

IPUMS (www.ipums.org)
IPUMS has a treasure trove of easily accessible data available that include:

- Census microdata from 1850 to the present as well as the American Community Survey that is harmonized allowing for ease of use across surveys

- CPS harmonized microdata for March 1962 to present (this is the annual economic and social supplement.) Note: for other CPS supplements you will need to use DataFerrett.

- International microdata from censuses of other countries from 1960 forward.

- Integrated Health Interview Survey that is annual harmonized data on people in the NHIS from the 1960s to the present

- American Time Use Survey from 2003 forward that surveys how US adults divide their time among activities based on time-diaries.

You will need to set up an account but it is a simple quick process.

World Bank Data (http://microdata.worldbank.org/index.php/home)
The World Bank has nearly 1500 microdata sets available. The Microdata Library facilitates access to data collected through sample surveys of households, business establishments or other facilities. These 'microdata' sets may also originate from population, housing or agricultural censuses or through an administrative data collection processes. The Library contains supporting documentation from censuses and surveys conducted or supported by the World Bank, as well as by other international organizations, statistical agencies and other agencies in low and middle-income countries.

National Longitudinal Surveys (http://www.bls.gov/nls/)

- National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)-- Survey of young men and women born in the years 1980-84; respondents were ages 12-17 when first interviewed in 1997.
- **National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)**—Survey of men and women born in the years 1957-64; respondents were ages 14-22 when first interviewed in 1979.

- **NLSY79 Children and Young Adults**—Survey of the biological children of women in the NLSY79.

- **National Longitudinal Surveys of Young Women and Mature Women (NLSW)**—The Young Women's survey includes women who were ages 14-24 when first interviewed in 1968. The Mature Women's survey includes women who were ages 30-44 when first interviewed in 1967. These surveys were discontinued in 2003.

- **National Longitudinal Surveys of Young Men and Older Men**—The Young Men's survey, which was discontinued in 1981, includes men who were ages 14-24 when first interviewed in 1966. The Older Men's survey, which was discontinued in 1990, includes men who were ages 45-59 when first interviewed in 1966.

These data sets are very rich, providing lots of detail about earnings, labor force participation, marital histories, education and lots more.

**Panel Study of Income Dynamics** ([http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/](http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/))

The study began in 1968 with a nationally representative sample of over 18,000 individuals living in 5,000 families in the United States. Information on these individuals and their descendants has been collected continuously, including data covering employment, income, wealth, expenditures, health, marriage, childbearing, child development, philanthropy, education, and numerous other topics.

The data were collected annually from 1968-1997 and biannually from 1999-2011. It is also a very rich data set that is focused more on households than the NLS.

**National Education Longitudinal Study (NELS:88)** ([nces.ed.gov/surveys/nels88/](nces.ed.gov/surveys/nels88/))

A nationally representative sample of eighth-graders was first surveyed in the spring of 1988. A sample of these respondents was then resurveyed through four follow-ups in 1990, 1992, 1994, and 2000. On the questionnaire, students reported on a range of topics including: school, work, and home experiences; educational resources and support; the role in education of their parents and peers; neighborhood characteristics; educational and occupational aspirations; and other student perceptions. Additional topics include self-reports on smoking, alcohol and drug use and extracurricular activities. For the three in-school waves of data collection (when most were eighth-graders, sophomores, or seniors), achievement tests in reading, social studies, mathematics and science were administered in addition to the student questionnaire.

To further enrich the data, students' teachers, parents, and school administrators were also surveyed. Coursework and grades from students' high school and postsecondary transcripts are also available in the restricted use dataset - although some composite variables have been made available in the public use file. The NELS:88 data can be used for policy-relevant research about educational processes and outcomes, for example: student learning; early and late predictors of dropping out; and school effects on students' access to programs and equal opportunity to learn.

**More about the data collection waves:**
The base year of the National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988 (NELS:88) represents the first stage of this major longitudinal effort designed to provide trend data about critical transitions experienced by students as they leave middle or junior high school, and progress through high school and into postsecondary institutions or the work force.
The first follow-up in 1990 constitutes the first opportunity for longitudinal measurements from the 1988 baseline. It also provides a comparison point to high school sophomores-ten years before, as studied in HS&B. The dataset captures the population of early dropouts (those who leave school prior to the end of tenth grade), while monitoring the transition of the student population into secondary schooling.

The second follow-up took place early in 1992, when most sample members were in the second term of their senior year. The second follow-up provides a culminating measurement of learning in the course of secondary school, and also collects information that will facilitate investigation of the transition into the labor force and postsecondary education after high school. Because the NELS:88 sample was freshened to represent the high school class of 1992, trend comparisons can be made to the high school classes of 1972 and 1980 that were studied in NLS-72 and HS&B. The NELS:88 second follow-up returned to students who were identified as dropouts in 1990, and identified and surveyed additional students who had left school since the prior wave.

The third follow-up took place in 1994, when most sample members had completed high school. The primary goals of the 1994 round were: 1) to provide data for trend comparisons with NLS-72 and HS&B; 2) to address issues of employment and postsecondary access and choice; and 3) to ascertain how many dropouts have returned to school and by what route.

Data from the fourth follow-up interview in 2000 permits researchers to examine what this cohort had accomplished 12 years after the eighth-grade baseline survey. The 2000 data were collected at a key stage of life transitions for the eighth-grade class of 1988-most had been out of high school for nearly 8 years. Many had already completed postsecondary education, started or even changed careers, and started to form families.


**Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002) Features**
- Nationally representative, longitudinal study of 10th graders in 2002 and 12th graders in 2004
- Students followed throughout secondary and postsecondary years
- Surveys of students, their parents, math and English teachers, and school administrators
- Student assessments in math (10th & 12th grades) and English (10th grade)
- High school transcripts available for research on course-taking

**ELS:2002 Focus**
- What are students' trajectories from the beginning of high school into postsecondary education, the workforce, and beyond?
- What are the different patterns of college access and persistence that occur in the years following high school completion

**Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS)** ([nces.ed.gov/ecls](nces.ed.gov/ecls))

The Early Childhood Longitudinal Study (ECLS) program includes three longitudinal studies that examine child development, school readiness, and early school experiences. The birth cohort of the ECLS-B is a sample of children born in 2001 and followed from birth through kindergarten entry. The kindergarten class of 1998-99 cohort is a sample of children followed from kindergarten through the eighth grade. The kindergarten class of 2010-11 cohort is following a sample of children from kindergarten through the fifth grade.

The ECLS program provides national data on children's status at birth and at various points thereafter; children's transitions to nonparental care, early education programs, and school; and children's
experiences and growth through the eighth grade. The ECLS program also provides data to analyze the relationships among a wide range of family, school, community, and individual variables with children's development, early learning, and performance in school.

**Medical Expenditure Panel Survey** ([meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/about_meps/survey_back.jsp](http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/about_meps/survey_back.jsp))

The Medical Expenditure Panel Survey, which began in 1996, is a set of large-scale surveys of families and individuals, their medical providers (doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, etc.), and employers across the United States. MEPS collects data on the specific health services that Americans use, how frequently they use them, the cost of these services, and how they are paid for, as well as data on the cost, scope, and breadth of health insurance held by and available to U.S. workers.

**Major MEPS Components**

MEPS currently has two major components: the **Household Component** and the **Insurance Component**. The Household Component provides data from individual households and their members, which is supplemented by data from their medical providers. The Insurance Component is a separate survey of employers that provides data on employer-based health insurance.

**Household Component**

The **Household Component** (HC) collects data from a sample of families and individuals in selected communities across the United States, drawn from a nationally representative subsample of households that participated in the prior year's **National Health Interview Survey** (conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics).

During the household interviews, MEPS collects detailed information for each person in the household on the following: demographic characteristics, health conditions, health status, use of medical services, charges and source of payments, access to care, satisfaction with care, health insurance coverage, income, and employment.

The panel design of the survey, which features several rounds of interviewing covering two full calendar years, makes it possible to determine how changes in respondents' health status, income, employment, eligibility for public and private insurance coverage, use of services, and payment for care are related. The HC expenditures have been projected to future years by selected demographic characteristics by source of payment and type of service.

HC data are available on the MEPS Web site in data tables, downloadable data files (person, job, event, or condition level), annually projected expenditures through 2016, and interactive data tools, as well as in publications using HC data.

**Insurance Component**

The **Insurance Component** (IC) collects data from a sample of private and public sector employers on the health insurance plans they offer their employees. The survey is also known as the Health Insurance Cost Study.

The collected data include the number and types of private insurance plans offered (if any), premiums, contributions by employers and employees, eligibility requirements, benefits associated with these plans, and employer characteristics.

IC estimates are available on the MEPS Web site in tabular form for national, regional, state, and metropolitan areas, as well as in publications using IC data and interactive data tools. IC data files are not available for public release.

**Other MEPS Components**

MEPS also includes a Medical Provider Component (MPC), which covers hospitals, physicians, home health care providers, and pharmacies identified by MEPS-HC respondents. Its purpose is to supplement and/or replace information received from the MEPS-HC respondents.

Data files containing only this supplemental respondent information are not available, but the information is incorporated into the MEPS-HC data files.
In 1996 only, MEPS included a Nursing Home Component (NHC) that gathered information from a sample of nursing homes and residents nationwide on the characteristics of the facilities and services offered; expenditures and sources of payment on an individual resident level; and resident characteristics, including functional limitation, cognitive impairment, age, income, and insurance coverage. The NHC also collected data on the availability and use of community-based care prior to admission to nursing homes. For reasons of confidentiality, NHC data are available only at the Data Center located at AHRQ or one of the Census Bureau's Research Data Centers.

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) provides information on the NCHS National Nursing Home Survey (NNHS), a continuing series of national sample surveys of nursing homes, their residents, and their staff that have been conducted in 1973–74, 1977, 1985, 1995, 1997, and 1999.

Aggregate Cross-sectional Data

American FactFinder (http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml)

Data from the following surveys and censuses are available in American FactFinder:

- The American Community Survey is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing.
- The American Housing Survey is the most comprehensive housing survey in the United States, covering 29 Metropolitan areas and the Nation as a whole.
- The Census Bureau conducts more than 100 economic surveys covering annual, quarterly, and monthly time periods for various sectors of the economy. Data from three Annual Economic Surveys can be found on American FactFinder:
  - Annual Survey of Manufactures
  - Business Patterns
  - Nonemployer Statistics
- The Annual Surveys of Governments provide relevant, comprehensive, uniform, and quality statistics on the characteristics and key economic activities of our nation’s nearly 90,000 state and local governments. The surveys provide detailed information about these governments’ structure, organization, function, finances, and employment.
- The Census of Governments, conducted every 5 years, provides periodic and comprehensive statistics about the organization, employment, and finances of all state and local governments.
- The Decennial Census collects data every 10 years about age, sex, race, housing units and more for the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas.
- The Economic Census profiles the U.S. economy every 5 years, from the national to the local level and by detailed industry and business classification.
- The Survey of Business Owners presents statistics every 5 years at the national to local area level by industry and by gender, ethnicity, race, and veteran status of the business owner.
- The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation publishes estimates from the American Community Survey of the race, ethnicity, and sex composition of the workforce by occupation and geography.
- The Population Estimates Program publishes estimated population totals for the previous year for cities and towns, metropolitan areas, counties, and states.

IPUMS (www.ipums.org)

The National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS) provides, free of charge, aggregate census data and GIS-compatible boundary files for the United States between 1790 and 2014.
Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov/data/)

The BLS has a wealth of data available for different geographic levels on:
- Inflation and consumer prices
- Employment, hours and earnings
- Unemployment
- Pay and benefits
- Work stoppages
- Consumer spending
- Time use
- Productivity
- Workplace injuries and illnesses

FRED: Federal Reserve Economic Data (http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/)

This website has a variety of data series that can be downloaded for states, counties, and metropolitan areas. There is a really convenient Stata program for importing FRED data directly into Stata. It's called freduse. Here's a short youtube video showing how it works.

CDC Wonder (http://wonder.cdc.gov/)

This website has a variety of birth, mortality and morbidity data available for different age, race, gender groups at many different geographic levels and for a number of different years.
- Births
- Detailed Mortality
- Compressed Mortality
- Multiple cause of death (Detailed Mortality)
- Infant Deaths (Linked Birth/Infant Death Records)
- Cancer Statistics
- AIDS Public Use Data
- Sexually Transmitted Disease Morbidity
- Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting
- Environment
  - Daily Air Temperatures & Heat Index
  - Daily Land Surface Temperatures
  - Daily Fine Particulate Matter
  - Daily Sunlight
  - Daily Precipitation

National Center for Education Statistics (http://nces.ed.gov/)

This website has a wealth of data on primary, secondary and post-secondary outcomes that can be measured at the state level as well as district and school levels. Another rich source of educational outcomes data are state websites that can provide information on student outcomes and information on school funding and other characteristics.
Aggregate Time Series Data

**FRED: Federal Reserve Economic Data** ([http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/](http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/))

This website has all the macroeconomic time series. There is a really convenient Stata program for importing FRED data directly into Stata, called freduse. [Here's a short youtube video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=example) showing how it works.


The World Bank has a variety of data available for many different countries that can be searched by country or by topic. There is a really convenient Stata program for importing World Bank data directly into Stata called wbopendata.


BEA has a wealth of national, international and regional data. Many of the series are available on FRED

**National**
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Personal Income and Outlays
- Consumer Spending
- Corporate Profits
- Fixed Assets

**International**
- Balance of Payments
- Trade in Goods and Services
- International Services
- International Investment Position
- Direct Investment and Multinational Enterprises
- Survey Forms and Related Materials

**Regional**
- GDP by State and Metropolitan Area
- State and Local Area Personal Income
- Personal Consumption Expenditures by State
- RIMS II Regional Input-Output Multipliers
- Economic Information for Coastal Areas

**Industry**
- Quarterly GDP by Industry
- Annual Industry Accounts (GDP by Industry & Input-Output Accounts)
- Benchmark Input-Output Accounts
- Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts
- Supplemental Statistics

**Supplemental Accounts**
- Health Care Satellite Account
- Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account
- Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts
- Innovation Account
- Integrated Income, Product, and Federal Reserve Financial Accounts
European Central Bank has ECBStats which I haven't explored much but seems to have a bunch of aggregate data for ECB countries that ought to be comparable.

Types of statistics available

Money, banking and financial market statistics
Each month, the ECB compiles and disseminates a wide range of monetary statistics and indicators, including the broad measure of the money supply known as "M3", its components (banknotes and coins, short-term deposits and other items) and its counterpart assets, notably credit and longer-term liabilities. It also adjusts the monthly statistics to take account of seasonal factors, which makes it easier to analyze trends.

The ECB also compiles harmonised statistics on interest rates paid and charged by MFIs in their business with households and enterprises in the euro area. Moreover, the ECB compiles detailed monthly data on debt securities and quoted shares, covering issues, redemptions and amounts outstanding. It also publishes structural indicators on the banking sector and investment funds in the euro area, various indicators of financial soundness, and statistics on the volume and value of payments in the euro area.

See Money, banking and financial market statistics

Balance of payments and other external statistics
The ECB publishes a monthly balance of payments (b.o.p.) for the euro area, showing the main transactions between euro area residents and residents of countries outside the euro area. The monthly b.o.p. is supplemented by more detailed quarterly and annual statistics. A consistent methodological framework allows the analysis of monetary and b.o.p. statistics for the euro area to be integrated. The monetary presentation of the b.o.p., which the ECB has published since June 2003, provides a link between the foreign transactions of parties other than banks in the euro area and the money supply in the euro area.

In addition, the ECB publishes monthly statistics on its and the Eurosystem's international reserves and foreign currency liquidity, and annual statistics on the international investment position (i.i.p.) of the euro area, which provides an overall picture of the euro area's claims on and liabilities to the rest of the world. The ECB also compiles statistics on the international role of the euro and effective exchange rate indices for the euro, in nominal and real terms, using various deflators.

See Balance of payments and other external statistics

Euro area accounts
The EAA cover all economic and financial transactions and financial balance sheet positions of households, non-financial corporations, financial corporations and government, as well as their economic and financial relations with the Rest of the world. This permits an integrated analysis of non-financial economic activity (such as gross fixed capital formation) and financial transactions (such as the issuance of debt) as well as an analysis of portfolio shift in the financial balance sheets due to transactions and other flows (such as revaluations).

See Euro area accounts
Government finance statistics
Government finance statistics form an important part of the integrated system of sectoral non-financial and financial accounts for the euro area. The annual government finance data are given in three major tables showing time series on i) revenue and expenditure, ii) government debt and iii) the relationship between the government deficit and the change in government debt for each EU country as well as euro area and EU totals.

See Government finance statistics

Statistics on the HICP, other prices, costs, output and the labour markets
The ECB defines price stability, its primary objective, in terms of the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) for the euro area. It also publishes a wide range of statistics on prices and costs, national accounts, the labour markets, external trade and various other general economic statistics. The prime responsibility for this type of statistics lies with the European Commission. The ECB works closely with the Commission (Eurostat) in order to develop harmonised statistical concepts and achieve regularly available, good quality euro area statistics.

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