Year 1 Report Contents

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- NSDS Role in Capacity Building
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Today’s Goals

- Discuss and reach agreement on description of structure of NSDS
- Review, discuss, and approve of Committee recommendations
- Discussion Ground Rules:
  - Raise objections to anything you could not live with in the report
  - Objections should come with specifics of what you object to and why
  - Objectors should be prepared to offer a suggestion as to how to remediate the objection
Description of the vision for the structure of the NSDS:

As a place, NSDS will be a legally recognized entity that functions within the larger ecosystem, with hardware, software, and administrative infrastructure and capacity that allows it to meet its mission. The NSDS will be structured as a quasi- or non-governmental entity that is sponsored by a federal statistical agency and will have the following attributes: transparency and trust, accessibility, independence, legal authority to protect privacy and confidentiality, legal authority to collect data from agencies, scalable functionality, sustainability, oversight and accountability, and intergovernmental support.

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Committee Recommendations for Approval

1. Evidence Act Regulations
2. Chief Statistician
3. Standard-Setting Procedures
4. Appropriation Requests
5. Value-Driven Pilot Program
6. Privacy-Preserving Technologies Pilot Program
7. Communication

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Committee Recommendation #1: Evidence Act Regulations

The OMB Director should take immediate steps to promulgate draft guidance and regulations required under the Evidence Act, including reviewing and incorporating the Committee’s preliminary advice provided in this report and engaging with the Committee as part of the comment process. These expected policies include:

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking under CIPSEA Sec. 3581 for the Presumption of Accessibility to administrative data.
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Under CIPSEA Sec. 3582 for expanding access to CIPSEA data assets.
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking under CIPSEA Sec. 3563 on responsibilities for statistical agencies and public trust.
- Implementation guidance for the OPEN Government Data Act, including how agencies should implement “open data by default,” data inventories, and data sensitivity considerations. This guidance should also provide increased clarity on interagency and intergovernmental data sharing responsibilities and expectations.

This guidance and regulations will provide necessary frameworks to inform the development of the NSDS and support evidence-based decision-making. The Committee will make additional recommendations to advance the implementation of the Evidence Act and to establish an NSDS in Year 2.
Committee Recommendation #2: Chief Statistician

The OMB Director should take immediate steps to designate a full-time Chief Statistician of the United States and elevate this position within OMB’s organizational structure, in alignment with CEP recommendation 5-4.
Committee Recommendation #3: Standard-Setting Procedures

The OMB Director and Chief Statistician of the United States should leverage existing authority under the Paperwork Reduction Act to establish a clear procedure for public and stakeholder engagement on future data standards for intergovernmental, interagency, or intra-agency data sets.

These procedures will be foundational to the development and implementation of standards and standardization for both the NSDS and stakeholders in the broader evidence-building ecosystem. The Committee will make additional recommendations on standards in Year 2.
Committee Recommendation #4: Appropriations Requests

The OMB Director should include specific requests for increased funding to support implementation of the Federal Data Strategy priorities and Evidence Act requirements in the FY 2023 President’s Budget request to Congress.
Committee Recommendation #5: Value-Driven Pilot Program

The Committee recommends that the United States Chief Statistician, in concert with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, establishes a pilot program, with funding as needed, that demonstrates the value of data sharing and coordination, specifically with projects that highlight cross-functional, cross-agency, and cross-governmental topics. The Committee recommends projects on unemployment insurance data, education and workforce, and health as high priorities.

The pilot program will evaluate ways to ensure private information is protected while expanding research access. Projects should include federal agencies, states, and localities that already have well developed data systems and involve people who have experience in data sharing between federal, state, and local governments and have addressed such issues in the past. The program will start by building on projects already underway across the federal statistical system. The Committee will use this program to help inform its recommendations in Year 2.
Committee Recommendation #6: Privacy-Preserving Technologies Pilot Program

The Committee recommends that the United States Chief Statistician, in concert with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, establishes a pilot program, with funding as needed, to advance the use of privacy preserving technologies, in alignment with CEP recommendation 3-2. The pilot program should feature applications of secure multiparty computing, if possible, including (1) privacy preserving record linkage and (2) private set intersection.

The pilot program will identify legal barriers to be overcome and technical requirements needed to foster the widespread use of these technologies. The program will leverage the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology’s Data Protection toolkit and will start by building on projects already underway across the federal statistical system.

The program should inform future coordination between federal, state, and local governments and help develop a framework for expanding engagements beyond the federal evidence building system. The Committee will use this program to help inform its recommendations in Year 2.
Committee Recommendation #6: Privacy-Preserving Technologies Pilot Program Case Studies

The Committee recommends that the United States Chief Statistician, in concert with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, establishes a pilot program, with funding as needed, to advance the use of publish case studies where privacy preserving technologies were employed, in alignment with CEP recommendation 3-2. The pilot program should feature applications of secure multiparty computing, if possible, including (1) privacy preserving record linkage and (2) private set intersection.

The pilot program case studies will identify legal barriers to be overcome and technical requirements needed to foster the widespread use of these technologies. The program will leverage the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology’s Data Protection toolkit and will start by building on projects already underway across the federal statistical system. The program should case studies will inform future coordination between federal, state, and local governments and help develop a framework for expanding engagements beyond the federal evidence building system. The Committee will use this program to help inform its recommendations in Year 2.
Committee Recommendation #7: Communication

The Committee recommends that the United States Chief Statistician, in concert with the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, develops a comprehensive communication strategy about the benefits of a robust, privacy protecting NSDS. The strategy should be responsive to the interests of a wide range of stakeholders including: the public; federal, state, and local policymakers in executive and legislative roles; data providers; researchers and other evidence-building partners; and advocates for data, transparency, and privacy.

The Committee will provide the initial outline for this communication strategy as part of its recommendations in Year 2.