

## Some effects of COVID-19 on the nation's federal statistics

Emilda B. Rivers, NCSES Director

### National Science Board Meeting

May 5, 2020

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES)
Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences
National Science Foundation

# COVID-19 Impact on the nation's federal statistics

## Today's Discussion

- Medium impact on NCSES operations
- Overall impact on ongoing national-level survey operations
- Opportunities to inform the COVID-19 impact





# NSF's federal statistical agency

- Mission: policy-neutral policy-relevant statistical data on the U.S. science and engineering enterprise often in a global context
- Federal clearinghouse for data that provides key insights on the American economy, responsibility for data on:
  - Research and development
  - Science and engineering workforce
  - US competitiveness in science, engineering, technology, and R&D
  - Condition and progress of STEM education



























# COVID 19 Impact on NCSES Operations: The data we collect and analyze come from a variety of establishments and people

#### **Establishments**



**Businesses** 









Federal & state government

People



S&E graduate students



S&E college graduates



**Doctorate** recipients



Early-career doctorates



## Medium Impact on NCSES operations

- Survey operations
- Scheduled data/report releases
  - Processing moved from in-person to virtual
  - Science and Engineering Indicators Thematic Report "Science and Technology: Public Attitudes, Knowledge, and Interest" (May 2020)
  - Science and Engineering Indicators 2022 (Indicators 2022)



## Overall impact on ongoing national-level survey operations

#### Reduced response rates

- Physical location of businesses and institutions closed
- Closure of call centers
- Alternative data sources and modeling being considered to supplement traditional methods

#### 2020 Census

- Extended window for field collection
- Delay of data delivery by 4 months

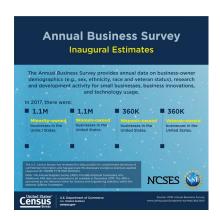


## Opportunities to inform the COVID-19 impact

## NCSES adding questions to the:



- Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED)
  - Impact of COVID-19 on degree completion, employment opportunities, and postgraduation decisions and plans
- Annual Business Survey
  - Financial impact of COVID-19



# Opportunities to inform the COVID-19 impact

#### U.S. Census Bureau

 Quick-turn around data collection related to COVID-19

 Interactive Data Hub to help with pandemic-related decisionmaking



#### US Demographic and Economic Data At A Glance





# Opportunities to inform the COVID-19 impact

#### An international effort

 OECD international survey of scientific authors



 NEW - OECD Science Barometer 2020: Share your experience and views of how science and research has changed on account of the COVID-19 crisis





National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics https://www.ncses.nsf.gov/