

## THE DEPARTMENT AT A GLANCE

### Our History and Enabling Legislation

The Department of Commerce is one of the oldest cabinet-level departments of the United States Government. Originally established by Congressional Act on February 14, 1903 as the Department of Commerce and Labor (32 Stat. 826; 5 U.S.C. 591), it was subsequently renamed to the U.S. Department of Commerce by President William H. Taft on March 4, 1913 (15 U.S.C. Section 1512). The defined role of the new Department was "to foster, promote, and develop the foreign and domestic commerce, the mining, manufacturing, and fishery industries of the United States."

### Mission

The Department of Commerce promotes job creation and improved living standards for all Americans by creating an infrastructure that promotes economic growth, technological competitiveness, and sustainable development.

### Strategic Goals

The Department has three Strategic Goals:

- Goal 1:** Provide the Information and the Framework to Enable the Economy to Operate Efficiently and Equitably
- Goal 2:** Provide Infrastructure for Innovation to Enhance American Competitiveness
- Goal 3:** Observe and Manage the Earth's Environment to Promote Sustainable Growth

In addition, we have an overarching Management Integration Goal:  
Strengthen Management at All Levels

## Bureaus

The Department of Commerce is one of the most diverse agencies of the U.S. Government. It includes 13 bureaus:

- Bureau of Export Administration (BXA)
- Economics and Statistics Administration (ESA)
  - Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
  - Bureau of the Census (Census)
- Economic Development Administration (EDA)
- International Trade Administration (ITA)
- Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)
- Technology Administration (TA)
  - National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
  - National Technical Information Service (NTIS)

In addition to these bureaus, Departmental Management (DM) encompasses the responsibilities of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, and the Chief Information Officer. DM also includes the Working Capital Fund (WCF), the Salaries and Expense (S&E) Fund, the Franchise Fund, the Gifts and Bequests (G&B) Fund, the Emergency Loan Guaranteed Program (ELGP), and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). At the heart of the Department, DM provides the policies, planning, and administrative guidance that ensure bureau operations are consistent with Secretarial priorities and with the Department's mission.

## Location

The Department is headquartered in Washington, D.C., at the Herbert Clark Hoover Building, which is located on eight acres of land covering three city blocks. The Department also has field offices in all states and territories and maintains offices in more than 86 countries worldwide.

*Department of Commerce –  
Herbert C. Hoover Building*



## Employees

The Department is an agency of approximately 37,000 employees.

## Financial Resources

The Department's FY 2001 budget was approximately \$5.17 billion.

## Internet

The Department's Internet address is [www.doc.gov](http://www.doc.gov).

## Departmental Organization Chart

