

# Local Economic Development in the United States

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## Number of Local Governments in the United States

	2012
Local Governments	90,056
County	3,031
Municipal	19,519
Township & town	16,360
School district	12,880
Special district	38,266

## Revenue sources of local governments in the United States:

- intergovernmental transfers from states and the US Federal Government
- taxes (property, sales, etc.)
- fees/charges (hospitals, sewage, etc.)
- utilities (water, electric, etc.)
- other sources

Sources: [http://www2.census.gov/govs/cog/2012/2012\\_cog\\_map.pdf](http://www2.census.gov/govs/cog/2012/2012_cog_map.pdf) &  
[http://www2.census.gov/govs/local/summary\\_report.pdf](http://www2.census.gov/govs/local/summary_report.pdf)

# The business community and local governments in the United States

- Corporate / Development arrangements
- Caretaker / Maintenance arrangements
- Progressive arrangements

*Sources: Ross and Levine 'Urban Politics: Cities and Suburbs in a Global Age' (2012) & Stone and Sanders 'The Politics of Urban Development' (1987)*

# Economic Development: Local government initiatives in the United States

- subsidy / tax abatements
- job training
- venture capital pools
- small business incubators
- enterprise zones
- clusters
- industrial revenue bonds
- infrastructure improvements
- zoning / permitting assistance (one-stop)
- formal support of private / non-profit sectors
- informal support of private / non-profit sectors

Source: Bowman and Kearney 'State and Local Government'  
(2011)

# Local economic development in the United States: key areas of focus

- travel and tourism
- the arts
- sports
- international trade and investment
- information technology, biotech, etc.
- small business and entrepreneurship
- workforce development
- other areas

*Sources: Bowman and Kearney 'State and Local Government' (2011) & National League of Cities 'Economic Development' web site (2014)*

# How local economic development initiatives are funded in the United States

- general fund (primary)
- Tax Increment Financing
- state assistance
- federal assistance
- hotel taxes
- sales taxes
- special assessment taxes
- other funding sources

Source: ICMA, 'Economic Development 2009 Survey Summary'

# Other organizations involved in local economic development in the United States

- councils of government
- chambers of commerce
- state, local, and regional economic development and commerce agencies
- Federal Government agencies
- non-profit / private economic development organizations
- many others