Definitions: Local General Purpose Governments

**Counties:** Organized local governments established to provide general government services; includes those governments designed as counties, parishes in Louisiana, and boroughs in Alaska.

**Municipalities:** Organized subcounty local governments established to provide general government services for a specific concentration of population in a defined area; includes those governments designated as cities, villages, boroughs (except in Alaska), and towns (except in the six New England states, Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin)

**Townships:** Organized subcounty local governments established to provide general government services for areas defined without regard to population concentration; includes those governments designated as towns in the six New England states, Minnesota, New York, and Wisconsin and townships in other states.