Administrative Agency Data Set: Updates and Notes

The purpose of this document is to keep a running tally of comments and changes users might want to make to the data.

1) There are a few courts included in the data. I included them originally on the belief that even judicial functions could be placed in different types of structures in different locations. These numbers may be different in the excel spreadsheets in APDesignData. They are correct for the spell data.

1. 10152—United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
2. 10329—Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals
3. 10439—United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
4. 10458—United States Court of Veterans Appeals.

2) There are a few agencies that look now like they should have been excluded.

1. Agencies that might be exclusively advisory:

    a. 10125—National Housing Council. This one might be purely advisory.
    b. 10258—Federal Reconstruction and Development Planning Commission for Alaska. This might be advisory.

2. Agencies that might be excluded for other reasons:

    a. 10261—Urban Mass Transit Administration. I had questions about this one but I cannot remember why.
    b. 10213—Development Loan Fund. This one might not have its own administrative structure.
    c. 10283—Regional Action Planning Commissions. These are agencies that the Secretary of Commerce is authorized to create as part of the Economic Development Act. They are described in the plural and are not differentiated even though their structure is described. In this way, they are akin to the creation of IG offices or offices of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.
    d. 10402—Adjustment Assistance Coordinating Committee. This looks like an interagency coordinating committee.

3) There are a few agencies that the USGM does not include but perhaps should.

1. Civil Rights Division of Justice Department (1957)

4) There are a few that are classified as being created by statute in the USGM but under further investigation may not be.

1. 10224—Office of Minerals Exploration. No description of the office is included in the statute but the authority for the secretary to pursue this goal is included.
2. 10247—Trade and Development Program. No description of the office is included in the statute.
3. 10175—Petroleum Administration for Defense. The power is clearly given in the statute but no agency specifically discusses.
4. 10292—VISTA is authorized but not mandated. It is described in some detail but is not mandated in statute.
5. 10377—Service Corps of Retired Executives. The power is given specifically but not mandated.
6. 10367—Active Corps of Executives. The power is given specifically but not mandated.
7. 10387—Council on Wage and Price Stability. The president is authorized to create a CWPS but not directly mandated. The CWPS is described in some detail, suggesting that this was more of a mandate than the language suggests.
8. 10501—Rural Development Administration. This looks, upon further investigation to be created clearly by departmental order.
9. 10515—Rural Housing and Community Development Service. Authorized but not mandated. It is clear in the statute this will occur but the language just authorizes in great detail, not mandates.
10. 10516—Consolidated Farm Service Agency. Authorized but not mandated. It is clear in the statute this will occur but the language just authorizes in great detail, not mandates.
11. 10517—Rural Business and Development Cooperative Service. Authorized but not mandated. It is clear in the statute this will occur but the language just authorizes in great detail, not mandates.

5) There are some agencies that have other errors.

1. 10554. The date listed as the start date for the Administration for Native Americans is not correct.

It should be noted that these errors affect the coding of the creation by statute variable (and the creation by EO, reorganization, and departmental order) and the coding of the variable counting the number of new agencies of different types on a year-by-year basis, including the data used in the Howell and Lewis 2002 paper.