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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Census Bureau
Office of the Director
Washington, DC 20233-0001

July 16, 2020

Mr. Tim Storey
Executive Director
National Conference of State Legislatures
7700 East First Place
Denver, CO 80230

Dear Mr. Storey:

The U.S. Census Bureau is very grateful for and proud of the longstanding relationship we have developed with the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), a vital stakeholder organization in regards to our core mission. The venues for interaction and the access to high priority stakeholders NCSL has provided over the years have helped us meet the needs of the states, especially with regard to redistricting. NCSL's support across the decades in advocating on our behalf and in promoting the census and census data has been extremely helpful and appreciated. We look forward to our continued discussions and relationship for many decades to come.

As NCSL is an organization that heavily uses and understands Census Bureau data, we are all the more appreciative that you took the time to express your thoughts and concerns about two major issues affecting the 2020 Census: the current timeline for the delivery of the apportionment and P.L. 94-171 redistricting data, and the implementation of differential privacy for data protection.

Timeline Shift for Data Delivery

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 Census operations to protect the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees as well as to ensure a complete and accurate count. In our decisions to suspend field operations and as we have resumed work, the Census Bureau implements guidance from federal, state, local, and tribal authorities regarding COVID-19. Enumeration, office work, processing activities, and other in-person activities will incorporate the most current guidance from federal, state, and tribal government authorities to ensure the health and safety of staff and the public. The Census Bureau is closely coordinating the acquisition of needed personal protective equipment (PPE) for field and office staff through the U.S. Department of Commerce. Deliveries of PPE have been received, and we will continue ordering as needed.

We have extended the time for fieldwork beyond our originally planned schedule, and self-response will continue until operations in the field conclude. Please visit <https://2020census.gov/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html> for more detailed information about the adjustments to the 2020 Census operations. This page will be updated as the ongoing response to COVID-19 develops.

Due to COVID-19, the current schedule includes a delay of 120 days for the delivery of the apportionment count and the P.L. 94-171 redistricting data. This decision was not made lightly, but was needed to ensure the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees. Although we plan to extend data collection by 90 days, the overall 120-day delay on delivering the data will ensure that we can conduct a complete and accurate count of all communities and deliver data products that meet the quality expected from the decennial census.

The Census Bureau recognizes this delay may raise concerns for states and that each state has unique timing for their redistricting activities. This means each state will have to evaluate its very specific statutory and constitutional requirements to adapt to this delay. We announced this necessary schedule change as early as possible to provide states with the maximum possible time to adapt their processes.

The Census Redistricting Data Program always has been sensitive to the deadlines that states have adopted to permit them to complete their difficult redistricting work. Historically, the program has been organized to try to ensure that states receive their data in as timely a manner as possible. For the last several censuses, the Census Bureau has delivered data to states in weekly groupings. We organize these groupings based on the deadlines faced by the states and the production capabilities of the Census Bureau. This staggered delivery is necessary to allow the needed quality control reviews and materials production that ensures these data releases meet the Census Bureau's data quality standards. We have typically included states with off-year elections in the first week's delivery group.

The plan for the 2020 Census includes a six-week rolling weekly delivery of data to the states. Incorporating the [current schedule](#), that six-week delivery period would start no later than June 17, 2021.

Through the Redistricting Data Program and its official state liaisons, the Census Bureau is working to understand and capture the impacts on individual states of the delayed delivery of the data. We are reaching out to the program's official liaisons for their state's initial impact assessments. From October through November of 2020, the Redistricting Data Office will again approach these liaisons to receive input about how states have addressed the scheduled delay

of the data. We will use this information to organize groupings for delivery of redistricting data in 2021. While the current schedule allows the Census Bureau to deliver redistricting data as late as July 31, 2021, we will strive to release the results as early as possible while complying with our data quality standards.

In keeping with our standard practice of working to get materials to the states in an expedited manner, we will be providing states with geographic support materials well in advance of the redistricting counts. The geographic materials will include the shape files – the files needed for geographic information systems – PDF maps, and other materials. We expect to begin providing these geographic products to the states in early February 2021 and to complete the process of delivering to all states by the end of March 2021. This advance delivery of geographic support materials will allow states and their vendors to begin the process of building and testing their redistricting systems well in advance of receiving the actual data and should help mitigate some of the delays caused by COVID-19.

Disclosure Avoidance and Differential Privacy

The Census Bureau recognizes the unique importance of decennial census data for the fair and equitable allocation of political representation at all levels of government. As such, we consider the use of census data products for redistricting and for enforcement of the Voting Rights Act to be among the highest priority uses of census data. We are committed to ensuring that the 2020 Census data products will be sufficiently accurate to support these important uses.

At the same time, as you acknowledge in your letter, the Census Bureau is prohibited under Title 13, Section 9 from publishing any information that would reveal personally identifiable information about our respondents. With the rise of powerful computer algorithms that can reconstruct individual-level records from tabulated data, and the proliferation of third-party data sources that can then be linked to those records, the privacy risks associated with publishing highly granular statistics contained in our data products have increased enormously. Were the Census Bureau to rely on the traditional approaches to privacy protection that we have used in previous decades, namely the swapping of individual household records across geographies, meeting our statutory obligation to protect respondent privacy would require such high swapping rates that the resulting data would be rendered essentially useless. Consequently, the Census Bureau sees no viable alternative to comply with our Title 13 obligations but to modernize our disclosure avoidance methods through the application of differential privacy.

In your letter, you note that the 2010 demonstration data products that the Census Bureau released in October 2019 contained notable distortions and errors that would impede effective use of the data for redistricting purposes. We are in the process of identifying and mitigating the features of the Disclosure Avoidance System (DAS) Top-Down Algorithm that produced them. As we have publicly stated in our Research Matters blog post on the subject, much of

the significant error and distortion observed in the 2010 demonstration data was not the byproduct of the differential privacy mechanism used to meet our obligations to safeguard respondent privacy under Title 13. Rather, it was caused by operations in the post processing algorithms we used to convert the resulting protected data into the internally and hierarchically consistent data that feed into the tabulation systems that produce the official census data products. As such, there is much we can do to improve the accuracy and fitness-for-use of these data without impacting the privacy guarantee afforded by our use of differential privacy.

In March, we implemented the first of what will likely be a number of significant algorithm design improvements to address this issue. The impact of this design change on the accuracy of the resulting data can be directly observed in the “2010 Demonstration Metrics 2” file, which we released on May 27. When compared with the baseline accuracy measures calculated from the 2010 demonstration data, the improvements in accuracy for total population counts are notable. For example, in the October 2019 DAS run, the total population count for the average county was off by approximately 82 people (0.78 percent). With the algorithm improvements implemented in March, that error has been decreased to only 16 people (0.14 percent). These improvements are also observable at lower levels of geography. In the October 2019 DAS run, total population for the average census tract was off by almost 26 people; now that error has been reduced to just 14.5 people. At the block level, error in the population for the average urban census block has likewise been reduced from 9.2 people to 7.7 people. These accuracy improvements come without any reduction in the strength of the privacy guarantee. That is, the privacy-loss budget for both DAS runs was held constant, so the observed improvements are directly attributable to improvements in our post processing algorithms.

The accuracy metrics we have released for these DAS runs, and that we will continue to release as future improvements to the algorithm are made, allow our data users to assess these improvements and their impact on fitness-for-use in a variety of ways. That said, we recognize that for some important uses of census data there is no substitute for actually examining the underlying data. In your letter, you recommend that the Census Bureau should release additional demonstration data products to support in-depth analysis of the data’s fitness-for-use. Unfortunately, the tabulation, documentation, and quality control processes that the Census Bureau employs for public releases of data products are enormously time and labor intensive. With the 2020 Census now underway, we are unable to support additional releases at the present time. In order to support these detailed assessments without overburdening our tabulation and data products teams, the Census Bureau is committing to release the differentially private, but untabulated, Privacy-Protected Microdata Files (PPMF) produced by each successive iteration of the DAS algorithm for which we publish metrics. While these PPMFs will not be in the standard table structures associated with the P.L. 94-171 or other data products, it would be an easy matter for some of our public data users to tabulate them accordingly. We are confident that this solution will meet your needs.

Our efforts to ensure the accuracy and fitness-for-use of the 2020 Census data products for redistricting and enforcement of the Voting Rights Act are ongoing. Throughout this work, the importance and benefit of the ongoing feedback and support that we have received from NCSL and other prominent users of census data cannot be understated. We look forward to continuing this dialogue over the coming months.

We look forward to our continued collaboration in support of the 2020 Census. If you have additional questions, please contact Chris Stanley, Chief, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at 301-763-6100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Steven D. Dillingham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Dillingham" clearly legible, and "D." as a middle initial.

Steven D. Dillingham
Director

Correspondence Quality Assurance Staff

Office of the Director

U.S. Census Bureau

Control Sheet

May 22, 2020

Cen u Id CQAS 10336

DOC Number

Corre pondence Type Controlled Corre pondence

Action Office ADRM

Signature

Subject NSGIC ha concern regarding the Cen u Bureau ' implementation of the Differential Privacy Disclosure Avoidance System

In truction Plea e prepare draft for formal re pon e

Due in CQAS 06/05/2020

Sender National State Geographic Information Council

Con tituent

Corr Date 05/21/2020

Rec Date 05/22/2020

Due Date 06/11/2020

Confidential Information No

Addre ee

Infocopy ADRM,Stanley,Hawkin

Concurrence

Surname								
Initials								
Date								

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-005587

May 21, 2020

John M Abowd, PhD
Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road, Room 8H001
Washington, DC 20233



Dear Sir,

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) is the nation's state-led forum for geospatial coordination, advocacy and leadership. Our membership consists of geospatial leaders from across the nation. These individuals represent geospatial communities, coordinate geospatial solutions in their respective states, advise policy makers in location-based decision-making, and provide leadership in the development of framework data for the nation.

Conducting the decennial census and delivering quality data products are essential to the productivity and health of our state systems. The data are critical to state funding allocations, economic planning and development decisions, and public safety. The recent COVID-19 pandemic response efforts illustrate our need for and reliance on accurate and available census data. States are utilizing the statistical information to identify vulnerable populations, assess impacted communities, and develop safe reopening strategies.

NSGIC collaborates closely with the nation's State Data Centers and State Demographers. Through these partnerships we have become aware of the Census Bureau's move to a new Differential Privacy Disclosure Avoidance System (DAS). Our state representatives have surveyed their geospatial communities, and collective concern exists that implementing these new practices will negatively impact state programs and the ability to carry out statutory responsibilities, in effect harming the citizens the DAS aims to protect.

NSGIC has monitored the developments and feedback related to the Census Bureau's release of the 2010 demonstration products. We are encouraged by the Census Bureau's response to the feedback provided by the census data user community. The Bureau's willingness to explore adjustments to the DAS algorithm in order to minimize inaccuracies in the resulting data products shows that potential exists to meet privacy protection goals and continue to provide reliable data.

NSGIC has a strong network and an innate ability to collaboratively solve problems. Our organization is committed to finding solutions through our partnerships and innovative technologies. We are hopeful that opportunity awaits for the NSGIC community to collaborate with and provide feedback to the Census Bureau as the DAS adjustments are evaluated.

CC: Steven Dillingham, US Census Bureau Director; Karen Rogers, State of Wyoming, NSGIC President

Sincerely,

Molly Schar
Executive Director

504.265.9720

www.nsgic.org
info@nsgic.org

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-005588

Fw: Differential Privacy Avoidance System

Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>

Fri 5/22/2020 7:43 AM

To: BOC Correspondence Quality Assurance (CENSUS) (b) (6) >
Cc: Alan Lang (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <alan.lang@census.gov>

1 attachments (106 KB)

Differential Privacy - NSGIC.pdf;

Control this to R&M, and be sure Michael Hawes is included as requested by R&M Associate Director Dr. Abowd. Thank you.

From: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 22, 2020 7:41 AM

To: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Alan Lang (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <alan.lang@census.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Differential Privacy Avoidance System

For CQAS assign time Hawes please.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED)"

<john.maron.abowd@census.gov>

Date: May 21, 2020 at 9:07:42 PM EDT

To: "Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)"

<steven.dillingham@census.gov>, "Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)" <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>

Cc: "Michael B Hawes (CENSUS/CED FED)" <michael.b.hawes@census.gov>,

"Cynthia Davis Hollingsworth (CENSUS/DCMD FED)"

<cynthia.davis.hollingsworth@census.gov>, "Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)" <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>, "Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>

Subject: Re: Differential Privacy Avoidance System

I assume this will go to controlled correspondence. Michael Hawes is standing by to draft a response.

Thanks,

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: [301-763-5880](tel:301-763-5880) M: simulring on cell
census.gov | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)
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From: Molly Schar (b) (6) >
Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 3:12 PM
To: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Cc: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Karen Rogers (b) (6) >
Subject: Differential Privacy Avoidance System

Dear Sir,

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) is the nation's state-led forum for geospatial coordination, advocacy, and leadership. Our membership consists of geospatial leaders from across the nation. These individuals represent geospatial communities, coordinate geospatial solutions in their respective states, advise policy makers in location-based decision-making, and provide leadership in the development of framework data for the nation.

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Sincerely,
Molly Schar

Molly Schar, Executive Director
National States Geographic Information Council



T: [504-475-8178](tel:504-475-8178)

W: www.nsgic.org





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001

Ms. Molly Schar
Executive Director
National States Geographic Information Council
(b) (5)

Dear Ms Schar

Thank you for your letter regarding the U.S. Census Bureau's adoption of differential privacy to protect the confidentiality of the 2020 Census. As you note in your letter, decennial census data are critically important for decision-making at all levels of government. Over the decades, federal, state, and local policymakers have come to rely upon the quality of the decennial census as a cornerstone of their data driven decision making. The Census Bureau takes this responsibility seriously and is committed to ensuring that the 2020 Census Data Products meet our data users' needs, consistent with our legal obligations to protect confidentiality.

As we work to improve the 2020 Disclosure Avoidance System (DAS), feedback from census data users, including those whom your organization represents, has been invaluable. Based on this feedback, we have already implemented a number of improvements to the algorithm's design and operation. We post all of updates to our [DAS Updates webpage](#), including the most recent release of "2010 Demonstration Metrics 2" that measure improvements to the DAS since the October 2019, release of the 2010 Demonstration Data Products. We anticipate making additional improvements over the coming months and will continue engaging the data user community.

If your organization's members would like to stay informed of our ongoing work on the 2020 DAS, they can subscribe to our new [2020 Census Data Products newsletter](#). Those who would like to provide feedback or recommendations to inform our upcoming work on the DAS can send it to our development and data products teams at 2020DAS@census.gov.

We appreciate your support, and we look forward to engaging with your organization's members on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

JOHN ABOWD Digitally signed by JOHN ABOWD
Date: 2020.06.29 16:27:42 -04'00'

John M. Abowd, Ph.D
Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology

To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[steven.dillingham@census.gov]
Cc: Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[nathaniel.cogley@census.gov]; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[steven.k.smith@census.gov]; Michael John Sprung (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[michael.j.sprung@census.gov]; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov]; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov]
From: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)/[O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9F924D2AEBA34BB78774A059DDE7550C-AHMAD, ALI]
Sent: Wed 8/5/2020 5:22:14 PM (UTC)
Subject: PLEASE REVIEW- Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Hill Update 8.7.20.pdf
[Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Hill Update 8.7.20.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

For Friday's Hill briefing these are the notes Al will have. OMB wants to see to clear. We will not hand this out or show it- these are just notes. Please reply with any comments or call Chris Stanley. I am about to be out of pocket for a virtual medial appointment. I'll check back in after 2 Pm when I am online.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>
Date: August 5, 2020 at 1:08:06 PM EDT
To: "Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)" <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>, "Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)" <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Cc: "Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>, "Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>, "Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>, "Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>, "Christopher M Denno (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <christopher.m.denno@census.gov>, "Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>, "Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>
Subject: Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Hill Update 8.7.20.pdf

Per our discussion attached are my pre Doc clearance planned talking points for Friday's weekly Hill staff briefing. Just a reminder - this continues to be a verbal briefing - as usual there is no handout provided.

To: Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[nathaniel.cogley@census.gov]; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov]; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[steven.k.smith@census.gov]; Michael John Sprung (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[michael.j.sprung@census.gov]; Benjamin A Overholt (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[benjamin.a.overholt@census.gov]
From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ADA39E1C50F84DBE8E2EB98E59096E2D-STANLEY, CH]
Sent: Fri 9/25/2020 2:00:46 PM (UTC)
Subject: DAS materials for tribal consultations - set 1
[AIAN Researcher Call 09.04.19 FINAL.pptx](#)
[Transcript 090419 Census Webinar.pdf](#)
(b) (5)

From: Melissa K Bruce (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <melissa.k.bruce@census.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Dee A Alexander (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <Dee.A.Alexander@census.gov>
Cc: Van R lawrence (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <Van.R.Lawrence@census.gov>; Alan Lang (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <alan.lang@census.gov>; Bina K Saafi (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <bina.k.saafi@census.gov>
Subject: Re: DAS materials for tribal consultations

Hi Chris

Here is the presentation and transcript from the call with AIAN Data users, that was done at the request of NCAI, and the presentation used for the tribal consultations held during the NCAI and AFN annual conventions

Melissa

Melissa K. Bruce, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-4036 | M: (b) (6)
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)
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From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 9:26 AM
To: Dee A Alexander (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <Dee.A.Alexander@census.gov>; Melissa K Bruce (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <melissa.k.bruce@census.gov>
Cc: Van R lawrence (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <Van.R.Lawrence@census.gov>; Alan Lang (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <alan.lang@census.gov>; Bina K Saafi (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <bina.k.saafi@census.gov>
Subject: DAS materials for tribal consultations

Can you please send me ASAP the presentations and public reports related to the tribal consultations on disclosure avoidance?

Thank you.

Chris Stanley, Chief
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Census Bureau

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-005594

O: 301-763-4276 | M: (b) (6)

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To: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)[Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov]
From: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=2c2e07bf883b4488800e4ff3ae7188ab-Lamas, Enri]
Sent: Tue 8/4/2020 2:04:47 PM (UTC)
Subject: Fw: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau
[2020-08-04.CBM to Dillingham re Transcribed Interviews.pdf](#)

Enrique Lamas
Senior Advisor
Director's Office
U.S. Census Bureau
Office: 301-763-3811

From: Goss, Trinity <Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 9:54 AM
To: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; 'AKorzeniewski@doc.gov' <AKorzeniewski@doc.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; 'NCogley@doc.gov' <NCogley@doc.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Cc: Kim, Janet <Janet.Kim@mail.house.gov>; Anderson, Tori <Tori.Anderson@mail.house.gov>; Whitcomb, Max <Max.Whitcomb@mail.house.gov>; LaNier, Elisa <Elisa.LaNier@mail.house.gov>; Jones, Taylor <Taylor.Jones@mail.house.gov>; MacPherson, Cameron <Cameron.MacPherson@mail.house.gov>; Bush, Anthony <Anthony.Bush@mail.house.gov>
Subject: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Hello---

Please see the letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau.

Please acknowledge receipt of letter.

Thank you,

Trinity Goss

Trinity M. E. Goss | Executive Team Coordinator
Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform
Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov | (202) 225-5051

Status of Data Acquisition and Options for Estimating the Illegal Population Enumerated in the 2020 Census

August 10, 2020

Status of Data Acquisition to Support the Presidential Memorandum

- Presidential Memorandum work will build on data available and acquired over the past 8 months to support Executive Order 13880 to create Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) estimate of citizen/non-citizens.
 - Available CVAP data sources are from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Social Security Administration (SSA), State Department, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Marshals, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Internal Revenue Services (IRS), Department of Interior (DOI) and Indian Health Services (IHS).
- Data identified as required to determine legal status:
 - Available Data: DOI data provided to support the CVAP work.
 - Additional data to be acquired: Department of Homeland Security:
 - USCIS data to include declined applications for Lawful Permanent Resident, DACA and Student Immigrant Juveniles data
 - ICE data to include Enforcement and Removal Operations data.
 - Additional data from USCIS and ICE are targeted for an August 31, 2020 delivery to the Census Bureau.
- MOU Status: modifications are in draft to acquire/and or authorize existing data for the project:
 - Acquisition of new data: Applies to ICE and CIS to directly support determination of documented/undocumented. Draft MOU's to acquire the data and authorize the additional use were reviewed by both ICE and CIS prior to Census Bureau Legal review.
 - Both MOU's have cleared Census Legal and are now in the signature process.
 - Authority to use existing data to determine documentation status: Applies to DOI data already acquired for CVAP.
 - MOU is in Census Legal review.
 - Authority to add the new work as an authorized use to the CVAP citizen/non-citizen work: Applies to data acquired/available for CVAP to estimate non-citizenship but not directly inform of documented/undocumented.
 - MOUs in Census Legal review for DHS Customs and Border Protection, State Department, HUD, SSA, CMS, IRS, IHS, U.S. Marshalls, Bureau of Justice Statistics and Bureau of Prisons.

Options for Estimating the Illegal Population Enumerated in the 2020 Census

1. Tabulate the People Enumerated in the 2020 Census who were in ICE Detention Centers as of April 1, 2020

- a. Pros
 - i. This is an actual enumeration.
 - ii. Could meet the existing statutory, judicial and regulatory standards established for the resident population definition used in apportionment.
 - iii. Can complete this by December 31
 - iv. We can get a list of the centers from ICE and verify that we enumerated them in the Group Quarters operation
- b. Cons
 - i. Need to assume that either all prisoners living in the detention centers are here illegally or some proportion are here illegally (we can ask ICE for data on this)
 - ii. Some centers are part of county jails, we may not have enough information in what we collected to distinguish prisoners in the county jail from those in the detention center
 - iii. This is the lower end of the actual number of illegal people enumerated in the 2020 census

2. Match Administrative Records to the 2020 Census (Need 43 days from when the Census Unedited File (CUF) is complete for this option)^{1 2}

- a. Pros
 - i. Will be able to match various admin records to people enumerated in the 2020 Census
 - ii. Could meet the existing statutory, judicial and regulatory standards established for the resident population definition used in apportionment
 - iii. This option will match to a larger number of illegal immigrants than option 1 because we will also include the people identified in option 1.
- b. Cons
 - i. The number of illegal immigrants in both admin records and the 2020 census is likely to be low.

¹ Note that this method assume a match and a definitive determination of status from the records. If we were instructed to determine status for the unmatched population using, for example, a hot deck methodology or statistical modeling, this would add additional days.

² Note that we plan to use production level matching to the Person Identification Validation System (PVS). The PVS will link people with social security numbers or individually taxpayer identification numbers (ITINs). The Experimental PVS (EPVS), developed for the Citizen Voting Age Population data, is not ready for production use. This EPVS potentially links additional administrative records to the 2020 Census by using PII found on DHS and State Department records. This EPVS is suitable for use in an experimental product but has not received either the internal or external peer review associated with apportionment.

[DELIBERATIVE/PRE-DECISIONAL]

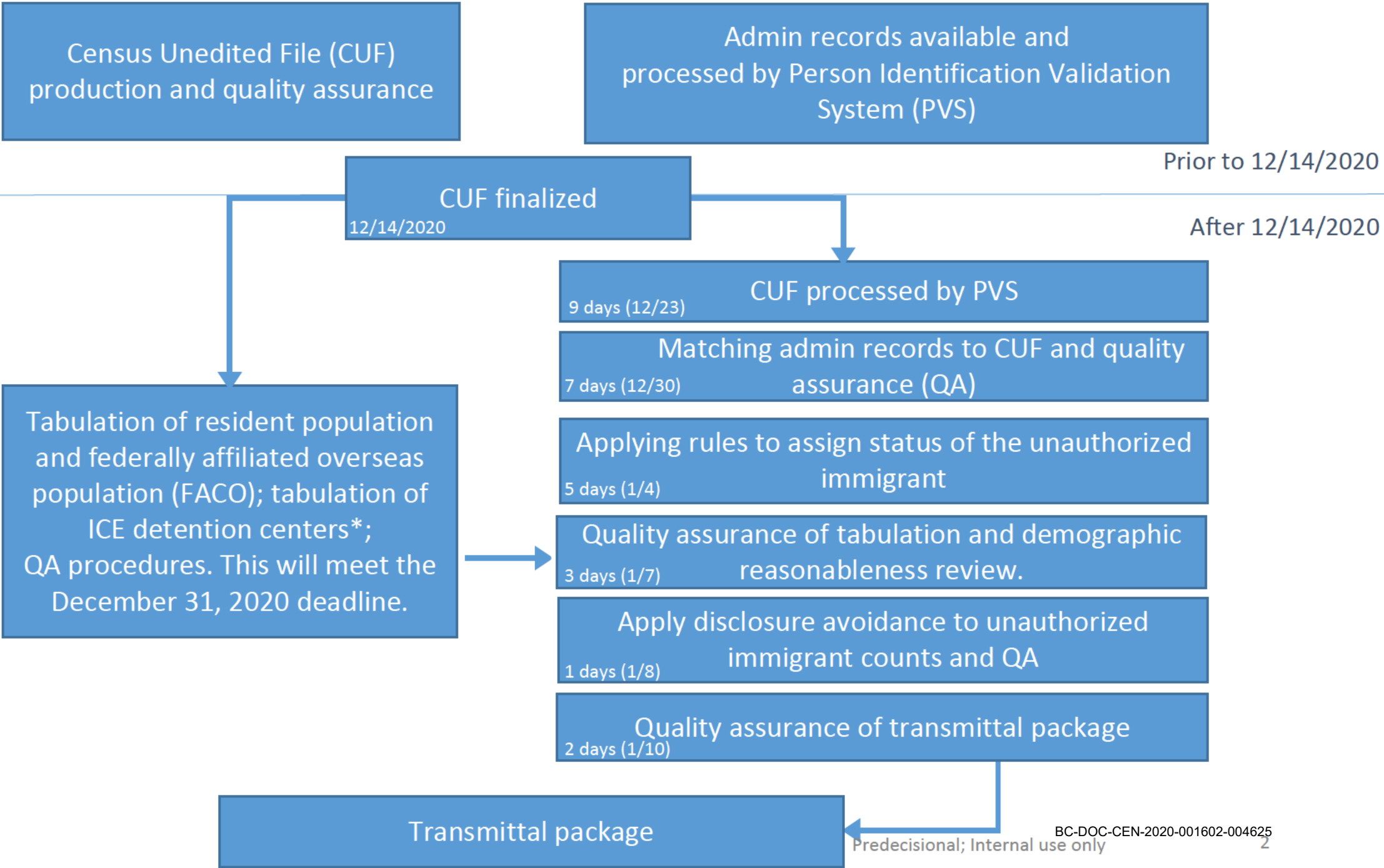
- ii. Based on the 2010 Census, we expect about 10 percent of decennial records to not match an admin record. Many of the unmatched are U.S. citizens or legal immigrants who did not provide enough personally identifiable information to match.
- 3. **Use an Aggregate Residual Method to Estimate the Number of Illegal Immigrants by State who were Enumerated in the 2020 Census** This method begins with an estimate of the foreign-born population from the American Community Survey (ACS).
 - a. Pros
 - i. Can finish this by December 31, 2020 (if we start now).
 - ii. We have access to many administrative data sets at the Census Bureau that other organizations who do this type of estimate do not (ACS, mortality data,...)
 - b. Cons
 - i. This method will be based on the ACS which is based on a sample.
 - ii. We would need to make several adjustments to the foreign-born population that are based on limited data. This includes estimating how many illegal immigrants we think we enumerated in the 2020 Census based on coverage measurement samples.
 - iii. These numbers have limited precision, thousands or tens of thousands at best, and have a range of uncertainty around them.

DRAFT

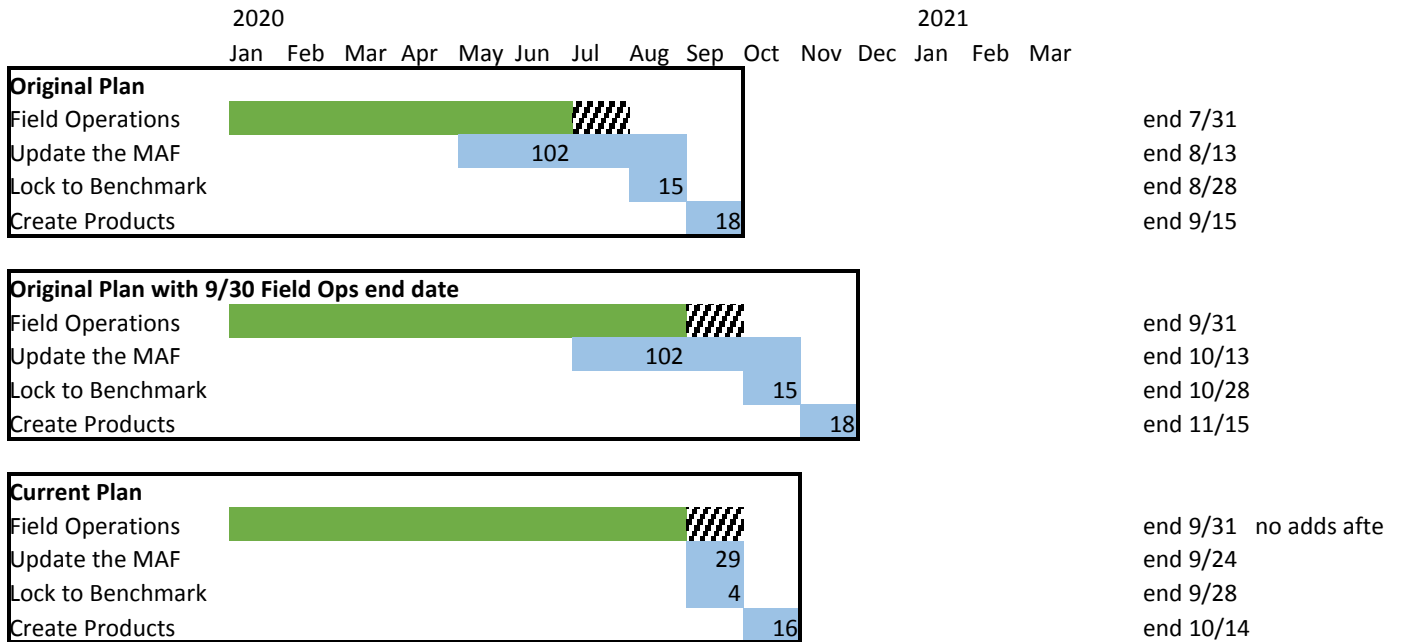
Procedures for Identifying and Tabulating Unauthorized Immigrants as Defined in the Presidential Memorandum

Briefing
August 24, 2020

**DRAFT
Procedural
Flow**



GEO Processing to meet 12/14/2020 CUF Delivery



Shading represents end of field operations

r 9/4

NYT story on deadlines

Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>

Tue 2020-07-28 8:36 AM

To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Michael John Sprung (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <michael.j.sprung@census.gov>; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.k.smith@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>

[New Census Worry: An Expedited Count Could Mean an Inaccurate One](#)

The New York Times – Michael Wines, July 28

Stalled by the pandemic, the count is supposed to resume soon. But census experts are rattled by signs of a push from the White House to finish it early.

As the 2020 census struggles to find its footing amid the coronavirus outbreak and public reluctance to give the government personal data, officials have a new worry: The Trump administration and Senate Republicans appear to be signaling that they want the census finished well ahead of schedule, pandemic or not.

With almost 40 percent of the nation's households still uncoun­ted, including the hardest-to-reach popula­tions that are disproportionately poor, people of color and young, the Trump administration took the Census Bureau by surprise last week. It asked the Senate Appropriations Committee to set aside \$448 million in the next coronavirus relief package for a "timely" completion of the census.

The request did not define what "timely" meant, and legislation released on Monday said only that the money would be used for nationwide census operations and data processing. But it comes as census workers and former officials say the White House and the Commerce Department, which oversees the Census Bureau, are asking how the bureau can compress its schedule to wrap up the count of households earlier than expected — perhaps by the end of September. The aim, they say, may be to speed up the delivery of key data for political reapportionment to the president by the end of December.

The administration has yet to announce a compressed schedule and may not find a way to do so. But the prospect already has alarmed an array of experts, who warned in recent days that an expedited census risks a deeply flawed count of the nation's population. The census is constitutionally required to count all residents of the country every 10 years.

"There's a lot of uncertainty, but one thing is absolutely sure: There will be egregious undercounts if the Census Bureau has to produce this data by December," said Robert Santos, the vice president of the Urban Institute and the incoming president of the American Statistical Association.

Some, including former Census Bureau directors, raised the prospect that the final totals could be so skewed that a future Congress might order the bureau to do further work on the 2020 population data, or even consider another census in five years, which federal law allows but which has never been conducted nationwide.

The numbers are enormously important. They are used to reapportion all 435 House seats and thousands of state and local districts, as well as divvy up trillions of dollars in federal grants and aid.

At issue is how fast, and how precisely, the Census Bureau will track down and count the 60 million households that have not filled out census forms.

Slightly more than six in 10 households have completed forms. The remainder are the very hardest to count. To reach them, the bureau has planned to deploy up to 500,000 census takers, each with an iPhone that can securely relay census data to the bureau's computers.

In 2010, census takers worked from May to August to count hard-to-find households. This spring, with the start of that count delayed by the pandemic, the bureau said it was pushing back the start of that work to August, ending on Oct. 31.

With White House approval, the bureau also [asked Congress for a four-month extension](#) — to April 2021 — of the Dec. 31 statutory deadline for delivering to the president the population totals required to reapportion the House of Representatives.

But that plan now appears to be in flux. Census Bureau workers have been asked whether that Oct. 31 deadline for collecting data can be moved to September, giving them six or seven weeks to finish a count that was supposed to take 10 weeks.

At the same time, the administration's commitment to extending the delivery of reapportionment statistics beyond the statutory Dec. 31 deadline also appears in doubt.

In Congress, the House has approved the four-month delay. The Senate has not. Asked on Saturday whether Senator Mitch McConnell, the majority leader, still supports extending the deadline, a spokesman for the senator said in an email: "Don't think I'm going to be able to help you out on this."

The White House declined to address questions about its census plans. Responding to a reporter's questions, the Census Bureau issued a statement on Monday that neither confirmed nor denied an effort to hasten the completion of the count and the delivery of reapportionment figures.

"The Census Bureau is working toward the plan to complete field data collection by October 31," it said. It then added that its staff would "continue to evaluate and plan for all contingencies, including the impact of delivering statutorily required data products at the current legislative deadlines" — a reference to the Dec. 31 date to produce reapportionment figures.

In fact, top Census Bureau officials already have said that meeting that deadline is impossible.

"We have passed the point where we could even meet the current legislative requirement of December 31. We can't do that anymore," the census official leading field operations for the count, Tim Olson, [told a Native American organization](#) during a webinar in May.

And in a webinar this month for groups with a stake in census results, the associate director of the census, Albert E. Fontenot Jr. said, "we are past the window of being able to get those counts" by year's end.

The new concerns come atop a growing record of political interference in census decisions by the Trump administration.

The Supreme Court last year, in a 5-4 vote, [rejected the administration's effort to add a citizenship question](#) to the census that experts said would surely depress the count of immigrants and minorities, documented and otherwise.

On White House orders, the Census Bureau last month [created two top-level positions](#) and filled them with political appointees from outside, a remarkable move in an agency renowned for its nonpartisan culture.

Some critics say [Mr. Trump's order last week to exclude undocumented immigrants](#) from state-by-state population totals used for reapportionment totals explains the administration's apparent desire to speed up census work.

The order, which is already being challenged in court, is widely viewed as unconstitutional by legal scholars. But for the order to have any chance of succeeding, they say, the census totals used for reapportionment must be delivered to Mr. Trump while he is still in office — as he almost certainly will be on Dec. 31, but may well not be in April 2021.

"I think it's entirely about that," Thomas A. Saenz, the president of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, said on Monday. "He wants to exclude undocumented immigrants because he believes it will shift representation away from blue states to red states. In the end, it's entirely about trying to stem Latino political power."

Others say Mr. Trump's order, regardless of whether it is upheld, could have an impact on representation by making noncitizens worry that their answers on a census survey could be used against them.

"They clearly have an agenda for not counting undocumented immigrants in the apportionment count," said Vanita Gupta, the president of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, a coalition of more than 200 advocacy groups. "I think the administration knows their order isn't going to be constitutional. Maybe through fear of it, they're trying to get to the same place."

Experts said a rush to wrap up the census would force the bureau into shortcuts that would make population totals significantly less accurate. Months of post-census analysis and accuracy checks also would be at risk were population totals required by December.

"It won't be finished unless they can quickly ramp up something, like using administrative records" instead of census takers to count households, said Kenneth Prewitz, a Columbia University public affairs professor who led the Census Bureau during the 2000 census. "Otherwise, you end up with a census that's 10 percent uncounted, or 12 percent."

Mr. Prewitz and John Thompson, a career Census Bureau official who directed the agency from 2013 to 2017, said the bureau also could be forced to expand its use of a statistical method called imputation, in which an algorithm makes an educated guess about who lives in a household by looking at who lives nearby.

Past censuses have relied on imputation for a tiny fraction of households — about 1 percent, in most cases — that could not be otherwise counted. But "it could get a lot bigger, maybe 10 or 15 percent in some areas of the country, if they have to cut it short," Mr. Thompson said.

If past censuses are any indication, the Census Bureau will state clearly where it believes inaccuracies lie, and how large they might be. After the count, the bureau conducts a massive accuracy check, called a post-enumeration survey, in which experts revisit a sample of households to see whether reported data was correct.

But while the bureau will say how inaccurate its numbers are, it will not, in all likelihood, say whether it believes they can be relied on.

“What it means to fail to have a census has never been tested,” said Joshua Levi, an expert on the topic at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. “How bad it has to be before it’s not a census anymore is something we have yet to decide.”

Should it come to that, he said, that judgment would probably be hashed out in Congress — and later in the courts.

The information, and any attachments contained in this email may contain confidential and/or privileged information and is intended solely for the use of the intended named recipient(s). Any disclosure or dissemination in whatever form, by another other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please contact the sender and destroy this message and any attachments. Thank you.

Re: Please extend census deadline

Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>

Sat 2020-08-01 10:52 AM

To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>

I am working on that now- something we can possibly send back to these emails and tweet and send to reporters today to set us up to announce. I will call you shortly per your other communication.

On Aug 1, 2020, at 7:48 AM, Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov> wrote:

I assume we will have a short well crafted response that can be used for all such communications. Many thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2020, at 5:03 PM, Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov> wrote:

Thank you for forwarding. I am going to come up with a short response for us to consider pushing back with even before we have a final plan.

On Jul 31, 2020, at 4:55 PM, Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov> wrote:

evidence that the email campaign may be beginning

From: Joanna Kim (b) (6) >
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 3:56 PM
To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>
Subject: Please extend census deadline

Dear Director Dillingham,

Please support the request for extended census deadlines and additional funding for completing counting. I encourage you to work with Congress in acknowledging the importance of an accurate count and to not undermine these efforts with a quick or botched count.

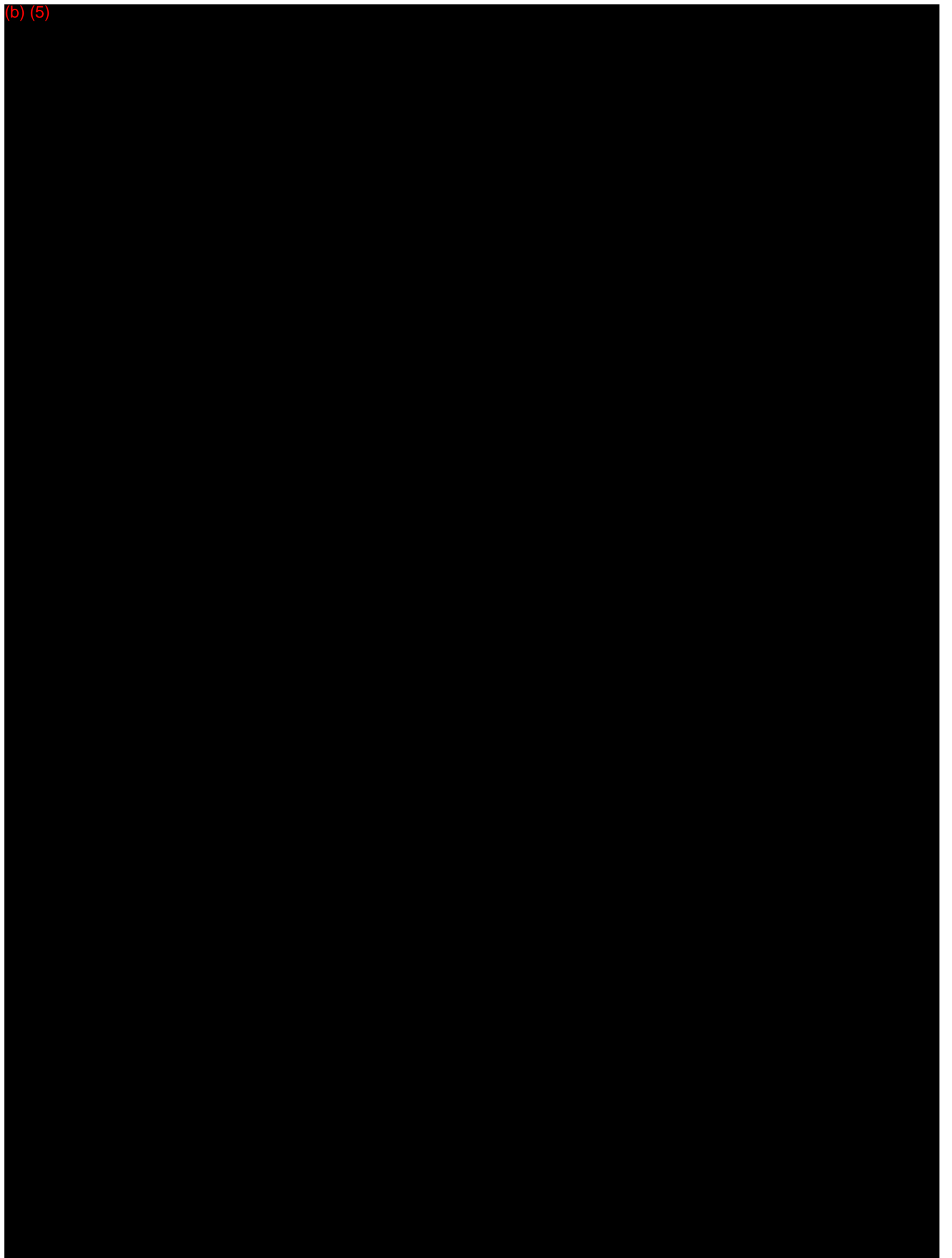
As you know full well, the Census has a widespread impact on every sector of American life, from political representation to business development to federal funding for schools to disaster relief. You know firsthand how important complete results are to every community in our nation.

While I can appreciate the extraordinary times we are living in, we cannot compromise on the need to conduct a full and accurate census. Particularly in the wake of a pandemic, it is more important than ever. Since as early as April, Census Bureau experts consistently expressed their concerns about being able to complete the counting without the extension.

Additionally, by cutting in-person interviews short on September 30, 2020, a month early, you are impacting every person living in the United States, and how we will live for the next 10 years.

I respectfully ask that you reflect on your power in the decisions at hand and your direct responsibility for the funding or lack of funding for much-needed programs and services.

Sincerely,
Joanna Kim



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



(b) (5)



Prepared Statement of
DR. STEVEN DILLINGHAM
DIRECTOR
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Before the House Oversight and Reform Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
July 29, 2020

Chairwoman Maloney, Ranking Member Comer, and members of the Committee, I am honored to be with you today. I would like to congratulate Ranking Member Comer on his recent appointment. I appreciate the support of Congress and this Committee's commitment to a successful 2020 Census.

The U.S. Census Bureau is a nonpartisan government agency, and the principal Federal statistical agency. We conduct our work in accordance with federal laws, regulations, policies, and applicable court rulings. We do not set policy, nor do we control the use of its data products. The Census Bureau will always maintain the highest standards of scientific integrity and transparency about the data we produce.

Ultimately, our ability to produce any data is dependent upon successful completion of those data collection operations, which face significant challenges in the coming weeks. Meeting and overcoming those challenges is our top priority at this time. The women and men of the Census Bureau have undertaken extraordinary efforts during this unprecedented time of a deadly pandemic to keep the 2020 Census on track and prepare for expanded field operations across the nation to count all who have not yet responded. In addition, we continue to collect data for our vital economic and household surveys and to produce new innovative data to help measure the impact of the pandemic and our economic recovery. The Census Bureau, the estimated half million term employees who soon will be assisting the 2020 Census, the almost 400,000 partnering organizations reaching into all communities, and all members of Congress who continue to support the decennial census with resources and member outreach, deserve the highest praise.

Presidential Memorandum

In response to the July 21, 2020, Presidential Memorandum, Census Bureau has begun to examine and report on methodologies available to “provide information permitting the President, to the extent practicable, to exercise the President’s discretion to carry out the policy” of “the exclusion of illegal aliens from the apportionment base, to the extent feasible and to the maximum extent of the President’s discretion under the law,” as cited in the President’s memorandum. On Friday, July 24, 2020, I directed the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer to establish a working group of expert career staff at the Census Bureau to examine potential methodologies for the collection and development of data that might be used for this purpose. That work is now underway.

To be clear, this does not change the Census Bureau’s plans for field data collection across the nation. Our data collection operations, our outreach efforts, and all the field work on which we brief the chair’s and the ranking member’s staffs weekly are not affected by the Memorandum. We will continue full steam ahead with our mission of counting every person, counting them once, and counting them in the right place. In fact, this is spelled out in the Presidential Memorandum itself, which notes: “The Secretary shall also include in that report information tabulated according to the methodology set forth in Final 2020 Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations,” which was published in the *Federal Register* in 2018.

Supplemental Request

To help the Census Bureau continue to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic, the White House Office of Management and Budget recently submitted a supplemental request of \$1 billion for the 2020 Census. This funding would allow for supplemental hiring, pay incentives, additional advertising, and replenished contingency funding to provide needed flexibility as the Census Bureau conducts its largest component of the field operation, Nonresponse Follow-up. This flexibility is critical to helping us operate in the midst of an unprecedented public health crisis, including accelerated efforts to complete our field data collection as quickly, and safely as possible, while ensuring a complete and accurate count and a timely delivery of quality data, as expeditiously as possible.

Since the suspension of field operations in mid-March, the Census Bureau has continually assessed our operational plans, taking into account Federal, state and local guidance, and the status of COVID-19 cases to ensure that we can safely fulfill our mission. Our continuing rigorous analysis led to a phased restart that began in May, and a soft launch of the Nonresponse Follow-up operation that began early in a number of area census offices in mid-July. The supplemental request is an extension of our effort to ensure we are ready to adapt to challenges in the environment.

The Census Bureau is working to complete data collection as soon as possible, as it strives to comply with the law and statutory deadlines.

Self-Response Success and the Status of Operations

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Census self-response has been a tremendous success. We are now at a 62.5 percent response rate, with more than 92 million households counted. We expect this rate will continue to increase as we approach the official start of Nonresponse Follow-up and will continue until it ends. The safe, secure, and easy internet response option has allowed people to quickly respond using a computer, tablet, or smart phone. More than 79 million households have chosen to respond using the internet, and our response system has not had a single minute of down time since we first invited people to respond online on March 12, 2020.

Of course, no matter how easy and safe the internet option is, we expected that some people would prefer or need other options. Accordingly, we also employed easy paper and telephone options. So far nearly 18 million households have responded using a paper form, and another 1.4 million have chosen to respond by phone.

All forms of self-response continued during our recent suspension of operations in the field that involved close human interactions. There were some difficulties staffing our call centers and Paper Data Capture Centers due to the pandemic, but we have implemented processes and procedures to overcome those challenges safely. We successfully sent up to five mailings and an additional mailing to areas where post office boxes are the only mailing addresses. A sixth mailing was added in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It began on July 22, and is designed to reach approximately 34 million nonresponding households.

Update Leave Operation

Update Leave, our operation to hand-deliver packets to housing units that do not receive regular mail service had to be suspended in March. We began resuming this work in May. The Update Leave operation is now 99.6 percent completed, with the remaining areas located primarily on tribal lands that have limited or no access due to the pandemic. We are closely coordinating with those tribal governments to ensure a complete and accurate count. In sum, nearly every household in the country has received their invitation to respond.

Counting College Students

We are undertaking a new special operation to ensure a complete and accurate count of college students. The Census Residence Criteria, finalized in 2018, requires that college students be counted where they live or stay most of the time on April 1 of the Census year, and that means in many cases on the college campus or in the campus town. On-campus students are already well covered in our Group Quarters operation, where the institutions are providing us the information from administrative records or a listing.

To better count those students who live off campus, we are asking universities for the records they have for off-campus students. On June 17, Census Bureau staff began contacting college administrators to ask for administrative records with the addresses of the off-campus students. I also sent a letter to college and university presidents across the nation to ask their support in having their staff provide these vital records. This information is critical to help us with challenges stemming from the virus and ensures that students are counted in the right place.

I can assure you that the Census Bureau will protect the privacy of students in this regard, as we do with all sensitive protected data. Strong privacy protections in the law apply to any personal information we receive, whether from respondents directly, or from records from universities and government agencies, or from other sources. It is critical that we receive this information as soon as possible.

Nonresponse Follow-up

The largest component of our field operation, Nonresponse Follow-up, has begun. We implemented a soft launch in a selected areas where we could do so safely to effectively launch systems and get a head start on the operation. The first six Area Census Offices (ACOs) began work on July 16, and six more began July 23. We have hired 14,700 staff so far in these offices.

On July 30, an additional 35 ACOs are scheduled to begin this work. Also, we are announcing this week that 40 more ACOs will start work early in a third group of soft launch locations, beginning on August 6. The rest are scheduled to begin on August 11.

We are announcing this week two supplemental initiatives during Nonresponse Follow-up to increase self-response. In September we will be sending a seventh mailing including an additional questionnaire to the lowest responding tracts. Plans for the seventh mailing are being developed based on continued self-response rates and early Nonresponse Follow-up results. Also, census takers will attempt to contact some households by phone. Details for both the seventh mailing and phone contact strategy are being finalized, and we will be pleased to share more details with the committee soon.

For further messaging, the Census Bureau is beginning a new email campaign in low responding areas. Emails will go to all households that the Census Bureau has contact information for in census block groups with a response rate lower than 50 percent. More than 20 million households are expected to receive these emails. We are continuing to review the use of SMS text messages and will make an announcement prior to deploying that outreach.

Health and Safety of Census Bureau Staff and the American Public

Our commitment throughout the 2020 Census is to protect every employee and the American people during interactions among staff and with the public. Personal protective equipment (PPE), specific training, and expectations that staff maintain social distancing in interactions with others are key in our commitment to protect people's health during this pandemic. We require census employees who have public interactions to wear a face mask regardless of geographic location.

We have acquired more than 41 million items of PPE for use by our office and field staff. This includes 2.4 million masks, 14.4 million individual gloves, 21.4 million individual disinfectant wipes, 3.6 million individual hand sanitizer bottles for field staff use, and 48,000 gallons of hand sanitizer for use in census facilities. The need for additional purchases is being assessed.

Hiring

For staffing, we have more than three million applicants available for consideration as temporary census workers, and we continue receiving about 1,500 new applicants each day. This deep pool permits us to fill needed positions to conduct the 2020 Census. Our 248 Area Census Offices are finishing up the hiring process for the approximate 500,000 temporary census workers. To date, more than 900,000 job offers have been accepted. This large number of offers is needed to cover attrition. These individuals are in various stages of the hiring process. Approximately 700,000 have completed fingerprinting, and 500,000 have passed the background check and are readying for onboarding as employees.

We continue working to overcome hiring and onboarding challenges caused by the pandemic. Unlike prior censuses, concern with the pandemic is estimated to increase the number of no shows to training sessions, as well as the number of employees who complete training but decline to show up for work. It is too early to measure a trend, but so far deployment numbers are lower than expected. Furthermore, many times our in-person onboarding sites have been closed at the last minute due to local pandemic related conditions, requiring trainees to be rescheduled at other locations on other days. Training is now primarily online, but trainees are currently required to have a session in person with supervisors.

We will provide an updated analysis in the coming weeks as more offices begin the Nonresponse Follow-up operation. To overcome these challenges, the ACO managers are inviting significantly more people to trainings so that the net number of trained individuals is sufficient for field work. Also, the ACOs will continue to conduct replacement trainings on an ongoing basis to ensure the non-response follow-up operation is fully staffed. The Census Field Supervisors will offer more phone support to trainees to help those who need more training on using the smartphone enumeration device. Currently, we are recruiting additional applicants in specific geographies to ensure we have enough qualified workers in these areas. To help with onboarding, we are extending the times for fingerprinting sites so that replacement hires can be cleared more quickly in order to attend training sessions.

Partnership Work to Promote Response

Our active partnership efforts have been vital to promote the 2020 Census, especially as we adjust for the pandemic. With nearly 400,000 local partners across the country, we are working with local and regional partners, including Complete Count Committees, local and state governments, community leaders, and organizations geared toward hard-to-count populations. When I was last before the committee in February, we had 266,000 partners. The ambitious goal of 300,000 was achieved before March and exceeds the 257,000 by the completion of the 2010 Census. These trusted community voices amplify our outreach work and persuade hard-to-count populations to respond to the 2020 Census.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, partnership staff generally were restricted to virtual outreach from mid-March until early June. Partnership specialists received detailed guidance during this period on how to conduct outreach from home and how to encourage partners to host virtual events. Events have included Create-a-Thons to develop tailored messaging for specific areas and groups, town halls, conference calls, webinars, and other virtual events hosted by our partners. Local governments and other partners are including 2020 Census messaging during COVID-19 meetings and news conferences to repeat the message that the easiest and safest way to be counted in the 2020 Census is to self-respond from home, eliminating the need to speak with a census taker in-person. Staff are working with partners to conduct car parades in many hard-to-count neighborhoods with low Internet availability. We are shipping 2020 Census promotional materials directly to partners, including for use at food distribution centers.

In-person events are now allowed with appropriate precautions and compliance with state and local guidelines, including required face coverings and social distancing and limits on the number of attendees. Partnership staff are supporting the Mobile Questionnaire Assistance (MQA) operation. We had to delay and scale back this operation due to the pandemic, but now partnership staff are working to identify MQA sites where people go when they leave home, such as grocery stores, pharmacies, and other places with essential services. In most instances, these MQA sites are outdoors, and they adhere to local, state and federal health and safety guidelines.

We have great stories and examples of successful partnership work in local areas across the country. Here are just a few examples of the ongoing outreach:

- A number of partners in New York City are actively promoting the census, including Mobile Questionnaire Assistance events at Tompkins Square Greenmarket the Grand Street Guild meal distribution with Chairwoman Maloney.
- Students in Hopkins County, Kentucky, in Ranking Member Comer's district developed creative 2020 Census public service announcements for Kentucky communities.
- Firefighters from seven cities across Georgia competed in a video challenge. The contest highlighted the importance of 2020 Census data that helps determine federal funding for public safety and emergency management teams, and it encouraged Georgia residents to fill out their census forms.
- In Rochester, New York, Mayor Lovely A. Warren directed city officials to mail five facemasks to every address within the city limits, and the mailing included census messaging encouraging residents to complete the 2020 questionnaire.
- More than 200,000 census flyers were delivered this month to twenty different Latino Grocery Stores in Santa Clara County, California. The printed material was distributed by the store clerks at checkout.
- Hundreds of people participated in the Voces de la Frontera Bike/Car Caravan in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this week. Voces de la Frontera is a membership-based community organization led by low-wage workers, immigrants, and youth. Cyclists and cars drove through low-response areas in Milwaukee. This weekly event will continue into the fall to highlight the importance of Census.
- In Chicago, Mayor Lori Lightfoot recently recruited 33-year-old Adam Hollingsworth ("the Census Cowboy") and his horse "Robin" to ride through the 10 communities in the city with the lowest census response rates to encourage residents to respond to the 2020 Census. Lightfoot compared it to using the Bat-Signal in the fictional city of Gotham.

Our national partners continue to work with us and do great work. Since June 1, our staff have been supporting partners who are doing direct service and performing in-person work. Examples include national food distribution efforts, providing partners and communities with 43,000 grocery tote bags; 500 drawstring backpacks; more than 27,000 print materials; 7,500 pens; 5,000 reusable water bottles; more than 5,000 fans; and 32,000 chip clips.

Last weekend we conducted our second 2020 Census Faith Community Weekend of Action. Faith leaders across the country encouraged their congregations to respond to the census with messaging emphasizing that the census is important, easy, and safe. Many partners such as The United Way, Walmart, and Starbucks, to name just a few, are sharing these messages to their members, employees, and customers. Facebook recently launched its second notification promoting the importance of responding, linking directly to our website [2020Census.gov](https://www.2020Census.gov), and encouraging people to share the message with their friends. We are seeing dramatic results.

The Statistics in Schools Program, and our web and social media work are also at full throttle. We are engaging school districts around the country as they reach out to parents and students to adapt this program to the current environment, all while promoting participation in the 2020 Census.

Last week, I was honored to provide a video address to the national conference of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, thanking them for their service and encouraging their efforts to promote the 2020 census and self-responses.

Expanding and Extending the 2020 Census Integrated Communications Campaign

In the face of the pandemic and other challenges, we expanded the Integrated Communications Contract from \$500 million to \$700 million, and the media buy increased from \$323.5 million to \$383.4 million. This expansion enables us to continue our advertising and communications efforts through the summer and into the fall. Along with TV, radio, and print, we are employing extensive digital advertising and driving conversations on social media outlets, targeting the messaging to low-responding areas and populations.

Back in March, the Census Bureau was one of the first organizations to develop advertising sensitive to the current environment. We extended what we call the “motivation phase” of the campaign until August, to get as many people as possible to respond to the Census. We are currently in the middle of our “July Push” for self-response, for which we created new advertising. And we have increased our media spend with local advertising in every part of the country, including rural and other areas with low response rates. Beginning August 11, and running through the end of September, we will run advertising in areas with the lowest response rates and where nonresponse workloads are heaviest.

In early August, the national campaign will inform the country that we soon will be knocking on doors in the Nonresponse Follow-up operation. The advertisements were redesigned to show our enumerators in masks and practicing social distancing. The messages will remind everyone that it is not too late to respond.

All components of the communications and partnership program are being leveraged to amplify our messaging. Our earned media teams are targeting priority areas emphasized in the paid media strategy. Approaches include localized media outreach focused on diverse mass, multicultural, and hard-to-count audiences. We are creating customized detailed response rate media materials, leveraging local trusted voices for interviews, conducting radio and satellite media tours with our national and regional spokespeople, and hosting multicultural media briefings and press conferences for reaching hard-to-count audiences and populations.

Your outreach to constituents, collaboration with partners, and affirmation of the importance of 2020 Census are making a difference. As trusted voices in your communities, you amplify our message -- *participating in the 2020 Census is safe, easy, and important*. As you engage constituents and partners, please emphasize that the Census Bureau is legally required to keep all responses strictly confidential. We do so not only as a matter of law, but also as a matter of organizational culture and professional practice.

We are leaving no stone unturned in our communications, partnerships, operations, and continuing efforts to count the nation’s population, despite our challenging environment. Key to success is Congress’ continued support. We appreciate your strong support for 2020 Census programs and operations, and the fact that almost all Members are actively engaged as 2020 Census Congressional Partners. The Census Bureau, our many 2020 Census partners and stakeholders, and all communities across the nation thank you. We look forward to our continued work together in accomplishing our shared mission of conducting a complete and accurate count.

To: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)[Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov]; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov]; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED)[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov]; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED)[john.maron.abowd@census.gov]; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)[Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov]; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[nathaniel.cogley@census.gov]
Cc: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)[christopher.j.stanley@census.gov]; Brebbia, Sean (Federal)[SBrebbia@doc.gov]
From: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=9F924D2AEBA34BB78774A059DDE7550C-AHMAD, ALI]
Sent: Wed 8/12/2020 7:02:31 PM (UTC)
Subject: TI Update- Reply from Chair Maloney
[2020-08-12.CBM to Dillingham-Census re TIs.pdf](#)

The attached requests a reply by 8/14 before the Committee considers the compulsory process. We will provide a response strategy update to yesterday's call ASAP.

Ali Ahmad, Associate Director
Communications Directorate
U.S. Census Bureau
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

Majority (202) 225-6051
Minority (202) 225-6074
<http://oversight.house.gov>

August 4, 2020

The Honorable Steven Dillingham
Director
U.S. Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Rd
Suitland-Silver Hill, MD 20746

Dear Director Dillingham:

In light of alarming news about additional efforts to rush and politicize the 2020 Census, the Committee on Oversight and Reform requests the appearance of Census Bureau employees for transcribed interviews.

Last night, you issued a statement that the Census Bureau will be ending Non-Response Follow-Up (NRFU) and online responses on September 30, 2020—a full month earlier than previously announced.¹ You did not mention this change during your testimony last week before the Committee. This move will rush the enumeration process, result in inadequate follow-up, and undercount immigrant communities and communities of color who are historically undercounted. As Former Director John Thompson testified to the Committee:

The career people who are experts at taking the census requested a four month extension of the deadlines that's in their Title. They know what they are doing. They know what it's going to take to get the census done. Not extending those deadlines is going to put tremendous pressure on the Census Bureau. It's not clear what kind of quality counts they can produce if they don't get the extension. So it could be a really big problem.²

Senior career staff at the Census Bureau have publicly stated that meeting the statutory deadlines is impossible because of the delays that have already occurred. On July 8, 2020, Al Fontenot, Associate Director for Decennial Census Programs, stated of the December 31, 2020, statutory deadlines: “We are past the window of being able to get those counts by those dates at

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, *Statement from U.S. Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham: Delivering a Complete and Accurate 2020 Census Count* (Aug. 3, 2020) (online at www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/delivering-complete-accurate-count.html).

² *Oversight Committee Held Emergency Hearing on Trump Administration's Unconstitutional Politicization of 2020 Census* (July 29, 2020) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/news/press-releases/oversight-committee-held-emergency-hearing-on-trump-administration-s>).

this point.”³ On May 26, 2020, Tim Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations, said publicly: “We have passed the point where we could even meet the current legislative requirement of December 31. We can’t do that anymore.”⁴

Testimony on July 29, 2020, during the Committee’s emergency hearing underscored the Committee’s concerns about the administration of the 2020 Census. Four former Directors of the Census Bureau testified that the President’s memorandum issued on July 21, 2020, directing the Secretary of Commerce to exclude undocumented immigrants from the apportionment count, is unconstitutional.

In addition, your testimony at that hearing revealed new and troubling information about the White House’s inappropriate partisan influence over how the 2020 Census is conducted. For example, when you were asked whether you or anyone else at the Census Bureau contributed to the President’s July 21, 2020, legal memorandum or provided any input on it before it was released, you responded, “Madam Chairwoman, I certainly did not, and I’m not aware of others in the Census Bureau that did.”⁵ When you were asked when you first became aware of the President’s intention to exclude undocumented immigrants from the Apportionment count, you responded, “As I recall, someone from the press reported that a directive may be coming down.”⁶

For the foregoing reasons, the Committee requests that Census Bureau officials appear for virtual transcribed interviews on the following dates:

- * **August 10, 2020:** Enrique Lamas, Chief Advisor to the Deputy Director;
- * **August 11, 2020:** Timothy P. Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations;
- * **August 12, 2020:** Victoria Velkoff, Associate Director for Demographic Programs;
- * **August 14, 2020:** Albert Fontenot, Jr, Associate Director for Decennial Census Programs;
- * **August 17, 2020:** John Abowd, Chief Scientist and Associate Director for Research and Methodology;
- * **August 19, 2020:** Adam Korzeniewski, Assistant Deputy Director for Policy;
- * **August 20, 2020:** Nathaniel Cogley, Deputy Director for Policy; and
- * **August 21, 2020:** Ron S. Jarmin, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer.

³ *Republicans Signal They’re Willing To Cut The Census Counting Short*, National Public Radio (July 28, 2020) (online at www.npr.org/2020/07/28/895744449/republicans-signal-theyre-willing-to-cut-short-census-counting).

⁴ *‘We’re Running Out of Time’: Census Turns to Congress to Push Deadlines*, National Public Radio (May 27, 2020) (online at www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/05/27/863290458/we-re-running-out-of-time-census-turns-to-congress-to-push-deadlines).

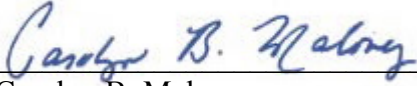
⁵ Committee on Oversight and Reform, *Counting Every Person: Safeguarding the 2020 Census Against the Trump Administration’s Unconstitutional Attacks* (July 29, 2020) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/legislation/hearings/counting-every-person-safeguarding-the-2020-census-against-the-trump>).

⁶ *Id.*

The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. In addition, the Committee has jurisdiction over “Population and demography generally, including the Census.”⁷

Please confirm whether the requested witnesses will appear voluntarily by August 7, 2020. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,


Carolyn B. Maloney
Chairwoman

cc: The Honorable James R. Comer, Ranking Member

⁷ House rule X, clause 1(n)(8).

To: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED)[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)[Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov]; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED)[john.maron.abowd@census.gov]; 'AKorzeniewski@doc.gov'[AKorzeniewski@doc.gov]; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov]; 'NCogley@doc.gov'[NCogley@doc.gov]; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[nathaniel.cogley@census.gov]; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)[christopher.j.stanley@census.gov]; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov]; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)[christopher.j.stanley@census.gov]
Cc: Kim, Janet[Janet.Kim@mail.house.gov]; Anderson, Tori[Tori.Anderson@mail.house.gov]; Whitcomb, Max[Max.Whitcomb@mail.house.gov]; LaNier, Elisa[Elisa.LaNier@mail.house.gov]; Jones, Taylor[Taylor.Jones@mail.house.gov]; MacPherson, Cameron[Cameron.MacPherson@mail.house.gov]; Bush, Anthony[Anthony.Bush@mail.house.gov]
From: Goss, Trinity[Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tue 8/4/2020 1:54:26 PM (UTC)
Subject: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau
[2020-08-04.CBM to Dillingham re Transcribed Interviews.pdf](#)

Hello---

Please see the letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau.

Please acknowledge receipt of letter.

Thank you,

Trinity Goss

Trinity M. E. Goss | Executive Team Coordinator
Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform
Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov | (202) 225-5051

Congress of the United States
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COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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August 12, 2020

The Honorable Dr. Steven Dillingham
Director
United States Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road
Washington, D.C. 20233

Dear Dr. Dillingham:

On August 4, 2020, the Committee requested the voluntary appearance of eight senior Census Bureau officials for transcribed interviews regarding the Trump Administration's recent efforts to rush the 2020 Census after previously requesting legislation to delay deadlines for operations and reporting due to the coronavirus pandemic.¹

On August 7, 2020, you responded by declining to make a single official available for a transcribed interview.² In that letter, and in subsequent conversations with staff, the Census Bureau has provided inadequate justifications for declining to make these individuals available to the Committee.

The 2020 Decennial Census is the largest and most complex in history. You have testified under oath that the Census Bureau has undertaken a decade of field-tested preparation to ensure an accurate and complete count,³ but that the coronavirus pandemic has added "unprecedented" operational difficulties to the Census Bureau's mission.⁴

¹ Letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to Dr. Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau (Aug. 4, 2020) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2020-08-04.CBM%20to%20Dillingham%20re%20Transcribed%20Interviews.pdf>).

² Letter from Dr. Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau, to Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform (Aug. 7, 2020) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/documents/Response%20to%20Chairwoman%20Maloney%20Aug%208%202020.pdf>).

³ Committee on Oversight and Reform, *Hearing with Census Bureau Director, Dr. Steven Dillingham* (Feb. 12, 2020) (online at www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-116hrg39929/pdf/CHRG-116hrg39929.pdf).

⁴ Committee on Oversight and Reform, *Hearing on Counting Every Person: Safeguarding the 2020 Census Against the Trump Administration's Unconstitutional Attacks* (July 29, 2020).

On April 13, 2020, you and Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross warned that extensions to various statutory deadlines were necessary “to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the 2020 census.”⁵ That same day, Secretary Ross informed several Members of Congress, including me, that the Trump Administration was planning to push the deadline for field operations from July 21, 2020, to October 31, 2020. He also sought legislation to extend the statutory deadline to deliver apportionment data to the President from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021, and an extension in the statutory deadline to deliver redistricting data to the states from March 30, 2021, to July 31, 2021.

Subsequent statements by Census Bureau officials underscored the urgency of these legislative changes. On May 26, 2020, Tim Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations, said publicly: “We have passed the point where we could even meet the current legislative requirement of December 31. We can’t do that anymore.”⁶

The Committee has worked in good faith to accommodate the Trump Administration’s request. On April 18, 2020, the Census Bureau provided proposed legislative language for securing the statutory extensions. The Committee included extension provisions in the HEROES Act (H.R. 6800), which the House of Representatives passed on May 15, 2020.

In a stark reversal, on August 3, 2020, you announced that the Census Bureau will cut short follow-up operations by a full month, despite significant delays in starting follow-up operations because of the coronavirus pandemic. You also announced that, with respect to the reporting requirement, the Census Bureau would aim to meet “our statutory deadline of December 31, 2020, as required by law and directed by the Secretary of Commerce.”⁷ These reversals were announced after President Trump installed two additional political appointees at the Census Bureau—for a total of six political appointees, which is more than the Census Bureau has had in decades.⁸

At the same time, the Trump Administration has proposed significant changes to the Census Bureau’s methodology and field operations. On July 21, 2020, President Trump issued a memorandum ordering the Secretary of Commerce to provide information that would allow him to exclude undocumented immigrants from the apportionment count. At the Committee’s July

⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, *U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and U.S. Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham Statement on 2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19* (Apr. 13, 2020) (online at www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/statement-covid-19-2020.html).

⁶ *Republicans Signal They’re Willing to Cut Census Counting Short*, National Public Radio (July 28, 2020) (online at www.npr.org/2020/07/28/895744449/republicans-signal-theyre-willing-to-cut-short-census-counting).

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, *Statement from U.S. Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham: Delivering a Complete and Accurate 2020 Census Count* (Aug. 3, 2020) (online at www.census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2020/delivering-complete-accurate-count.html).

⁸ Letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, et al., to Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., Secretary, Department of Commerce (July 13, 2020) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/sites/democrats.oversight.house.gov/files/2020-07-13.CBM%20Gomez%20Raskin%20Connolly%20Clarke%20to%20Ross-DOC%20re%20Cogley%20and%20Korzeniewski.pdf>).

29, 2020, hearing, you testified that this directive came without any discussions or input from you—despite the fact that the memorandum seeks to change a highly sensitive and apolitical task that the Census Bureau has historically performed.⁹

The Committee is seeking interviews with Census Bureau staff to understand these current—and ongoing—efforts to change timelines and methodologies midstream, and what impact these changes will have on the accuracy, objectivity, and completeness of the Census. The Committee is also seeking to understand how and when these changes were proposed, as well as what role career Census Bureau officials played in these moves, in order to inform our legislative efforts on these matters.

This is an urgent matter that requires immediate compliance. The Trump Administration announced these unprecedented actions—which are projected to have a direct impact on the completeness and accuracy of the census count—just weeks before the end of the Census. Our investigation is critical to ensuring that the 2020 Census adheres to the constitutional requirement to enumerate every person.

For all of these reasons, I respectfully urge you to make these officials available to the Committee on a voluntary basis. Please confirm by close of business on August 14, 2020, whether you will cooperate with the Committee’s investigation or whether the Committee should secure these officials’ appearance through compulsory measures.

The Committee on Oversight and Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. In addition, the Committee has jurisdiction over “Population and demography generally, including the Census.”¹⁰

Sincerely,



Carolyn B. Maloney
Chairwoman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable James R. Comer, Ranking Member

⁹ Committee on Oversight and Reform, *Hearing on Counting Every Person: Safeguarding the 2020 Census Against the Trump Administration’s Unconstitutional Attacks* (July 29, 2020).

¹⁰ House rule X, clause 1(n)(8).

August 14, 2020

DRAFT - DELIBERATIVE - PRE-DECISIONAL

Dear Chairwoman Maloney:

Thank you for your August 12, 2020 letter regarding the 2020 Decennial Census. The Census Bureau's career experts have developed a plan to accelerate their mission to meet the statutory deadline to provide apportionment counts by December 31, 2020.

The Department of Commerce (Department) and the Census Bureau will continue working with the Oversight and Reform Committee (Committee) in furtherance of transparency and accommodation during these challenging times. We did so just two weeks ago by affording the Committee an extraordinary accommodation by making the Census Director available to testify on less than a week's notice at the Committee's "emergency" hearing. However, your request for transcribed interviews of multiple Census Bureau officials in the midst of ongoing census operations—especially during an unprecedented pandemic—is overly burdensome and would present substantial disruptions to the essential operations of the census.

The Department and the Census Bureau want to help the Committee understand the current plan and its execution. To facilitate this, Senior Census Bureau staff members have been conducting regular briefings with Congressional Committees every Friday. In order to help you better understand the current operational plan, the Census Bureau is willing to offer the Committee a briefing on these specific issues, to include some of the individuals requested in your previous correspondence. This briefing will allow the Committee an opportunity to engage with Census Bureau officials without the logistical difficulties, time consuming nature and disruptiveness associated with transcribed interviews and will allow the Committee to obtain the information it seeks while minimizing disruption to ongoing Census operations.

The Department looks forward to making high level Census Bureau officials available to brief Committee staff on these important matters. Please be assured that the Department and the Census Bureau are committed to this vital mission.

Sincerely,

Anthony Foti

To: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov]; Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Christa.D.Jones@census.gov]; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)[Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov]
Cc: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]
From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CB0EEE1CC6CA45CC948C0077899626C2-ABOWD, JOHN]
Sent: Tue 9/1/2020 8:49:07 PM (UTC)
Subject: Fw: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file [20190911 citizenship memos.docx](#)

What I said. Read bottom up.

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: [301-763-5880](tel:301-763-5880) M: simulring on cell
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov

From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 12:16 PM
To: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>
Cc: James Whitehorne (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <James.Whitehorne@census.gov>; James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <James.B.Treat@census.gov>
Subject: Re: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file

I went over my records. A team that I led gave the director a detailed briefing on September 11, 2019. That briefing presented him with the December 12, 2017 letter from the DoJ, the March 26, 2018 instruction from the Secretary, The full text of the PRA Information Collection Request for the 2020 Census, approved July 12, 2019, and Executive Order 13880. Each document was highlighted in yellow with the language pertaining to statistical requests/instructions regarding citizenship data. There was an accompanying summary (attached to this email). We explained to the Director that these were our instructions, and absent additional guidance from the Director or the Secretary, we would develop the CVAP product subject to these instructions.

Subsequent direction came from and continues to be issued by DSEP, which owns the 2020 CVAP special tabulation as a product. This is unusual, but is consistent with the Deputy Director's instruction to stay completely downstream from 2020 Census operations and data processing.

Thanks,

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
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From: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>
Cc: James Whitehorne (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <James.Whitehorne@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <James.B.Treat@census.gov>
Subject: Re: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file

Makes sense to me too. I would want John's assessment.

Enrique Lamas
Senior Advisor

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004654

On Sep 1, 2020, at 10:28 AM, Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov> wrote:

This makes sense to me, but Enrique, John, and Jim need to review the final para in particular.

Kathleen M. Styles
Chief, Decennial Communications and Stakeholder Relationships
U.S. Bureau of the Census
Room (b) (6)
(301) 763-0235 Office
(b) (6) Cell

From: James Whitehorne (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <James.Whitehorne@census.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <James.B.Treat@census.gov>
Subject: Fw: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file

Hello Kathleen, Jim, John, and Enrique -

I was asked by Nathaniel for a description of how we determine the content for the P.L. data. I provided my answer which is at the bottom of this email string. I was asked a follow-up question and am trying to answer it but want to make sure that I am not misrepresenting the EO working group's or IEP group's activities. My planned response is just below in the indented text. Please let me know if you have any comments before I send this reply. Nathaniel's request was from last Wednesday so I am hoping to respond soon.
Thank you
James

Good morning Nathaniel -

The short answer is that the citizenship attribute was considered all through the development process for the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting file as soon as the Secretary instructed the Bureau to add the citizenship variable to the questionnaire. To provide some context I will explain below.

When the Secretary provided the instruction to add the citizenship question to the 2020 Census form in March 28, 2018, we then had to explore if states wanted to see that data as part of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary file.

Due to the amount of litigation surrounding the addition of the citizenship question to the 2020 Census, I had to request permission from DoC to discuss the possible inclusion of citizenship on the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File. I met with Mike Walsh (DoC), Christa Jones (BoC), Burton Reist (Boc) and Chris Stanley (BoC) at DoC on 5/18/2018 to get permission to discuss citizenship. I was given that permission but was asked to confine my discussions to operational issues. In the subsequent discussions with the states through conferences and with the program's liaisons, we

addressed questions like: If the question remains on the Census would you want to see the citizenship data on the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File?; If you want to see it, how would you want it to appear? ; If a citizenship table is added to the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data File, should it be in addition to or should it replace the VAP tables. The responses we received indicated that if citizenship was included, it was desired in the same timeframe as the P.L. data and that it should also be compatible with the PL data. If it was not included but created as a special tabulation then it should be additively consistent so that, for example, you never have more CVAP people in a block than VAP people. It was also clearly stated that the CVAP table should in no way replace the VAP table. The VAP tables were identified as being a critical longitudinal dataset for analyzing redistricting plans since those tables have existed for several decades now. However, within all of these discussions, no one indicated that the CVAP tables should be required to be added to the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File. (attachment: Draft_predecisional_Redistricting_Concerns_and_Considerations.docx)

As we worked through all of the issues and the creation of the prototype data, we were also under schedule constraints to complete our design so that other areas of the Bureau could begin their work generating the coding and systems necessary for producing and delivering the redistricting data. According to the baselined Integrated Master Schedule, our final design was supposed to be delivered to the Data Products and Dissemination Operation for distribution to POP, TAB, DRPS, DAS, and others by 6/7/2019. With our submission not coming until 7/10/2019 we were over a month late. However, we waited for the Supreme Court decision before submitting the final design to the Disclosure Review Board despite it making us over a month late in submitting this critical operational documentation.

The Executive Order and then subsequent Secretary's instructions came soon after the final design was approved and delivered to the other areas of the Bureau, albeit a month later than required by the schedule. With something with the weight of an EO and a directive from the Secretary, the Census executives established the groups they needed to understand and implement the requirements of these instructions. This is where you would want to talk to John Abowd and Jim Treat. If my memory serves me, a group to acquire the administrative records described in the memo, was established as well as an Internal Expert Panel (IEP) to develop a methodology for performing the actions requested. I believe that the IEP was already in existence working on the methodology to generate the CVAP should citizenship be asked on the decennial census and was re-tasked to develop the purely administrative data based CVAP. The IEP sketch of the methodology required the P.L. data to have already been created so we could ensure that the CVAP has additive consistency with the P.L. data. Based on that proposed methodology, the other group in which I participated worked on a schedule that allows the CVAP to be developed within the timeframe also required for the P.L. data. In those meetings we also worked to ensure the 2020 Census CVAP Special Tabulation would be compatible with the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File by requesting the use of CENRACE rather than IMPRACE so the "Some Other Race" Category is included, matching the P.L. categories. This would ensure, along with the production of the data at the block level, that it could be used for redistricting.

I hope that helps.

Regards

James

James Whitehorne, Chief

Redistricting & Voting Rights Data Office/ADDC/HQ

U.S. Census Bureau

O: 301-763-4039 | M: (b) (6)

[census.gov](https://www.census.gov) | [census.gov/rdo](https://www.census.gov/rdo) | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004656

From: Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 2:09 PM
To: James Whitehorne (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <James.Whitehorne@census.gov>
Cc: Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>; Benjamin A Overholt (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <benjamin.a.overholt@census.gov>
Subject: Re: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file

Hey James,

Thanks for all of your work compiling and explaining the process and dates that unfolded. Question:

Was there any consideration of a design change to include CVAP in the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting File following the release of Executive Order 13880 on July 11th, 2019?

Thanks in advance for any response.

Sincerely,
Nathaniel

Nathaniel Cogley, Ph.D.
Deputy Director for Policy
U.S. Census Bureau

From: James Whitehorne (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <James.Whitehorne@census.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 10:22 AM
To: Benjamin A Overholt (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <benjamin.a.overholt@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>
Cc: Kathleen M Styles (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <kathleen.m.styles@census.gov>
Subject: Content process history for determining the content of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data file

Good morning Nathaniel and Benjamin -

During our call the other day, I promised some background and decision points on the content for the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File. The process is both formal and informal and covers quite a bit of each decade. I am providing a description of the process with links or attachments of relevant documents.

The process of designing P.L. each decade starts as soon as the data from the previous decennial is published. Over the subsequent three years, the Redistricting Data Office conducts an evaluation of the previous program and develops a broad outline of what is planned for the next decade. This evaluation looks at feedback from the states, requests for changes from the states, changes to the legal landscape around redistricting, etc. Once that is collected and vetted, a plan for the next decennial is created and published after being reviewed and approved at all levels of executive leadership at the Census Bureau. This publication, published in December of 2014, is nicknamed "The View from the States" and for 2020 is officially titled "Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the Year 2020 Census". <https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/rdo/pl94-171.pdf> This evaluation and report has been done every decade since the program started, with the National Conference of State Legislatures publishing the 1980 report and the Census Bureau publishing all subsequent reports.

Using the results of this report and in preparation for producing a prototype dataset as requested by the states, we started with what has historically been a well received dataset as its base (Tables P1, P2, P3, P4)

plus the housing table that was added back in for the 2010 Census (Table H1). In addition, we worked to address the request for adding the group quarters table to the P.L. file. This was requested in the lead up to the 2010 Census but was determined to be requested too late to add to the file and was provided a few months after the P.L. 94-171 data's release. Our first attempt to add this file included the race and ethnicity categories typically associated with the redistricting data product. Upon presenting this plan to the Disclosure Review Board (DRB) in August of 2016, and then to the Decennial Statistical Executive Policy group (DSEP) in July of 2017, the proposal was modified to include only total population for the seven major group quarters types. (**attachments: DRB_Memo_AdditionOfGQtoPL94171File.docx | DSEP_AdditionOfGQ_to_PL_vFinal.docx**).

The next step in managing the content was to publish an FRN on November 8, 2017 explaining to the states and the public our proposed design. https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/rdo/about/2020-census-program/Phase3/notice_RDP_Phase3_ProposedContent_110817.pdf Although the original thought at the time of the publication of this FRN was that we would ask a single question for race and ethnicity, we also indicated that the file design would revert back to that produced from the 2010 Census if the proposal for using a single question for race and ethnicity was not approved.

Once the comment period had closed on the design of the prototype, we announced the final prototype design through another FRN on May 1, 2018. https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/rdo/about/2020-census-program/Phase3/notice_RDP_Phase3_FinalPrototype_05_01_2018.pdf This final design reverted back to the 2010 design since an approval from OMB was never received for going to a single race and ethnicity question. This announced final design was used to create the prototype P.L. 94-171 Redistricting data Summary file from the 2018 End to End Census Test in Providence RI .

The prototype dataset was delivered to all Governors, the Supreme Court Justice of Puerto Rico, the legislative leadership of both parties in all state legislatures (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico), the official Redistricting Data Program non-partisan liaisons, as well as to the general public. The geography was delivered in February of 2019 and the tabulations were provided in March of 2019. The prototype products serve as the example from which states can build their redistricting systems as requested in The View from the States. As part of the official delivery, feedback on the content of the file was requested.

- Tabulation products (https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/rdo/technical-documentation/2020Census/2018Prototype_PL94_171_TechDoc_v2.pdf?# ; https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/rdo/datasets/2018/2018Prototype_PL94_171_SummaryFile.zip?# ; https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/program-management/data-product-planning/Prototype_Redistricting_File--PL_94-171/?#)
- Geography products (<https://www.census.gov/geographies/mapping-files/time-series/geo/tiger-line-file.2018.html?#> ; <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/geographies/reference-maps.2018.html?#> ; <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/block-assignment-files.html?#> ; <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-files/time-series/geo/name-lookup-tables.html?#>)

With the successful delivery and acceptance of the Prototype P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data by the official recipients and the public, the final design was presented to the Disclosure Review Board for approval on July 2nd, 2019. (**attachment: DRB Review Request Cover Sheet Form_PL94_171Data.docx**)

The final 2020 Census P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Summary File design was approved by the DRB at their July 10th meeting. (**attachments: 2019-07-10-DRB meeting agenda list.pdf; DRB Minutes 2019-07-**

10_Final.pdf) Please note that the agenda has a typo in that it says July 1 but it was actually the agenda for July 10 as noted in the file name.

Through each of these steps and across the decade, we engaged with states through exchanges of information at the official State Capitol Redistricting Data Program Kickoff meetings in 2015/2016/2017, at conferences, and through the officially assigned non-partisan liaisons. This interaction has been used to both inform states of census actions and decisions and to learn from the states on their professed needs in regards to redistricting.

I hope you find this information useful.

Best Regards

James

P.S. Thank you for providing the text around Section 209 and pre-identifying the pages. It definitely made it easier to find the part you were referring to. I am not a lawyer so I may miss some subtleties surrounding what they are indicating by this Section. It sounds like they are adding groups that can have standing under the circumstances described but only for congressional redistricting. It also sounds like they are granting them expedited consideration by the courts which is typical of any case involving congressional redistricting. Looking at the timeframe of this Section's passage, it is likely referring to the adjustment debates surrounding the 2000 Census. In my non-lawyerly opinion, the law does not appear to put anything we are doing under greater scrutiny than it would already be under. Unfortunately, redistricting tends to be part of what is often jokingly referred to when talking to practitioners of redistricting as "the lifetime employment act" for litigators.

James Whitehorne, Chief

Redistricting & Voting Rights Data Office/ADDC/HQ

U.S. Census Bureau

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To: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED)[john.maron.abowd@census.gov]; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov]
Cc: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)[Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov]; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)[Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov]; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)[ali.m.ahmad@census.gov]; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED)[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal)[NCogley@doc.gov]; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov]
From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=ADA39E1C50F84DBE8E2EB98E59096E2D-STANLEY, CH]
Sent: Fri 8/14/2020 8:03:49 PM (UTC)
Subject: update - draft of next reply to Chairwoman Maloney
[DRAFT Response to Maloney 8.14.20. \(3\).docx](#)

I talked with Sean a few minutes ago for the latest status. Attached is draft reply to the committee's latest letter. In summary, it reiterates the points in the last letter and offers an expanded briefing, which would be negotiated further on the timing and who would be needed.

This is still an internal draft version. As soon as we have the final signed version, I will be sure to share. It should be finalized soon and be sent before 5pm.

Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions.

From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <SBrebbia@doc.gov>
Cc: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Cannon, Michael (Federal) <MCannon@doc.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Transcribed Interviews- Please identify time speak to Sean Brebbia, OGC, today

I am talking to Sean at noon. Thanks,

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: [301-763-5880](tel:301-763-5880) M: simulring on cell
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From: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <SBrebbia@doc.gov>
Cc: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Cannon, Michael (Federal) <MCannon@doc.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Transcribed Interviews- Please identify time speak to Sean Brebbia, OGC, today

I guess I can join at 4 EDT as well.

On Aug 11, 2020, at 8:47 AM, Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <SBrebbia@doc.gov> wrote:
BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004660

Hi everyone, I'm happy to talk broadly to the group about procedures, process, status, but I would also like meet with each person individually to so they have the opportunity to have an individual discussion with agency lawyers

From: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 11:41 AM

To: Lamas, Enrique <enrique.lamas@census.gov>; Fontenot, Albert E <albert.e.fontenot@census.gov>; Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <SBrebbia@doc.gov>

Cc: Jarmin, Ron S <ron.s.jarmin@census.gov>; Abowd, John M <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Ahmad, Ali M <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Olson, Timothy P <timothy.p.olson@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Korzeniewski, Adam M <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Stanley, Christopher J <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>

Subject: Re: Update on Transcribed Interviews- Please identify time speak to Sean Brebbia, OGC, today

Ali

Does Sean want to talk to all of us together? If so I can also make 4.

Thanks

Tori

Victoria Velkoff, PhD

Associate Director for Demographic Programs

U.S. Census Bureau

o: 301-763-1372

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From: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 11:27 AM

To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <sbrebbia@doc.gov>

Cc: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>

Subject: Re: Update on Transcribed Interviews- Please identify time speak to Sean Brebbia, OGC, today

4:00 works for me too.

Enrique Lamas

Senior Advisor

Director's Office

U.S. Census Bureau

Office: 301-763-3811

From: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 10:57 AM

To: Brebbia, Sean (Federal) <sbrebbia@doc.gov>

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004661

Cc: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Transcribed Interviews- Please identify time speak to Sean Brebbia, OGC, today

Hello - Sean

Can I talk at 4:00pm?

Al

Albert E. Fontenot Jr.
Associate Director, Decennial Census Programs
United States Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census
Office (b) (6)
Office 301-763-4668
Cell (b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 11, 2020, at 10:43 AM, Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov> wrote:

Good Morning All-

Sean Brebbia (copied) with the Office of General Counsel would like to talk to each of your individually today about the recent request from the Oversight Committee to schedule transcribed interviews. Can you send him your preferred times? He will discuss the process, being represented by agency counsel, and the likely path forward.

Ali Ahmad, Associate Director
Communications Directorate
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-8789 | M: (b) (6)
Ali.M.Ahmad@census.gov
census.gov | [@uscensusbureau](https://twitter.com/uscensusbureau)

To: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Christa.D.Jones@census.gov]; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]
From: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=72786421D55B476C9D97B2A03A361FA1-JARMIN, RON]
Sent: Mon 8/3/2020 11:14:03 AM (UTC)
Subject: Fw: Monday Census Calls
[Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Final.pdf](#)

He missed Jamey, but added Treat. WTH?

Ron S Jarmin, PhD., Deputy Director
U.S. Census Bureau
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From: Risko, Daniel (Federal) <DRisko@doc.gov>
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2020 10:08 PM
To: Kelley, Karen (Federal) <KKelley@doc.gov>; Olson, Stephanie (Federal) <SOlson@doc.gov>; Paranzino, Anthony (Federal) <AParanzino@doc.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Walsh, Michael (Federal) <MWalsh@doc.gov>; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.k.smith@census.gov>; James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <James.B.Treat@census.gov>; Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Meredith, Ethan (Federal) <EMeredith@doc.gov>; Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>; Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>
Cc: Goudarzi, Talat (Federal) <TGoudarzi@doc.gov>; Barranca, Steven (Federal) <SBarranca1@doc.gov>; Martin, Nicole (Federal) <NMartin1@doc.gov>
Subject: Monday Census Calls

Good evening,

Please see the attached slide deck for tomorrow's calls. We will use the following phone line:

Conference line: (b) (6)
Passcode: (b) (6)

Contact me directly if you have any issues with the slides or the conference line.

Best,

Dan Risko
Chief of Staff
Office of the Deputy Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
[202-482-6010](tel:202-482-6010) (o) | (b) (6) (c)
drisko@doc.gov

Operational and Processing Options to Meet Statutory Date of December 31, 2020 for Apportionment

August 3, 2020

Bottom Line Up Front

Objective: We have developed this plan in response to your request to provide an apportionment count by the statutory deadline of December 31, 2020.

- **Maximizing** staff and production hours for field data collection operations to conclude field data collection by September 30, 2020.
- **Compressing** and streamline backend processing to deliver apportionment counts by December 31, 2020.
- **Achieving** an acceptable level of accuracy and completeness, with a goal of resolving at least 99% of Housing Units in every state.

Nonresponse Followup Operational Options

Early Start of Nonresponse Followup Operations

6 Cycle 1a Area Census Offices (ACOs) began operations on July 16

6 Cycle 1b ACOs began operations on July 23

35 Cycle 2 ACOs were scheduled to begin operations on July 30; however, we started operations earlier in some ACOs where staff was available:

- 17 ACOs – Started July 26 – 29
- 18 ACOs – Started July 30

39 Cycle 3 ACOs were scheduled to begin operations by August 3:

- 15 ACOs – Started last week, July 31
- 24 ACOs – Started today, August 3

All remaining ACOs were scheduled to begin August 11, but will begin operations by August 9:

- 53 ACOs – Will start August 3 – 7
- 109 ACOs (all remaining) – August 9
- These ACOs will have to deploy staff regardless of the COVID-19 risk in those areas to open on these dates.

Increased Replacement Training for Enumerators

Replacement Training Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Inviting More People to Training	Over selection rates will address higher-than-expected no-show rates of 35%, bringing us closer to our target initial staffing levels.
Continual Replacement Training	Expect to conduct replacement training for at least 135K Enumerators due to attrition. Just over 11,000 training additional sessions: \$90m total training cost

Bonuses for Increased Work

Pay Bonus Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Implement Enumerator Pay bonus to boost work hours from 19 to 25 per week: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$100 for exceeding 25 hours/week	Expect 250,000 to qualify: \$25m/week Increases capacity by 1.5 million work hours per week, or 80,000 more “19 hour” enumerators per week
Implement Enumerator Pay bonus for working multiple 25 hour weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$500 for completing 3 weeks of productionCan be renewed	Expect 150,000 to qualify: \$75m total cost
Implement CFS Pay bonus for working multiple weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$750 for completing 3 weeks of production (from established start date)Would require ‘acceptable’ minimum of 32 hours per weekCan be renewed	Expect 15,000 CFSs to qualify: \$11.5m total cost per week

Outreach Methods to Expand Reach to Underperforming Areas

Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
<p>Expand the use of NRFU Travel Teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moving teams that have successfully completed their areas to areas requiring additional attention	<p>Using experienced staff minimizes the need to train new staff – particularly in areas where new staff are not available.</p>
<p>Implement outbound phone calling to conduct interviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use telephone numbers from ERD Contact Frame• Used by enumerators in ACOs that are finishing up to help out in other ACOs	<p>Enables enumeration in high COVID-19 risk areas and provides additional data collection capability.</p>

Adjustments to NRFU Contact Strategy

NRFU Adjustment Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Close out self-reported vacants that are also Administrative Record (AdRec) vacant	Reduce workload by 140k cases
Reduce contact attempts for self-reported vacants from 6 to 1, if HU is confirmed vacant	Increase enumerator productivity
Reduce contact attempts for Re-Interview (RI) and Self-Response Quality Assurance (SRQA) cases from 6 to 3	Reduce attempts from 6 to 3 for 1.9 million cases, increase enumerator productivity
Eliminate Random RI, and depend on analytic sampling	Reduce NRFU workload by 800k cases – potential reduction in quality of enumerator work
Make “pop count only” sufficient earlier in the operation	Still being researched, TBD

Implement Additional Administrative Record Options

Administrative Records Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
We are in consultation to revise our AdRec strategy to use IRS-only (no corroborating sources) for “pop count only” cases	Reduce attempts from 6 to 1 for estimated 3.8 million cases, contingent on IRS approval, increasing enumerator productivity
Close out cases with conflicting AdRec showing both vacant and delete	Reduce attempts from 6 to 1 for 1.9 million cases, increasing enumerator productivity

Overview of Backend Processing

Assumptions:

1. Highly compressed schedule for 2020 Census data processing and review of data products.
2. Post-processing must start by October 1, 2020.
3. Post-processing work activities are limited to those required to produce apportionment counts. Delivery of redistricting data products will be negatively impacted under this revised plan and we are determining full impacts.
4. All of these activities represent abbreviated processes or eliminated activities that will reduce accuracy.

Compressing Backend Processing

Adjusted Activity	Impact and Risks
Finalize Master Address File (MAF) updates from remaining field operations by 9/4/20 Address updates from continued field work after 9/4/20 will not be applied to the MAF	We do not anticipate that the resulting number of updates not included will be highly significant. However, increases risk of inaccuracy.
Eliminate the step that includes Decennial Statistical Studies Division (DSSD) review of the MAF extract	Risk of missing and therefore propagating errors, however the MAF is the most accurate ever.
Lock Geographic processing on 9/25/20 and deliver the final 2020 Census address universe by 10/14/20	Reduces a 35 day processing duration to 19 days.
Cancel Count Review Event 2, eliminating the need for late Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE) operations	State demographer review of GQ data will be cancelled. The Demographic and Decennial staffs will work together to develop the message and communicate it to the Federal State Cooperative for Population Estimates (FSCPE)/states. The risk is virtually certain vocal objections from the FSCPE State Demographers and the State Governors they serve.

Compressing Backend Processing - Continued

Adjusted Activity	Impact and Risks
Create a separate processing stream for the Enumeration of Transitory Locations (ETL) and Service Based Enumeration (SBE) operations that follows the Federally Affiliated Count Overseas (FACO) processing approach. This will enable adding ETL and SBE population counts state-by-state significantly later in the Census Unedited File (CUF) production process.	<p>This file needs to be delivered to POP by the time the CUF – the basis for the apportionment delivery – review is scheduled to be complete, by December 18. Additionally, ETL permits the reporting of a Usual Home Elsewhere (UHE), which will not be able to be processed with this new approach.</p> <p>The CUF will have to be re-run prior to the processing of the Census Edited File (CEF) in order to add in the SBE/ETL population for the Public Law 94-171 Redistricting file. The Apportionment Team will need to change its processing plans and conduct testing to ensure the proper integration of ETL/SBE state counts.</p>
Compress POP division and DSSD review and processing times	A compressed review period creates risk for serious errors not being discovered in the data – thereby significantly decreasing data quality. Additionally, serious errors discovered in the data may not be fixed – due to lack of time to research and understand the root cause or to re-run and re-review one or multiple state files.
Compress time for creating/verifying apportionment data and preparation of transmittal package for DOC	A compressed review period creates risk for errors being present in the data.

Implementation of the Presidential Memo

A team has been established and is tasked with deriving a process utilizing sound statistical methods and meeting tests of operational feasibility, to achieve the goals of directives from Secretary Ross regarding implementation of the Presidential Memo. To achieve this, the Census will:

- Build upon the work we have already done based on Executive Order 13880, “Collecting Information about Citizenship Status in Connection with the Decennial Census”.
- Use all administrative records to the extent they are available. Using these records, in combination with other data already obtained regarding citizenship status, we will further refine the non-citizen category into legal, illegal, or unknown.
- Incorporating this work into the schedule to meet the current legal mandates.

Announcing the Replanned Operational Schedule

- **Announce:** Statement from Director Dillingham issued by Monday afternoon or as approval given with new schedule and re-plan outline.
- **Update Webpage:** We will update central schedule webpage with new dates. (current page reflects re-planning status)
- **Rollout:** We will follow a controlled rollout to give appropriate embargoed heads up to key Congressional offices, and then post and distribute the updated materials to Census Bureau staff, partners, intergovernmental stakeholders, and the media.

Questions?

To: James T Christy (CENSUS/LA FED)[James.T.Christy@census.gov]
From: Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]
Sent: Mon 8/3/2020 10:02:58 AM (UTC)
Subject: Fwd: Monday Census Calls
[Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Final.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

Jamey, here you go. 7:30 with KDK and 8 with the Secretary.

Timothy P. Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington DC
(b) (6) (mobile)
301-763-2072

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Risko, Daniel (Federal)" <DRisko@doc.gov>
Date: August 2, 2020 at 10:08:50 PM EDT
To: "Kelley, Karen (Federal)" <KKelley@doc.gov>, "Olson, Stephanie (Federal)" <SOlson@doc.gov>, "Paranzino, Anthony (Federal)" <AParanzino@doc.gov>, "Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED)" <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>, "Walsh, Michael (Federal)" <MWalsh@doc.gov>, "Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <steven.k.smith@census.gov>, "James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <James.B.Treat@census.gov>, "Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>, "Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>, "Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED)" <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>, "Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>, "Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>, "Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <steven.dillingham@census.gov>, "Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>, "Meredith, Ethan (Federal)" <EMeredith@doc.gov>, "Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>, "Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>
Cc: "Goudarzi, Talat (Federal)" <TGoudarzi@doc.gov>, "Barranca, Steven (Federal)" <SBarranca1@doc.gov>, "Martin, Nicole (Federal)" <NMartin1@doc.gov>
Subject: Monday Census Calls

Good evening,

Please see the attached slide deck for tomorrow's calls. We will use the following phone line:

Conference line: (b) (6)
Passcode: (b) (6)

Contact me directly if you have any issues with the slides or the conference line.

Best,

Dan Risko
Chief of Staff
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[202-482-6010](tel:202-482-6010) (o) | (b) (6) (c)
drisko@doc.gov

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004678

To: Timothy Olson[olson003@me.com]
From: Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]
Sent: Mon 8/3/2020 10:03:21 AM (UTC)
Subject: Fwd: Monday Census Calls
[Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Final.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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Dan Risko
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BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004680

*****DRAFT*****

2020 Census Data Processing Planning

8/24/2020

U//FOUO

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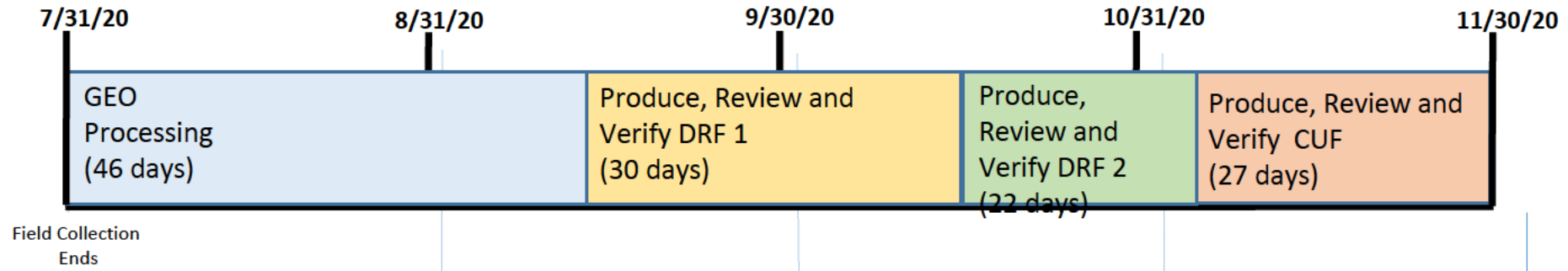
BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004682

Overview

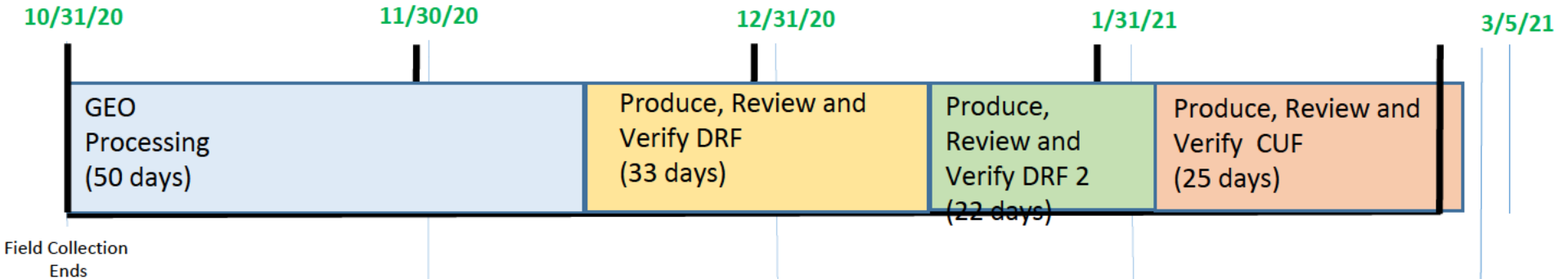
- This is a viable plan to deliver the final Census Unedited File (CUF) by 12/14/2020
- It cuts a four-month process down to two and a half months
- It optimizes staff and computing resources to be in operation 24/7, weekends and holidays
- It streamlines and limits processes to focus only on Apportionment, separating and deferring redistricting processing
- Contingent on field operations ending 9/30/2020, we identified any process that could start earlier, run in parallel, or be eliminated
- This plan presents risk to data accuracy
- If risks are realized, they will require decisions that weigh data accuracy and U.S. Census Bureau reputation against schedule delays
- By closely managing both the process and the risks, our intention continues to be to produce an accurate, defensible 2020 Census count

Re-Planning for 2020 Census Post Processing

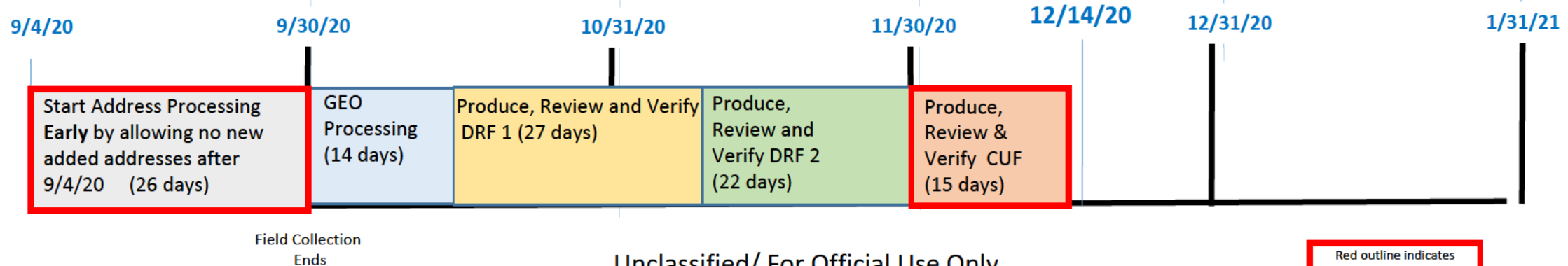
Original Plan (Before COVID 19)



COVID 19 Plan



Current Plan



Unclassified/ For Official Use Only

Red outline indicates
Heightened Risk

Creating the MAF/TIGER Benchmark – Bottom Line Plan

Geographic data built the foundation for 2020 Census data collection, tabulation, and dissemination. We have the most complete and accurate address list and maps in history. Nearly 152 million addresses were included in the 2020 Census enumeration universe.

In this plan we streamlined, rescheduled, and eliminated processing activities to meet the 12/14/2020 CUF delivery deadline

- No new addresses accepted from data collection operations after 9/4/2020
 - Any new addresses identified between then and 9/30/2020, the last day of data collection operations, and the population associated with those addresses **will not be included in the 2020 Census**
- This plan reduces the MAF address update process from 45 to 18 days per operation
- The benchmarking process is shortened from 34 to 20 days, eliminating 14 days worth of processing activities that will be cut now and deferred until the creation of the redistricting data products
- We have cancelled the internal independent review of the final list of addresses that will be used to tabulate 2020 Census data (MAF Extract)
- We are eliminating quality control steps that traditionally resulted in a nationwide delivery of all files at once. Instead states will now be delivered on a flow basis.

Decennial Response Processing and Review – Producing Accurate 2020 Results

Once the 2020 Census MAF/TIGER collection benchmark is complete, we have the frame that will serve as the collection geography for 2020 Census response processing. The high-level process to deliver the Census Unedited File includes:

Produce the Decennial Response File 1 (DRF1) – 27 days

- Integrate final collection geography data with the response data
- Standardize data collection modes data (phone, internet, paper and Non Response Follow Up), incorporating high-quality administrative records data as the response data for housing units that do not have an enumeration.
- Classify living quarters as Housing Units or Group Quarters
- Identify unique persons within an individual response
- Incorporate results from NRFU re-interview and electronic records from group quarters
- Determine final demographic variables from response data
- Standardize demographic data for person matching
- Remove responses from collection universe depending on residence criteria
- Perform baby delete criteria – flags person records for deletion for babies confirmed to be born after 4/1
- Assign IDs to non-ID cases
- Collate multiple sheet large HU paper responses

Decennial Response Processing and Review – Producing Accurate 2020 Results

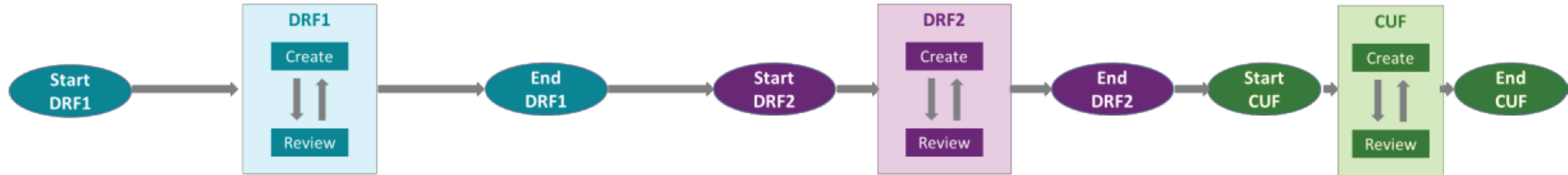
Produce Decennial Response File 2 (DRF2) – 22 days

- Remove responses that meet criteria for being born after Census Day
- Execute Primary Selection Algorithm (PSA) - this resolves situations where we have more than one response for a single address
- Review and verify PSA results
- Process DRF2 state-by-state and at the national level

Produce the Census Unedited File (CUF) – 15 days

- Determine the status for every housing unit as occupied, vacant or non-existent
- Identify the universe of data to include in the Census from the Sample Delivery File (SDF) and DRF2 and apply the Count Imputation (CI) operation to fill in the missing housing unit status and the missing household size
- Determine final population count for each address
- Review the population totals and their reasonableness
- Review and verify the data processing steps and products

Decennial Response Processing- Bottom Line Plan



- **Improved DRPS System Performance in Preparation for 2020 Census Processing**

Upgraded Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) to Oracle Exadata environment. Exadata is a high-performing pre-configured combination of hardware and software the provides infrastructure for Oracle databases.

- Infrastructure Platform Optimized for Oracle Databases
- Actively optimizing DRPS processing through monitoring large test executions and consultation with Oracle
- Adjusted code base to address bottlenecks

- **Optimized role assignments to ensure maximum staff resource usage during this shortened production period**

	DRF1	DRF2	CUF
Pre-Covid	Sept 15 – Oct 14, 2020	Oct 14 – Nov 4, 2020	Nov 4 – 30, 2020
Covid Replan	Dec 18 – Jan 19, 2021	Jan 19 – February 9, 2021	Feb 9 – March 5, 2021
Current Plan	Oct 14 – Nov 9, 2020	Nov 9 – Nov 30, 2020	Nov 30 – Dec 14, 2020
Schedule Savings from Pre-Covid	3 Days	0 Days	12 Days

Enhancing and Accelerating Data Review

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review Improvements

- Increased analysis of real time response data to look for trends in data collection and shifting demographics
- Use of SME-developed and tested SAS review programs to automate data collection and data processing review
- The most in-depth demographic reasonableness review will be conducted on the first five to ten states produced by DRPS, with later states undergoing more cursory review checks
- Review of the DRF1 will occur to identify potential issues earlier; in 2010, SME review started with the DRF2
- The focus of the DRF1-CUF review will be on total population counts for apportionment; a separate team of analysts will be compiled to support the additional review of state totals
- Additional benchmarks are being developed to assess the reasonableness of state totals earlier in the review
- An automated issue tracking system and a streamlined communication plan will allow for quicker decision making about identified issues and provide additional information to senior leadership
- Creation of the DRF1 and CUF will operate concurrently with SME Reviews

Risks During Data Processing and Review

- Reduced data processing and review time increases the risk regarding data quality.
- When anomalies are detected during processing or review, they are assessed and root cause is determined. Past experience tells us we will find anomalies. This means that as data issues are fixed, individual states or all states may need to be re-processed.
- State, multi-state, and national re-processing has been required in all recent censuses, and we anticipate, based on previous Censuses, the need to re-process state or national data in 2020 Census processing
- The 2020 Census implemented a number of new innovations this decade, such as internet data collection and administrative record enumeration. There other external factors that may impact the data, such as COVID. These factors also increase the risk of re-processing.
- The nature of one-time processing and the requirement to have the full universe complete for accurate review means we won't know the full extent of anomalies until we process the entire universe.
- It is unknown at this time if re-processing activities will disrupt decennial response processing and impact the timely delivery of the CUF.
- These schedule modifications have removed any ability to recover from late critical issues.

Appendix

Detailed Processing Steps

Activity ID	Activity Name	Calendar	OD	Start	Finish	Var-Start	Var-Finish
Z0ISR-12170	Conduct Internet Self-Response (ISR) Data Collection	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0NID-11020	Conduct Non-ID Clerical Process Operation	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0SQU-10500	Conduct Self-Response Quality Assurance	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CQA-10830	Conduct Census Questionnaire Assistance (CQA) Inbound Operation	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	234d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CQA-10840	Conduct Census Questionnaire Assistance (CQA) Outbound Operation	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	193d	22-Apr-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CIO-12520	Monitor CQA Outbound Call Telephone Operation	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	187d	24-Apr-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0NRD-31520	Conduct NRFU Reinterview Field Data Collection	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	79d	12-Aug-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0IPC-11080	Conduct 2020 Reminder Phase	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	79d	14-Aug-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0MIS-22260	Create MAF/TIGER Benchmark for Final Collection Products and Services	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	22d	13-Nov-20	5-Dec-20	0d	1d
Z0MIS-20400	Create MAF Extract for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	9d	6-Dec-20	14-Dec-20	1d	1d
Z0MIS-20410	QC MAF Extract for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	9d	7-Dec-20	15-Dec-20	1d	1d
Z0MIS-20390	Deliver MAF Extract & Header File to DITD/CARDS for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	2d	16-Dec-20	17-Dec-20	1d	3d
Z0CAR-50950	DITD/CARDS Receive MAF Extract from MAF/TIGER for Final SDF (Coil)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d	18-Dec-20		1d	1d
Z0CAR-50980	CARDS Ingests MAF Extract from MAF/TIGER for Final SDF (Coil)	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	2d	18-Dec-20	19-Dec-20	3d	3d
Z0CAR-51060	CARDS Creates and Review Final SDF (Coil)	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	4d	20-Dec-20	23-Dec-20	3d	6d
Z0CAR-51100	CARDS Delivers Final SDF (Coil) to DRPS	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	0d		23-Dec-20	6d	6d
Z0DRP-90590	DRPS Receives and Ingests Final Collection SDF from CARDS	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	3d	24-Dec-20	26-Dec-20	6d	9d
Z0DRP-90580	Create Initial Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	12d	28-Dec-20	13-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-11590	Deliver Initial Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) to RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	13d	30-Dec-20	19-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-11600	Receive Approval of Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) from RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	19-Jan-21	19-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-90750	Create Initial Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	6d	19-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18430	Deliver Initial Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) to RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	26-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11250	Receive Primary Selection Algorithm File (PSA) (Final PSA/DRF2) from DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	26-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11260	Perform SME Review of Primary Selection Algorithm File (Final PSA/DRF2)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	11d	26-Jan-21	9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18440	Receive Approval of Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) from RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	9-Feb-21	9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-90610	Create Initial Census Unedited File (CUF) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	17d	9-Feb-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11270	Provide Results and Approval of Primary Selection Algorithm File (Final PSA/DRF2) to DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18460	Deliver Initial Census Unedited File (CUF) to RPO/POP - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	15d	11-Feb-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18470	Receive Approval of Census Unedited File (CUF) from RPO/POP - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	4-Mar-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18480	Deliver Final Census Unedited File (CUF) to POP / CDL - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0DPD-10730	POP Receives Final CUF from CDL/DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d	5-Mar-21		5d	5d
Z0PMD-16890	-----Executive Review and Approve CUF-----	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	30d	5-Mar-21	3-Apr-21	7d	-2d
Z0DPD-10740	POP Creates/Verifies Apportionment Tables	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	16d	5-Apr-21	26-Apr-21	-1d	0d
Z0DPD-10750	POP Delivers Final Apportionment Tables to BOC DIR and CQAS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		26-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0DPD-10760	BOC DIR/CQAS Assembles Final Apportionment Transmittal Package	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	4d	27-Apr-21	30-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0DPD-10770	BOC DIR Delivers Final Apportionment Transmittal Package to DOC	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		30-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0DPD-10850	DOC Delivers Apportionment Counts to President (U.S.C. Article 1, Section 2)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		30-Apr-21	0d	0d

To: Nicole Martin[NMartin1@doc.gov]; Dan Risko[drisko@doc.gov]
From: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)/[O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=8A1191E414004D23BDEC3D6E2B4BFF13-JONES, CHRI]
Sent: Fri 8/21/2020 2:02:22 PM (UTC)
Subject: Fwd: Census Pre Brief
(b) (5)
[ATT00001.htm](#)
[20200820_Updated Overview Slide.pptx](#)
[ATT00002.htm](#)

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Begin forwarded message:

From: "Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Date: August 21, 2020 at 9:54:16 AM EDT
To: "Kelley, Karen (Federal)" <KKelley@doc.gov>, "Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <steven.dillingham@census.gov>, "Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <steven.k.smith@census.gov>, "Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>, "Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>, "Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>, "Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>, "Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED)" <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>, "Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>, "Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>, "Korzeniewski, Adam (Federal)" <AKorzeniewski@doc.gov>, "Deirdre Bishop (CENSUS/GEO FED)" <Deirdre.Dalpiaz.Bishop@census.gov>, "Barbara M LoPresti (CENSUS/DITD FED)" <Barbara.M.LoPresti@census.gov>
Subject: Re: Census Pre Brief

Slides attached

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From: Kelley, Karen (Federal)
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 1:25 PM
To: Kelley, Karen (Federal) <KKelley@doc.gov>; Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.k.smith@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)

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Subject: Census Pre Brief

When: Friday, August 21, 2020 10:00 AM-11:30 AM.

Where: (b) (6)

Summary:

The December 12, 2017 DoJ memo requests a citizenship question be added to the 2020 Census. The discussion about the differences between ACS CVAP tables and what one could produce from a 2020 Census citizenship question raises several differences. A 2020 Census citizenship question would allow for block-level citizen voting-age population counts measured at the same time as the decennial census, using a full count of the population, with the same scope and level of detail as the P.L. 94-171 redistricting tables. They request that the data be released at the same time as the other redistricting data, by April 1, 2021. One could interpret this to mean that DoJ would want the citizenship data to have these same features, even if they aren't sourced from a 2020 Census citizenship question.

The March 26, 2018 Ross memo asks the Census Bureau to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census and collect administrative data to match decennial responses with administrative records. He asks for citizenship statistics to be based on a full count of the population. This would enable the Census Bureau to provide DoJ with the most complete and accurate CVAP data. He does not specify a format, but he does refer to the DoJ request, which is "to provide census block level citizenship voting age population ("CVAP") data that are not currently available from government survey data".

The OMB clearance package does not specify the format of the CVAP statistics. It says that the Census Bureau will make a design change to include citizenship as part of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data File if stakeholders indicate a need for citizenship data in the file. The P.L. 94-171 file will include tabulations at the block level and higher levels of geography. It will publish the new design in the Federal Register.

The Executive Order requests data on the number of citizens and noncitizens in the country. It also asks for a count of illegal aliens in the country, though it doesn't specifically ask the Census Bureau to produce this count. It says that if officers initially responsible for redistricting request citizenship data for redistricting, the Census Bureau will make a design change to make citizenship data available.

DoJ letter¹: The Department of Justice is committed to robust and evenhanded enforcement of the Nation's civil rights laws and to free and fair elections for all Americans. In furtherance of that commitment, I write on behalf of the Department formally request that the Census Bureau to reinstate on the 2020 Census questionnaire a question regarding citizenship, formerly included in the so-called "long form" census. This data is critical to the Department's enforcement of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act and its important protections against racial discrimination in voting. To fully enforce those requirements, the Department needs a reliable calculation of the citizen voting-age population in localities where voting rights violations are alleged or suspected. As demonstrated below, the decennial census questionnaire is the most appropriate vehicle for collecting that data, and reinstating a question on citizenship will best enable the Department to protect all American citizens' voting rights under Section 2.

These cases make clear that, in order to assess and enforce compliance with Section 2's protection against discrimination in the Department needs to be able to obtain citizen voting-age population data for census blocks, block groups, counties, towns, and other locations where potential Section 2 violations alleged or suspected. From 1970 to 2000, the Census Bureau included a citizenship question on the so-called "long form" questionnaire that it sent to approximately one in every six households during each decennial census. See, e.g., U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 3:2000 Census of Population & Housing-Appendix Bat B-7 (July 2007), available at <https://www.census.gov/prod/cen2000/doc/sf3.pdf> (last visited Nov. 22, 2017); U.S. Census Bureau, Index of Questions, available at https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/index_of_questions/ (last visited Nov. 22, 2017). For years, the Department used the data collected in response to that question in assessing compliance with Section 2 and in litigation to enforce Section 2's protections against racial discrimination in voting.

The 2010 redistricting cycle was the first cycle in which the ACS estimates provided the Census Bureau's only citizen voting-age population data. The Department and state and local jurisdictions therefore have used those ACS estimates for this redistricting cycle. The ACS, however, does not yield the ideal data for such purposes for several reasons:

- Jurisdictions conducting redistricting, and the Department in enforcing Section 2, already use the total population data from the census to determine compliance with the Constitution's one-person, one-vote requirement, see *Evenwel v. Abbott*, 136 S. Ct. 1120 (Apr. 4, 2016). As a result, using the ACS citizenship estimates means relying on two different data sets, the scope and level of detail of which vary quite significantly.
- Because the ACS estimates are rolling and aggregated into one-year, three-year, and five-year estimates, they do not align in time with the decennial data. Citizenship data from the decennial census, by contrast, would align in time with the total and voting-age population data from the census that jurisdictions already use in redistricting.

¹ Gary, Arthur E., "Re: Request to Reinstate Citizenship Question On 2020 Census Questionnaire," U.S. Department of Justice, December 12, 2017.

- The ACS estimates are reported at a ninety percent confidence level, and the margin of error increases as the sample size-and, thus, the geographic area-decreases. See U.S. Census Bureau, Glossary: Confidence interval (American Community Survey). Available at https://www.census.gov/glossary/#term_ConfidenceintervalAmericanCommunitySurvey (last visited November 22, 2017). By contrast; decennial census data is a full count of the population.
- Census data is reported the census block level, while the smallest unit reported in the ACS estimates is the census block group. See American Community Survey Data 3, 5, 10. Accordingly, redistricting jurisdictions and the Department are required to perform further estimates and to interject further uncertainty in order to approximate citizen voting-age population at the level of a census block, which is the fundamental building block of a redistricting plan. Having all of the relevant population and citizenship data available in one data set at the census block level would greatly assist the redistricting process.

For all of these reasons, the Department believes that decennial census questionnaire data regarding citizenship, if available, would be more appropriate for use in redistricting and in Section 2 litigation than the ACS citizenship estimates.

Accordingly, the Department formally requests that the Census Bureau reinstate into the 2020 Census a question regarding citizenship. We also request that the Census Bureau release this new data regarding citizenship at the same time as it releases the other redistricting data, by April 1 following the 2020 Census. At the same time, the Department requests that the Bureau also maintain the citizenship question on the ACS, since such question is necessary, inter alia, to yield information for the periodic determinations made by the Bureau under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act ,52 U.S.C. § 10503.

Ross memo²: DOJ seeks to obtain CVAP data for census blocks, block groups, counties, towns, and other locations where potential Section 2 violations are alleged or suspected, and DOJ states that the current data collected under the ACS are insufficient in scope, detail, and certainty to meet its purpose under the VRA. The Census Bureau has advised me that the census-block-level citizenship data requested by DOJ are not available using the annual ACS, which as noted earlier does ask a citizenship question and is the present method used to provide DOJ and the courts with data used to enforce Section 2 of the VRA. The ACS is sent on an annual basis to a sample of approximately 2.6 percent of the population.

I therefore asked the Census Bureau to develop a fourth alternative, Option D, which would combine Options Band C. Under Option D, the ACS citizenship question would be asked on the decennial census, and the Census Bureau would use the two years remaining until the 2020 decennial census to further enhance its administrative record data sets, protocols, and statistical models to provide more complete and accurate data. This approach would maximize the Census Bureau's ²ability to match the decennial census responses with administrative records.

² Ross, Wilbur, "Re: Reinstatement of a Citizenship Question on the 2020 Decennial Census Questionnaire," U.S.

Accordingly, at my direction, the Census Bureau is working to obtain as many additional Federal and state administrative records as possible to provide more comprehensive information for the population.

It is my judgment that Option D will provide DOJ with the most complete and accurate CVAP data in response to its request. Asking the citizenship question of 100 percent of the population gives each respondent the opportunity to provide an answer. This may eliminate the need for the Census Bureau to have to impute an answer for millions of people. For the approximately 90 percent of the population who are citizens, this question is no additional imposition. And for the approximately 70 percent of non-citizens who already answer this question accurately on the ACS, the question is no additional imposition since census responses by law may only be used anonymously and for statistical purposes. Finally, placing the question on the decennial census and directing the Census Bureau to determine the best means to compare the decennial census responses with administrative records will permit the Census Bureau to determine the inaccurate response rate for citizens and non-citizens alike using the entire population. This will enable the Census Bureau to establish, to the best of its ability, the accurate ratio of citizen to non-citizen responses to impute for that small percentage of cases where it is necessary to do so.

To conclude, after a thorough review of the legal, program, and policy considerations, as well as numerous discussions with the Census Bureau leadership and interested stakeholders, I have determined that reinstatement of a citizenship question on the 2020 decennial census is necessary to provide complete and accurate data in response to the DOJ request. To minimize any impact on decennial census response rates, I am directing the Census Bureau to place the citizenship question last on the decennial census form.

OMB memo³: The purpose of the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Program (RDP) is to provide to each state the legally required redistricting data tabulations by the mandated deadline of one year from Census Day: April 1, 2021. The Census Bureau has worked with stakeholders, specifically “the officers or public bodies having initial responsibility for the legislative apportionment of each state,” to solicit feedback on the content of the prototype redistricting data file. On March 29, 2019 we published the prototype of the redistricting files based on the test enumeration of Providence County. If those stakeholders indicated a need for tabulations of citizenship data on the 2020 Census P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data File, the Census Bureau will make a design change to include citizenship as part of that data, if collected. That new design would then be published in the Federal Register after it is completed in the summer of 2019. The Census Bureau will also tabulate housing unit counts by occupancy status (occupied or vacant) and provide total population counts for group quarters by group quarters type. For the prototype and for the 2020 Census Redistricting Data Files, the Census Bureau will provide these tabulations for a variety of standard census geographic areas including state, county, place, tract, and tabulation block. If states provide their congressional, legislative, and voting district boundaries through the Redistricting Data Program, the Census Bureau will also provide the tabulations for these areas. Tabulations by congressional, legislative, and voting districts will be

Department of Commerce, March 26, 2018.

available for the 50 states; equivalent tabulations will be available for the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

EO memo: Section 1. Purpose. In *Department of Commerce v. New York*, No. 18-966 (June 27, 2019), the Supreme Court held that the Department of Commerce (Department) may, as a general matter, lawfully include a question inquiring about citizenship status on the decennial census and, more specifically, declined to hold that the Secretary of Commerce's decision to include such a question on the 2020 decennial census was "substantively invalid." That ruling was not surprising, given that every decennial census from 1820 to 2000 (with the single exception of 1840) asked at least some respondents about their citizenship status or place of birth. In addition, the Census Bureau has inquired since 2005 about citizenship on the American Community Survey—a separate questionnaire sent annually to about 2.5 percent of households.

The Court's ruling, however, has now made it impossible, as a practical matter, to include a citizenship question on the 2020 decennial census questionnaire. After examining every possible alternative, the Attorney General and the Secretary of Commerce have informed me that the logistics and timing for carrying out the census, combined with delays from continuing litigation, leave no practical mechanism for including the question on the 2020 decennial census.

Nevertheless, we shall ensure that accurate citizenship data is compiled in connection with the census by other means. To achieve that goal, I have determined that it is imperative that all executive departments and agencies (agencies) provide the Department the maximum assistance permissible, consistent with law, in determining the number of citizens and noncitizens in the country, including by providing any access that the Department may request to administrative records that may be useful in accomplishing that objective. When the Secretary of Commerce decided to include the citizenship question on the census, he determined that such a question, in combination with administrative records, would provide the most accurate and complete data. At that time, the Census Bureau had determined based on experience that administrative records to which it had access would enable it to determine citizenship status for approximately 90 percent of the population. At that point, the benefits of using administrative records were limited because the Department had not yet been able to access several additional important sets of records with critical information on citizenship. Under the Secretary of Commerce's decision memorandum directing the Census Bureau "to further enhance its administrative record data sets" and "to obtain as many additional Federal and state administrative records as possible," the Department has sought access to several such sets of records maintained by other agencies, but it remains in negotiations to secure access.

Therefore, to eliminate delays and uncertainty, and to resolve any doubt about the duty of agencies to share data promptly with the Department, I am hereby ordering all agencies to share information requested by the Department to the maximum extent permissible under law.

Access to the additional data identified in section 3 of this order will ensure that administrative records provide more accurate and complete citizenship data than was previously available.

I am also ordering the establishment of an interagency working group to improve access to administrative records, with a goal of making available to the Department administrative records showing citizenship data for 100 percent of the population. And I am ordering the Secretary of Commerce to consider mechanisms for ensuring that the Department's existing data gathering efforts expand the collection of citizenship data in the future.

Finally, I am directing the Department to strengthen its efforts, consistent with law, to obtain State administrative records concerning citizenship. Ensuring that the Department has available the best data on citizenship that administrative records can provide, consistent with law, is important for multiple reasons, including the following. First, data on the number of citizens and aliens in the country is needed to help us understand the effects of immigration on our country and to inform policymakers considering basic decisions about immigration policy. The Census Bureau has long maintained that citizenship data is one of the statistics that is "essential for agencies and policy makers setting and evaluating immigration policies and laws."

Today, an accurate understanding of the number of citizens and the number of aliens in the country is central to any effort to reevaluate immigration policy. The United States has not fundamentally restructured its immigration system since 1965. I have explained many times that our outdated immigration laws no longer meet contemporary needs. My Administration is committed to modernizing immigration laws and policies, but the effort to undertake any fundamental reevaluation of immigration policy is hampered when we do not have the most complete data about the number of citizens and non-citizens in the country. If we are to undertake a genuine overhaul of our immigration laws and evaluate policies for encouraging the assimilation of immigrants, one of the basic informational building blocks we should know is how many non-citizens there are in the country.

Second, the lack of complete data on numbers of citizens and aliens hinders the Federal Government's ability to implement specific programs and to evaluate policy proposals for changes in those programs. For example, the lack of such data limits our ability to evaluate policies concerning certain public benefits programs. It remains the immigration policy of the United States, as embodied in statutes passed by the Congress, that "aliens within the Nation's borders [should] not depend on public resources to meet their needs, but rather rely on their own capabilities and the resources of their families, their sponsors, and private organizations" and that "the availability of public benefits [should] not constitute an incentive for immigration to the United States" (8 U.S.C. 1601(2)). The Congress has identified compelling Government interests in restricting public benefits "in order to assure that aliens be self-reliant in accordance with national immigration policy" and "to remove the incentive for illegal immigration provided by the availability of public benefits" (8 U.S.C. 1601(5), (6)).

The lack of accurate information about the total citizen population makes it difficult to plan for annual expenditures on certain benefits programs. And the lack of accurate and complete data concerning the alien population makes it extremely difficult to evaluate the potential effects of proposals to alter the eligibility rules for public benefits.

The lack of accurate information about the total citizen population makes it difficult to plan for annual expenditures on certain benefits programs. And the lack of accurate and complete data

concerning the alien population makes it extremely difficult to evaluate the potential effects of proposals to alter the eligibility rules for public benefits.

Third, data identifying citizens will help the Federal Government generate a more reliable count of the unauthorized alien population in the country. Data tabulating both the overall population and the citizen population could be combined with records of aliens lawfully present in the country to generate an estimate of the aggregate number of aliens unlawfully present in each State. Currently, the Department of Homeland Security generates an annual estimate of the number of illegal aliens residing in the United States, but its usefulness is limited by the deficiencies of the citizenship data collected through the American Community Survey alone, which includes substantial margins of error because it is distributed to such a small percentage of the population.

Academic researchers have also been unable to develop useful and reliable numbers of our illegal alien population using currently available data. A 2018 study by researchers at Yale University estimated that the illegal alien population totaled between 16.2 million and 29.5 million. Its modeling put the likely number at about double the conventional estimate. The fact is that we simply do not know how many citizens, non-citizens, and illegal aliens are living in the United States.

Accurate and complete data on the illegal alien population would be useful for the Federal Government in evaluating many policy proposals. When Members of Congress propose various forms of protected status for classes of unauthorized immigrants, for example, the full implications of such proposals can be properly evaluated only with accurate information about the overall number of unauthorized aliens potentially at issue. Similarly, such information is needed to inform debate about legislative proposals to enhance enforcement of immigration laws and effectuate duly issued removal orders. The Federal Government's need for a more accurate count of illegal aliens in the country is only made more acute by the recent massive influx of illegal immigrants at our southern border. In Proclamation 9822 of November 9, 2018 (Addressing Mass Migration Through the Southern Border of the United States), I explained that our immigration and asylum system remains in crisis as a consequence of the mass migration of aliens across our southern border. As a result of our broken asylum laws, hundreds of thousands of aliens who entered the country illegally have been released into the interior of the United States pending the outcome of their removal proceedings. But because of the massive backlog of cases, hearing dates are sometimes set years in the future and the adjudication process often takes years to complete. Aliens not in custody routinely fail to appear in court and, even if they do appear, fail to comply with removal orders. There are more than 1 million illegal aliens who have been issued final removal orders from immigration judges and yet remain at-large in the United States.

Fourth, it may be open to States to design State and local legislative districts based on the population of voter-eligible citizens. In *Evenwel v. Abbott*, 136 S. Ct. 1120 (2016), the Supreme Court left open the question whether "States may draw districts to equalize voter-eligible population rather than **33824 Federal Register/Vol. 84, No. 136/Tuesday, July 16, 2019/Presidential Documents total population.**" Some States, such as Texas, have argued that "jurisdictions may, consistent with the Equal Protection Clause, design districts using any population baseline-including total population and voter-eligible population- so long as the

choice is rational and not invidiously discriminatory". Some courts, based on Supreme Court precedent, have agreed that State districting plans may exclude individuals who are ineligible to vote. Whether that approach is permissible will be resolved when a State actually proposes a districting plan based on the voter-eligible population. But because eligibility to vote depends in part on citizenship, States could more effectively exercise this option with a more accurate and complete count of the citizen population.

The Department has said that if the officers or public bodies having initial responsibility for the legislative districting in each State indicate a need for tabulations of citizenship data, the Census Bureau will make a design change to make such information available. I understand that some State officials are interested in such data for districting purposes. This order will assist the Department in securing the most accurate and complete citizenship data so that it can respond to such requests from the States.

To be clear, generating accurate data concerning the total number of citizens, non-citizens, and illegal aliens in the country has nothing to do with enforcing immigration laws against particular individuals. It is important, instead, for making broad policy determinations. Information obtained by the Department in connection with the census through requests for administrative records under 13 U.S.C. 6 shall be used solely to produce statistics and is subject to confidentiality protections under Title 13 of the United States Code. Information subject to confidentiality protections under Title 13 may not, and shall not, be used to bring immigration enforcement actions against particular individuals. Under my Administration, the data confidentiality protections in Title 13 shall be fully respected.

Sec. 2. Policy. It is the policy of the United States to develop complete and accurate data on the number of citizens, non-citizens, and illegal aliens in the country. Such data is necessary to understand the effects of immigration on the country, and to inform policymakers in setting and evaluating immigration policies and laws, including evaluating proposals to address the current crisis in illegal immigration.

Sec. 3. Assistance to the Department of Commerce and Maximizing Citizenship Data. (a) All agencies shall promptly provide the Department the maximum assistance permissible, consistent with law, in determining the number of citizens, non-citizens, and illegal aliens in the country, including by providing any access that the Department may request to administrative records that may be useful in accomplishing that objective. In particular, the following agencies shall examine relevant legal authorities and, to the maximum extent consistent with law, provide access to the following records:

- (i) Department of Homeland Security, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services-National-level file of Lawful Permanent Residents, Naturalizations;
- (ii) Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement-Fl & Ml Nonimmigrant Visas;
- (iii) Department of Homeland Security-National-level file of Customs and Border Arrival/Departure transaction data;
- (iv) Department of Homeland Security and Department of State, Worldwide Refugee and Asylum Processing System-Refugee and Asylum visas;
- (v) Department of State-National-level passport application data;
- (vi) Social Security Administration-Master Beneficiary Records; and

(vii) Department of Health and Human Services-CMS Medicaid and CHIP Information System.

To ensure that the Federal Government continues to collect the most accurate information available concerning citizenship going forward, the Secretary of Commerce shall consider initiating any administrative process necessary to include a citizenship question on the 2030 decennial census and to consider any regulatory changes necessary to ensure that citizenship data is collected in any other surveys and data-gathering efforts conducted by the Census Bureau, including the American Community Survey. The Secretary of Commerce shall also consider expanding the distribution of the American Community Survey, which currently reaches approximately 2.5 percent of households, to secure better citizenship data.

To: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Christa.D.Jones@census.gov]; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Enrique.Lamas@census.gov]; Robin Wyvill (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[Robin.L.Wyvill@census.gov]
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Sent: Thur 9/10/2020 9:19:10 PM (UTC)
Subject: (b) (5)

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Ron S Jarmin, PhD., Deputy Director
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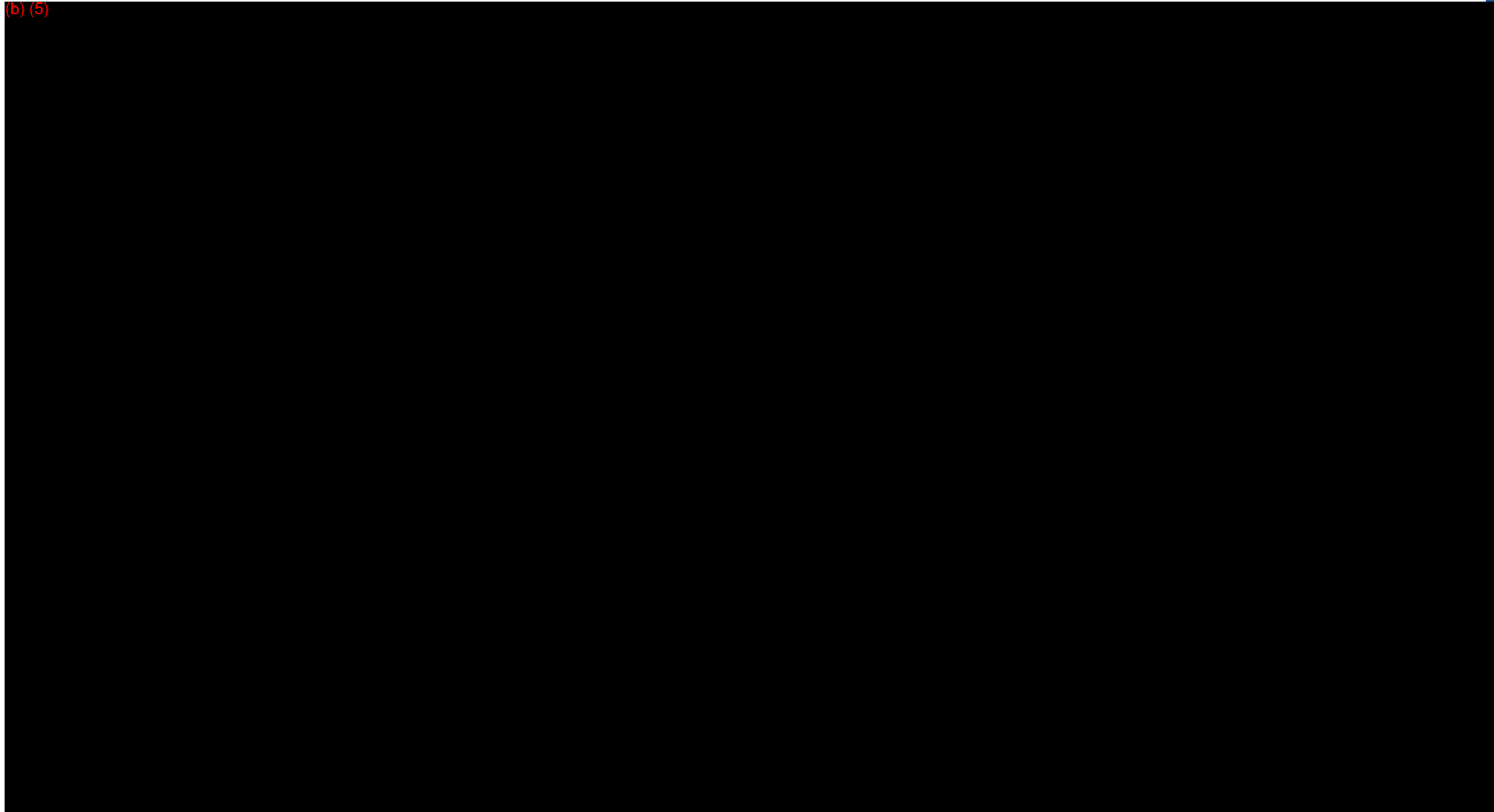
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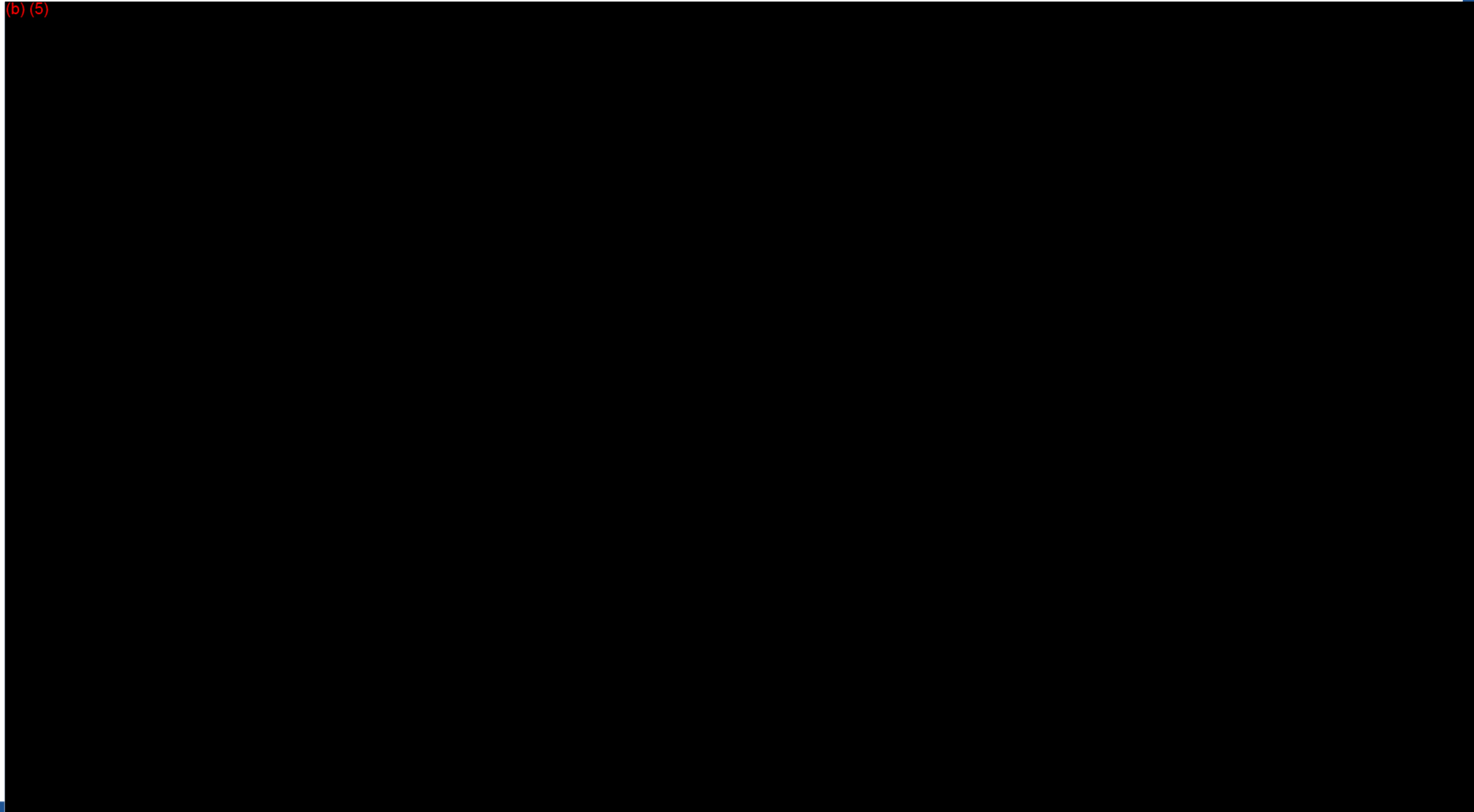


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Acceleration

Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>

Thu 2020-07-30 2:46 PM

To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; James T Christy (CENSUS/LA FED) <James.T.Christy@census.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Benjamin J Page (CENSUS/CFO FED) <benjamin.j.page@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>

Cc: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>

Hi all,

As we prepare stuff for tomorrow morning KDK has stressed we need to address the following points:

1. Accelerating getting into the field (hiring, training, deploying, etc)
2. Accelerating getting out of the field (maximizing hours worked, keeping phones deployed to active enumerators etc).
3. Accelerating processing
4. Meeting requirements of the PM (and EO re CVAP). Note I told her items 1-3 above are the short term priority.

It would be good if Steve and I were able to update her tomorrow evening.

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks

Ron S Jarmin, PhD., Deputy Director

U.S. Census Bureau

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Re: Replan slides for the Secretary

Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>

Fri 2020-07-31 5:49 PM

To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>

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Thanks Al. Briefing with KDK went well.

On Jul 31, 2020, at 5:38 PM, Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov> wrote:

We plan to look at the first pass internally with my team tomorrow around 12:30.

Al

Albert E. Fontenot Jr.

Associate Director, Decennial Census Programs

United States Department of Commerce

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Office

Office

Cell

(b) (6)
68
(b) (6)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2020, at 5:34 PM, Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov> wrote:

When would we have slides?

On Jul 31, 2020, at 5:33 PM, Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>

wrote:

You rock.

On Jul 31, 2020, at 5:18 PM, Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED)
<Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>
wrote:

Yep, have a good weekend all 🙌

Deborah Stempowski, PMP

Assistant Director for Decennial Programs,
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Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 5:03 PM

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Subject: Re: Replan slides for the Secretary

Yep. Good to go on Monday.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2020, at 2:38 PM,
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FED)
<Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
wrote:

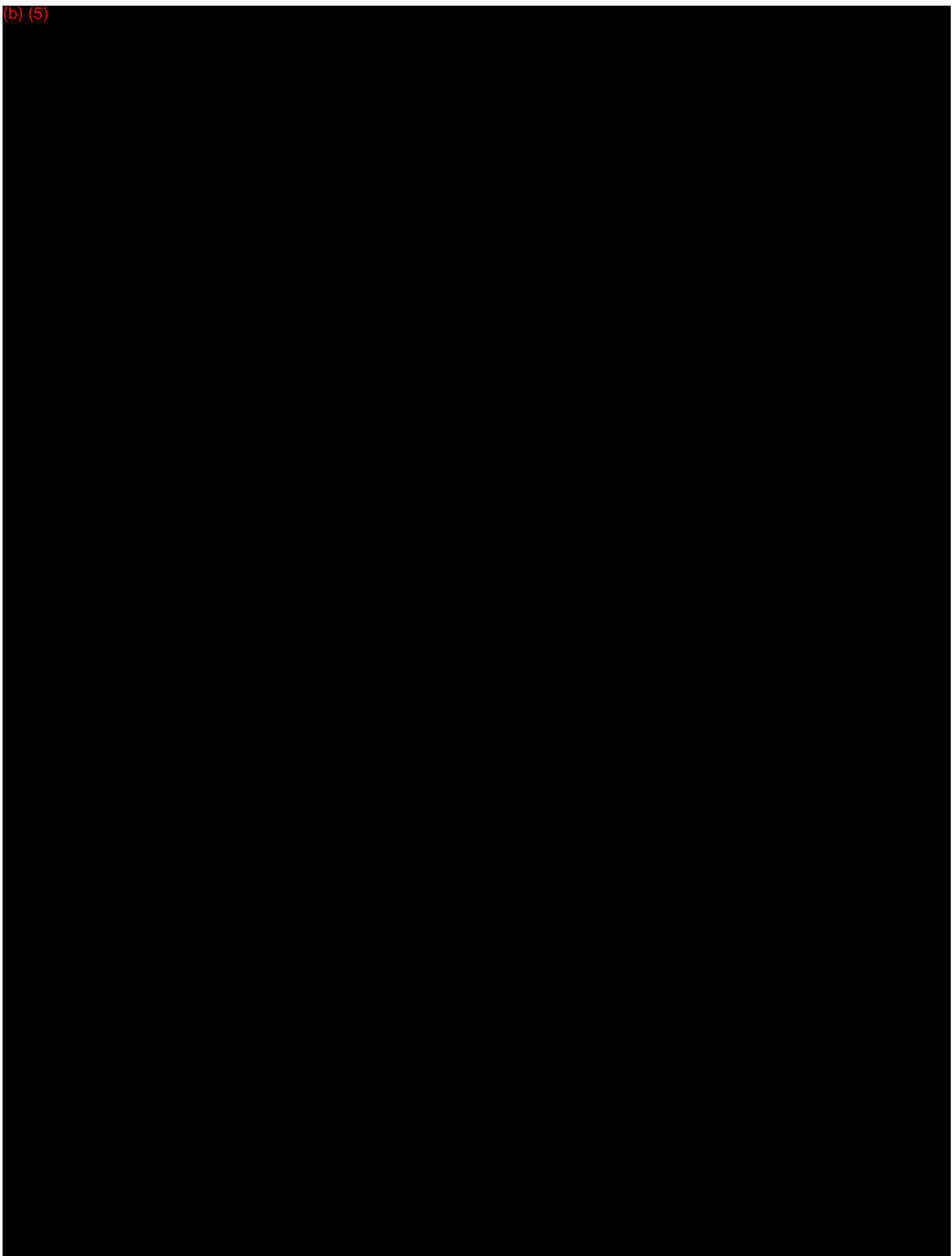
All,

We need slides for meeting with
the Secretary and a small group
at 8AM Monday. Need to have
Al, Deb and Michael walk him
through. Jamey that's 5 your
One, can you make it? Might
be good to run the slides by
KDK someone on Sunday in
case she think tweaks would be
helpful. Hate to intrude on the
weekend, but when can we
have that done?

Thanks

Ron S Jarmin, PhD., Deputy Director

U.S. Census Bureau
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[REDACTED]

(b) (5)



Operational and Processing Options to Meet Statutory Date of December 31, 2020 for Apportionment

August 3, 2020

Bottom Line Up Front

Objective: We have developed this plan in response to your request to provide an apportionment count by the statutory deadline of December 31, 2020.

- **Maximizing** staff and production hours for field data collection operations to conclude field data collection by September 30, 2020.
- **Compressing** and streamline backend processing to deliver apportionment counts by December 31, 2020.
- **Achieving** an acceptable level of accuracy and completeness, with a goal of resolving at least 99% of Housing Units in every state.

Nonresponse Followup Operational Options

Early Start of Nonresponse Followup Operations

6 Cycle 1a Area Census Offices (ACOs) began operations on July 16

6 Cycle 1b ACOs began operations on July 23

35 Cycle 2 ACOs were scheduled to begin operations on July 30; however, we started operations earlier in some ACOs where staff was available:

- 17 ACOs – Started July 26 – 29
- 18 ACOs – Started July 30

39 Cycle 3 ACOs were scheduled to begin operations by August 3:

- 15 ACOs – Started last week, July 31
- 24 ACOs – Started today, August 3

All remaining ACOs were scheduled to begin August 11, but will begin operations by August 9:

- 53 ACOs – Will start August 3 – 7
- 109 ACOs (all remaining) – August 9
- These ACOs will have to deploy staff regardless of the COVID-19 risk in those areas to open on these dates.

Increased Replacement Training for Enumerators

Replacement Training Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Inviting More People to Training	Over selection rates will address higher-than-expected no-show rates of 35%, bringing us closer to our target initial staffing levels.
Continual Replacement Training	Expect to conduct replacement training for at least 135K Enumerators due to attrition. Just over 11,000 training additional sessions: \$90m total training cost

Bonuses for Increased Work

Pay Bonus Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Implement Enumerator Pay bonus to boost work hours from 19 to 25 per week: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$100 for exceeding 25 hours/week	Expect 250,000 to qualify: \$25m/week Increases capacity by 1.5 million work hours per week, or 80,000 more “19 hour” enumerators per week
Implement Enumerator Pay bonus for working multiple 25 hour weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$500 for completing 3 weeks of productionCan be renewed	Expect 150,000 to qualify: \$75m total cost
Implement CFS Pay bonus for working multiple weeks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Propose \$750 for completing 3 weeks of production (from established start date)Would require ‘acceptable’ minimum of 32 hours per weekCan be renewed	Expect 15,000 CFSs to qualify: \$11.5m total cost per week

Outreach Methods to Expand Reach to Underperforming Areas

Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
<p>Expand the use of NRFU Travel Teams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moving teams that have successfully completed their areas to areas requiring additional attention	<p>Using experienced staff minimizes the need to train new staff – particularly in areas where new staff are not available.</p>
<p>Implement outbound phone calling to conduct interviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use telephone numbers from ERD Contact Frame• Used by enumerators in ACOs that are finishing up to help out in other ACOs	<p>Enables enumeration in high COVID-19 risk areas and provides additional data collection capability.</p>

Adjustments to NRFU Contact Strategy

NRFU Adjustment Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
Close out self-reported vacants that are also Administrative Record (AdRec) vacant	Reduce workload by 140k cases
Reduce contact attempts for self-reported vacants from 6 to 1, if HU is confirmed vacant	Increase enumerator productivity
Reduce contact attempts for Re-Interview (RI) and Self-Response Quality Assurance (SRQA) cases from 6 to 3	Reduce attempts from 6 to 3 for 1.9 million cases, increase enumerator productivity
Eliminate Random RI, and depend on analytic sampling	Reduce NRFU workload by 800k cases – potential reduction in quality of enumerator work
Make “pop count only” sufficient earlier in the operation	Still being researched, TBD

Implement Additional Administrative Record Options

Administrative Records Options	Potential Efficiency Gain / Applicable Costs to Implement
We are in consultation to revise our AdRec strategy to use IRS-only (no corroborating sources) for “pop count only” cases	Reduce attempts from 6 to 1 for estimated 3.8 million cases, contingent on IRS approval, increasing enumerator productivity
Close out cases with conflicting AdRec showing both vacant and delete	Reduce attempts from 6 to 1 for 1.9 million cases, increasing enumerator productivity

Overview of Backend Processing

Assumptions:

1. Highly compressed schedule for 2020 Census data processing and review of data products.
2. Post-processing must start by October 1, 2020.
3. Post-processing work activities are limited to those required to produce apportionment counts. Delivery of redistricting data products will be negatively impacted under this revised plan and we are determining full impacts.
4. All of these activities represent abbreviated processes or eliminated activities that will reduce accuracy.

Compressing Backend Processing

Adjusted Activity	Impact and Risks
Finalize Master Address File (MAF) updates from remaining field operations by 9/4/20 Address updates from continued field work after 9/4/20 will not be applied to the MAF	We do not anticipate that the resulting number of updates not included will be highly significant. However, increases risk of inaccuracy.
Eliminate the step that includes Decennial Statistical Studies Division (DSSD) review of the MAF extract	Risk of missing and therefore propagating errors, however the MAF is the most accurate ever.
Lock Geographic processing on 9/25/20 and deliver the final 2020 Census address universe by 10/14/20	Reduces a 35 day processing duration to 19 days.
Cancel Count Review Event 2, eliminating the need for late Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE) operations	State demographer review of GQ data will be cancelled. The Demographic and Decennial staffs will work together to develop the message and communicate it to the Federal State Cooperative for Population Estimates (FSCPE)/states. The risk is virtually certain vocal objections from the FSCPE State Demographers and the State Governors they serve.

Compressing Backend Processing - Continued

Adjusted Activity	Impact and Risks
Create a separate processing stream for the Enumeration of Transitory Locations (ETL) and Service Based Enumeration (SBE) operations that follows the Federally Affiliated Count Overseas (FACO) processing approach. This will enable adding ETL and SBE population counts state-by-state significantly later in the Census Unedited File (CUF) production process.	<p>This file needs to be delivered to POP by the time the CUF – the basis for the apportionment delivery – review is scheduled to be complete, by December 18. Additionally, ETL permits the reporting of a Usual Home Elsewhere (UHE), which will not be able to be processed with this new approach.</p> <p>The CUF will have to be re-run prior to the processing of the Census Edited File (CEF) in order to add in the SBE/ETL population for the Public Law 94-171 Redistricting file. The Apportionment Team will need to change its processing plans and conduct testing to ensure the proper integration of ETL/SBE state counts.</p>
Compress POP division and DSSD review and processing times	A compressed review period creates risk for serious errors not being discovered in the data – thereby significantly decreasing data quality. Additionally, serious errors discovered in the data may not be fixed – due to lack of time to research and understand the root cause or to re-run and re-review one or multiple state files.
Compress time for creating/verifying apportionment data and preparation of transmittal package for DOC	A compressed review period creates risk for errors being present in the data.

Implementation of the Presidential Memo

A team has been established and is tasked with deriving a process utilizing sound statistical methods and meeting tests of operational feasibility, to achieve the goals of directives from Secretary Ross regarding implementation of the Presidential Memo. To achieve this, the Census will:

- Build upon the work we have already done based on Executive Order 13880, “Collecting Information about Citizenship Status in Connection with the Decennial Census”.
- Use all administrative records to the extent they are available. Using these records, in combination with other data already obtained regarding citizenship status, we will further refine the non-citizen category into legal, illegal, or unknown.
- Incorporating this work into the schedule to meet the current legal mandates.

Announcing the Replanned Operational Schedule

- **Announce:** Statement from Director Dillingham issued by Monday afternoon or as approval given with new schedule and re-plan outline.
- **Update Webpage:** We will update central schedule webpage with new dates. (current page reflects re-planning status)
- **Rollout:** We will follow a controlled rollout to give appropriate embargoed heads up to key Congressional offices, and then post and distribute the updated materials to Census Bureau staff, partners, intergovernmental stakeholders, and the media.

Questions?

To: Benjamin J Page (CENSUS/CFO FED)[benjamin.j.page@census.gov]
From: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)[/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8a1191e414004d23bdec3d6e2b4bff13-Jones, Chri]
Sent: Mon 8/3/2020 1:41:13 PM (UTC)
Subject: Fw: Monday Census Calls
[Operational and Processing Options to meet September 30 Final.pdf](#)

Christa D Jones, Chief of Staff

Office of the Director

U.S. Census Bureau

O|M: (b) (6)

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From: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 3, 2020 7:14 AM
To: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>
Subject: Fw: Monday Census Calls

He missed Jamey, but added Treat. WTH?

Ron S Jarmin, PhD., Deputy Director
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From: Risko, Daniel (Federal) <DRisko@doc.gov>
Sent: Sunday, August 2, 2020 10:08 PM
To: Kelley, Karen (Federal) <KKelley@doc.gov>; Olson, Stephanie (Federal) <SOlson@doc.gov>; Paranzino, Anthony (Federal) <AParanzino@doc.gov>; Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Walsh, Michael (Federal) <MWalsh@doc.gov>; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.k.smith@census.gov>; James B Treat (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <James.B.Treat@census.gov>; Deborah Stempowski (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Deborah.M.Stempowski@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Meredith, Ethan (Federal) <EMeredith@doc.gov>; Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>; Michael T Thieme (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Michael.T.Thieme@census.gov>
Cc: Goudarzi, Talat (Federal) <TGoudarzi@doc.gov>; Barranca, Steven (Federal) <SBarranca1@doc.gov>; Martin, Nicole (Federal) <NMartin1@doc.gov>
Subject: Monday Census Calls

Good evening,

Please see the attached slide deck for tomorrow's calls. We will use the following phone line:

Conference line: (b) (6)
Passcode: (b) (6)

Contact me directly if you have any issues with the slides or the conference line.

Best,

BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004741

Dan Risko
Chief of Staff
Office of the Deputy Secretary
United States Department of Commerce
[202-482-6010](tel:202-482-6010) (o) | (b) (6) (c)
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*****DRAFT*****

2020 Census Data Processing Planning

8/24/2020

U//FOUO

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2020

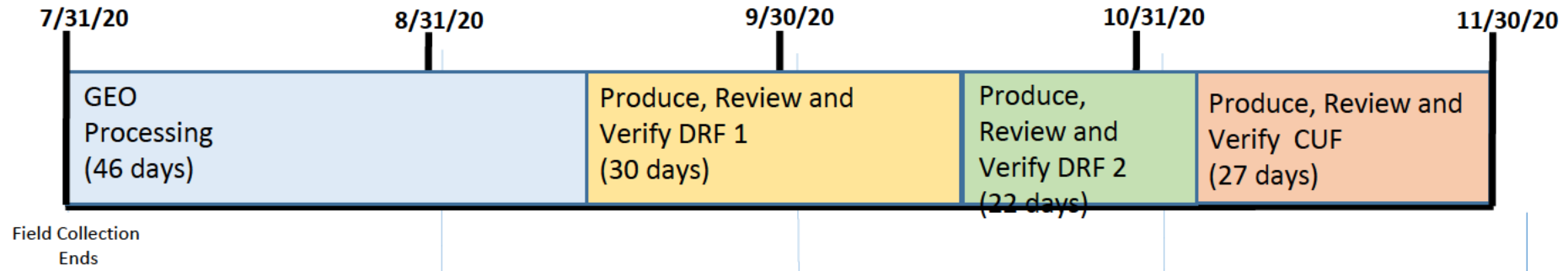
BC-DOC-CEN-2020-001602-004743

Overview

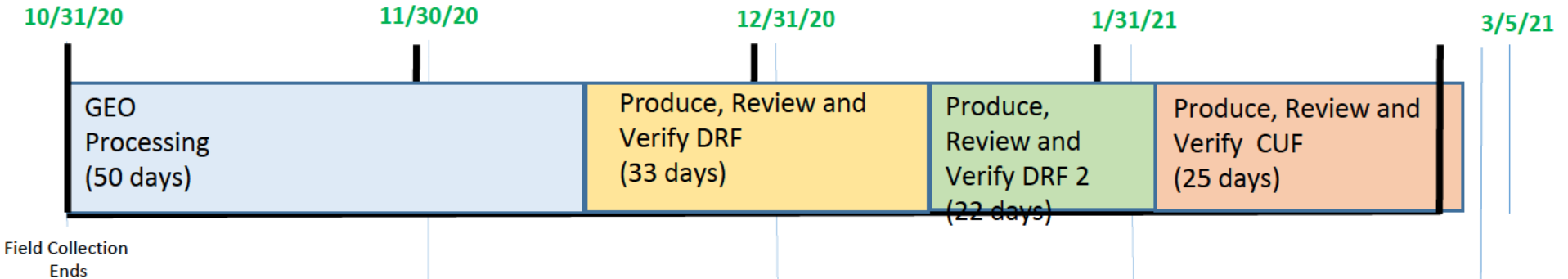
- This is a viable plan to deliver the final Census Unedited File (CUF) by 12/14/2020
- It cuts a four-month process down to two and a half months
- It optimizes staff and computing resources to be in operation 24/7, weekends and holidays
- It streamlines and limits processes to focus only on Apportionment, separating and deferring redistricting processing
- Contingent on field operations ending 9/30/2020, we identified any process that could start earlier, run in parallel, or be eliminated
- This plan presents risk to data accuracy
- If risks are realized, they will require decisions that weigh data accuracy and U.S. Census Bureau reputation against schedule delays
- By closely managing both the process and the risks, our intention continues to be to produce an accurate, defensible 2020 Census count

Re-Planning for 2020 Census Post Processing

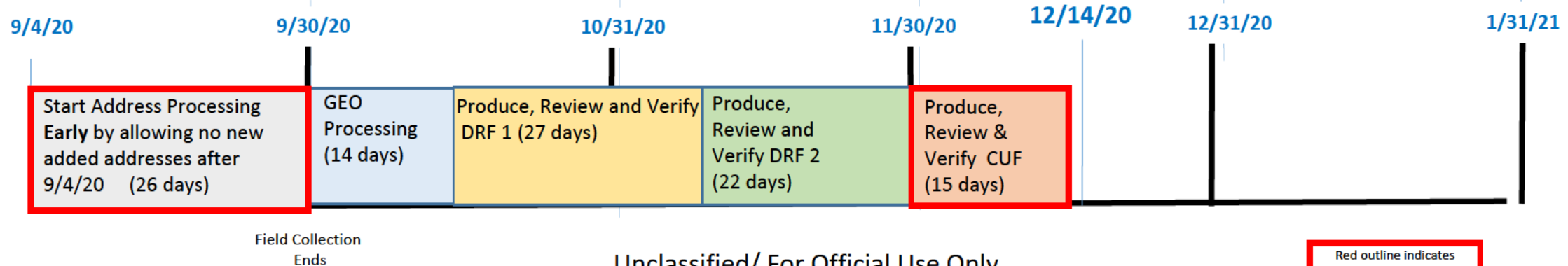
Original Plan (Before COVID 19)



COVID 19 Plan



Current Plan



Unclassified/ For Official Use Only

Red outline indicates
Heightened Risk

Creating the MAF/TIGER Benchmark – Bottom Line Plan

Geographic data built the foundation for 2020 Census data collection, tabulation, and dissemination. We have the most complete and accurate address list and maps in history. Nearly 152 million addresses were included in the 2020 Census enumeration universe.

In this plan we streamlined, rescheduled, and eliminated processing activities to meet the 12/14/2020 CUF delivery deadline

- No new addresses accepted from data collection operations after 9/4/2020
 - Any new addresses identified between then and 9/30/2020, the last day of data collection operations, and the population associated with those addresses **will not be included in the 2020 Census**
- This plan reduces the MAF address update process from 45 to 18 days per operation
- The benchmarking process is shortened from 34 to 20 days, eliminating 14 days worth of processing activities that will be cut now and deferred until the creation of the redistricting data products
- We have cancelled the internal independent review of the final list of addresses that will be used to tabulate 2020 Census data (MAF Extract)
- We are eliminating quality control steps that traditionally resulted in a nationwide delivery of all files at once. Instead states will now be delivered on a flow basis.

Decennial Response Processing and Review – Producing Accurate 2020 Results

Once the 2020 Census MAF/TIGER collection benchmark is complete, we have the frame that will serve as the collection geography for 2020 Census response processing. The high-level process to deliver the Census Unedited File includes:

Produce the Decennial Response File 1 (DRF1) – 27 days

- Integrate final collection geography data with the response data
- Standardize data collection modes data (phone, internet, paper and Non Response Follow Up), incorporating high-quality administrative records data as the response data for housing units that do not have an enumeration.
- Classify living quarters as Housing Units or Group Quarters
- Identify unique persons within an individual response
- Incorporate results from NRFU re-interview and electronic records from group quarters
- Determine final demographic variables from response data
- Standardize demographic data for person matching
- Remove responses from collection universe depending on residence criteria
- Perform baby delete criteria – flags person records for deletion for babies confirmed to be born after 4/1
- Assign IDs to non-ID cases
- Collate multiple sheet large HU paper responses

Decennial Response Processing and Review – Producing Accurate 2020 Results

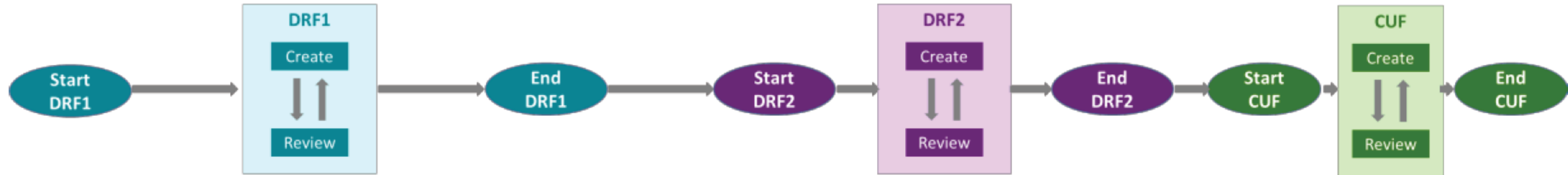
Produce Decennial Response File 2 (DRF2) – 22 days

- Remove responses that meet criteria for being born after Census Day
- Execute Primary Selection Algorithm (PSA) - this resolves situations where we have more than one response for a single address
- Review and verify PSA results
- Process DRF2 state-by-state and at the national level

Produce the Census Unedited File (CUF) – 15 days

- Determine the status for every housing unit as occupied, vacant or non-existent
- Identify the universe of data to include in the Census from the Sample Delivery File (SDF) and DRF2 and apply the Count Imputation (CI) operation to fill in the missing housing unit status and the missing household size
- Determine final population count for each address
- Review the population totals and their reasonableness
- Review and verify the data processing steps and products

Decennial Response Processing- Bottom Line Plan



- **Improved DRPS System Performance in Preparation for 2020 Census Processing**

Upgraded Oracle Real Application Clusters (RAC) to Oracle Exadata environment. Exadata is a high-performing pre-configured combination of hardware and software the provides infrastructure for Oracle databases.

- Infrastructure Platform Optimized for Oracle Databases
- Actively optimizing DRPS processing through monitoring large test executions and consultation with Oracle
- Adjusted code base to address bottlenecks

- **Optimized role assignments to ensure maximum staff resource usage during this shortened production period**

	DRF1	DRF2	CUF
Pre-Covid	Sept 15 – Oct 14, 2020	Oct 14 – Nov 4, 2020	Nov 4 – 30, 2020
Covid Replan	Dec 18 – Jan 19, 2021	Jan 19 – February 9, 2021	Feb 9 – March 5, 2021
Current Plan	Oct 14 – Nov 9, 2020	Nov 9 – Nov 30, 2020	Nov 30 – Dec 14, 2020
Schedule Savings from Pre-Covid	3 Days	0 Days	12 Days

Enhancing and Accelerating Data Review

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review Improvements

- Increased analysis of real time response data to look for trends in data collection and shifting demographics
- Use of SME-developed and tested SAS review programs to automate data collection and data processing review
- The most in-depth demographic reasonableness review will be conducted on the first five to ten states produced by DRPS, with later states undergoing more cursory review checks
- Review of the DRF1 will occur to identify potential issues earlier; in 2010, SME review started with the DRF2
- The focus of the DRF1-CUF review will be on total population counts for apportionment; a separate team of analysts will be compiled to support the additional review of state totals
- Additional benchmarks are being developed to assess the reasonableness of state totals earlier in the review
- An automated issue tracking system and a streamlined communication plan will allow for quicker decision making about identified issues and provide additional information to senior leadership
- Creation of the DRF1 and CUF will operate concurrently with SME Reviews

Risks During Data Processing and Review

- Reduced data processing and review time increases the risk regarding data quality.
- When anomalies are detected during processing or review, they are assessed and root cause is determined. Past experience tells us we will find anomalies. This means that as data issues are fixed, individual states or all states may need to be re-processed.
- State, multi-state, and national re-processing has been required in all recent censuses, and we anticipate, based on previous Censuses, the need to re-process state or national data in 2020 Census processing
- The 2020 Census implemented a number of new innovations this decade, such as internet data collection and administrative record enumeration. There other external factors that may impact the data, such as COVID. These factors also increase the risk of re-processing.
- The nature of one-time processing and the requirement to have the full universe complete for accurate review means we won't know the full extent of anomalies until we process the entire universe.
- It is unknown at this time if re-processing activities will disrupt decennial response processing and impact the timely delivery of the CUF.
- These schedule modifications have removed any ability to recover from late critical issues.

Appendix

Detailed Processing Steps

Activity ID	Activity Name	Calendar	OD	Start	Finish	Var-Start	Var-Finish
Z0ISR-12170	Conduct Internet Self-Response (ISR) Data Collection	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0NID-11020	Conduct Non-ID Clerical Process Operation	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0SQU-10500	Conduct Self-Response Quality Assurance	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	230d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CQA-10830	Conduct Census Questionnaire Assistance (CQA) Inbound Operation	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	234d	12-Mar-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CQA-10840	Conduct Census Questionnaire Assistance (CQA) Outbound Operation	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	193d	22-Apr-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0CIO-12520	Monitor CQA Outbound Call Telephone Operation	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	187d	24-Apr-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0NRD-31520	Conduct NRFU Reinterview Field Data Collection	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	79d	12-Aug-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0IPC-11080	Conduct 2020 Reminder Phase	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	79d	14-Aug-20	31-Oct-20	0d	0d
Z0MIS-22260	Create MAF/TIGER Benchmark for Final Collection Products and Services	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	22d	13-Nov-20	5-Dec-20	0d	1d
Z0MIS-20400	Create MAF Extract for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	9d	6-Dec-20	14-Dec-20	1d	1d
Z0MIS-20410	QC MAF Extract for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	9d	7-Dec-20	15-Dec-20	1d	1d
Z0MIS-20390	Deliver MAF Extract & Header File to DITD/CARDS for Final Collection - MAF/TIGER	3. 7 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	2d	16-Dec-20	17-Dec-20	1d	3d
Z0CAR-50950	DITD/CARDS Receive MAF Extract from MAF/TIGER for Final SDF (Coll)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d	18-Dec-20		1d	1d
Z0CAR-50980	CARDS Ingests MAF Extract from MAF/TIGER for Final SDF (Coll)	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	2d	18-Dec-20	19-Dec-20	3d	3d
Z0CAR-51060	CARDS Creates and Review Final SDF (Coll)	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	4d	20-Dec-20	23-Dec-20	3d	6d
Z0CAR-51100	CARDS Delivers Final SDF (Coll) to DRPS	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	0d		23-Dec-20	6d	6d
Z0DRP-90590	DRPS Receives and Ingests Final Collection SDF from CARDS	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	3d	24-Dec-20	26-Dec-20	6d	9d
Z0DRP-90580	Create Initial Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	12d	28-Dec-20	13-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-11590	Deliver Initial Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) to RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	13d	30-Dec-20	19-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-11600	Receive Approval of Decennial Response File (PCDI/DRF1) from RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	19-Jan-21	19-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-90750	Create Initial Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	6d	19-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18430	Deliver Initial Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) to RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	26-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11250	Receive Primary Selection Algorithm File (PSA) (Final PSA/DRF2) from DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	26-Jan-21	26-Jan-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11260	Perform SME Review of Primary Selection Algorithm File (Final PSA/DRF2)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	11d	26-Jan-21	9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18440	Receive Approval of Decennial Response File (PSA/DRF2) from RPO/DSSD - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	9-Feb-21	9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-90610	Create Initial Census Unedited File (CUF) - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	17d	9-Feb-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0RPO-11270	Provide Results and Approval of Primary Selection Algorithm File (Final PSA/DRF2) to DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		9-Feb-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18460	Deliver Initial Census Unedited File (CUF) to RPO/POP - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	15d	11-Feb-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18470	Receive Approval of Census Unedited File (CUF) from RPO/POP - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	1d	4-Mar-21	4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0DRP-18480	Deliver Final Census Unedited File (CUF) to POP / CDL - DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		4-Mar-21	5d	5d
Z0PPD-10730	POP Receives Final CUF from CDL/DRPS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d	5-Mar-21		5d	5d
Z0PPD-16890	-----Executive Review and Approve CUF-----	4. 7 Day No Holidays thru 2023	30d	5-Mar-21	3-Apr-21	7d	-2d
Z0PPD-10740	POP Creates/Verifies Apportionment Tables	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	16d	5-Apr-21	26-Apr-21	-1d	0d
Z0PPD-10750	POP Delivers Final Apportionment Tables to BOC DIR and CQAS	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		26-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0PPD-10760	BOC DIR/CQAS Assembles Final Apportionment Transmittal Package	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	4d	27-Apr-21	30-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0PPD-10770	BOC DIR Delivers Final Apportionment Transmittal Package to DOC	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		30-Apr-21	0d	0d
Z0PPD-10850	DOC Delivers Apportionment Counts to President (U.S.C. Article 1, Section 2)	1. 5 Day Federal Holiday thru 2023	0d		30-Apr-21	0d	0d

To: Sandy Corcoran (b) (6); John and Ginge (b) (6); Jackie Callanar (b) (6)
From: Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov[Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov]
Sent: Tue 8/4/2020 2:19:34 PM (UTC)
Subject: Fwd: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau
[2020-08-04.CBM to Dillingham re Transcribed Interviews.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

(b) (6)

Timothy P. Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington DC
(b) (6) (mobile)
301-763-2072

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Goss, Trinity" <Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov>
Date: August 4, 2020 at 9:55:24 AM EDT
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Subject: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Hello---

Please see the letter from Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney, Committee on Oversight and Reform, to The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau.

Please acknowledge receipt of letter.

Thank you,

Trinity Goss

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