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.\footnote{U.S. Census Bureau, \textit{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)} 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."\footnote{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).}

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
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.”

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.” 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.”

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.

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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.”

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

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7 House rule X, clause 1(n)(8).
Timothy P. Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington DC
/mobile/ 301-763-2072

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED)" <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Date: August 7, 2020 at 7:02:54 PM EDT
To: "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>
Cc: "Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED)" <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>, "Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>, "Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED)" <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>, "Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>, "Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>, "Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

Here is the response just final a few minutes ago.

From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 3:42 PM
To: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>
Cc: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

Thanks Ali. Since I only got a voicemail, I am going to rely on OCIA's correspondence with Ms. Anderson of the House Oversight committee.

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-5880 M: simulring on cell
census.gov | @uscensusbureau
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov
From: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Cc: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

Can we please use Tori Anderson’s full name so as to not confuse her with Tori Velkoff?
Thanks

Victoria Velkoff, PhD
Associate Director for Demographic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau
301-763-1372

On Aug 6, 2020, at 3:27 PM, Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov> wrote:

Chris Stanley will reiterate that the Census Bureau will be responding tomorrow, and that OCIA is the appropriate point of contact. He has already spoken with Tori, and it appears she started the calls after that.
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

From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

At 2:30pm today, I received a voicemail message from Tori Anderson, House Oversight Committee (tel (b) (8) ), requesting a call back regarding the letter that initiated this thread.

I am standing by for guidance on whether to return the call.

Thanks,

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-5880 M: simulring on cell
census.gov | @uscensusbureau
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov

From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

FYI: OGC is reviewing the letter and will advise on the next steps. I will share updates as we
have them. Thank you.

From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Subject: just census on this message

They have a press release, too.


From: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 10:07 AM
To: Goss, Trinity <Trinity.Goss@mail.house.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@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: Re: The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau

Acknowledging receipt of the letter from Chairwoman Maloney of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform om August 4, 2020.

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)

albert.e.fontenot@census.gov
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
August 7, 2020

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515  

Dear Chairwoman Maloney:

The Census Bureau’s career experts have developed a plan to accelerate our mission to meet the statutory deadline to provide apportionment counts by December 31, 2020. As I noted during my testimony last week in the Committee’s emergency hearing, we were at that time in the process of assessing our operational plans. On Monday, August 3, we finalized that plan and shared it with your committee staff prior to the public announcement later that day. This plan is thoughtfully designed to deliver a complete and accurate census, including reaching hard-to-count communities. We look forward to briefing your staff on this plan and its execution, as was done today, and senior Census Bureau staff members remain available to do so during our regular Friday briefings.

The Census Bureau will continue working with the Committee in furtherance of transparency and accommodation during these challenging times. We did so last week by testifying on less than a week’s notice at the Committee’s emergency hearing. However, your request for transcribed interviews of multiple Census Bureau officials as referenced in your August 4, 2020 letter, 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. This includes the operation most important to reaching the hardest to count members of our population, designated as Nonresponse Follow-Up. This work has already begun in many areas and is scheduled to begin nationwide next week. Scheduling interviews with senior staff of the Census Bureau during this critical time in our operations would be disruptive to our work to complete the census. We will continue to address specific questions you may have during our regular briefings.

I look forward to having our career experts continue briefing your staff on these important matters. We share your and your committee members’ dedication to a complete census. Please be assured that the Census Bureau and our growing workforce of almost a half million public servants, with an even greater number of partnering supporters, are committed to this vital mission.

Sincerely,

Steven Dillingham  
Director

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member
Highlights/Flag for Upcoming

- 8/17: Census leadership briefed Secretary Ross and Deputy Secretary Karen Dunn Kelley on the status of 2020 Census operations.
- 8/17-18: Steven Dillingham traveled to the greater Charlotte, North Carolina and Rock Hill, South Carolina areas. On August 17, the Director completed an enumeration case load in a low self-response, hard-to-count area and met with staff at the Charlotte Area Census Office. On August 18, the Director met with the South Carolina Lt. Governor and members of her State Complete Count Committee.
- 8/19: Ron Jarmin was featured in the First in a Series with Leadership on Transformation Interview and Q&A Session (via Skype) with Census Bureau staff.
- The Office of the Director staff office relocations:
  - Enrique Lamas and Christa Jones are office sharing
  - Benjamin Overholt is located in office
- October (TBD): Staff from DIR, Dep DIR/Chief of Staff and the Policy Coordination Office will be participating in the CliftonStrengths Discovery Course.

Census Bureau FRN Status

- 2020 Count Question Resolution Operation (0607-0879). The initial PRA 60-day FRN published on 8/4/20. The date that the population counts are sent to the President was listed incorrectly. A new notice that corrected the date was published on 8/11/20.
- Current Population Survey, School Enrollment Supplement (0607-0464). OMB has requested that Census publish a 30-day FRN to accompany the non-substantive change request to add seven questions to the School Enrollment Supplement. The new questions will assist researchers in understanding how the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has affected schooling at an individual child level. The CPS School Enrollment Supplement 30-day FRN published on 8/18/20.
- Generic Clearance for Internet Panel Pretesting and Qualitative Survey Methods Testing (0607-0978). The PRA 30-day FRN is scheduled to publish on 8/19.
- Quarterly Services Survey (0607-0907). The PRA 60-day FRN is scheduled to publish on 8/20.
- Annual School System Finance Survey (0607-0700) The PRA 60-day FRN is currently awaiting approval by DOC OPSP before publication.
- Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories, and Orders (M3) Survey (0607-0008). The PRA 60-day FRN is currently awaiting approval by DOC OPSP before publication.
- Notice of Virtual Public Meeting: Census Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC). In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, this notice announces a virtual meeting of the CSAC from September 17-18. The meeting is open to the public. The members of the CSAC are appointed by the Census Director. The Committee provides scientific and technical expertise, as appropriate, to address Census Bureau program needs and objectives. OPSP has approved this notice. The notice will publish in the Federal Register on Thursday, August 20.
- Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR) Request for Public Comments on the overall impact of the removal of Electronic Export Information (EEI) filing requirements for shipments between the United States and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is seeking public comments on the Census Bureau's consideration to remove the
Electronic Export Information (EEI) filing requirement for shipments between the United States and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. For many years, the Census Bureau has received requests, from both the government of Puerto Rico and members of the international trade community, to eliminate the requirement to file EEI for shipments between the United States and Puerto Rico in the Automated Export System. The DOC Office of General Counsel determined that DHS (Customs) and OMB must review and approve the document as well. All approvals have just been received, including OPSP. The notice will soon be routed through final high-level internal reviews before submission to the Director for signature.

**GAO:**
- GAO provided us their draft report on 7/30/20, "2020 Census: The Bureau Has Made Adjustments in Response to COVID-19 but Risks Remain (GAO-20-671R)." This is part of their series of operational updates on the 2020 Census. We are working with OGC to send technical comments. GAO may release the update report as early as next week.

**OIG:**
- OIG issued a management alert memo on 8/13/20 titled, “The Census Bureau Cannot Account for the Return of All Devices Used during 2020 Decennial Field Operations.” No formal response is required as they made no recommendations. They are also planning to issue a management alert on the counting of college students living off campus as early as the end of this week.
- OIG issued a 2020 Census alert memo titled, “The Census Bureau Faces Challenges in Accelerating Hiring and Minimizing Attrition Rates for Abbreviated 2020 Census Field Operations.” No formal response is required as there are no recommendations and it will be released publicly on 8/20/20.

**Anything Else of Note**
- Vacancy Announcement for Chief Data Officer @ HUD (closes on 8/26/2020)
  - HUD has posted a position for a Chief Data Officer: [https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/571627500](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/571627500). For awareness, there was a recent change in the proposed organizational structure within HUD that will now have the Chief Data Officer position sitting within HUD/Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) instead of HUD/Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R), where it had been slated to go. This is a great opportunity for the right person. If you know of a sharp, creative, energetic, and resilient individual looking for a (big) challenge, there is a lot of good work that could be done. Please share broadly with your networks.
Publications (e.g., Working Papers) from the Past Week

- 8/13: Week 31 release of Business Formation Statistics including the unemployment claims data by state.
- 8/14: Advance Monthly Sales for Retail and Food Services
  - U.S. retail and food services sales for July 2020 were $536.0 billion, an increase of 1.2 percent from the previous month.
- 8/14: Manufacturing and Trade Inventories and Sales
  - U.S. total business end-of-month inventories for June 2020 were $1,912.1 billion, down 1.1 percent from last month. U.S. total business sales were $1,394.0 billion, up 8.4 percent from last month.
- 8/18: New Residential Construction (Building Permits, Housing Starts, and Housing Completions)
  - Privately-owned housing starts in July 2020 were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,496,000. This is 22.6 percent above the revised June 2020 estimate of 1,220,000.
- 8/19: Advance Services Report
  - Advance U.S. selected services total revenue for the second quarter of 2020, adjusted for seasonal variation but not for price changes, was $3,657.6 billion, a decrease of 8.9 percent from the first quarter of 2020 and down 9.2 percent from the second quarter of 2019.

Significant External Meetings & Conference Presentations from the Past Week

- Week of 8/10: The first trilateral meetings between statistical agencies from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico were convened to discuss revisions to the 2022 North American Industry Classification System.
- 8/13: Staff met with Reveal to discuss the status and upcoming work for the Construction Re-engineering Project.
- 8/13-14: Interagency meeting with BEA, FRB, EIA, CMS, and BLS to discuss issues related to collection and releases, primarily for indicators, due to COVID-19.
- 8/19: Census Bureau and the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership in collaboration with the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) and the Labor Market Information Institute (LMI) presented the “Providing Perspective during COVID-19 Using Census Data” webinar. The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented changes across all industries, but has also hit some sectors harder than others. In addition to new data coming out, data can provide useful perspective on who has been and will be more impacted by the economic changes. Minnesota’s Labor Market Information Institute has used the Census Bureau’s Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) data to supplement information provided in a set of regional industry profiles, racial disparities reports, and other context-setting pieces that are helping our economic and workforce development partners prepare for and respond to the recovery. This presentation also illustrated how LEHD data were used to create a Tableau visualization that displays race and ethnicity data in a useful manner.
Upcoming Travel or Outreach

- 8/20: Staff will participate in the New England State Data Center Annual Conference (virtual). Staff will present information on the 2017 Economic Census and our COVID-19 data hub at the conference.
- 8/20: Staff will provide a presentation to the North Texas chapter of the Grant Professionals Association (virtual). Staff will provide an update on the 2017 Economic Census for Texas, the COVID-19 data hub, and a Census Business Builder demonstration.
The Associate Director for Communications (ADCOM)
Ali Ahmad
DATE: August 17 – 21, 2020

**Highlights/Week in Review**
- The reminder email campaign continues with the third installment. The first two installments resulted in a 11.5% digital engagement rate.
- The Wonderama House Party (At Home Concert Series) for New York City was held on 8/14.
- Statistics in Schools (SIS) is contacting SIS ambassadors for back to school outreach and plan on transitioning them to work with SIS staff this fall. They are also pursuing opportunities to present virtually at conferences for the American Indian Education Association and the National Council of Social Studies

**National Partnerships (POC: Robin Bachman)**
- As of August 14, there are 1,035 National Participating Organizations, up from 1,033 last week. New partners include:
  - The Embassy of Ghana
  - The Embassy of Guatemala
- Select partnership activities:
  - On August 13, Comcast/NBCUniversal and Telemundo hosted a National Census Forum featuring Chief of the Decennial Communications Coordination Office Erika Becker-Medina.

**Congressional and Intergovernmental (POC: Chris Stanley)**
- Weekly Congressional briefing for Oversight and Appropriations staff: Census Bureau staff provide 2020 Census operational updates (Fridays).

**Publications (POC: Michael Cook)**
**News Release Schedule**
**Monday, Aug. 17, 2020**
- Research Matters Blog: ACS Updates on Disclosure Avoidance and Release Plans
- Global Reach Blog: Exports between the United States and Puerto Rico – When to File Electronic Export Information

**Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020**
- Tip Sheet: Survey of Income and Program Participation
- Tip Sheet: 2020 Census Paid Temporary Workers
- Economic Indicator: (8:30 a.m.) New Residential Construction – July 2020
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) Quarterly Retail E-Commerce Sales: 2nd Quarter 2020

**Wednesday, Aug. 19, 2020**
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) Advance Quarterly Services Report: 2nd Quarter 2020
Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020
- Data Release: (10 a.m.) Small Business Pulse Survey
- Data Release: (12 p.m.) Business Formation Statistics (Administrative Records from IRS)

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2020
- Media Advisory: Schedule for Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Statistics and Supplemental Poverty Measure (resend from July 7)
- Tip Sheet: 2020 Census Paid Temporary Workers
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) New Residential Sales – July 2020
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) Preliminary U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products – July 2020

Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020
- Economic Indicator: (8:30 a.m.) Advance Report on Durable Goods – Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories and Orders – July 2020

Thursday, Aug. 27, 2020
- Data Release: (10 a.m.) Small Business Pulse Survey
- Data Release: (12 p.m.) Business Formation Statistics (Administrative Records from IRS)

Friday, Aug. 28, 2020
- Tip Sheet: Bi-weekly
- Economic Indicator: (8:30 a.m.) Advance Economic Indicator Report (International Trade, Retail and Wholesale) – July 2020

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020
- Media Advisory: Schedule for Income, Poverty and Health Insurance Statistics and Supplemental Poverty Measure (resend from August 25)
- Media Advisory: 2019 American Community Survey 1-year Estimates Webinar
- Tip Sheet: 2020 Census Paid Temporary Workers
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) Construction Spending (Construction Put in Place) – July 2020

Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020
- Profile America Facts for Features: Hispanic Heritage Month (resend from Aug. 11)
- Economic Indicator: (10 a.m.) Full Report – Manufacturers’ Shipments, Inventories and Orders – July 2020

Thursday, Sept. 3, 2020
- Extended Tip Sheet: Economic Census Local Area Data Release Wrap Up (TENT)
- Tip Sheet: American Community Survey Migration Package (TENT)
- Economic Indicator: (8:30 a.m.) U.S. International Trade in Goods and Services – July 2020 and Global Reach Blog
- Economic Indicator: (8:30 a.m.) Final U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products – July 2020
- Data Release: (10 a.m.) Small Business Pulse Survey
Highlights/Week in Review

- **8/10:** Continue to work with the General Services Administration (GSA) and regional management to plan and update the Area Census Office (ACO) closeout schedule. The current schedule has all ACOs closing no later than 2/15/20. *(POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)*

- **8/11:** Office Of Survey and Census Analytics (OSCA) held their quarterly Risk Review Board to evaluate and update new and existing risks in the OSCA risk log. *(POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)*

- **8/11:** OSCA calculated and delivered preliminary response and production rate performance levels to FLD HQ survey branch chiefs. The analysis incorporates the new Type A policy of charging COVID-19 reluctance to the Regional Office (RO) instead of the Field Representative (FR) during phone-only interviewing months. *(POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)*

- **8/12:** Successfully implemented the Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) Phone Soft Launch in four ACOs. Developed criteria for expanding phone interviews in certain geographies for regional management. *(POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)*

- **8/12:** The regions continue to conduct replacement training sessions for NRFU. To date, the regions have invited over 450K Enumerators to training. The regions are projected to have over 200K active Enumerators in the Field operational Control System (FOCS) by next week. *(POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)*

- **8/12:** OSCA delivered a research report on 2020 Exploratory Cluster Analysis to FLD HQ management. *(POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)*

- **8/13:** Tim Olson participated in a 2020 Census panel hosted by Baruch College. *(POC: Tim Olson)*

- **8/13:** NPC’s Decennial Operations Branch (DOB) East completed envelope removal for the 8.2 million 2020 Census questionnaires received from individual households. These returned questionnaires are working their way through the remaining steps of the paper data capture process. Full data processing and delivery is expected by the end of August for the Type of Enumeration Area (TEA) 1 and 6 workload. *(POC: Jeff Bryant)*

- **8/13:** All 169 ACOs completed the 2020 Update Leave (UL) operation for both production and quality control (QC). *(POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)*

- **8/13:** OSCA met with FLD’s Contracts and Budget Branch (CAB) to discuss options to estimate field staff cost differences using prevailing wage information. OSCA will provide historical pay and geographical information to CAB for the analysis. *(POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)*

- **8/13:** OSCA presented a DFQM program overview and highlights of analysis so far, along with a walkthrough of data tools used in monitoring NRFU field data collection, to the Data Integrity team. *(POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)*

- **8/14:** Tim Olson joined Al Fontenot in a weekly congressional briefing for oversight and appropriations staff on the 2020 Census operations. *(POC: Tim Olson)*
• 8/14: The Post Enumeration Survey (PES) Initial Housing Unit Follow-up (IHUFU) operation continues to exceed progress goals. Nationally, the progress goal for production is 19%, and the regions are at 34%. (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 8/14: The national progress goal for the NRFU operation on this date is 10.43%. The regions are exceeding this target by achieving 18.13% completed cases. (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 8/14: The Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE) operation is 81.48% complete. The next progress goal is 95% by 8/21. (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 8/14: NPC is evaluating USPS service delivery for decennial and ongoing survey programs. To date, the established incoming and outgoing mail streams are functioning at normal levels for Decennial, American Community Survey (ACS), and other ongoing survey programs. (POC: Jeff Bryant)

• 8/14: NPC’s Document Services Branch completed printing, booklet making, and inserting the initial mailing (75,000 packages) of the Decennial 2020 Privacy and Confidentiality (2PaC) Survey. The survey packages are scheduled to mail out on 8/17. (POC: Jeff Bryant)

• 8/14: NPC has received a total of 19 million 2020 Census questionnaires to date. 17.4 million Questionnaires (92%) have been through the scanners to capture the initial electronic data image and 15.7 million (83%) have been fully processed and transmitted to headquarters. NPC reduced the unprocessed paper backlog by 1.3 million questionnaires during the week of 8/10-8/15. (POC: Jeff Bryant)

• 8/14: Decennial Field Quality Monitoring (DFQM) continues to monitor self-response rates and rankings by ACO and sharing the latest results with FLD HQ and regional managers. (POC: Jamey Christy – Adam Bacon)

Flag for Upcoming Weeks

• 8/31: Starting Enumeration at Transitory Locations (ETL). (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 9/1: Pursuing personal visits in all geographies for ongoing survey programs starting on this date. (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 9/22: All Service Based Enumeration (SBE) location adds must be entered into the Group Quarters Primary Contact System (GQPCS). (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

• 9/30: All field operations for the Decennial Census closeout on this date. (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)

Significant External Meetings & Conference Presentations
• 8/21: Tim Olson will join Al Fontenot in a weekly congressional briefing for oversight and appropriations staff on the 2020 Census operations. (POC: Tim Olson)

Executive Travel (POC: Dale Kelly – John Magruder)
• 8/17-9/3: Cathy Lacy, Denver RD, will travel to Dallas, Texas.

• 9/8-9/18: Cathy Lacy, Denver RD, will travel to Dallas, Texas.
Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Laura Furgione
DATE: August 17 – 21, 2020

Highlights/Week in Review

- CIS Weekly Executive Summary Highlights
- Last week 8/10/20-8/16/20
  - 12,019 total cases processed (5,409 by staff and 6,610 by system)
  - 18 cases approved by DOC staff performing secondary review for a total of 3,474 since 10/1/19
  - 60 post employment cases adjudicated by staff (5 D’s) for a total of 1,867 since 3/23/20
- NPC CIS Weekly call counts: Incoming - 2,670 (Transferred - 17 and Outbound - 30) - 18 fewer staff.
- CIS FLD dedicated extra resources to help with supervisory reviews in the New York RCC, reducing the backlog from 3,723 to 271 within one month.
- Laura Furgione is the Census Bureau representative on the DOC Presidential Transition (T20) preparation team.
- Laura Furgione and Stacy Chalmers are conducting COVID-19 “road shows” for division and directorate Town Hall meetings. Over 7500 participants have had an opportunity to hear the latest information and ask questions. Additional town halls are scheduled over the next two weeks.
- Chicago Regional office continues to review/research potential contractors to complete the IDS/PACS security work for Phase 1 and Phase 2.
- Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) received to replace old bumpers in garages with car-friendly design.
- ACSD/Transportation Team is working to establish a schedule of operations during mandatory telework. Staff will be present in the building two to three days a week for transportation request and parking permit renewals.
- HSB received communication from Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) that it has received a number of complaints concerning Census enumerators’ potential exposure to COVID-19.
- OSHA will consolidate the complaints and conduct a national level review. Have notified Field senior management and will work with them and others to create a response when we receive specifics of the complaints. Have also alerted PIO due to media exposure and involvement.
- Health & Safety staff to following up w/ACOs/RCCs, using COVID protocol, with reports of ACO/RCC COVID cases to determine work-relatedness.
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Summer Wellness Series extended through the end of the fiscal year. Partnering with HRD to make these courses a component of annual management training sessions.
- HRD established and documented the framework for Field’s award program to administer production awards to Enumerators and Census Field Supervisors supporting Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) operations.
• 125 nominations for Bronze Medal Awards have been received. HRD is conducting preliminary review of nominees to confirm eligibility requirements and ensure award narratives are sufficient before convening the review panel.
• HRD kicked off the Data Science Advisory Council in support of the 2nd Data Science Training Program cohort. Key decisions were made regarding supervisory involvement in the application process, initiating requests for capstones from program managers, shifting the timing of the capstone project to earlier in the program, and cohort size.
• The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has indicated that it will release the draft classification fliesheet for the proposed data science occupational series to agencies in September for comment. HRD will make the federal coalition aware of the forthcoming guidance and the 30-day comment period.
• OPM has approved use of digital signatures for the Health Benefits Election Form, and OPM is now accepting electronic submission of the retirement application packages. Changes in these submission processes has already proven extremely helpful in a telework environment. HRD’s immediate implementation of these new processes has decreased the length of time to review and submit retirement packages and health insurance election paperwork.
• COVID-19 communications and support continue in partnership with Emergency Preparedness Task Force Subgroup.
• CAO continues to work closely with DOC and Census Bureau personnel regarding COVID-19. As updated information and guidance becomes available, it is uploaded to the COVID-19 and Preparedness SharePoint site.

Flag for Upcoming Weeks
• Presidential Transition (T20)
  o September 11 – Updated Org Charts and Leadership Bios due to DOC (first draft)
  o September 18 – Updated Fact Sheets and Policy Papers due to DOC (first draft)
  o October 16 – Final Drafts Due of Bureau Org Charts, Bios, Bureau Fact Sheets, & Policy Papers

Anything Else of Note:
• Laura Furgione – Annual Leave 9/11 – 9/18/2020
• Health Unit will be launching Telehealth Talks Series
  • Heart Smart Cookouts – Census Health Unit
    o Tuesday, Aug 26, 2020 at 11:00 AM EDT
  • Boosting Your Immunity – Census Health Unit
    o Sep 09, 2020 at 11:00 AM EDT
  • Allergies and Asthma – Census Health Unit
    o Sep 29, 2020 at 11:00 AM EDT
  • Supplements: To Take or Not to Take? – Census Health Unit
    o Oct 07, 2020 at 11:00 AM EDT
Highlights/Week in Review

- First group of priority programs held their Quarterly Progress Review (QPR) on August 11, 2020. (POC: Dana Cope)
- All IT priority programs presented their QPR to the Enterprise Requirements Review Board (EReRB) on August 12, 2020. (POC: Dana Cope)
- Travel including international trips are cancelled or postponed. (POC: Kim Leonard)
- Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing (CEDCaP) Transition/Data Ingest and Collection for the Enterprise (DICE) continued collaborating with the ADSD and ECON teams currently supporting Development and Operations (DEVOPS) to define the plan for the program. (POC: Lora Rosenberger)
- The CEDCaP Transition/DICE continued collaborating with ADCOM and the transformation office to define a communication strategy for DICE. (POC: Lora Rosenberger)
- Staff continued drafting an outline for the International travel policy. (POC: Kim Leonard)
- The PPSI Cost Estimation (CE) and the Center for Enterprise Dissemination Services and Consumer Innovation (CEDSCI) cost estimating teams are finalizing the second round of reconciliation of the Independent Cost Estimate (ICE) and Program Office Estimate (POE). Both teams will continue to work with the program to further define the cost elements being estimated. (POC: Kevin Metcalf)
- The PPSI CE team is testing the upgraded Price True Planning tool (version 16.2). Testing will occur on both 32-bit and 64-bit versions of MS Office. Once testing is complete, the upgrade will be made available for the rest of the Census Bureau. (POC: Kevin Metcalf)
- The PPSI Program Management and Quality Assurance & Evaluation (PQAE) team is assisting the PPSI External Stakeholder Engagement team with the development of a new International Travel Application (ITA), which will allow automated ITA’s to be routed from travelers to approvers. This new system will streamline the ability to create, edit, and track International Travel documents. (POC: Rich Bittner/Kim Leonard)
- The Business Process Management (BPM) Staff identified the final round of issues to be addressed before Quick Start Toolkit (QST) Visio component User Testing. [Jerome Garrett]
- Staff updated the testing plan and test deck for the QST Visio component User testing. (POC: Jerome Garrett)
- Staff is preparing the Government Accountability Office (GAO) response to the Review of Federal Advisory Committees. (POC: Kim Leonard)
- CEDCaP Transition/DICE completed the first Iteration of Program Increment 3 and conducted a demonstration of the work completed and held a planning session for the second iteration of Program Increment 3 for Questionnaire Design Metadata (QDM) Analysis of Alternatives next steps to support the 2022 Economic Census. (POC: Lora Rosenberger/Maria Mate)

Flag for Upcoming Weeks

- Enterprise Planning, the FY’21 priority programs and Goal 2 resource gaps will be discussed with OPCOM on October 6, 2020. (POC: Dana Cope)
• Second group of priority programs QPR is scheduled for OPCOM briefing on August 18, 2020. *(POC: Dana Cope)*
• FY’23-28 strategic plan cycle will begin in January 2021, with facilitated OPCOM sessions, to align with output from the transformation vision conference. *(POC: Dana Cope)*
• The Cost Review Board (CRB) will determine the Census Bureau baseline cost position for the CEDSCI program. This will be scheduled to occur 65 days prior to the Milestone Review Board (MRB)--currently unscheduled. A likely timeframe for the CRB will be July-September based on estimated Q1 FY21 MRB. *(POC: Kevin Metcalf)*
• The Office of the General Counsel (OGC) is in the process of determining whether the MOU between Mexico/Canada/US on migration statistics rises to the level of being deemed an “international agreement” under U.S. law that would require a separate U.S. State Department review and clearance (in addition to typical Census/DOC review and clearance). *(POC: Kim Leonard)*
• Staff are preparing a document for PCO on sensitivities to consider when working with embassies and how to address data requests. Staff and PCO will prepare a policy. *(POC: Kim Leonard)*
• The Business Process Management (BPM) Staff will conduct process elicitation workshops with DSD and SEHSD personnel to define the Editing and Weighting aspects of the SIPP program. *(POC: Jerome Garrett)*
• Staff is currently vetting the nominations for the Census Scientific Advisory Committee (CSAC) and National Advisory Committee (NAC.) *(POC: Kim Leonard)*
• Staff confirmed that Decennial is aware of and committed to providing the Bureau’s response to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) deliverables. *(POC: Kim Leonard)*
Highlights/Week in Review *(POC: Whitney Duffey-Jones)*

- **Time sensitive.** The CFO provided the Department with an updated contingency waterfall to the Department with estimates for revised Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) activities and potential acceleration costs. We are still awaiting the Department’s decision on our previously submitted request for access to the remaining contingency funds to support these activities. **Notably, $36 million of FY2018 funding will lapse unutilized if it is not obligated before September 30th.**

- On July 7th the House CJS subcommittee released their initial appropriations bill for FY2021, funding the Census Bureau at $1.68 billion. This includes $1.39 billion for the Periodic Censuses and Programs appropriation (equal to the President's Budget request) and $288 million for the Current Surveys and Programs appropriation, $9 million above the President's Budget request to restore funding for SIPP. Notably we did not receive transfer authority to allocate unspent Decennial balances to fund facilities work associated with the BLS move. The Senate CJS appropriations subcommittee has not yet released their draft bill.

- The Senate’s Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection and Schools (HEALS) Act included $448 million in supplemental appropriations for the Census Bureau’s Decennial field operations and data processing. The legislation did not adjust the statutory deadlines for the delivery of apportionment or redistricting data and did not include language clarifying the Families Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) application for the purposes of enumeration. The House has not signaled support for supplemental appropriations for Census as part of their legislative package.

- The Department’s Office of Budget is reviewing the Census FY2022 budget submission that BUD submitted on July 17th. There may be a need to achieve further cost savings beyond the Department’s guidance levels, and all Bureaus are assessing if and how this can be accomplished.

- NPC was closed for an extended period of time earlier this year due to COVID-19 and placed most of its staff on Weather and Safety Leave. This cost was borne by the Working Capital Fund and the Budget Division has calculated an assessment that it will bill its appropriated programs, based on workload data provided by NPC. The costs attributable to reimbursable programs and Working Capital Fund operations will be borne by the WCF. We currently plan to execute the appropriated programs assessment in August.

- We are supporting NPC in conversations with GSA in preparation for transmitting a revised prospectus for their facility needs.

- ACQ continues to support the acquisition of protective equipment to facilitate post-COVID-19 resumption of Decennial field operations and help ensure the impacts of COVID-related Decennial schedule adjustments are addressed contractually.

**Anything Else of Note**

- Representatives from the OCFO Divisions (BUD, ACQ and FIN) continue to join COVID-19 Task Force meetings.
Associate Director for Research and Methodology (ADRM)
John Abowd
DATE: August 17 – 21, 2020

Highlights/Week in Review

CBSM Center for Behavioral Science Methods (POC: Paul Beatty)
- The 2020 Census User Experience Survey received OMB approval and launched on August 17.
- The first mailout for the 2020 Privacy and Confidentiality Evaluation also launched on August 17. In this wave, 76,000 households that self-responded to the 2020 Census will receive the questionnaire, which asks opinions on privacy and confidentiality. A second wave will be mailed out in September, for total of 103,000 self-responding households.
- This week, CBSM staff will also brief John Abowd on preliminary findings from the Privacy-Accuracy Survey. This was an instrument designed to measure respondent concerns about decennial items in order to inform decision-making about privacy budgets for those items. The survey used an internet probability panel and was hosted on Qualtrics.
- CBSM staff are collaborating with the National Center for Education Statistics, as well as the Demographic Directorate and Center for Optimization and Data Science within ADRM to develop text messaging for the Teacher Follow-up Survey (TFS) and Principal Follow-up Survey (PFS), which are follow-ups to the National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS). CBSM is conducting an expert review of existing contact materials in mail and email, and will draft a series of text messages for respondents who opted into texting in the NTPS. Cognitive testing will follow this fall, to be followed by plans for a subsequent field test.
- CBSM is working with the Economic Statistical Methods Division (ESMD) and the Demographic Statistical Methods Division (DSMD) on a Remote Testing Evaluation Research Collaboration, to develop and refine methodology for testing that is necessary in times of social distancing. Dave Tuttle from CBSM is leading the effort.
- The study plans of two CBSM-based Decennial evaluations have been adjusted to reflect current realities of the NRFU field period, and safety concerns about interactions with the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. The most significant changes entail replacing planned observation with focus groups of FRs, to be conducted after data collection concludes.

CES Center for Economic Studies (POC: Lucia Foster)
- The Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) partnership has expanded to include Connecticut State College and Universities.

CED Center for Enterprise Dissemination (POC: Rob Sienkiewicz)
- Rob Sienkiewicz and Gary Benedetto made a presentation about the Census Bureau’s Disclosure Review Board at the FCSM/COPAFS seminar.
- Michael Hawes, Gary Benedetto, and Rob Sienkiewicz presented a webinar on disclosure review board design, governance, and modernization to the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology/Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (8/13).
- CED staff (Research Project Coordination) met with Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) staff to discuss further details of managing joint projects between Census and BEA. This is part of an
effort to support future joint projects between the Census Bureau and other statistical agencies within the Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC) environment.

- CED staff (Research Project Coordination) met with the Policy Coordination Office to outline measures to increase project and output transparency at the Census Bureau. In support of this effort, CED discussed efforts to make project information more available to the public and steps to draft a new transparency policy that will outline all measures needed to increase our project transparency.

- CED staff (Center for Enterprise Dissemination and Consumer Innovation) released additional 2010 Decennial data products (DECENNIALCD110H and DECENNIALCD1132010) and released enhanced support for American Community Survey (ACS) data products. Additionally improved the Application Security Manager (ASM) protocols to decrease the frequency of false positive request screening.

Flag for Upcoming Weeks

ADRM Associate Director for Research and Methodology (POC: Sara Sullivan)

- The Census-Executive Director Meeting for the Federal Statistical Research Data Center System (FSRDC) will be on Wednesday, August 26, 12:00-3:00pm.
- Preparations are being finalized for the Annual Research Data Center meeting. Originally scheduled to be held at the Kansas City Federal Reserve, it has moved online and will take place on September 3.

CED Center for Enterprise Dissemination (POC: Rob Sienkiewicz)

- CED will conduct training on differential privacy for the Data Stewardship Executive Policy Committee on 8/19 to prepare the committee for their September meeting on setting invariants and other design parameters for the 2020 Disclosure Avoidance System TopDown Algorithm.

Publications (e.g., Working Papers)

CBSM Center for Behavioral Science Methods (POC: Paul Beatty)


Summary: "In support of the need for further research on the terminology and ordering of response options for sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) questions, this paper highlights insights identified in recent literature reviewed about response option terminology and associated methodological implications. The paper contributes to the broader discussion of measuring SOGI in surveys and identifies possible future research avenues for documenting best practices for SOGI measurement."

CES Center for Economic Studies (POC: Lucia Foster)
• Center for Economic Studies economist Emek Basker and coauthor Timothy Simcoe have had their paper “Upstream, Downstream: Diffusion and Impacts of the Universal Product Code” accepted for publication in the *Journal of Political Economy*, a top-5 journal in economics.

**Significant External Meetings & Conference Presentations**

**CED Center for Enterprise Dissemination (POC: Rob Sienkiewicz)**
- Discussion on differential privacy and the 2020 Census with civil rights stakeholders (8/20), Michael Hawes.

**CBSM Center for Behavioral Science Methods (POC: Paul Beatty)**
- Yazmin Trejo Garcia has been invited to participate in a radio interview on “Top of Mind with Julie Rose” (SiriusXM 143) on the topic of decennial census participation. The interview request is pending Bureau approval with a tentative date of September 2.
The Associate Director for Demographic Programs (ADDP)

Victoria Velkoff
DATE: August 17 – 21, 2020

Publications and Releases
- The 2018 Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) data and tables were released Tuesday, August 18, 2020. SIPP briefs highlighting additional topics will be forthcoming in the upcoming months. (POC: Hyon Shin)

Anything Else of Note
- The Respondent Advocate's office has updated its "Are You in a Survey" site, specifically, the following pages - "How We Conduct Surveys," "Verify a Survey" and "FAQs" to reflect the new 2020 Census User Experience Survey" (Sponsored in ADRM) which began this week via text messaging. The survey was also added to the "List of Surveys" pages. The site can be found here - [www.census.gov/surveyhelp](http://www.census.gov/surveyhelp). (POC: Tom Edwards)

Chief Information Officer (CIO)

Kevin Smith
DATE: August 17 – 21, 2020

Highlights/Week in Review
Delivery Support Services
Centralized services which directly support the end user community and includes training, application support, service desk and central print services.
- Following the unplanned closure of the Tucson Contact Center (TCC), OCIO provided 24x7 call coverage for the Decennial Safety, Security, Cyber Incident Management (SSCIM) calls. We received more than 7,000 additional calls through the Incident Reporting line from March - August. The typical call volume for this line increased from 256 calls/month to 2,075 in May-August. On August 6th, TCC resumed responsibility for the Decennial SSCIM calls.
The overall self-response rate to the 2020 Census has reached 64.0 percent as of 11:59 p.m. August 18, with more than 94.6 million housing units responding:
  - 75.7 million (80.0 percent) have responded by internet.
  - 17.4 million (18.5 percent) have returned a paper questionnaire.
  - 1.5 million (1.5 percent) have responded by phone.

Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) operation work is underway in all 248 area census offices, with nearly 212,900 active employees as of August 19. Census takers are trained to rigorously and universally follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations to mitigate risk of transmission, which include masks, maintaining social distancing, hand hygiene, and conducting interviews outside as much as possible. Following these CDC recommendations ensures that 2020 Census interviews should present a low risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Since the NRFU operation “soft launch” began on July 16:
  - More than 17.9 million cases have been completed by the end of the day August 18.
    - More than 10.8 million cases were resolved in the field.
    - Nearly 3.8 million cases have self-responded since the NRFU workload was identified.
    - The balance were completed with administrative records or were resolved in the area census offices.

As we continue to monitor the impacts COVID-19 has on 2020 Census operations, changes to operations are being deployed to ensure the safety of staff and the public while maximizing the number of households that respond on their own to the 2020 Census. Some of these strategies include:
  - If no one is home when the census taker visits, the census taker will leave a “Notice of Visit” with information about how to respond online, by phone, or by mail, to encourage response. During census tests, the “Notice of Visit” proved successful in encouraging people to respond on their own.
  - We are training census takers to follow up with households by phone. If a voicemail is available, the census taker will leave a message asking the household to call one of the Census Bureau’s call centers.
  - We are sending a seventh mailing, including a paper questionnaire, in late August to early September to the lowest-responding census tracts.
  - We are emailing households in census block groups with a response rate lower than 50 percent. This will include households who may have already responded. We expect to email more than 20 million households in these low-responding areas.
  - We have also launched Mobile Questionnaire Assistance, a program that offers assistance with responding at locations, such as grocery stores and pharmacies, in low-responding areas.
We have expanded paid advertising, launching a series of advertisements aimed at increasing online response. Now, 45 non-English languages are receiving some level of paid media support.

- There have been more than 15.9 million non-ID cases, as of August 19, and more than 14.9 million (93.9 percent) have been resolved. These are cases where respondents used their address to respond and not their unique census ID.
  - 13.2 million (82.8 percent) were resolved by automation.
  - 1.8 million (11.1 percent) were resolved by clerks.
- Based on various tests, we expected census takers to complete 1.55 cases per hour during the 2020 Census NRFU operation. So far, we are completing 2.55 cases per hour per enumerator, which is far above our expectations. (Note: Cases completed per hour include cases that were resolved by enumeration, area census office staff, administrative records, or self-response.)
- Census takers can earn a number of incentive awards. For example, a census taker who works more than 25 hours a week and completes at least .75 cases per hour between August 9 and August 29 can earn a $500 award.
- Paper data capture centers in Tucson (Arizona) and Jeffersonville (Indiana) have checked in more than 18.9 million paper questionnaires and have scanned more than 17.7 million of them as of August 19.
- All 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, have a 2020 Census self-response rate of at least 50 percent. Minnesota continues to lead all states in self-response at 73.1 percent. Of all the states and state-equivalents, Puerto Rico has the lowest response at 30.6 percent. Other highlights:
  - 35 states and D.C. have a self-response rate at or above 60 percent.
  - 28 states have achieved a self-response rate above their 2010 Census self-response final rate.
- As of August 19, more than 11.4 million calls have been made to Census Questionnaire Assistance centers, which is more than the projected volume of nearly 10.5 million calls. Callers to the English and Spanish language lines are routed first through the Interactive Voice Response system to answer frequently asked questions. So far, just over 4.0 million calls have gone on to a customer service representative.
- To date, nearly 32,000 callers have requested the callback option (available to callers who leave a message). These callbacks have resulted in more than 9,900 completed interviews and more than 4,000 being provided assistance.
- We have identified a little more than 212,000 group quarters facilities, places such as nursing homes and prisons. As of August 16, we have completed enumeration of 174,500 of them (82.3 percent).
- Enumerators have interviewed all housing units in American Samoa, which is part of the Island Areas Censuses.
- The 2020 Census National Partnership Program has reached agreements with 1,035 national organizations across the country, as of August 17, which exceeds the 856 from the 2010 Census. New partnerships include the Ghana Embassy, the Guatemala Embassy, Teach for America, and the American Society of Association Professionals. The 2020 Census Community Partnership and Engagement Program has more than 392,000 partners, which surpasses the 256,000 community partners we had for the 2010 Census.
- As part of the Integrated Communications Contract, we will have TV ads promoting the 2020 Census on a variety of local network affiliates this week. These include:
- August 19 – “Ellen’s Game of Games” on NBC Ch. 6 in New Orleans, LA, 8 p.m. CDT
- August 22 – “48 Hours” on CBS Ch. 47 in Fresno, CA, 10 p.m. PDT
- August 23 – “Celebrity Family Feud” on ABC Ch. 7 in Albuquerque, NM, 7 p.m. MDT

- The Office of Inspector General (OIG) released the management alert titled, “The Census Bureau Cannot Account for the Return of All Devices Used During 2020 Decennial Census Field Operations” on August 13. This management alert is related to the Census Bureau’s oversight of laptop computers used during the 2020 Census in-Field Address Canvassing operation. OIG reports, “Bureau was unaware that over a dozen laptop computers—which may contain Title 13 protected data—were lost, missing, or stolen.” No response is required. A team is preparing talking points to address their observations and provide context to their alert.
- The Government Accountability Office (GAO) sent the draft report for the August Operational Status Update titled, “2020 Census: The Bureau has Made Adjustments in Response to COVID-19 but Risks Remain,” on July 30. This update includes information from GAO’s ongoing work on the status of 2020 Census operations and challenges. The report does not have any recommendations, and the Department of Commerce has delegated the response to the Census Bureau Director. GAO plans to send a supplemental file related to recent changes.
- As part of its engagement on 2020 Census peak operations, OIG informed the Census Bureau that it is “assessing how adjustments to the 2020 Census operational schedule impact the quality of data used for apportionment and redistricting.”

Flag for Upcoming Weeks:
- We are scheduled to count people experiencing homelessness during the Service-Based Enumeration operation September 22 to September 24. These service locations include emergency and transitional shelters (with sleeping facilities) for people experiencing homelessness, soup kitchens, and regularly scheduled mobile food vans.

Significant External Meetings & Conference Presentations:
- **August 19** – James Whitehorne (Census Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office) and Elizabeth Gardner (Colorado State Demographer) will address the Nebraska State Data User Conference on the 2020 Redistricting Data Program and differential privacy.
- **August 21** – Al Fontenot (Associate Director for Decennial Census Programs) and Tim Olson (Associate Director for Field Operations) are scheduled to provide an update on 2020 Census operations to staff of the House Oversight Committee, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and the Appropriations Committees.
- **August 27** – James Whitehorne (Census Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office) and staff from the Census Bureau’s Los Angeles Regional Census Center will participate on a committee to conduct an Interim study of the requirements for reapportionment and redistricting in Nevada.
- **September 10** – James Whitehorne (Census Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office) will give an update on the 2020 Census and the 2020 Redistricting Data Program to the National Conference of State Legislatures’ Redistricting and Elections Committee.

Travel:

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Director’s Weekly Bureau Report
FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY
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<td>8/23-9/5/20</td>
<td>Zolinka McCauley, DCMD</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
<td>dDaS decommissioning</td>
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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

---

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) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Korzeniewski, Adam (Federal) <AKorzeniewski@doc.gov>; Deirdre Bishop
Subject: Census Pre Brief
When: Friday, August 21, 2020 10:00 AM-11:30 AM.
Where: [redacted]
Census Unedited File (CUF) production and quality assurance

Admin records available and processed by Person Identification Validation System (PVS) Prior to 12/14/2020

CUF finalized After 12/14/2020

Tabulation of resident population and federally affiliated overseas population (FACO); tabulation of ICE detention centers*; QA procedures. This will meet the December 31, 2020 deadline. Slides 6 and 10

CUF processed by PVS

Matching admin records to CUF and quality assurance (QA)

Applying rules to assign status of the unauthorized immigrant

Quality assurance of tabulation and demographic reasonableness review.

Apply disclosure avoidance to unauthorized immigrant counts and QA

Quality assurance of transmittal package

Transmittal package
Table with 3 columns - resident population, FACO, and unauthorized immigrants

* ICE detention centers tabulation will only be used as an input to tabulation of unauthorized immigrants and will not be released separately due to disclosure issues.
FYI. Lots of powerful stuff in here and our directorate shines like the noon-time sun on a cloudless Tucson day. Great leadership, everyone.

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

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Robin Wyvill (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Robin.L.Wyvill@census.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 12:50:41 PM EDT
To: "OPCOM - Principals Only List (CENSUS/ OTHER)", "Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>, "Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>, "Benjamin A Overholt (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <benjamin.a.overholt@census.gov>
Cc: "Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED)" <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>
Subject: [8/17-21] Director's Weekly Bureau Report

Hello all,
Please find attached...

- Week of August 17th, Director Dillingham's Weekly Bureau Report

Thanks,

Robin L. Wyvill, Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Director
U.S. Census Bureau
Direct: 301-763-8239

Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.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.

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<td>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. 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.</td>
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<td>Compress POP division and DSSD review and processing times</td>
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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?
FYSA

Christa D Jones, Chief of Staff
Office of the Director
U.S. Census Bureau
O|M: 301-763-7310
census.gov | @uscensusbureau
Shape Your Future. START HERE> 2020Census.gov

From: Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 10:18 AM
To: Christa D Jones (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Christa.D.Jones@census.gov>
Subject: Fw: 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

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>
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<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compress POP division and DSSD review and processing times</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compress time for creating/verifying apportionment data and preparation of transmittal package for DOC</td>
<td>A compressed review period creates risk for errors being present in the data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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?
Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message is intended only for the named recipients. The information contained in this e-mail and any attachments may be confidential, privileged, attorney-work product, or otherwise exempt from disclosure. If you have received this message in error, are not the named recipient, or are not an employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to the named recipient, then be advised that any review, disclosure, use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this message, its contents, or attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, then please notify the sender and permanently delete the e-mail and any attachments immediately. Thank you.
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FYI...

Michael T. Thieme
Assistant Director for Decennial Census Programs, Systems and Contracts
U.S. Census Bureau
(301) 763-9062 (Office)
Michael.t.thieme@census.gov

Statement will be on website in about 20-30 minutes. You can use this so send to folks ahead of time if you need to hit up GAO, OIG, or anyone else.

Tim/Jamey- will you send to the RDs?

I will send the link when it's posted.
August 7, 2020

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney:

The Census Bureau’s career experts have developed a plan to accelerate our mission to meet the statutory deadline to provide apportionment counts by December 31, 2020. As I noted during my testimony last week in the Committee’s emergency hearing, we were at that time in the process of assessing our operational plans. On Monday, August 3, we finalized that plan and shared it with your committee staff prior to the public announcement later that day. This plan is thoughtfully designed to deliver a complete and accurate census, including reaching hard-to-count communities. We look forward to briefing your staff on this plan and its execution, as was done today, and senior Census Bureau staff members remain available to do so during our regular Friday briefings.

The Census Bureau will continue working with the Committee in furtherance of transparency and accommodation during these challenging times. We did so last week by testifying on less than a week's notice at the Committee’s emergency hearing. However, your request for transcribed interviews of multiple Census Bureau officials as referenced in your August 4, 2020 letter, 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. This includes the operation most important to reaching the hardest to count members of our population, designated as Nonresponse Follow-Up. This work has already begun in many areas and is scheduled to begin nationwide next week. Scheduling interviews with senior staff of the Census Bureau during this critical time in our operations would be disruptive to our work to complete the census. We will continue to address specific questions you may have during our regular briefings.

I look forward to having our career experts continue briefing your staff on these important matters. We share your and your committee members’ dedication to a complete census. Please be assured that the Census Bureau and our growing workforce of almost a half million public servants, with an even greater number of partnering supporters, are committed to this vital mission.

Sincerely,

Steven Dillingham
Director

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Ranking Member
While you’re eating inferior BBQ, I was working on this.

Here is the response just final a few minutes ago.

Thanks Ali. Since I only got a voicemail, I am going to rely on OCIA’s correspondence with Ms. Anderson of the House Oversight committee.
From: Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 3:34 PM
To: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Cc: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

Can we please use Tori Anderson’s full name so as to not confuse her with Tori Velkoff?
Thanks

Victoria Velkoff, PhD
Associate Director for Demographic Programs
U.S. Census Bureau
301-763-1372

On Aug 6, 2020, at 3:27 PM, Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov> wrote:

Chris Stanley will reiterate that the Census Bureau will be responding tomorrow, and that OCIA is the appropriate point of contact. He has already spoken with Tori, and it appears she started the calls after that.

I recommend that you do not return the call if you’ve received a voicemail. If you wind up on the phone, I would ask you to note that any inquiry should come through the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Please forward email inquiries to Chris Stanley, or copy him on your polite reply (as many of you do when you receive an inquiry that requires PIO coordination). You may also note that you’ve been informed that the official reply will come tomorrow.

Just for your knowledge, not to share: The basic content of the reply will state that the Census Bureau will not be authorizing any transcribed interviews next week, and will work with the Committee to set up a member briefing. We are conducting a staff briefing tomorrow, which will include Oversight Committee staff.
From: John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 6, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>; Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>; Victoria Velkoff (CENSUS/ADDP FED) <Victoria.A.Velkoff@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

At 2:30pm today, I received a voicemail message from Tori Anderson, House Oversight Committee (tel 202.642.0459), requesting a call back regarding the letter that initiated this thread.

I am standing by for guidance on whether to return the call.

Thanks,

John M. Abowd, PhD, Associate Director and Chief Scientist
Research and Methodology
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-5880 M: simulating on cell
census.gov | @uscensusbureau
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov

From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 12:56 PM
To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

FYI: OGC is reviewing the letter and will advise on the next steps. I will share updates as we have them.
Thank you.

From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 10:14 AM
To: Albert E Fontenot (CENSUS/ADDC FED) <Albert.E.Fontenot@census.gov>; Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>; Timothy P Olson (CENSUS/ADFO FED) <Timothy.P.Olson@census.gov>; John Maron Abowd (CENSUS/ADRM FED) <john.maron.abowd@census.gov>; Adam Michael Korzeniewski (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <adam.m.korzeniewski@census.gov>; Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Subject: Re: just census on this message

They have a press release, too.

Acknowledging receipt of the letter from Chairwoman Maloney of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform on August 4, 2020.

Albert E. Fontenot, Jr.

Associate Director
Decennial Census Programs
United States Department of Commerce
Bureau of the Census
Office 301-763-4668
Cell (b) (6)
albert.e.fontenot@census.gov

census.gov
Connect with us on Social Media
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
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

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this point.’’ 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.”

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.” 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.”

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.

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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.”

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

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7 House rule X, clause 1(n)(8).
Census Unedited File (CUF) production and quality assurance

Admin records available and processed by Person Identification Validation System (PVS)

Prior to 12/14/2020

CUF finalized

12/14/2020

After 12/14/2020

CUF processed by PVS

Matching admin records to CUF and quality assurance (QA)

9 days (12/23)

7 days (12/30)

Applying rules to assign status of the unauthorized immigrant

5 days (1/4)

Quality assurance of tabulation and demographic reasonableness review.

3 days (1/7)

Apply disclosure avoidance to unauthorized immigrant counts and QA

1 days (1/8)

Quality assurance of transmittal package

2 days (1/10)

Transmittal package

Table with 3 columns - resident population, FACO, and unauthorized immigrants

Tabulation of resident population and federally affiliated overseas population (FACO); tabulation of ICE detention centers*; QA procedures. This will meet the December 31, 2020 deadline.

Slides 6 and 10

* ICE detention centers tabulation will only be used as an input to tabulation of unauthorized immigrants and will not be released separately due to disclosure issues.
Excellent work, many thanks. Nathaniel made a substantive edit and I corrected a few words. It was sent to Dan and Karen to review. I assume we will discuss the summary tomorrow afternoon with S-1, probably as part of small group. Anyone needed besides us three and the DOC leadership team?

Steven D. Dillingham, Ph.D., Director
U.S. Census Bureau
o: 301-763-2135  m: (b) (6) census.gov  @uscensusbureau
Excellent work, many thanks. Nathaniel made a substantive edit and I corrected a few words. It was sent to Dan and Karen to review. I assume we will discuss the summary tomorrow afternoon with S-1, probably as part of small group. Anyone needed besides us three and the DOC leadership team?
FYI- Close Hold

From: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 9:45 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>
Subject: Fw: QUICK ATTENTION - Fw: Bureau review of key statements for HCOR Testimony next Thursday

Good morning,

Attached is GAO's Statement of Facts they are using for Thursday's testimony. Decennial has reviewed it for accuracy and has no major issues but for the following:

Only major comment so far is "we disagree with the final paragraph. We are working to develop a schedule that would allow us to produce redistricting data, but we don't have it yet. And we will have a proposal by 9/11 but we won't have an approved plan until 9/14 at the earliest."

If you have any questions or concerns, we need to pass them along to GAO by COB today...

Colleen T. Holzbach, Program Manager
Oversight Engagement, Policy Coordination Office
U.S. Census Bureau
o: 301-763-6339 | m: (b) (6)
census.gov | @uscensusbureau
Hi all- I've attached our statement of facts for Thursday's testimony. Our apologies for the quick turnaround- this has been quite the hustle. Again, any comments on Tuesday would be much appreciated and I hope everyone gets to enjoy their Labor Day!

Alix

On Sep 4, 2020, at 4:06 PM, Edwards, Alexandra wrote:

Sara- we just received word that we have a bit more flexibility—we don't need to send the statement now until Wednesday morning. We will try to get you something in the next few hours, and if you could get us something by mid-day Tuesday we'd appreciate it so we can fully incorporate your comments!

We can do our best to try to gather input and to reply back to you early Tuesday. Do you know around what time you'll be sharing the file?

Sara A. Rosario Nieves
Chief, Strategic Planning and Portfolio Management | Decennial
U.S. Census Bureau | Office 301.763.2941 | Room (b) (6) | Cell: (b) (6)
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov
Happy long weekend! We are currently crashing on a hearing for House Oversight next Thursday (9/10) for which Chris Mihm will be testifying. It will be mostly focused on the August QL that just came out, but will have some updates and be structured a little differently, so we wanted to run it by you. If we are able to get it to you tonight or early tomorrow would the Bureau be able to get us your thoughts by early on Tuesday? I believe the hill has requested our statement by 10AM Tuesday morning.

Alix Edwards
Assistant Director, Strategic Issues
U.S. Government Accountability Office
202-512-5591
www.gao.gov
Connect with GAO: Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, Podcasts
***DRAFT***

2020 Census Data Processing Planning

8/24/2020
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)
- 7/31/20: GEO Processing (46 days)
- 8/31/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF 1 (30 days)
- 9/30/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF 2 (22 days)
- 10/31/20: Produce, Review and Verify CUF (27 days)
- 11/30/20:

COVID 19 Plan
- 10/31/20: GEO Processing (50 days)
- 11/30/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF (33 days)
- 12/31/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF 2 (22 days)
- 1/31/21: Produce, Review and Verify CUF (25 days)
- 3/5/21:

Current Plan
- 9/4/20: Start Address Processing Early by allowing no new added addresses after 9/4/20 (26 days)
- 9/30/20: GEO Processing (14 days)
- 10/31/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF 1 (27 days)
- 11/30/20: Produce, Review and Verify DRF 2 (22 days)
- 12/14/20: Produce, Review & Verify CUF (15 days)
- 12/31/20:
- 1/31/21:

Unclassified/ For Official Use Only
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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DRF1</th>
<th>DRF2</th>
<th>CUF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Covid Replan</td>
<td>Dec 18 – Jan 19, 2021</td>
<td>Jan 19 – February 9, 2021</td>
<td>Feb 9 – March 5, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schedule Savings from Pre-Covid</td>
<td>3 Days</td>
<td>0 Days</td>
<td>12 Days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unclassified/ For Official Use Only
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity ID</th>
<th>Activity Name</th>
<th>Calendar</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
<th>Var-Start</th>
<th>Var-Finish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020-12170</td>
<td>Conduct Internet Self-Response (IS) Data Collection</td>
<td>4 / 7 day Federal Holiday thru 2023</td>
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<td>12-Mar-20</td>
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<td>4 / 7 day Federal Holiday thru 2023</td>
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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
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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).
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Enrique Lamas
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Director's Office
U.S. Census Bureau
Office: 301-763-3811
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From: Christopher J Stanley (CENSUS/OCIA FED) <christopher.j.stanley@census.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 3:44 PM
To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>
Cc: Ali Mohammad Ahmad (CENSUS/ADCOM FED) <ali.m.ahmad@census.gov>
Subject: Q&A current drafts

DRAFT - DELIBERATIVE

I did the appointee rough drafts as a separate document.

Chris Stanley, Chief
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
U.S. Census Bureau
O: 301-763-4276  | M: (b) (6)
census.gov  | @uscensusbureau
Shape your future. START HERE > 2020census.gov
Enrique did an excellent job. Nathaniel had a single substantive edit in a footnote, and I added a couple of spelling, grammar edits. I recommend that Enrique lead in explaining the methodology update from the Bureau’s career team, and Nathaniel and I can add as needed. Thoughts?

Steven D. Dillingham, Ph.D., Director
U.S. Census Bureau
o: 301-763-2135 | m: (5)  
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I hope that makes sense!

From: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Nathaniel Cogley (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <nathaniel.cogley@census.gov>
Subject: Fw: Material for briefing Sec Ross

Does this need more work? Can Enrique be party to the discussion tomorrow, at least at the beginning? THX

From: Enrique Lamas (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Enrique.Lamas@census.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 3:18 PM
To: Steven Dillingham (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.dillingham@census.gov>; Ron S Jarmin (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <Ron.S.Jarmin@census.gov>; Cogley, Nathaniel (Federal) <NCogley@doc.gov>; Steven K Smith (CENSUS/DEPDIR FED) <steven.k.smith@census.gov>
Subject: Material for briefing Sec Ross

The attached is based on the request from KDK for a 1 pager to brief Secretary Ross on the status of the admin rec acquisition and the options for estimating the undoc immigrant population.
Briefing Materials for Secretary Ross on the 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.

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\(^1\) 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, statistical modeling, or utilizing the left over administrative records to better understand relevant, aggregate parameters of the unmatched census population, 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.
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, etc.)

   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.
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August 10, 2020

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