Director's Blog

How an Interwoven Research Agenda Will Help Us Enumerate Historically Undercounted People in the 2030 Census

Written by:
Robert L. Santos, Director

Life is interconnected. For instance, I found that hunger, homelessness and even unemployment are portals to an interconnected web of personal, environmental and system factors. These include chronic physical conditions, mental health and addiction issues, climate change and federal, state and local policies. So, it's not surprising that research on any of these topics can be informed by including the nodes of this interconnecting, interacting network.

Our research on historically undercounted populations is similarly interconnected. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts research on public trust, cultural relevance, language usage, question comprehension and many other topics to develop better methods to reach and collect data from the historically hard to count. But the interconnectivity goes deeper.

Consider research on our field operations, on improving efficiency of enumerators using adaptive design, on leveraging administrative records to predict housing unit occupancy, on improving our frame of housing units. All such research interacts with and ultimately impacts the enumeration of historically undercounted people and their households. In fact, using this lens, it is easy to see that many 2030 Census research projects currently being proposed directly or indirectly involve the enumeration of historically undercounted populations. It is in this context that I write about our interwoven research agenda to address the 2030 Census enumeration of historically undercounted people.

Click here to continue.

Census Bureau Releases New Data on Minority-Owned, Veteran-Owned and Women-Owned Businesses

The U.S. Census Bureau today released new estimates on the characteristics of employer businesses. According to the 2022 Annual Business Survey (ABS), which covers reference year 2021, there were approximately 5.9 million employer firms in total, of which, 1.2 million (21%) were minority-owned, 304,823 (5.2%) were veteran-owned, and around 1.3 million (22%) were owned by women. This release also includes demographic data by Urban and Rural classification, employment size, receipt size, and the years in business of each firm.

Within the ABS, minority-owned firms are classified as any race and ethnicity combination other than non-Hispanic and White, and nonminority firms are classified as non-Hispanic and White. The ABS is sponsored by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) within the National Science Foundation and conducted jointly with the Census Bureau.

Click here to continue.

2023 Product and Event Calendar

The U.S. Census Bureau has posted anticipated release dates for each regular and recurring statistical product scheduled for release in 2022.

Archived Back to Data Basics Webinar Series

If you are looking to improve your data skills, Back to Data Basics is a great opportunity to learn from our experts about how to access and utilize a variety of Census Bureau data products, tools, and resources.

Training Resources

Visit the Census Bureau's Educational Resource Library for previously recorded, free training available at your convenience. The library includes presentations, recorded webinars, tutorials and other helpful materials.

Upcoming Webinars

Puerto Rico Webinar Series: County Business Patterns & Census Business Builder

Monday, November 6
Time: 2:00PM EST

This webinar series, provided by the U.S. Census Bureau, will highlight data and online resources for Puerto Rico. This series will cover data found in a wide range of surveys and programs. You will learn about product information from international trade, workforce data from Quarterly Workforce Indicator and business data from the County Business Patterns, the Business Trends and Outlook Survey and the Economic Census Island Areas.

This webinar will provide an overview of County Business Patterns (CBP) and a demonstration of Census Business Builder (CBB). CBP is an annual series that provides number of establishments, employment, payroll for most U.S. and Puerto Rico business establishments. The CBB is an interactive visual map that combines demographic and business data to help businesses and trade organizations learn about their industry at different levels of geography.

CONFIRMED RELEASE DATE: 2023 National Population Projections

The U.S. Census Bureau will release the 2023 National Population Projections which provide an in-depth analysis of the nation's population looking forward to 2100, including its size and composition by age, sex, race, Hispanic origin and nativity. The 2023 projections include a main series and three alternative scenarios with varying assumptions about international migration. Embargo subscribers can access these projections beginning at 10 a.m. EST, Tuesday, November 7. (Scheduled for release Thursday, November 9.)

Foreign Born Report

The U.S. Census Bureau will release a new report providing an overview of the foreign-born population residing in the United States, highlighting select demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. The report is based on American Community Survey (ACS) 1-Year estimates and compares data from 2010 and 2022, providing insights into the changing composition of the foreign-born population over the course of the past decade. (Tentatively scheduled for release November 15.)

New Brief Provides Detailed DHC-A Guidance

October 24, 2023 — The U.S. Census Bureau today released the latest in a series of briefs describing the disclosure avoidance methods used to protect 2020 Census data products. "Disclosure Avoidance Methods for the Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A): How SafeTab-P Works" describes the formally private algorithm used to protect the Detailed DHC-A data and provides guidance for data users. The Detailed DHC-A was released September 21.

More briefs are in development that will provide specific guidance for using the 2020 Census data. The full list of briefs released to date includes:

- Disclosure Avoidance Methods for the Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A): How SafeTab-P Works
- Disclosure Avoidance and the 2020 Census Redistricting Data
- Why the Census Bureau Chose Differential Privacy
- Disclosure Avoidance and the 2020 Census: How the TopDown Algorithm Works
- Disclosure Avoidance for the 2020 Census: An Introduction (Handbook)

The Census Bureau wants to ensure its products meet data users' needs and welcomes feedback and questions at 2020DAS@census.gov.

American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month: November 2023

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. The event culminated an effort by Red Fox James, a member of the Blackfeet Nation, who rode across the nation on horseback seeking approval from 24 state governments to have a day to honor American Indians. In 1990, more than seven decades later, then-President George H.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating the month of November "National American Indian Heritage Month."

Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994 to recognize what is now called "American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month." This Facts for Features presents statistics for the American Indian and Alaska Native population, one of the six major race categories defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget.

Click here interesting facts!