Census Scientific Advisory Meeting Fall 2019

Highlights and Takeaways

New Additions to the Scientific Advisory Committee

- Joe Whitley, Government Enforcement and Investigations Practice, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC
  Full Bio.
- Llewellyn Fischer, Adjunct Instructor, U.S. Department of Agriculture Graduate School, Georgetown University.
  Full Bio.
- Luther Carter, President, Francis Marion Universiry
  Full Bio.

2020 Census Update
Full Slide deck here.

- In-field address canvassing is "ahead of schedule and up-to-date."
- As of Sept. 9th more than 675,000 applications have been received for 2020 Census jobs.
- First wave of 2020 Census area offices are fully operational, with the second wave set to be up and running by Nov. 29th
- Florida and Nebraska are not forming Complete Count Committees, while South Dakota is considering forming one. States without Complete Count Committees have local committees dedicated to promote 2020 Census outreach.

Integrated Communications Program and Partnership Programs
Full slide deck here and here.

- Partnership specialist number 1,300, short of the 1,500 that were supposed to be on board by June 30
- Teaching resources for pre-K and other teachers are being released to help improve the count of children under 5.
- The final version of the 2020 Census media plan is expected in November, when the Bureau will finish buying ads to promote engagement. These ads plan to evaluate the effectiveness of these ads on a daily basis, according to advertising contractor VMLY&R
- "Fighting 2020 Census Rumors" website is up and collecting tips/questions about potential false information at rumors@census.gov

2020 Data Products

Full slide deck

- For products not supported by the new disclosure avoidance system, the Bureau is conducting outreach to understand what the "must-have" table are
- A 2010 demonstration data products file is being developed that will allow external data users to examine the impact on accuracy of using differential privacy. The public release is targeted for October 2019.
- 2020 data products will include an initial set of products which will include legally mandated products and products with tables that are expected to be supported by the differentially private disclosure avoidance system; a later set of products are planned to be produce that will include tables that will be protected using other formal privacy systems
- The current disclosure avoidance system either supports or is being expanded to support the following data products
  - Apportionment product
  - Redistricting File (PL 94-171)
  - Demographic Profile
  - Demographic and Housing Characteristics File
  - Congressional District Demographic and Housing Characteristics File
- Census Bureau is developing other formal privacy systems for public data product that include the following tables
  - Detailed race and Hispanic origin tables and some family/household tables included in Summary File 1 in 2010
  - Summary File 2
  - American Indian and Alaska Native Summary File
  - Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) File
- Census Bureau is not proposing to produce the following products for 2020
  - Summary of Population and Housing Characteristics
  - Population and Housing Unit Counts Report Series
- Proposed Additional Data Products
  - Census Briefs
  - Population and Housing Tables
  - Special Reports

Disclosure Avoidance and Administrative Data

Slide Deck here.

- Formal Privacy methods for the American Community Survey will not be implemented before 2025, all current efforts are focused on formal privacy methods for the 2020 Census.
- The apportionment population count method will be identical to the method used for the 2010 Census, but with the 2020 Census residence criteria, using the Census Unedited File, which does not contain any citizenship data.

- The Paperwork Reduction Act clearance package for the 2020 Census and Executive Order 13880 commit the Bureau to releasing Citizen Voting Age Population by March 31, 2021, which will be produced by combining administrative data from a number of federal (and possibly state) agencies into a separate micro-data file that will contain a "best citizenship" variable for every person in the 2020 Census.
- CVAP data will be produced at the block-level and released to the public by March 31, 2021
- The Census Bureau's internal working group has set March 31, 2020 as the final data for determining the viability of each potential administrative data source on citizenship