

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

Panel to Evaluate the Quality of the 2020 Census
Committee on National Statistics
Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

Fourth Meeting, Panel to Evaluate the Quality of the 2020 Census
November 16–18, 2021
Virtual Format

• • •

Please note:

- *All times are Eastern Daylight Time.*
- *This meeting will be recorded for internal purposes only, to aid the panel's subsequent discussions, and the audio/video recordings will not be posted online.*
- *Floor discussion/question-and-answer periods are intended to permit panel members to ask questions.*
- *Should discussion in the open session periods wind down earlier than expected, the panel reserves the right to adjourn to closed/deliberative session at the discretion of the chair.*

Day 1: Tuesday, November 16 — Open Session, 12:30–5:00pm, as necessary

12:30pm

Call to Order, and Introductions

5

TERESA SULLIVAN, *Chair, University of Virginia*

12:35pm

Update on the Postenumeration Survey (PES)

The panel received an overview on the PES in Meeting 1 in July; this is a deeper dive on the conduct, current status, and plans for the PES, and the unique challenges of fielding and conducting the PES in this census. The presentation should also include discussion of how the PES team is grappling with the question of the effect of delay of response on the accuracy of response.

60

JUDY BELTON AND TIMOTHY KENNEL, *U.S. Census Bureau*

1:35pm

Overview of the Data Stewardship Executive Policy (DSEP) Committee and Its Processes

The composition and operations of DSEP are not well known publicly, and the objective of this session is to have a concise summary of DSEP and its role in governing disclosure avoidance procedures and the release of information outlined for the record. In particular, the panel would like to hear a rationale for releasing or not releasing census operational and quality metrics at various levels of geography.

60

MONIQUE ELEBY, *U.S. Census Bureau*

2:35pm

Break

2:50pm **Overview of Census Partnership Operations in the 2020 Census**

Partnership activities were a critical part of census operations, particularly given the challenging circumstances of the 2020 count. This operational overview is akin to those on other census operations in Meetings 1–3: a brief description of how partnerships were handled in 2010 and earlier, a description of what was planned for 2020, an emphasis on how things shifted and operations were actually conducted during 2020, and—absent any evaluation results as yet—clear or known directions for partnership activities in building to 2030.

40 ROBIN BACHMAN AND WILLETTE ALLEN, *U.S. Census Bureau*

3:30pm **Roundtable Discussion: Stakeholder and Partner Initial Impressions of the Quality of the 2020 Census**

During Meeting 1, the panel invited public comment on its charge. Now that the first major release of 2020 Census data has been accomplished (the P.L. 94-171 redistricting data) and plans develop for subsequent releases, the panel is inviting a selection of census stakeholders and partners to discuss their initial impressions of the quality of the 2020 Census with the panel. We anticipate that the invitees will have up to 10 minutes for opening remarks before the floor is opened for general discussion/Q&A with the panel.

BILL O’HARE, *O’Hare Data and Demographic Services*

SUSAN BROWER, *Minnesota State Demographer and 2020 Census partnership coordinator for the state of Minnesota*

ERIC GUTHRIE, *Minnesota State Demographic Center (since May 2021) and formerly Michigan State Demographer*

KIMBALL BRACE, *Election Data Services, Inc.*

CLARK BENSON, *POLIDATA Political Data Analysis*

90 GWYNNE EVANS-LOMAYESVA, *National Congress of American Indians*

5:00pm **Planned Adjournment of Day 1**

Days 2 and 3: Wednesday, November 17, 10:30am–1:30pm, and Thursday, November 18, 12:30–4:30pm — <i>Closed Sessions, Panel Members and Staff Only</i>

The panel will meet in closed/deliberative session for the entirety of sessions on November 17–18 to discuss the information received in the open session on Day 1 of the meeting and to work on the panel’s first report.

PANEL TO EVALUATE THE QUALITY OF THE 2020 CENSUS

TERESA A. SULLIVAN (*Chair*), Department of Sociology, University of Virginia
MARGO ANDERSON, Department of History, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee (emerita)
ROBERT M. BELL, Google and AT&T Labs (retired)
KATHRYN EDIN, Department of Sociology, Princeton University
MARC HAMEL, Statistics Canada (retired)
GEORGE T. LIGLER, GTL Associates, Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina
THOMAS A. LOUIS, Department of Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins University (emeritus)
LLOYD B. POTTER, Texas Demographic Center, University of Texas at San Antonio
JOSEPH J. SALVO, New York City Department of City Planning (retired)
REGINA SHIH, Social and Behavioral Policy, RAND, Atlanta
C. MATTHEW SNIPP, Department of Sociology, Stanford University
EDWARD TELLES, Department of Sociology, University of California, Irvine
WENDY UNDERHILL, National Conference of State Legislatures, Denver
DAVID VAN RIPER, Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota

STATEMENT OF TASK

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will appoint an ad hoc panel to review and evaluate the quality of the data that were collected in the 2020 Census. As part of its work, the panel will:

1. Review information from the Census Bureau on the data collected as well as various process measures and indicators of data quality obtained as part of the 2020 Census operations;
2. Review other available information, such as results from demographic analysis, process measures and preliminary results from the post-enumeration survey; and analyses of administrative records; and
3. Consider the results from evaluations of similar indicators from the 2010 and 2000 Censuses.

The panel will produce an interim report with its initial findings and conclusions, and a final report that includes conclusions about the quality of the data collected in the 2020 Census and makes recommendations for further research by the Census Bureau to evaluate the quality of the 2020 data and to begin planning the 2030 Census. The panel's reports will be reviewed according to institutional review procedures and released publicly on the National Academies Press web site.

On its working timeline, the panel's fifth meeting is not slated to occur until the week of **May 2, 2022**, though it will almost certainly seek to schedule an additional meeting before then (but after the completion of its first report).