

2030 Census Advisory Committee Fall Meeting

Deputy director's remarks as prepared for delivery

October 17, 2024

WELCOME

- Good morning everyone, and thank you for joining us today. I'm happy to be meeting again.
- There are a few, short announcements I'd also like to share. Starting off with...

BUDGET

- An update on our current budget...
- We continue our multiyear process of transforming our organization and operations from a survey-centric model to a data-centric model, where we can more readily blend survey data with administrative and alternative digital data sources.
- The Census Bureau's FY 2025 budget request totals just under \$1.58 billion—or \$195 million over the FY24 Enacted budget.
- Currently, we are operating under a Continuing Resolution, based on the FY 2024 Enacted budget of just over \$1.38 billion.
- The FY 2025 Senate Mark proposes to fund the Census Bureau at the full FY 2025 request level.
- However, the House Mark for FY 2025 is just over \$1.35 billion—or \$224 million (14%) below the FY 2025 budget request and \$29 million (2%) below the FY 2024 Enacted budget.
- The FY 2025 request supports the Census Bureau's core operations and invests in new data products, methods, and crosscutting research techniques and enterprise technology.
- Some of the investments in the FY 2025 budget are:
 - The 2030 Census program, which will be transitioning from the Design Selection Phase into the Development and Integration Phase. Acquisition work also continues in FY 2025 for major contracts to support development, integration, infrastructure, and communications, as well as preparing for the 2026 Census Test.
 - The 2022 Economic Census data release and planning efforts for the 2027 Economic Census and the Census of Governments.
 - The Business Ecosystem, including:
 - The onboarding of new surveys into CEDSCI and its migration into the cloud.
 - DICE, as it enters its peak year of software development, will migrate 7 surveys into production and will start development of 31 surveys, including operational components of the Decennial Census Program's 2026 Census Test
- Modernizing the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) and restoring the fielded sample to 53,000 cases to ensure SIPP remains a leading source of comprehensive information on the dynamics of income, employment, household composition, and government program participation.
- Establishes the Puerto Rico Economic Program, including an annual Puerto Rico Economic Survey and a monthly/quarterly economic indicator collection for Puerto Rico, to produce key measures of Puerto Rico that are critical to its future economic prosperity.

PUERTO RICO FSRDC

- Last month, I had the honor of attending the ribbon cutting ceremony of the first-ever Puerto Rico Federal Statistic Research Data Center. This is the first FSRDC in a U.S. territory.
- At the Census Bureau, we are working diligently to expand data infrastructure in Puerto Rico, and an FSRDC is a fantastic way of doing that.
- With these centers, qualified researchers can access restricted-use microdata from a variety of statistical agencies to address important research questions. Federal and state statistical agencies collaborate with the Census Bureau to provide microdata to approved researchers in the secure FSRDC environment.
- Currently, seven federal partner agencies provide data directly through the FSRDCs. And, many other agencies who sponsor surveys or collect administrative data, collaborate with the FSRDC program by making available the data collected from respondents or program participants.
- Access to FSRDC data will enhance the statistical capacity right the island. The data will enable local officials, industry leaders and third sector to make more informed, timely data-driven decisions. And, it will also allow local academics to address previously unanswerable research questions.
- As you all know, our goal is to empower decision-makers, businesses, researchers, and the public with timely, accurate, reliable, and meaningful data.
- The Census Bureau currently partners with several organizations in Puerto Rico and we hope to continually add to that list. We understand the importance of good data, and we're excited of the work and collaboration that's to come.
- The FSRDC will officially open later this fall.

CONCLUSION

- I'd like to echo the words of Director Santos and say that this is indeed an exciting time as we prepare for the 2030 Census.
- As you all know, attempting to count every person living in the United States is a major task.
- The planning and execution of every decennial census is informed by research, lessons learned, and stakeholder input, with a wide range of expertise from partners like yourselves and Census Bureau professionals. And of course, extensive testing.
- Each decennial census is different, and they take over a decade of planning and preparation, and the 2026 Census Test is an important part of that preparation.
- I look forward to the discussions these next two days and appreciate your support and partnership.
- Thank you.