

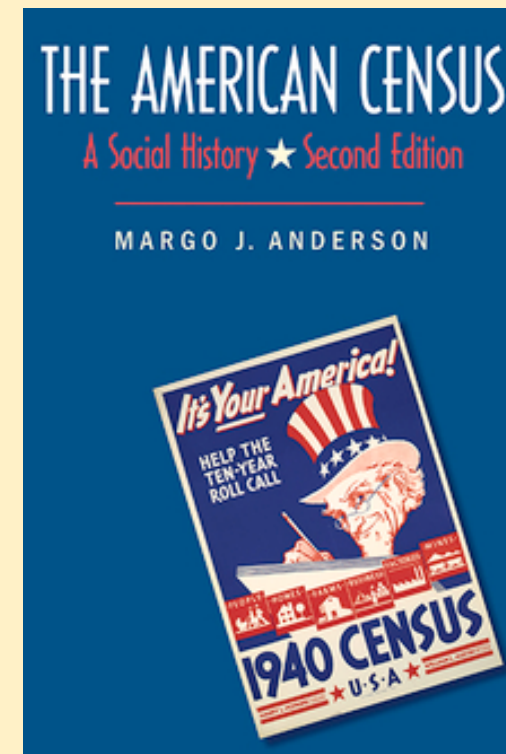
United States™
Census
2020

WHO COUNTS? AND HOW & WHERE & WHY? Taking the Census in a Pandemic

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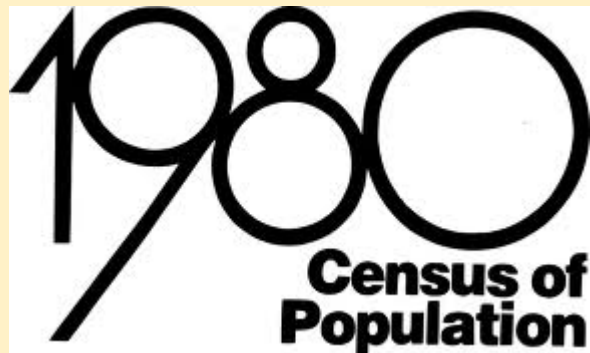
<https://margoanderson.org>



Let's explore a Whirlwind History of *How*, and *Where* and *Why* we take a Census Every 10 Years...and *How* History can guide us in a pandemic

- The Census was created in the 1787 Constitution to **apportion** seats in the House of Representatives and Electoral College among the states.
- The demographic history of the US, e.g., **population growth and change**, affects the political system
- **Diversity!** (And what does that mean?)

The U.S. has taken a census every ten years since 1790...let's look back....



The Census is a

- Rare, Repeated, Unobtrusive event in American political life...
- Rare:
 - The 2020 Census is the 24th in 220 years.
 - By comparison the US has had 45 presidents, and 58 presidential elections. The 116th Congress is currently in session.

The Census is a

- Rare, Repeated, Unobtrusive event in American political life...
- Repeated:
 - Successfully every ten years since 1790, despite wars, including the Civil War, economic crises, political turmoil.

The Census is a

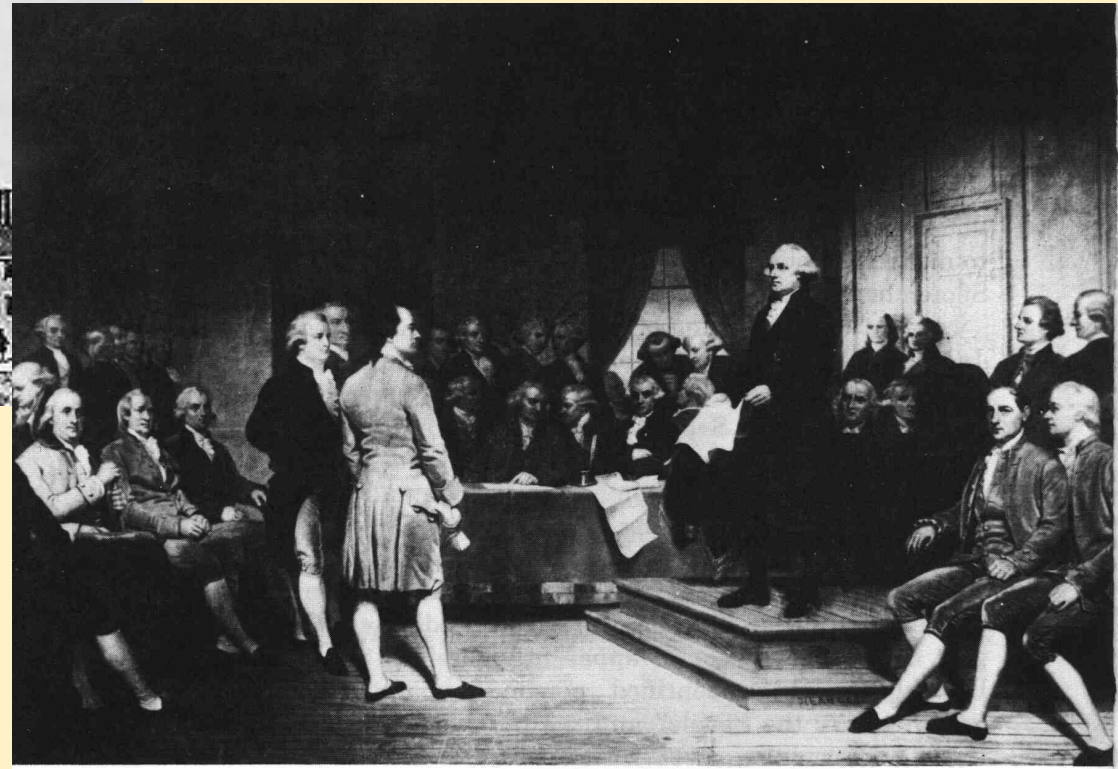
- Rare, Repeated, Unobtrusive event in American political life...
- Unobtrusive, Almost Invisible:
 - Most people don't remember the last one, the one before that, the one before that...

The Census also is....Janus faced

- It always looks both backwards to where the country has been and forward to where it's going
 - in methods and the questions asked,
 - the results,
 - and most clearly in the reapportionment and redistricting of political power each decade



Building the American State: Writing the Constitution of 1787



WE the People
of New-Hampshire,
Rhode-Island and
Massachusetts,
Connecticut, New-York, New-
Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia,
North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, do hereby
convene and establish the following Constitution
of Ourselves and our Posterity.

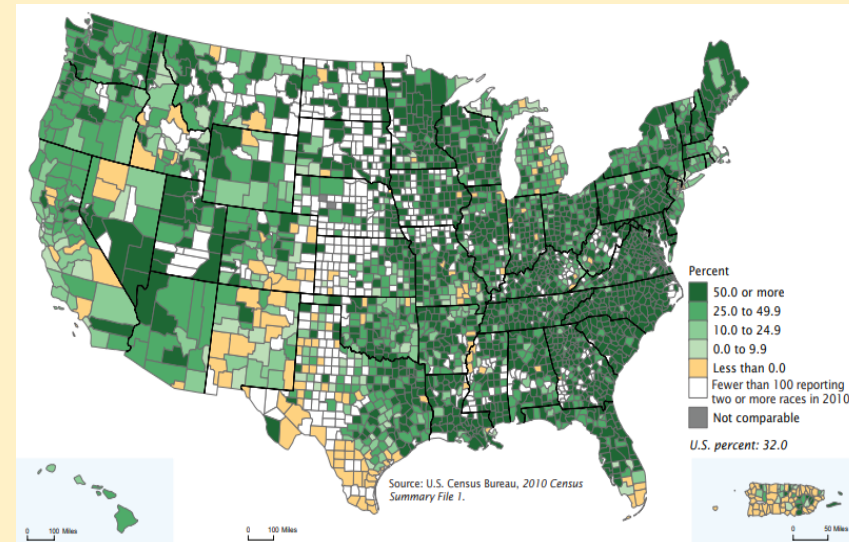
Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 3 of the Constitution

- **Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct.**

Importance of the Census

- The US was the **first nation** in the world to **take** a regular census and **use** it to allocate seats in a national assembly according to population.
- The U.S. has had one of the **most demographically dynamic and diverse populations** in the history of the world.
- Thus **the census is truly central** to the successful functioning of the American political system.

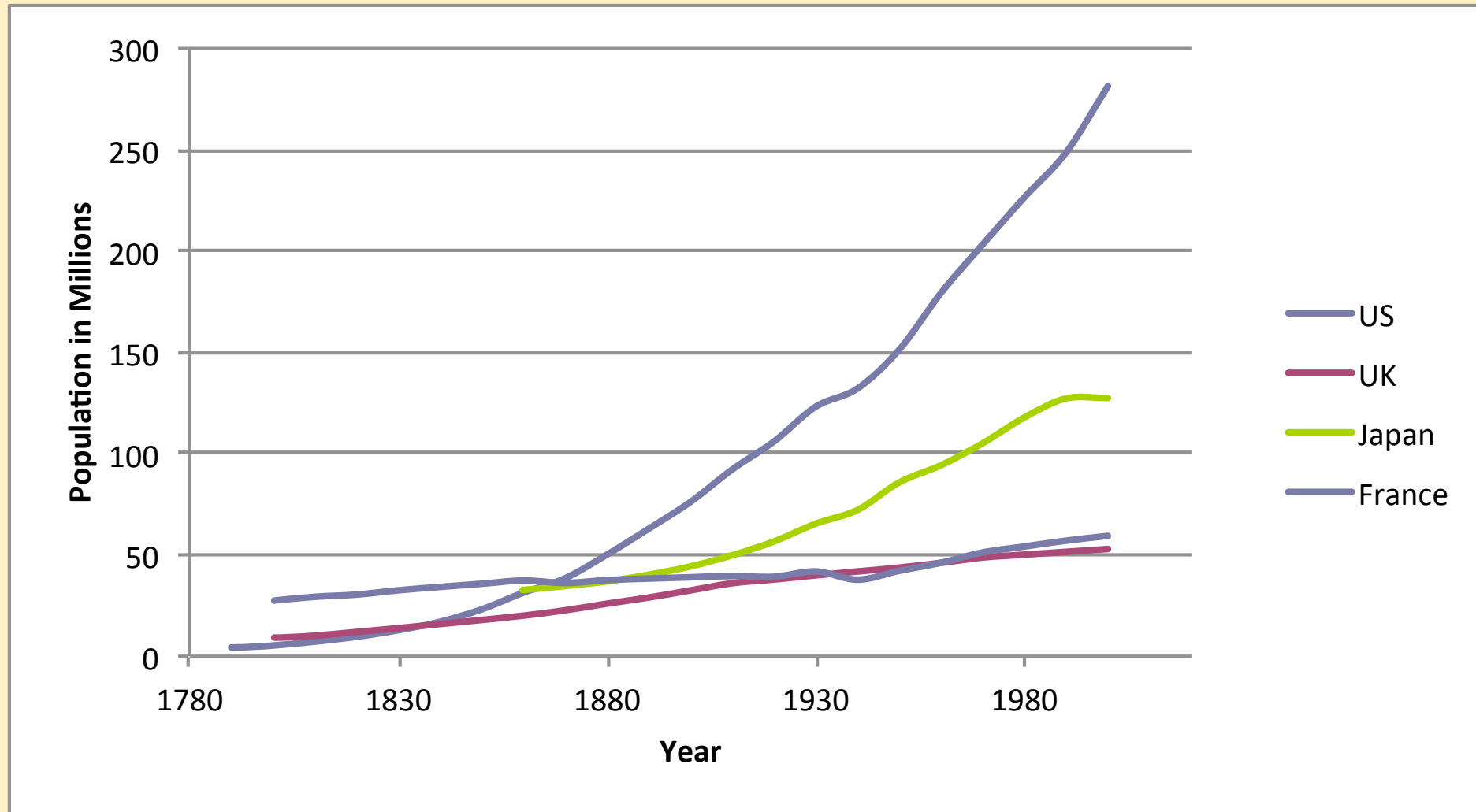
Percent Change in Two or More Races Population: 2000 to 2010



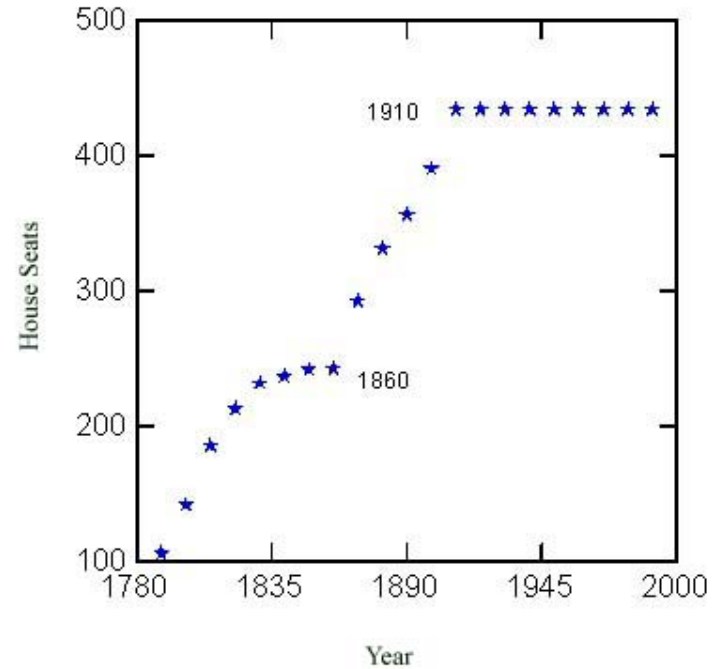
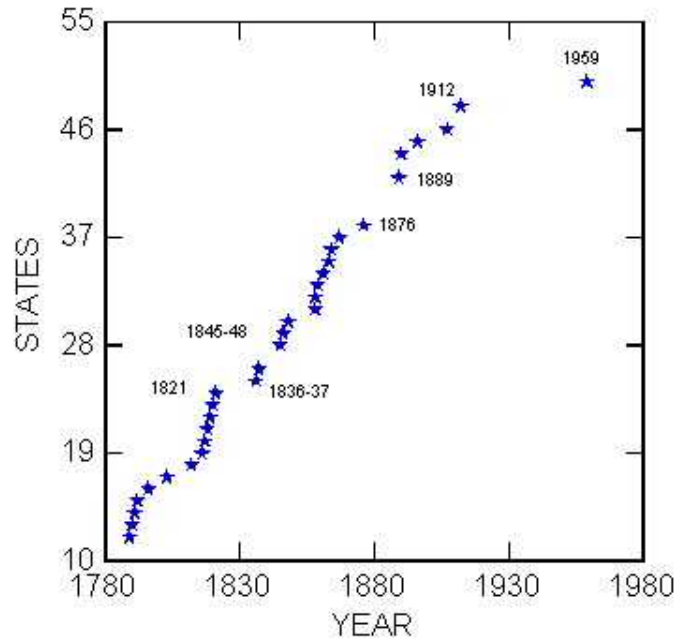
From 3.9 million to ~330 million: Growth

- 13 states have become 50 states.
- House of Representatives grew from 65 to 435 members.
- The average congressional district after the 2010 Census was larger than the total population of any of the original 13 states in 1790.
- Growth has been differential: some states and local areas lose while others gain.

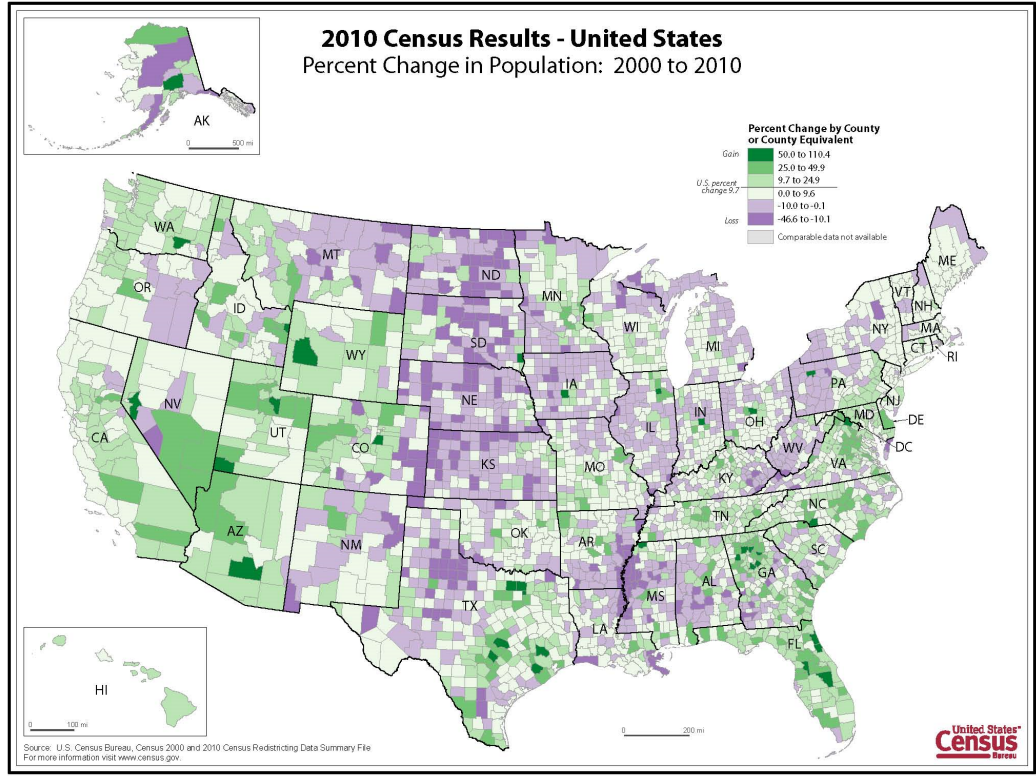
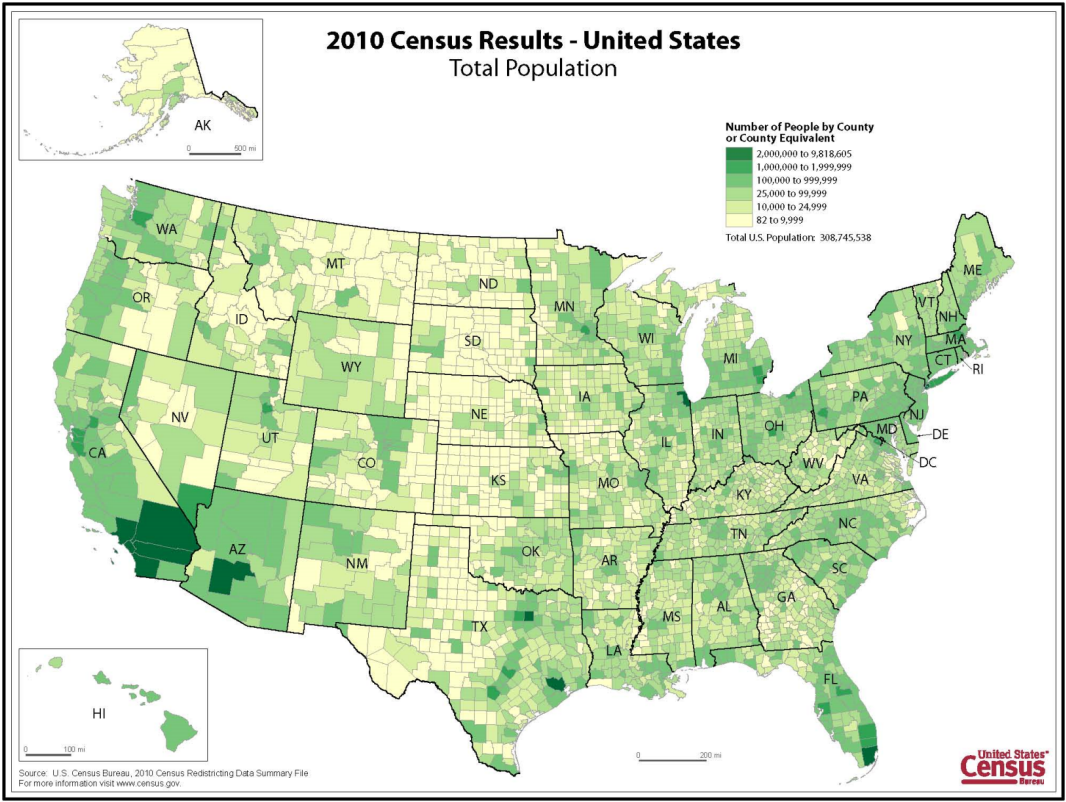
Population, United States, Japan, United Kingdom, France, 1790-2010



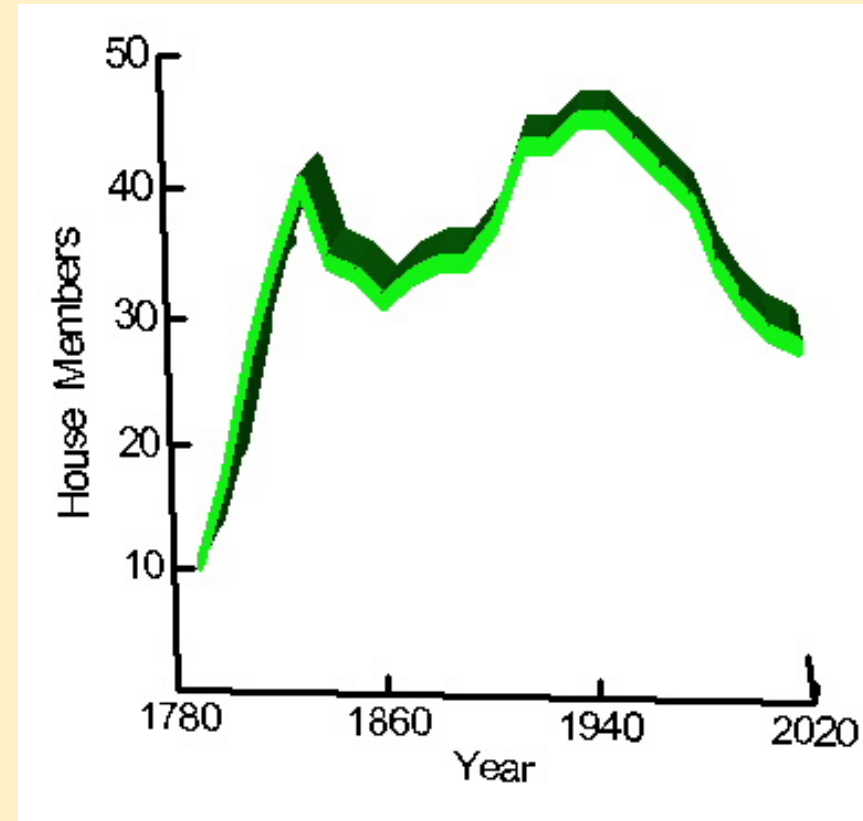
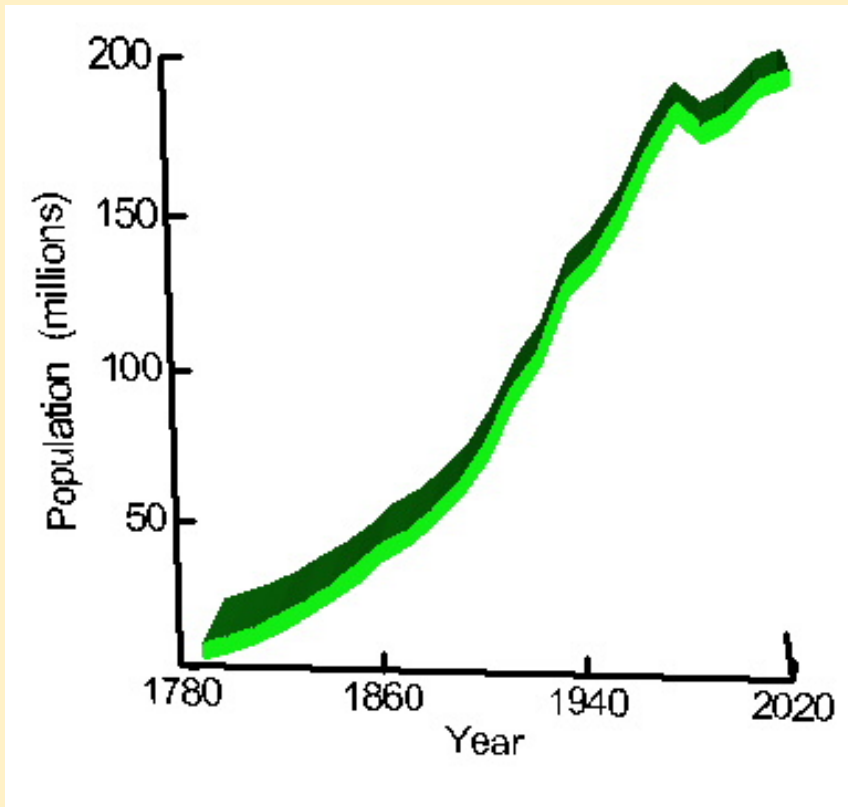
Admitting States to the Union and Growth of the House of Representatives



Dynamism and Diversity



Differential Population Growth: New York State Population and House Delegation, 1790-2010



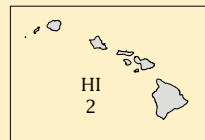
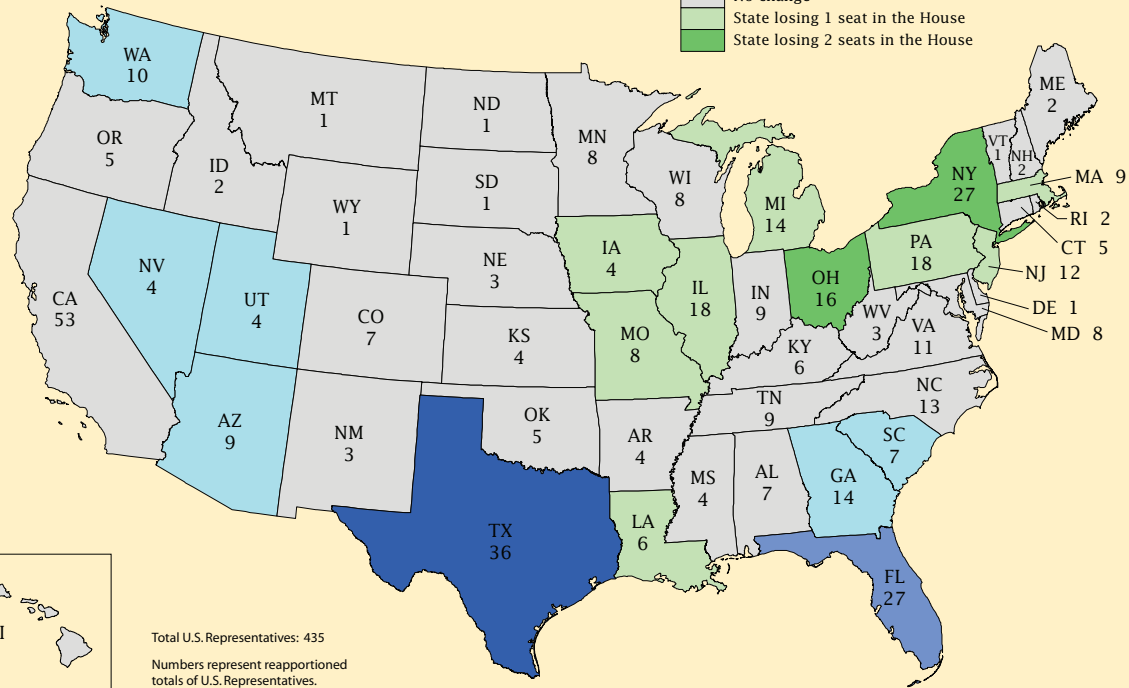
Changes in House Seats: 2010



Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives
Based on the 2010 Census

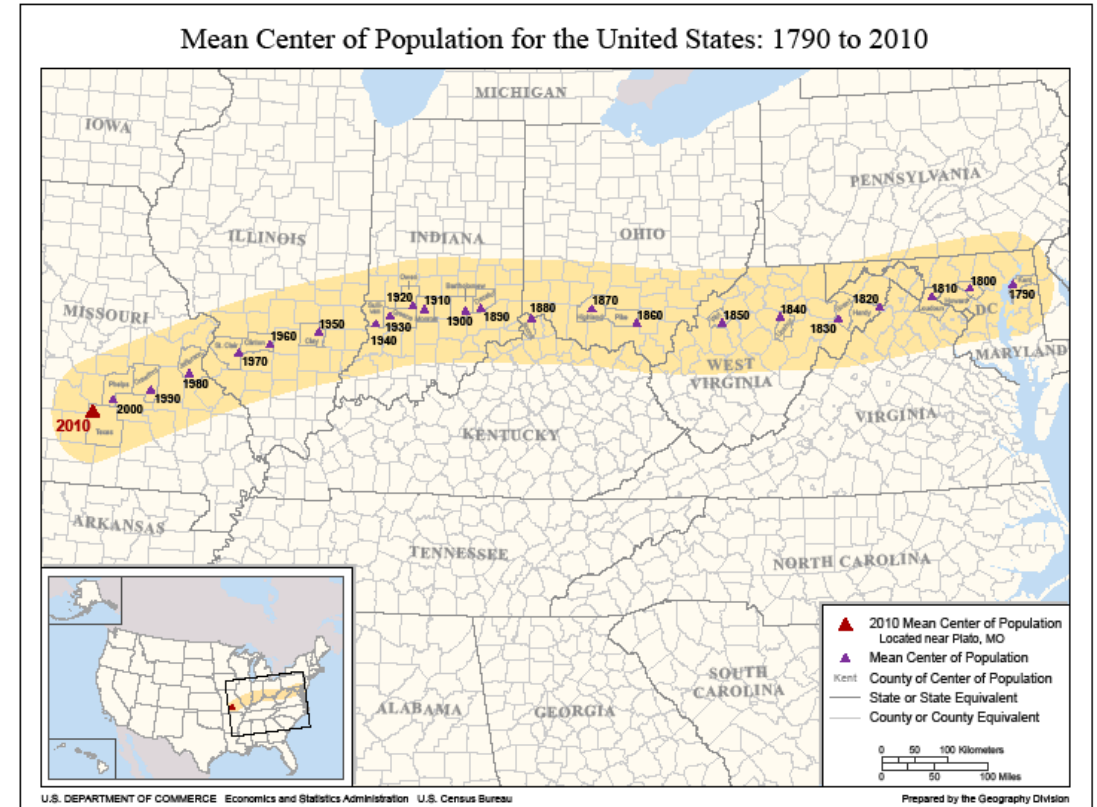
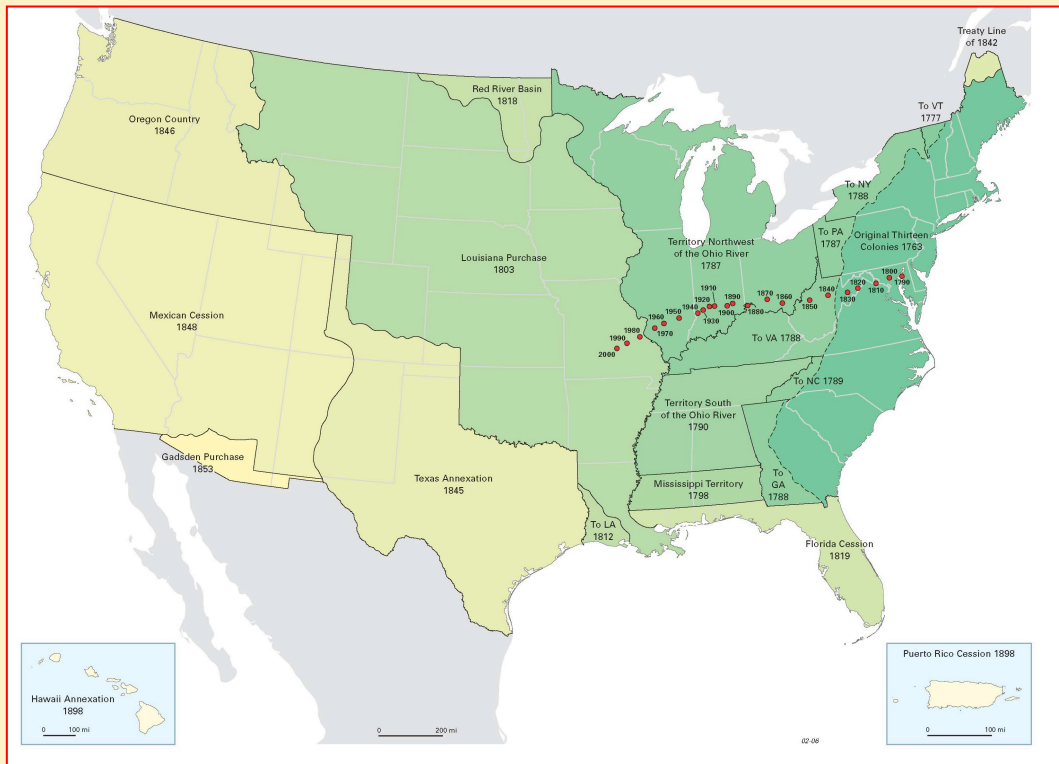
Change from 2000 to 2010

- State gaining 4 seats in the House
- State gaining 2 seats in the House
- State gaining 1 seat in the House
- No change
- State losing 1 seat in the House
- State losing 2 seats in the House



Total U.S. Representatives: 435
Numbers represent reapportioned totals of U.S. Representatives.

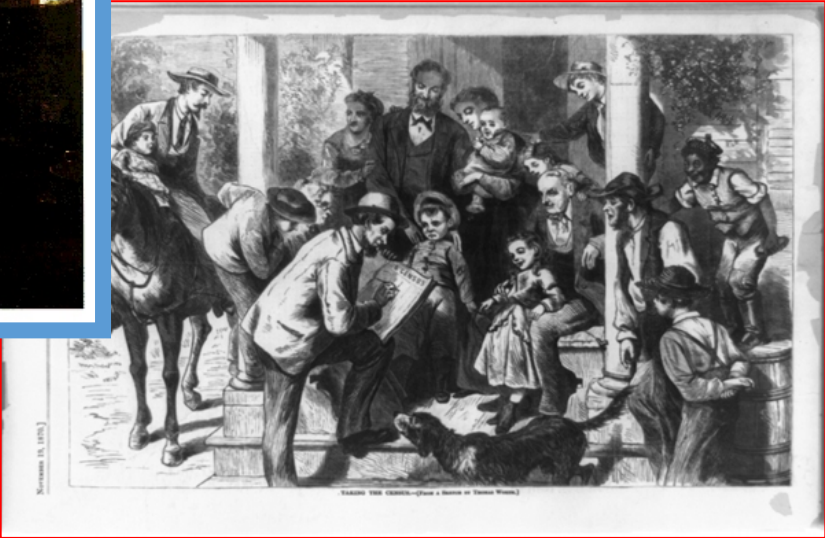
Geographic Diversity: Westward Expansion



Geographic Diversity and Legislative Redistricting: The First Gerrymander, 1812



Technical Change and Continuity in Taking the Census



Questions....

- Asked in every census since 1790 in some form:
 - Age,
 - Sex,
 - Race/Ethnicity,
 - Location,
 - Household composition

But....

- Questions change as society and economy change...
 - Most notoriously, the census identified people by slave or free status from 1790 to 1860.
- The level of detail in the answers change: e.g., pre coded or open ended.
- Not everyone is asked every question
 - For example, it doesn't make sense to ask children about their incomes or occupations.
- Instructions say to skip a question if not relevant.

Technology

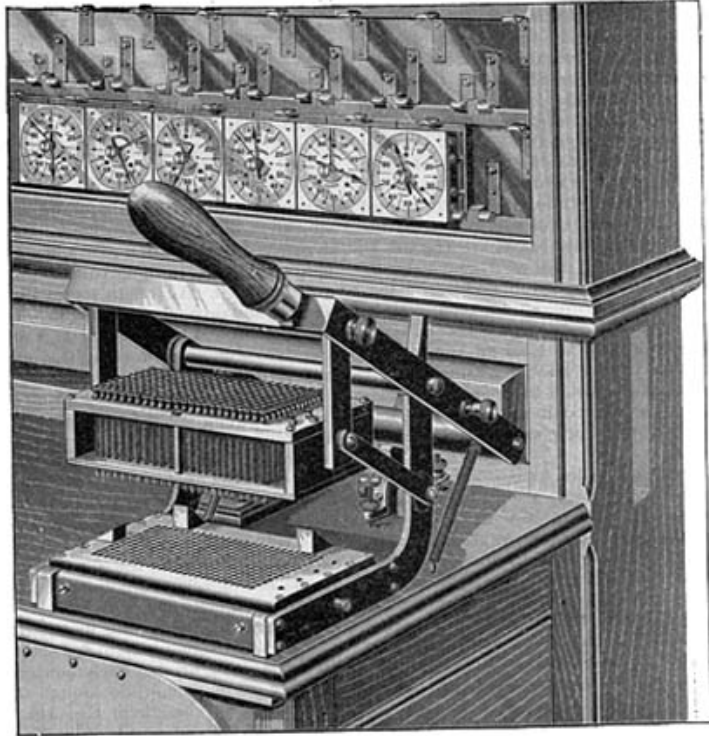
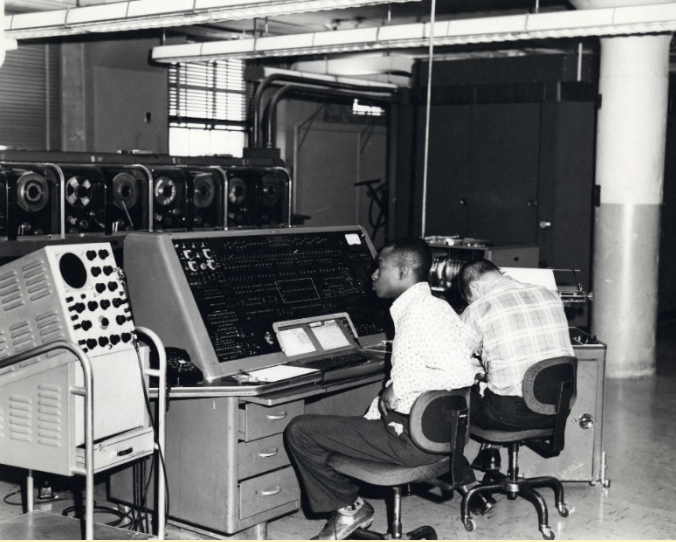


Fig. 8 - Circuit-Closing Press.
Hollerith's Electric Sorting and Tabulating Machine.



Univac, 1950 Census



Mapping the Old Fashioned Way...1960 Example



TIGER-MAF Arrives in 1990

Census.gov



25th Anniversary of TIGER

Rekind 1991, *"The History of GIS"*

A Topological Database for GIS

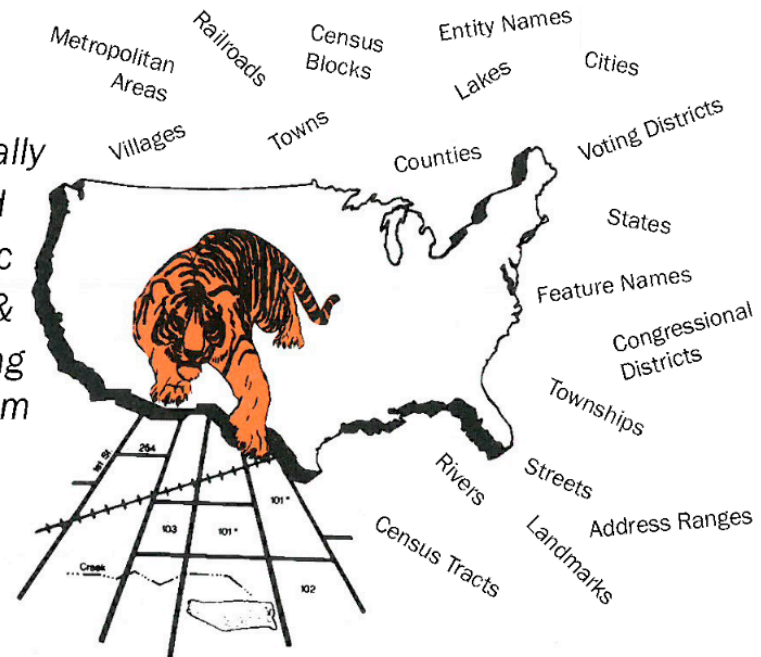
The basic structure of the TIGER database integrates the geometry of a map and attributes of its associated geographic features into a single, interlocking physical file. The design of the database adapted the theories of topology, graph theory, and associated fields of mathematics to provide a disciplined, mathematical description of the geographic structure of the entire United States and the outlying areas, which the database covers without any gaps or overlaps.

[U.S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. *Census '90*.]

Following the development of GIS in the 1970s and 1980s regional, state, and local governments, and civic organizations got into the act of using census data to support planning and analysis. Specialized areas (i.e., health districts, transportation zones, school districts, and police precincts) that follow census boundaries required easy access to public data. GIS users needed an easy way to link, or tabulate statistical data to all levels of census geography for geographical analysis.

These GIS users also needed a geospatial framework to relate census geography to their administrative areas and boundaries. Improved and customized GIS software required a database that could adapt and grow, but building a seamless database with wall-to-wall coverage of every state in the nation was impossible for startup companies to generate themselves. The Census Bureau recognized this demand for data for geospatial analysis, and also needed to establish consistency in its own digital base map development and geocoding processes to avoid an

Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding & Referencing System



What's Happening in 2020? From Paper to Smart Device

United States
Census 2010

This is the official form for all the people at this address.
It is quick and easy, and your answers are protected by law.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Use a blue or black pen.
Start here

The Census must count every person living in the United States on April 1, 2010.
Before you answer Question 1, count the people living in this house, apartment, or mobile home using our guidelines.

- Count all people, including babies, who live and sleep here most of the time.
- The Census Bureau also conducts counts in institutions and other places, so:
 - Do not count anyone living away either at college or in the Armed Forces.
 - Do not count anyone in a nursing home, jail, prison, detention facility, etc., on April 1, 2010.
 - Leave these people off your form, even if they will return to live here after they leave college, the nursing home, the military, jail, etc. Otherwise, they may be counted twice.
- The Census must also include people without a permanent place to stay, so:
 - If someone who has no permanent place to stay is staying here on April 1, 2010, count that person. Otherwise, he or she may be missed in the census.

1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2010?
Number of people =

2. Were there any additional people staying here April 1, 2010 that you did not include in Question 1? Mark X all that apply.

Children, such as newborn babies or foster children
 Relatives, such as adult children, cousins, or in-laws
 Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in baby sitters
 People staying here temporarily
 No additional people

3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home —
Mark X ONE box.

Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Include home equity loans.
 Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
 Rented?
 Occupied without payment of rent?

4. What is your telephone number? We may call if we don't understand an answer.
Area Code + Number
 - -

OMB No. 0007-0919-C Approval Expires 12/31/2011.
Form **D-61** (2-26-2008)

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

5. Please provide information for each person living here. Start with a person living here who owns or rents this house, apartment, or mobile home. If the owner or renter lives somewhere else, start with any adult living here. This will be Person 1.
What is Person 1's name? Print name below.
Last Name
First Name MI

6. What is Person 1's sex? Mark X ONE box.
 Male Female

7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? Please report babies as age 0 when the child is less than 1 year old. Print numbers in boxes.
Age on April 1, 2010
Month Day Year of birth

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
 No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
 Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
 Yes, Puerto Rican
 Yes, Cuban
 Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print origin, for example, Argentine, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spanish, and so on.

9. What is Person 1's race? Mark X one or more boxes.

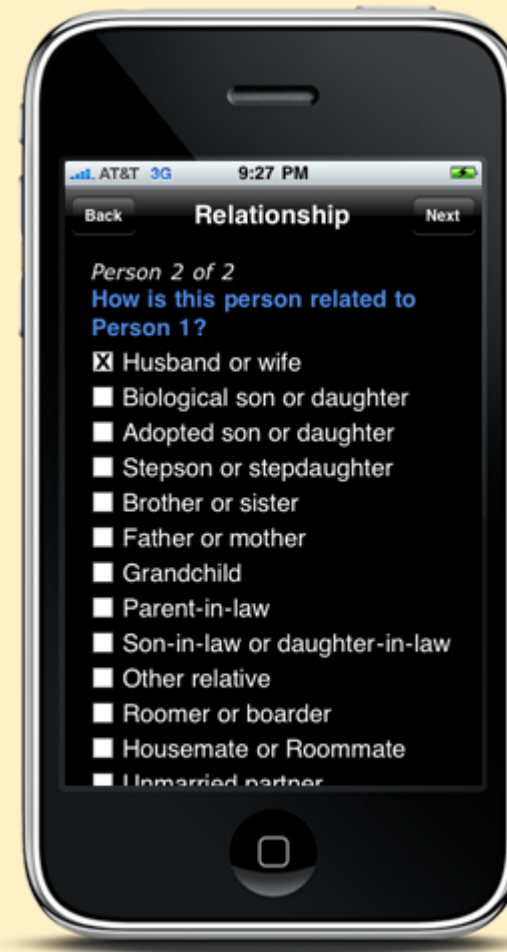
White
 Black, African Am., or Negro
 American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe.

Asian Indian Japanese Native Hawaiian
 Chinese Korean Guamanian or Chamorro
 Filipino Vietnamese Samoan
 Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on.
 Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on.

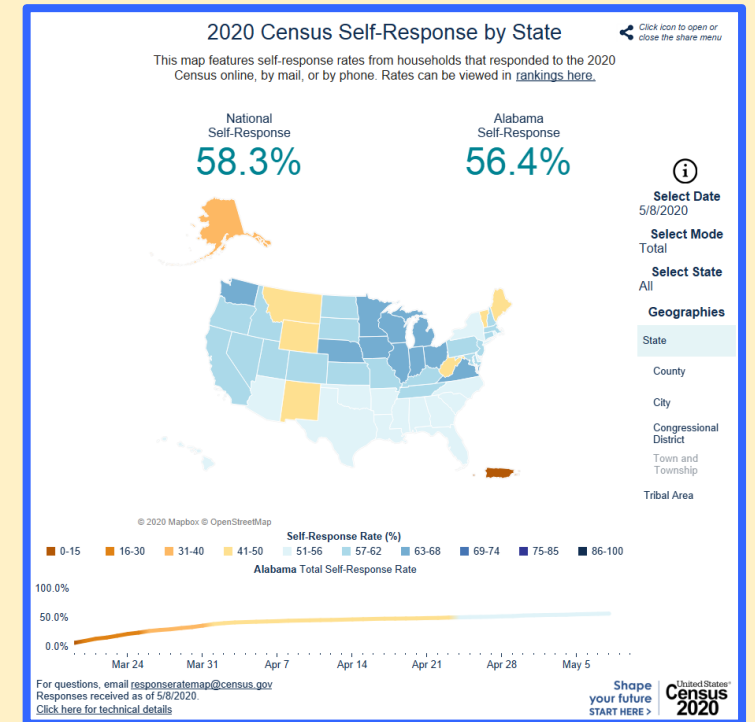
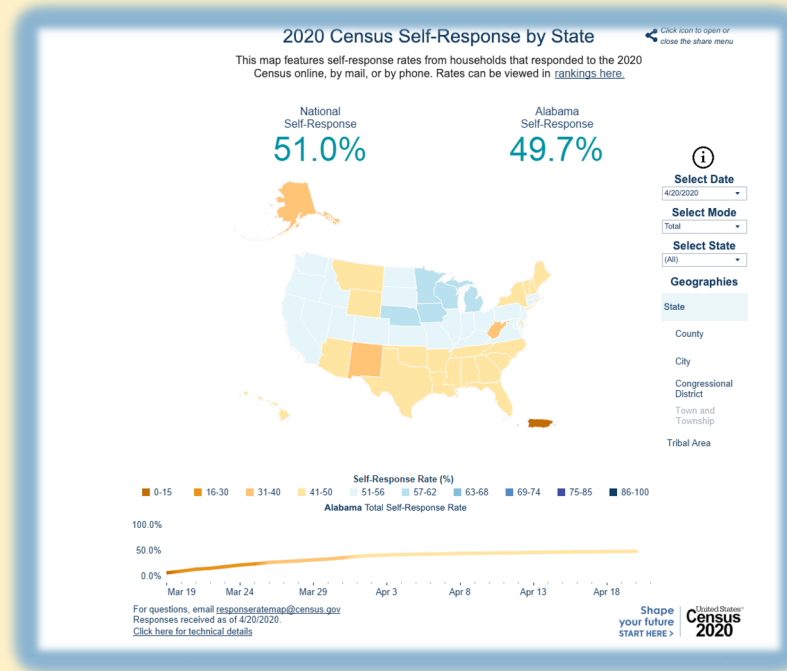
Some other race — Print race.

10. Does Person 1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?
 No Yes — Mark X all that apply.
 In college housing For child custody
 In the military In jail or prison
 At a seasonal or second residence In a nursing home
 For another reason

→ If more people were counted in Question 1, continue with Person 2.



Monitoring Daily Response Rates from Internet, Phone, Mail and In Person Modes



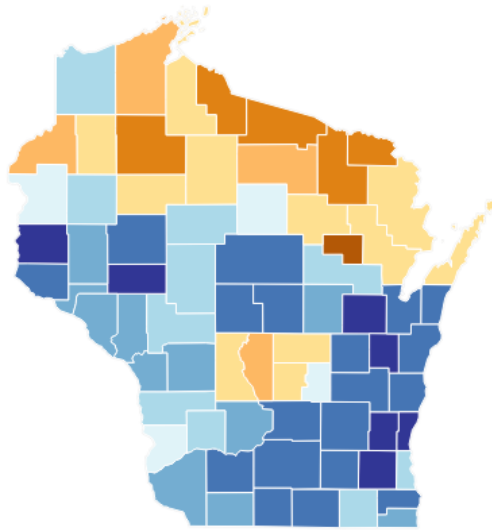
Self-Response by County

Click icon to open or close the share menu

This map features self-response rates from households that responded to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. Rates can be viewed in [rankings here](#).

Wisconsin
Self-Response
66.0%

Adams
Self-Response
37.2%



Select Date
5/8/2020

Select Mode
Total

Select State
Wisconsin

Select County
All

Geographies

Return to State

County

Census Tract

City

Congressional District

Town and Township

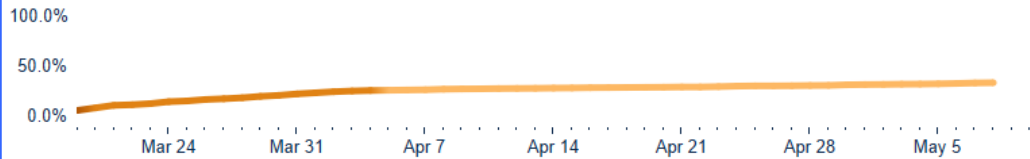
Tribal Area

© 2020 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Self-Response Rate (%)



Adams, Wisconsin Total Self-Response Rate



For questions, email responseratemap@census.gov
Responses received as of 5/8/2020.
[Click here for technical details](#)

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

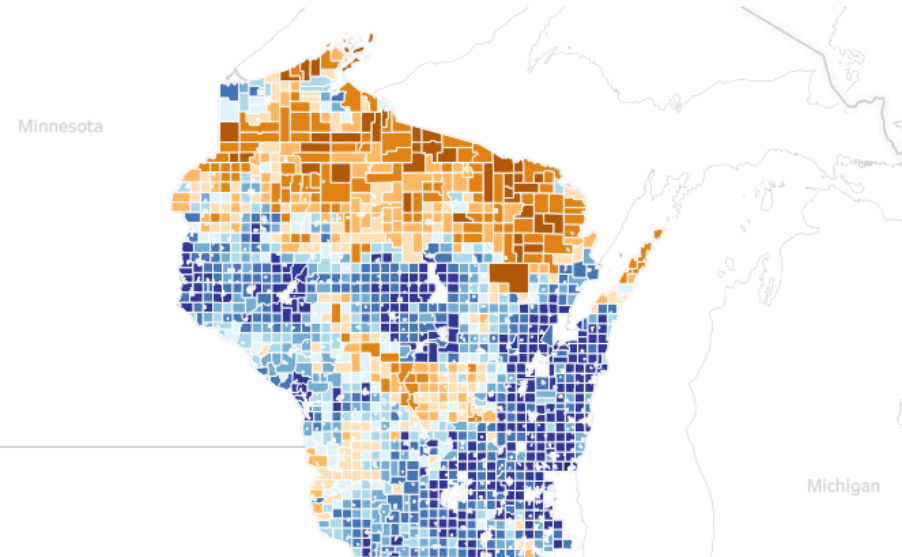
Self-Response by Township

Click icon to open or close the share menu

This map features self-response rates from households that responded to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. Rates can be viewed in [rankings here](#).

Wisconsin
Self-Response
66.0%

Abrams, Wisconsin
Self-Response
73.5%



Select Date
5/8/2020

Select Mode
Total

Select State
Wisconsin

Select Town
All

Geographies

Return to State

County

City

Congressional District

Town and Township

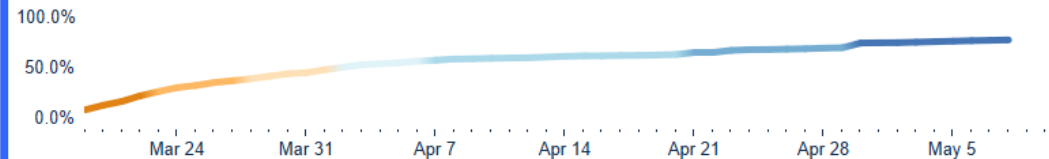
Tribal Area

© 2020 Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Self-Response Rate (%)



Abrams, Wisconsin Total Self-Response Rate



For questions, email responseratemap@census.gov
Responses received as of 5/8/2020.
[Click here for technical details](#)

Shape
your future
START HERE >

United States
Census
2020

Issues **BEFORE** the 2020 census

- How much will it cost?
- Will Congress or the President have different ideas for 2020?
- Will Americans respond as they have in the past?
- What impact will the count have on reapportionment and redistricting?
- Citizenship controversy
- Litigation
- Accuracy

Issues **DURING** the 2020 census

- The covid-19 pandemic hit as the census was starting in January 2020
- First counting done in Alaska:
 - **“2020 Census Kickoff of First Count in Alaska:** The U.S. Census Bureau held a news conference to kick off the 2020 Census. Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham gave an update on the first enumeration in Toksook Bay, Alaska, which begins on Jan. 21.”



Progress of the enumeration: March 15, 2020

- Unobtrusive response options opened in mid March:
 - **“The U.S. Census Bureau is monitoring coronavirus (COVID-19) carefully, and the health, safety and well-being of the public and our staff is our top priority.**
 - The 2020 Census is underway and the most important thing you can do is respond online, by phone, or by mail when you receive your invitation. Responding now will minimize the need for the Census Bureau to send census takers out into communities to follow up. Please check this page for regular updates.”

The issues: operational and political

- The labor intensive phase of census taking was postponed or dramatically modified
- The deadlines changed over the summer. The Census faced more court challenges.
- The field enumeration ended October 11.
- The census is now in the “post processing” phase.

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

The 2020 Census is underway and more households across America are responding every day. Online, phone, and mailed self-responses will continue throughout the data collection process. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau is adjusting 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local authorities regarding COVID-19.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

Under the adjusted 2020 Census operational plan, field activities would resume after June 1, 2020, as area census offices begin returning to full staff capacity. **In-person activities, including enumeration, office work, and processing activities, will incorporate the most current guidance from authorities to ensure the health and safety of staff and the public.**

Activity/Operation	Original Schedule	NEW SCHEDULE
Self-Response Phase Online, phone, and mailed self-responses continue throughout the data collection process.	March 12–July 31	March 12–October 31
Group Quarters (e-Response and Paper Enumeration) Many group quarters have already begun responding through our e-response enumeration option.	April 2–June 5	April 2–September 3
Remote Alaska Early operation to reach parts of Alaska	January 21–April 30	Tentatively January 21–June 19,

What's Next...**AFTER** the Census

- The Trump administration wants the counts for the 50 states for congressional reapportionment reported by December 31, 2020.
- By executive order, the Trump administration says it will remove 'illegal aliens' from the counts for the states. Plaintiffs in several states sued successfully to block this plan. Case will be heard at the Supreme Court at the end of November.
- Census Bureau officials report they are already seeing an impact of the pandemic on the results, particularly for college student counts.
- How any of this will evolve and be resolved, given the presidential election results, is not clear.

Stay Tuned! There's a lot more to come....

- Current reporting deadlines:
 - December 31, 2020 for congressional reapportionment;
 - April 2021 for redistricting data;
 - Later for other “use cases.”
- Decisionmakers and Users:
 - What will Congress do?
 - What will the courts rule?
 - How accurate will the data be and how will we know?
- We have to “use” these numbers for the next 10 years!