
LWVUS POLICY AND ADVOCACY:

Census and Redistricting

LWVUS Webinar

May 27th, 2020



Advocacy and Litigation Team
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U.S.

Housekeeping Items



Everyone enters the webinar muted



Use the questions box to ask questions throughout the presentation



If you want to ask your question at the end of the presentation, raise your hand and a panelist will call on you



Make sure to identify yourself (name, League & state) when asking questions



A short follow-up email will be sent with materials highlighted on the webinar

Welcome to the Webinar!

The census is an important constitutionally mandated activity that helps get a view of the country's makeup. It also helps legislators at all levels of government, businesses, and communities determine needs for vital services.

It is important to get a full and complete count of the entire population.

The census also goes hand in hand with redistricting as data from the census is used to draw district lines for federal, state, and local legislative bodies.

It is important to get a full and complete count of the entire population to ensure fair representation.



Presenters



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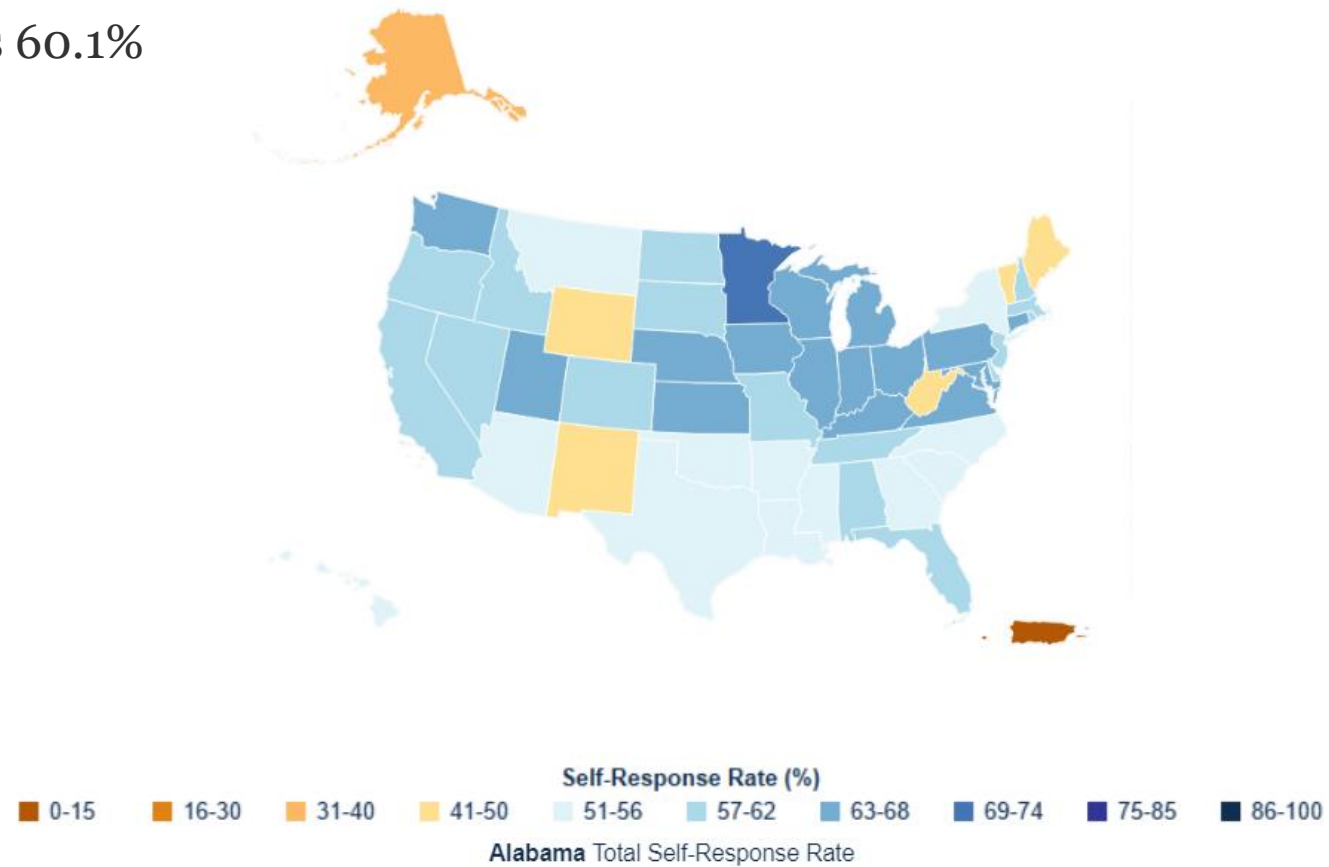
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Current Status of the Census

National Self Response is 60.1%
as of May 24, 2020



How are Households Responding to the Census?



Internet

48.4% nationwide



Phone



Paper Form

Update Leave

Census takers drop off invitations to respond and paper questionnaires at the front doors of 5 million households stateside while updating the addresses.



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How has Covid-19 effected the Census?

COVID-19 has had a major impact on Census operations



Census suspended operations that normally would have begun in March 2020 because of COVID-19.



They plan to reopen field operations June 1, 2020 and operate on the following timeline

Update on Census Operations



Activity/Operation	Original Schedule	New Schedule
<p>Self-Response Phase</p> <p>Online, phone, and mailed self-responses continue throughout the data collection process.</p>	March 12-July 31	March 12-October 31
<p>Field Offices at Peak Operations</p> <p>Managers and staff commence administrative, training, deployment, and support activities for peak data collection operations. This includes selecting and hiring field staff.</p>	March 1	Selected Area Census Offices starting May 4
<p>Update Leave—Stateside</p> <p>Census takers drop off invitations to respond and paper questionnaires at the front doors of 5 million households stateside while updating the addresses.</p>	March 15-April 17	Selected Area Census Offices starting May 4
<p>Update Enumerate</p> <p>Census takers interview about 2,000 households in remote parts of northern Maine and southeast Alaska.</p>	March 16-April 30	June 14-July 29
<p>Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)</p> <p>Census takers will interview households in person.</p>	May 13-July 31	August 11-October 31

What about redistricting?

Deliver Apportionment Counts to the President By law, the Census Bureau will deliver each state's population total, which determines its number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.	By December 31, 2020	Deliver by April 30, 2021
President Delivers Apportionment Counts to Congress	Within 7 days of start of legislative session or approximately 10-20 days after receipt.	Within 14 days of receipt.
Deliver Redistricting Counts to States By law, the Census Bureau will deliver the local counts each state needs to complete legislative redistricting.	By April 1, 2021	Deliver by July 31, 2021

Deadline Changes: What are your options?



STATUTORY
DEADLINE
CHANGES



CANDIDATE FILING
DEADLINES



SPECIAL SESSIONS



CONSTITUTIONAL
DEADLINES

What has to happen next?



- The apportionment and redistricting data deadlines put in place are statutory.
- The work done by the Census Bureau is bound by U.S. Code Title 13.
- Congressional approval is required to move the deadlines.
- The House Oversight Committee has jurisdiction over these changes, and it must act before Congress can act as a whole body.

People Powered Fair Maps



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Next Steps for leagues

LWVUS staff will be reaching out to Leagues in every state to make sure states are aware of the proposed changes

18 states have statutory or constitutional deadlines to complete redistricting processes before the data is delivered

12 states have deadlines within three months of the proposed data deliver timeline OR have brand new independent commission or processes for redistricting that we need to monitor in 2021

Questions?



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