Census and Redistricting

LWVUS Webinar

May 27th, 2020
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
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

**Priya Pandey**
Legislative and Policy Coordinator
kpandey@lwv.org

**Rachel Appel**
Legislative and Policy Coordinator
rappel@lwv.org

**Demetrius Fisher**
PPFM Campaign Manager
Dfisher@lwv.org

**Jessica Jones Capparell**
Senior Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs
jjones@lwv.org

**Kentiya Orange**
Legal Fellow
Korange@lwv.org
Current Status of the Census

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau https://2020census.gov/
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.
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity/Operation</th>
<th>Original Schedule</th>
<th>New Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Response Phase</strong></td>
<td>March 12-July 31</td>
<td>March 12-October 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online, phone, and mailed self-responses continue throughout the data collection process.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Field Offices at Peak Operations</strong></td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Selected Area Census Offices starting May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managers and staff commence administrative, training, deployment, and support activities for peak data collection operations. This includes selecting and hiring field staff.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Update Leave—Stateside</strong></td>
<td>March 15-April 17</td>
<td>Selected Area Census Offices starting May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census takers drop off invitations to respond and paper questionnaires at the front doors of 5 million households stateside while updating the addresses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Update Enumerate</strong></td>
<td>March 16-April 30</td>
<td>June 14-July 29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census takers interview about 2,000 households in remote parts of northern Maine and southeast Alaska.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)</strong></td>
<td>May 13-July 31</td>
<td>August 11-October 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Census takers will interview households in person.</td>
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</table>
What about redistricting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliver Apportionment Counts to the President</th>
<th>By December 31, 2020</th>
<th>Deliver by April 30, 2021</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President Delivers Apportionment Counts to Congress</th>
<th>Within 7 days of start of legislative session or approximately 10-20 days after receipt.</th>
<th>Within 14 days of receipt.</th>
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</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliver Redistricting Counts to States</th>
<th>By April 1, 2021</th>
<th>Deliver by July 31, 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By law, the Census Bureau will deliver the local counts each state needs to complete legislative redistricting.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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

Demetrius G. Fisher
Campaign Manager
DFisher@lwv.org
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?