Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Summary

In 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau fulfills its constitutional mandate by conducting a complete and accurate 2020 Census. Simultaneously, it will continue to provide data that move markets, drive business investment, inform policy, develop a new data dissemination system built around the user experience, and modernize the way it collects data.

Census Day, April 1, 2020, marks the culmination of nearly a decade of design, research, and testing to meet the U.S. Department of Commerce’s goal of conducting a complete and accurate decennial census. In FY 2020, the Census Bureau will conduct the major self-response and nonresponse operations of this pillar of our system of representative government. While fulfilling its constitutional mandate, the Census Bureau will continue to collect and release monthly, quarterly, and annual statistics that move markets, support economic growth, and provide valuable insights into our society. Additionally, the Census Bureau will release limited data from the Economic Census and Census of Governments and plan for the 2022 cycle for both programs.

### U.S. Census Bureau Discretionary Budget Authority (in thousands of dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 2018 Actual</th>
<th>FY 2019 Enacted</th>
<th>FY 2020 Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Surveys and Programs</td>
<td>266,000</td>
<td>270,000</td>
<td>264,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodic Censuses and Programs</td>
<td>2,545,420</td>
<td>3,547,832</td>
<td>6,901,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[2020 Census—Non Add]</td>
<td>[2,094,873]</td>
<td>[3,015,144]</td>
<td>[6,317,037]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Non-2020 Census—Non Add]</td>
<td>[450,547]</td>
<td>[532,688]</td>
<td>[584,763]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Census Bureau, Discretionary</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,811,420</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,817,832</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,165,805</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 In addition to the requested Budget Authority, $1.02 billion in available balances that were appropriated in prior years will be available for the 2020 Census, making available $6.9 billion for Periodic Censuses and Programs, of which $6.4 billion directly supports 2020 Census in FY 2020.

The FY 2020 Request is an increase of $3.348 billion (+88 percent) over the FY 2019 enacted appropriation. These changes are detailed below:

- $6.0 million (-2 percent) in current surveys and programs.
- +$3,354.0 million (+95 percent) in periodic censuses and programs, of which $3,301.9 million is for the 2020 Census, including $1,020.0 million from prior-year unobligated balances. Additionally, $52.1 million is in non-2020 Census programs.

### The 2020 Census—On Budget and On Schedule

- **2018 Census Test Successfully Completed**
  - Higher than expected response rate received (52.3 percent) without advertising and partnership.
  - Field staff productivity increased by 50 percent.

- **2019**
  - August 2019 Address listing begins.
  - January 2020 Advertising begins.

- **2020**
  - April 1, 2020 CENSUS DAY
  - May 2020 Nonresponse interviewing begins.

- **2021**
  - March 31, 2021 Redistricting data delivered to each state.
  - December 31, 2020 Apportionment counts delivered to the President.

---

Shape your future
START HERE >
The Decennial Census is a constitutional requirement and the Department of Commerce’s highest priority in 2020. The budget provides total budgetary resources of $7.2 billion, an increase of more than $3.3 billion from the FY 2019 enacted level, for the Census Bureau. The Budget supports the execution of the 2020 Census. This funding will support the Census Bureau launching of major efforts to count all of the residents of the United States, including self-response operations that will begin in March 2020 with Internet, telephone, and paper options available for the entire population.

This work also includes multiyear, innovative efforts to transform data collection and dissemination systems as part of the critical systems infrastructure being developed and implemented in the Census Enterprise Data Collection and Processing and the Center for Enterprise Dissemination Services and Consumer Innovation programs in support of the 2020 Census.

In FY 2020, the Census Bureau will continue data releases from the reengineered 2017 Economic Census and the 2017 Census of Governments, which set the baseline for critical monthly, quarterly, and annual economic indicators, and begin planning activities for the 2022 Economic Census and the 2022 Census of Governments. The Census Bureau and the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) will continue to support government-wide efforts to modernize data collection, analysis, and dissemination. Consistent with the recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking and the authorities granted in the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-435), the Census Bureau and BEA will partner in FY 2020 to support development of a U.S. Federal Data Service to promote government-wide data access and sharing, improve cross-agency data discovery and utilization, and enhance privacy and confidentiality practices.

CONDUCTING A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DECENNIAL CENSUS

2020 Census—Request $5,297.0M, combined with $1,020.0M in funds from prior-year unobligated balances for a total of $6,317.0M (+$3,301.9M)
- Supports the major 2020 Census operations, including self-response, nonresponse follow-up, group quarters, and other efforts to count all residents of the United States.
- Supports an integrated communications campaign, including advertising and partnerships to ensure the Census Bureau can maximize self-response across all localities and population groups.
- Provides integrated systems to support operations and collect and process the data in a manner that is secure, protected, and able to detect fraud at all times.
- Enables data processing, editing, and publishing to begin in earnest to provide apportionment counts and redistricting data in FY 2021.

Enterprise Data Collection and Dissemination Systems—Request $166.0M (+$12.7M)
- Supports operation of CEDCaP systems in support of 2020 Census operations.
- Continues development of a new data dissemination system while maintaining the legacy system during the transition.
- Preserves access to Federal and federally sponsored administrative data for policymakers through the Administrative Records Clearinghouse.

Geographic Support—Request $61.2M (+$1.4M)
Provides the most complete address list and maps in support of 2020 Census operations.

American Community Survey—Request $218.0M (+$6.6M)
Improves the survey through research and implementation of methods to improve operational efficiency.

ENHANCING DATA PRODUCTS USED BY BUSINESSES, POLICYMAKERS, AND THE PUBLIC

2017 Economic Census/2017 Census of Governments—Request $139.6M (+$31.3M)
- Supports release of 2017 Economic Census data, including data used by BEA to set the baseline for Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and other Principal Economic Indicators.
- Provides data from the Finance component of the 2017 Census of Governments.

PROVIDING DATA THAT MOVE MARKETS, DRIVE BUSINESS INVESTMENT, AND INFORM POLICY

Current Economic Statistics—Request $185.3M (+$0.4M)
Provides critical information about GDP and other key economic indicators that businesses use to make investment decisions that drive economic growth. Includes new investment (with BEA) in research and partnerships with third-party data providers to accelerate data innovation and solve complex data challenges.

Current Demographic Statistics—Request $78.7M (–$6.4M)

Shape your future
START HERE >