

2020 Census Operational Delivery 11.2 Count Question Resolution Operation (CQR)

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CQR Overview

- The CQR program will review requests for corrections to the 2020 Census counts based on two types of cases: boundary and count.
- Count corrections will be issued to the tribal chairperson or highest elected official of affected governmental units.
- CQR will not revise the population data sent to the office of the President, any redistricting data sent to the states, or the Demographic and Housing Characteristics file.
- CQR does not collect any new data in the field, and is not the same as a special census.
- Differential Privacy will be applied to CQR count corrections.

CQR Key Dates

September 18, 2020: Test Readiness Review (TRR) - **Completed**

December 31, 2020: The Census Bureau delivers its counts from the 2020 Census to the President for apportionment purposes.

March 5, 2021: Production Readiness Review (PRR).

Spring 2021: Production dry run to move a file through all production systems.

TBD*: The Census Bureau delivers its counts from the 2020 Census to the states for redistricting purposes, and publishes its counts and demographic data from the 2020 Census.

September 1, 2021: Operational Readiness Review (ORR).

September 1, 2021: The Census Bureau sends a message to the tribal chairpersons and highest elected officials at tribal, state, and local governments who are eligible to file a CQR case.

October 1, 2021: The Census Bureau begins processing CQR cases from eligible tribal, state, and local governments, researching the census enumeration records from each GU.

June 30, 2023: The Census Bureau stops accepting CQR cases.

September 30, 2023: Deadline the Census Bureau to provide results to impacted GUs.

** working towards a plan to deliver the official data to the states according to the statutory deadline specified in P.L. 94-171 (One year from Census day - April 1, 2021). This plan is currently under decennial management review.*

Accomplishments

- Passed Test Readiness Review checkpoint on 9/18/2020.
- Published CQR 60-day Federal Register Notice; comment period ends in late October.
- Submitted robust set of risks to DPMO for Risk Review Board review.
- Completed Phase 1 (of 5) of PCS development and testing.
 - *Phase 2 of PCS development currently in testing and Phase 3 is under review.*
- Began development of CQR module for the Matching and Coding System (MaCS).
- Completed IPT and ADC review of CQR letters.
- CQR FAQ completed IPT review; currently under CQR management review.

Risk

Risk ID	Title	Description	Status	Probability	Impact	Exposure
CQR012	Updated 2020 Population Counts	IF Differential Privacy hides the result of the CQR update, THEN participants may be concerned about a negative impact to their federal funding.	Proposed	4	4	16
CQR003	CQR Case Results	IF the implementation of differential privacy methodologies to CQR data is received unfavorably by data users, THEN participants may be concerned about a negative impact to their federal funding.	Proposed	4	4	16
CQR013	Disproportionate Distortion of Population Counts	IF Differential Privacy disturbs large demographic population counts by the same number as small demographic population counts, THEN small demographic populations may be disproportionately negatively impacted by population count distortions from Differential Privacy.	Proposed	5	3	15
CQR002	CQR Case Volume	IF the results of the 2020 Census are received unfavorably by data users, THEN CQR may receive a large volume of CQR inquiries and cases from governments.	Proposed	3	4	12

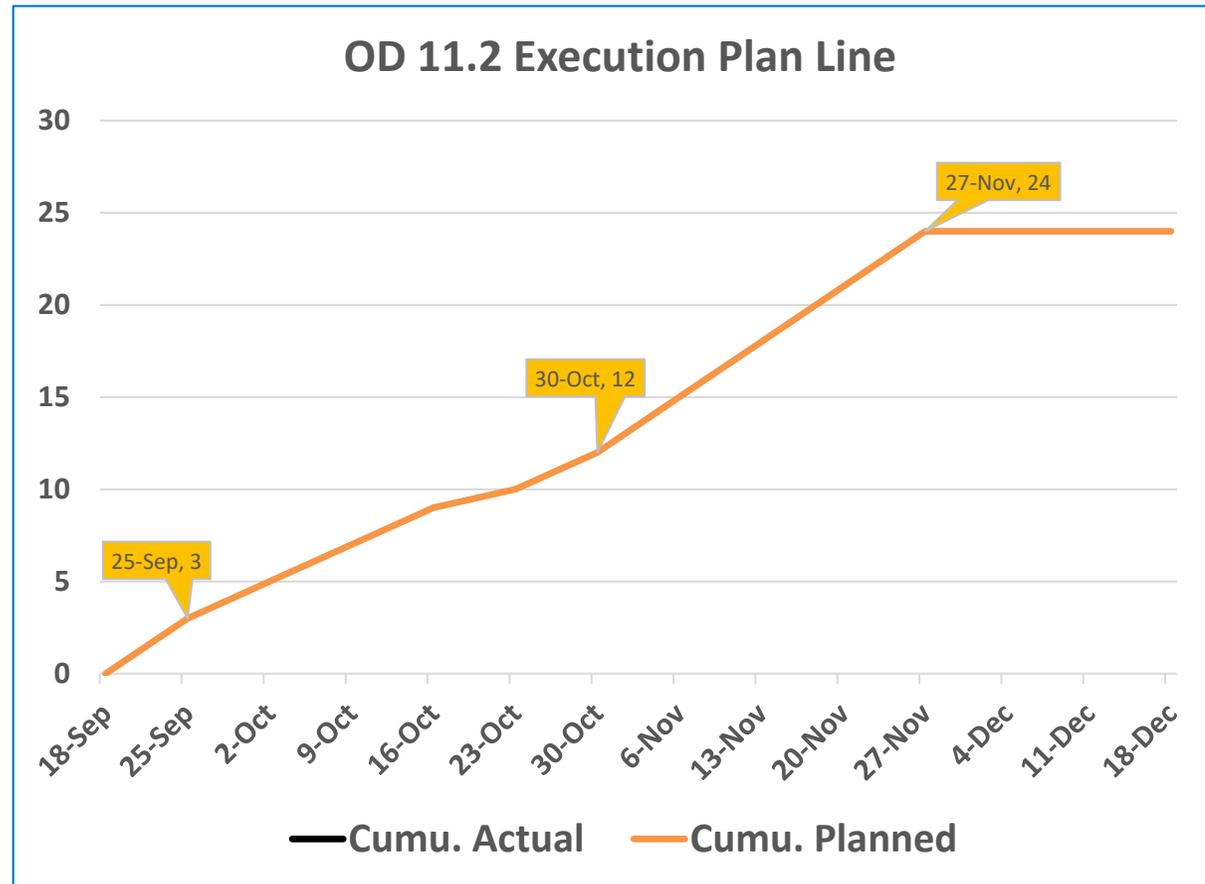
TRR Status

- TRR brief provided on 9/17/20 and TRR package signed-off on 9/18/20.

TI Testing focuses on:

- Transfer of data into systems used in Case Research
 - Out of Scope TL and GQ Cases into MAF/TIGER: GQPCS
 - Event Data/Response Data/Paradata into MOJO FP: BLQ
 - MOJO FP: BLQ to CIRA
- Uploading of Case data into Centurion.
- Uploading final products to Census.gov.

TRR Testing Plan Line



Summary of Upcoming/Ongoing Activities:

- TRR approved on 09/18
- First round of functional/interface test case execution

CQR Systems Status

- Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS) – development nearing completion (most critical functionality developed), release to production expected by August 2021.
- Centurion Secure Web Incoming Module (SWIM) –development completed, scheduled release to production 10/1/2021.
- Census Image Retrieval Application (CIRA) – development expected to be completed by 9/30/2020.
- MAF/TIGER
 - Production Control System (PCS) – Phase 1/5 released to production 9/14/2020; Phase 2/5 in testing; Phase 3/5 in review; all development expected to be completed by January 2021.*
 - Matching and Coding System (MaCS) – development began 9/16/2020, expected to be completed by Spring Production Dry Run in the Spring of 2021.

CQR Document Status

- CQR Flyer – currently under Branch Chief review.
- CQR FAQs – currently under management review.
- CQR Letters – currently under Division Chief review.
- CQR non-GUPS Participant Guide – currently under SME review.
- CQR GUPS Participant Guide – currently in draft phase.
- CQR Processing Procedures – schedule to begin draft in Q1 of FY21.
- CQR Website – undergoing SME review.

Current Status

- CQR team working with DCCO on the creation of a high level infographic to plainly explain CQR and its purpose to the general public.
- DCMD presenting a CQR overview presentation to various external stakeholder groups.
 - FSCPE on 9/23/2020.
 - State Data Center Program on 10/28/2020.
- Bi-Weekly IPT meetings ongoing.
- DCMD and GEO project leads are finalizing:
 - Interdivisional project workflows,
 - Participant materials and tools including the CQR flyer, public website, public FAQs, letters, participant guides, GUPS, and SWIM.
- GEO is working with DITD to design, program, and test the CQR PCS in phases, and is generating requirements for CIRA & MaCS.

Questions?

Thank you!

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Backup Slides

Risk

Risk ID	Title	Description	Status	Probability	Impact	Exposure
CQR009	Group Quarters Cases	IF the Census Bureau receives a large number of CQR cases involving Group Quarters, THEN there may be a delay in communicating CQR results back to CQR respondents.	Proposed	2	3	6
CQR010	Post-2020 Assessment	IF the funding cannot be allocated in FY24 to create a 2020 CQR Assessment, THEN there could be no documented recommendations for the 2030 CQR.	Proposed	2	3	6
CQR011	Published 2020 Population Counts	IF Differential Privacy hides the true population of a set of census tabulation blocks, THEN CQR participants may not be able to accurately determine the nature of the population error or be able to effectively communicate it to the Census Bureau.	Proposed	2	3	6
CQR015	CQR System Requirements	IF CQR system requirements cannot be altered after production, THEN unanticipated issues may continue to negatively impact the user experience.	Proposed	2	3	6
CQR001	OMB Clearance Delay	IF the CQR Federal Register Notice is published after September 2021, THEN CQR will be unable communicate with the governments about CQR.	Proposed	1	4	4
CQR004	Unavailability of Support from NPC	IF NPC staff become unavailable to work on CQR, THEN we may not be able to answer CQR participants' questions or work on CQR cases.	Proposed	1	4	4
CQR014	CQR Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS)	IF CQR participants experience unexpected bugs or issues with the Geographic Update Participant Software (GUPS), THEN we may receive more than the expected amount of phone calls for questions.	Proposed	2	2	4

CQR Workflow

- Tribal, state, and local governments review published 2020 Census results. If they suspect errors with their boundaries or their counts, they may file a CQR case.
- DCMD CQRB receives cases, reviews the case materials for correctness and completeness, and determines whether the case is in or out of scope.
- In-scope cases are sent to GEO for research and resolution. Research may or may not find processing errors in the 2020 Census data. If no processing errors are found, no changes are made and the case is closed.
- If processing errors are found, they are resolved. Once resolved, the Census Bureau re-tabulates the 2020 Census counts, when necessary, for all governments impacted by the CQR case.
- The Census Bureau provides the updated 2020 Census counts to the highest elected official of all impacted tribal, state, and local governments, and posts the errata on the 2020 CQR website.