

Is it Safe to Participate in the Census?

Congress removed the ability of the Department of Commerce Director to release confidential records for any reason besides request for records of individuals themselves.

1973

Congress implemented a rule that barred the release of census records for 72 years.

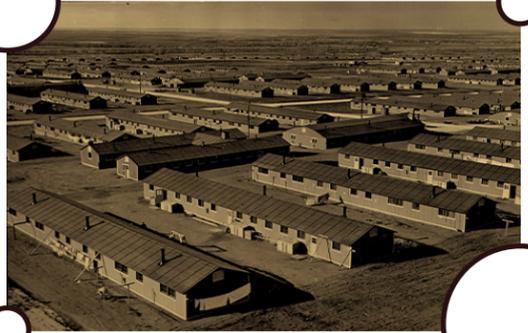
1952

Truman administration repealed the Second War Powers Act, which included the section overriding the confidentiality of census information.

1947

On February 19, 1942, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which allowed for the Secretary of War to establish "military areas" where people of Japanese ancestry were forbidden. The Second War Powers Act then allowed President Franklin Roosevelt to access personal information, including age, sex, and address, of Japanese Americans from the 1940 census.

The Census Bureau detailed the number of Japanese Americans living in individual city blocks allowing the U.S. military to forcibly remove 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry from these "military areas" to internment camps, 62% of whom were U.S. citizens.



Are there new privacy concerns today?

What happens if you don't answer all of the census questions?



The U.S. population has continually moved West across the nation since the founding of the nation. However, some decades saw a greater jump, others not so much. What are some reasons for this?

What other trends can you identify, and what may have spurred those changes?

Does the Census Protect your Information?

The United States' Census Bureau has a variety of methods to prevent your personal data from being identified in their reports.

For example, the 2010 census reported that a single Asian couple lived on Liberty Island with the Statue of Liberty. The couple were reported to be a 63-year-old man and a 58-year-old woman. However, the real couple who lived on Liberty Island were David Luchsinger (59) and his wife, Debra (49); David was the superintendent for the national monument. They had identified themselves as white on the 2010 census, however their ages were fairly similar to the Asian couple that was actually reported by the census to have lived there.

The Census actively swaps information from people who share similar characteristics in order to prevent people, like David

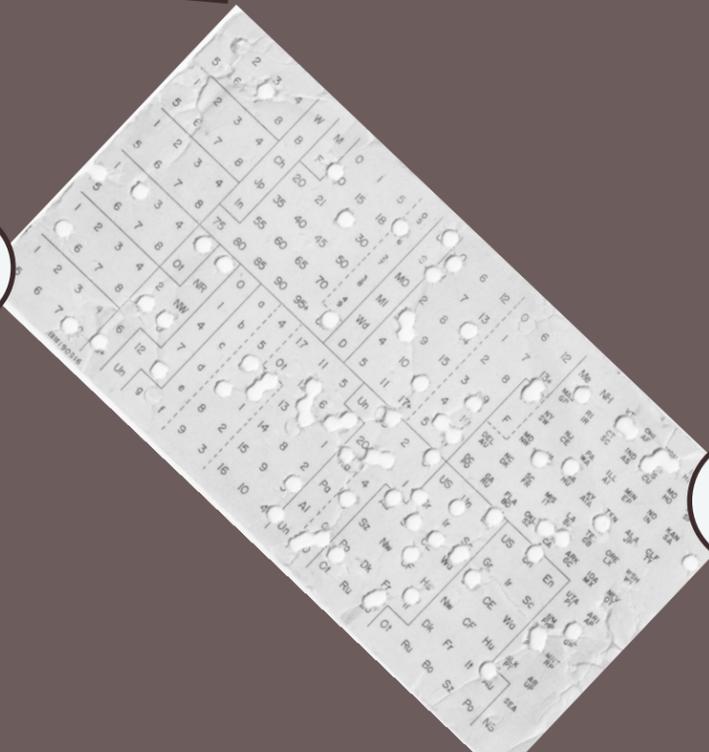
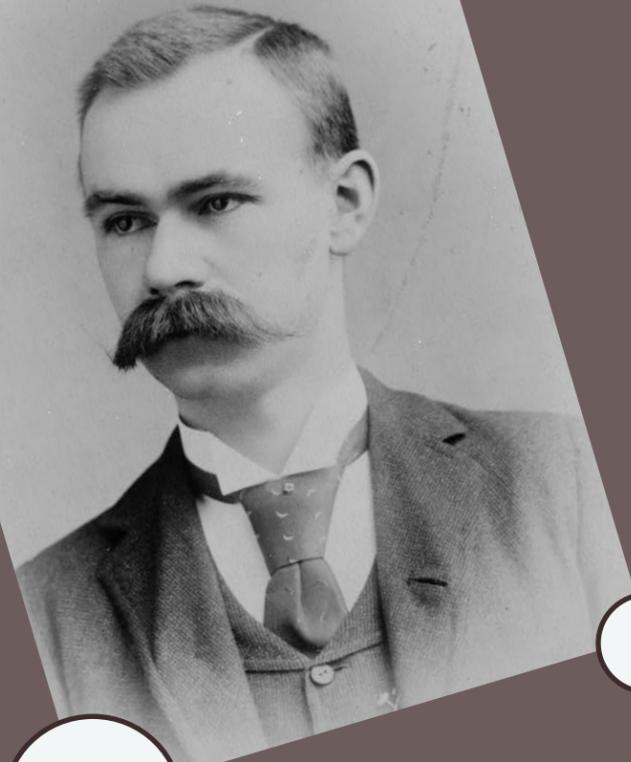
Luchsinger, from being personally identifiable in the reported data. This process is referred to as creating "noise" within the data. This comes at a cost of reducing the accuracy of the data the census reports. David Luchsinger's case is a good example, because if a researcher wants data on the age of the population of Liberty Island, they get fairly accurate data; but, if they want to know the ethnic make-up of Liberty Island, the data is inaccurate.

What is more important to you, privacy or accuracy?

What are the consequences of inaccurate information?

What are the consequences of public accurate data?

Did you know the Census Bureau was Among the First to Adopt Computers?



In 1889, Herman Hollerith earned a patent for his Electronic Tabulating System. This tabulator could electronically read data from paper punch cards.

Hollerith developed this tabulator while working for the U.S. Census Bureau, and it was first implemented for the 1890 census. The tabulator reduced the time required for the Census Bureau to process its data by nearly two-thirds. This meant the bureau could analyze and publish its statistics two years earlier than the 1880 census.

Herman Hollerith went on to found the Tabulating Machine Company, which merged with other corporations to become the International Business Machines Corporation.

How does technology change census counting methods ?

What new inventions could impact counts in the future?



The Census Goes Global

During World War II, the United States entered into agreements with other nations to establish embassies and military bases; from Latin America, Western Europe, to Asia. After the war many of these military bases and embassies remained in these nations. The increase of the United States' global presence required the Census Bureau to adapt and include over-seas Americans in their counts.

Many Americans overseas were members of the military, or federal employees with agencies such as the State Department. The Census Bureau had from 1900–1940 and from 1980 until today relied upon Federal Agencies, such as the State Department, to provide the number of Americans overseas.

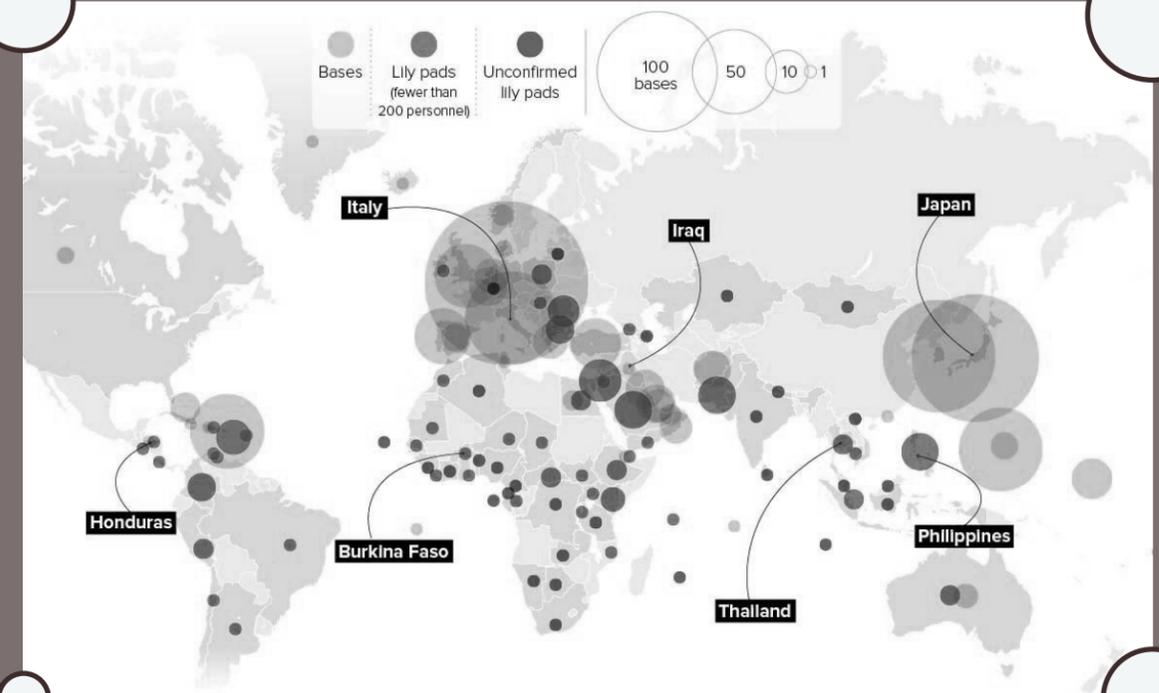
However, between 1950 and 1970, the U.S. census sent special questionnaires across

the globe to get an accurate count of how many Americans lived abroad. This period aligns with the growth of American involvement throughout the world, including the Korean War (1950–1953) and the Vietnam War (1955–1975).

Between 1940 and 1970, the number of Americans overseas grew from 118,933 to 1,737,836 people (a 1,361% increase).

When analyzing these maps, as well as the larger maps of southern states, what comparisons can be seen between the slave population maps and that of the secession voting maps?

What can census data tell us about politics and social issues?



What is the Digital Divide?

The U.S. Census Bureau is planning on allowing Americans to respond to the 2020 census online for the first time in history. While this may make responding to the census easier for many Americans, it poses a threat of exacerbating the undercounting of already hard-to-count communities.

In a study conducted by the University of New Hampshire, rural America faces a greater threat of undercounting than previous censuses because of their lack of access to the internet and the Census Bureau's shifting reliance on internet submissions.

This makes local community organizations, such as libraries, important places for rural Americans to complete their census responses.

How might this definition impact the aggregation of data by the Census Bureau?

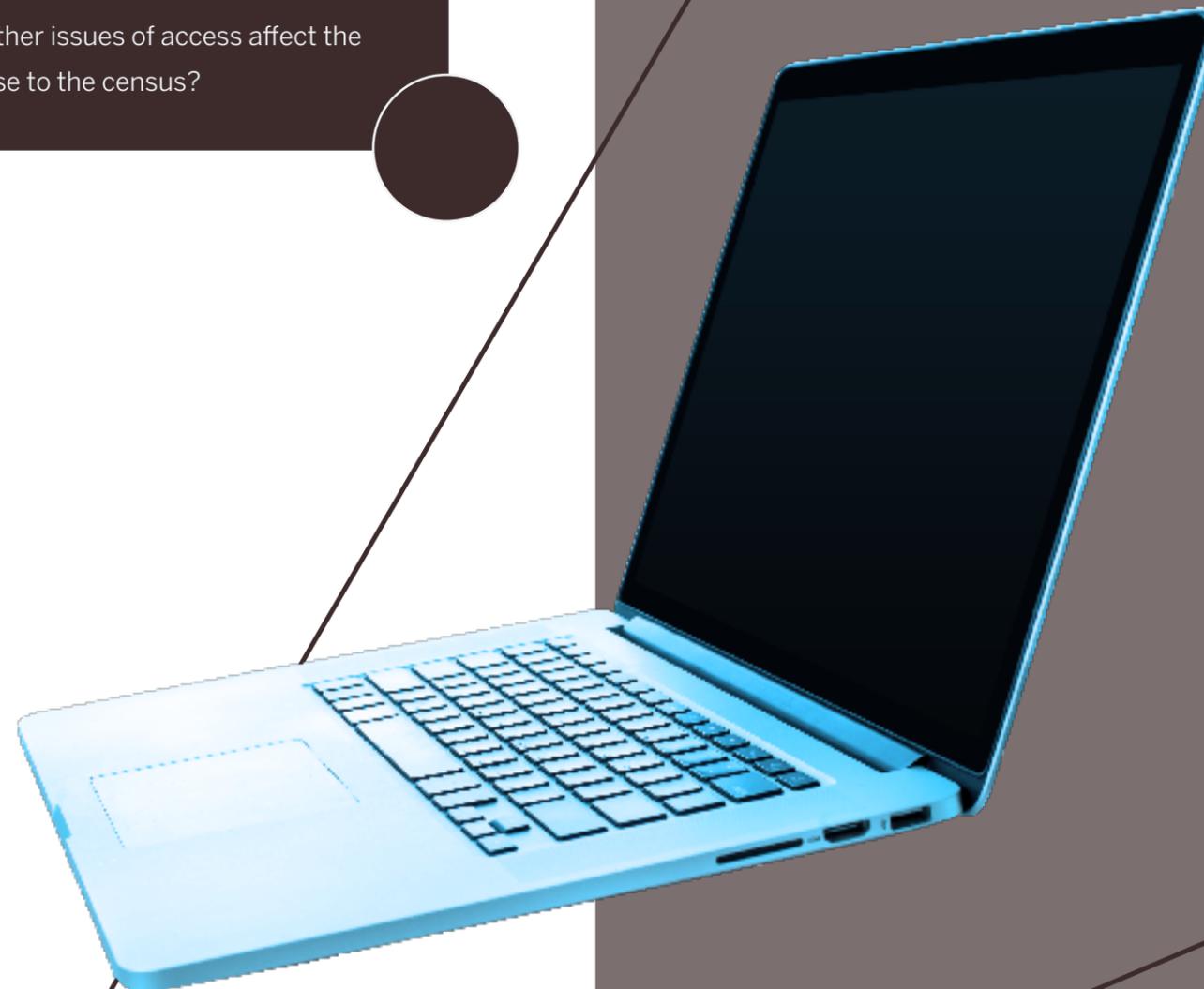
What other issues of access affect the response to the census?

How does the census define rural?

"Urbanized Areas" have over 50,000 people

"Urban Clusters" have between 2,500 and 50,000 people

"Rural" is everything else!



How are Politics Shown in Census Data?

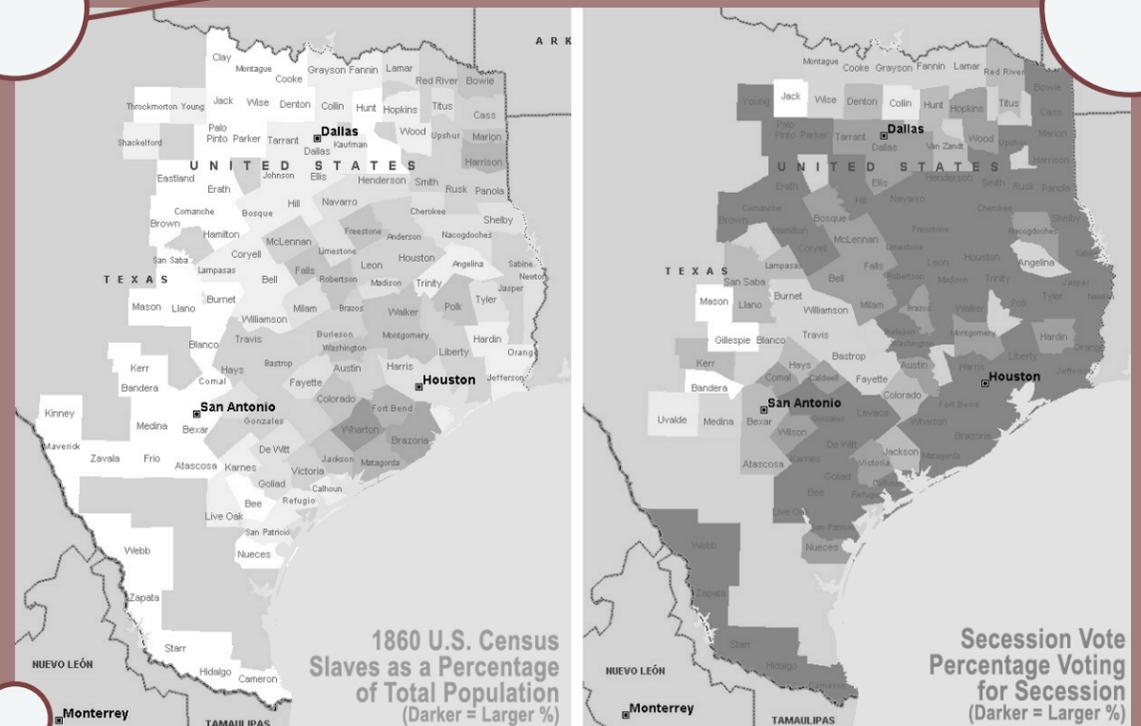
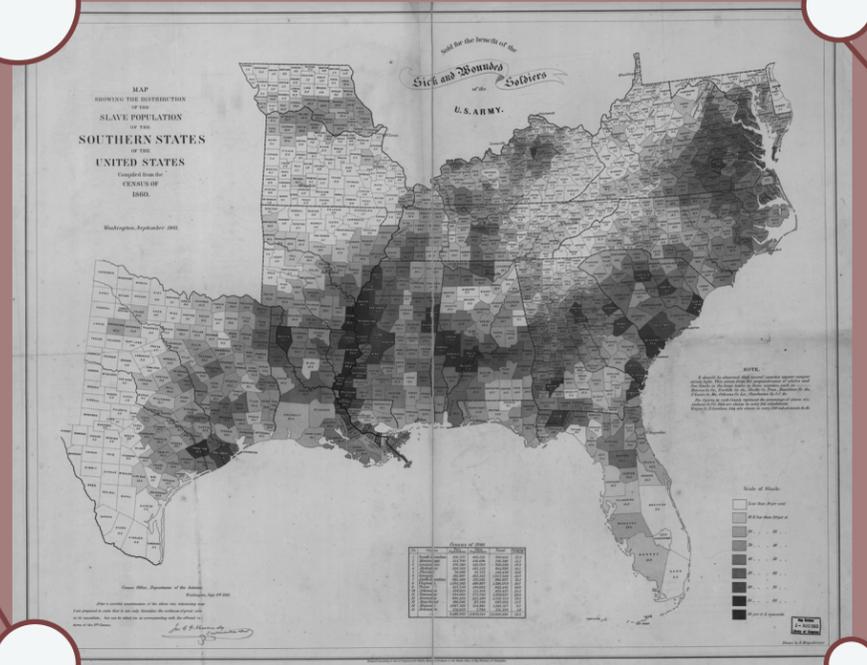
On December 20, 1860, South Carolina became the first southern state to secede from the Union. Between January and June of 1861 ten more states seceded from the Union to create the Confederate States of America (CSA). According to each state's Articles of Secession, the issue of slavery became the central issue in the decision of the southern states to secede from the Union. Some states were divided on the issue of whether to secede or not.

North Carolina held a state-wide vote for secession on February 28, 1861 which led to secession being defeated 47,337 against and 46,673 for secession—a difference of only 664 votes. However, after the siege of Fort Sumter on April 12–13, 1861, and Abraham Lincoln's call for troops to "put down the rebellion," a North Carolina delegation voted unanimously for secession.

Analysis of the 1860 census data led to the production of slave population distribution maps. The darker counties represent a population with larger percentages of African American slaves within the general population. The map pictured to the right shows those counties which voted for secession from the Union before the Civil War (lighter shade) and those that voted to remain in the Union (shaded darker).

When analyzing these maps, as well as the larger maps of southern states, what comparisons can be seen between the slave population maps and that of the secession voting maps?

What can census data tell us about politics and social issues?



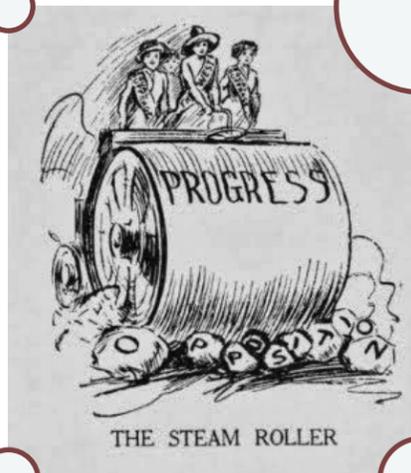
How are Politics Shown in Census Data?

Census-takers failed to ask women if they were employed outside of the house because they assumed that most women remained in their homes “keeping house.” Then in 1878 the Association for the Advancement of Women sent a letter to the U.S. Congress protesting the failure of the U.S. census to consider, and value, women’s occupations and labor as “market work” or “gainful occupations.”

The 1900 census specifically instructed that “it must never be taken for granted, without inquiry, that a woman, or child, has no occupation.” By the 1980 census the term “head of household” was removed in favor of “householder” and the male occupant was no longer assumed the “householder.”

How might the lack of representation be reflected in census data?

What other labor may not be represented?



45TH CONGRESS, }
2d Session. }

SENATE.

{ Mrs. Doc.
No. 81. }

MEMORIAL

OF

MARY F. EASTMAN, HENRIETTA L. T. WOOLCOTT, AND OTHERS,
OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCE-
MENT OF WOMEN,

PRAYING

*That the Tenth Census may contain a just enumeration of women as laborers
and producers.*

JUNE 15, 1878.—Referred to the Select Committee to make Provision for Taking the
Tenth Census, and ordered to be printed.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress
assembled :*

Whereas the acknowledged errors, discrepancies, and incompleteness of the Ninth Census render it an unsatisfactory and unreliable record of the population, wealth, industry, and physical, mental, and moral condition of the American people; and

Whereas the home and woman as a home-keeper have no place in the report, only the occupations called “gainful” being noted, and more than twelve millions of American women being overlooked as laborers or producers or left out, in common with those pursuing disreputable employments, and not even incidentally named as in any wise affecting the causes of increase or decrease of population or wealth; and

Whereas gross errors in enumerating the births, ages, diseases, and deaths of children are the inevitable result of the natural barriers in the way of men as collectors of social and vital statistics, who frequently obtain information, in the language of the report, from “fathers, nurses, servants, and unsympathetic fellow-boarders;” and

Whereas there is obvious justice and propriety in the employment of intelligent women to collect vital statistics concerning women and children:

Therefore we pray your honorable body, in enacting a law providing for the taking of the Tenth Census, to make provision for the more careful and just enumeration of women as laborers and producers; for a record of the wages of men and women in all occupations; for a record of causes of pauperism, vagrancy, vice and crime, insanity, idiocy, blindness, deformity, and disease; for the enumeration of all men and women engaged in disreputable occupations; for full statistics concerning all reformatory institutions; and

We further pray that you will enact such laws or amendments as may be requisite to secure the employment of a fair ratio of suitable women as collectors of the centennial census.

MARY F. EASTMAN, Massachusetts,
Secretary Association for Advancement of Women.
HENRIETTA L. T. WOOLCOTT, Massachusetts,
Treasurer Association for Advancement of Women.
ROMELIA L. CLAPP, Massachusetts,
Auditor Association for Advancement of Women.

How does Census Participation Affect our Representation in Government?

The framers of the American Constitution envisioned the United States as a nation wherein citizen representation would be based on population. To accomplish this, they employed a census, to be taken once every ten years, to determine how many congressional seats each state would receive.

The method of redistributing these seats based on changes in states' populations is called "reapportionment" and occurs after each enumeration.

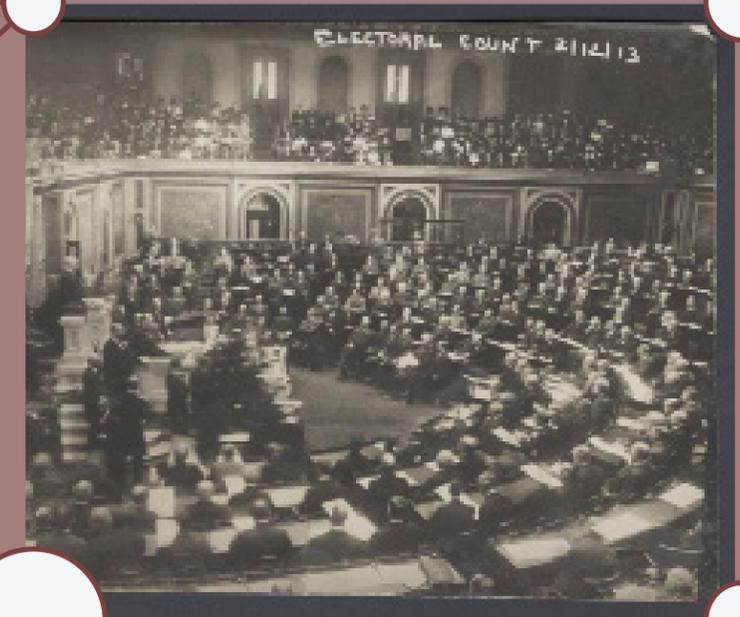
Thus, if a state's population changes significantly in relation to the nation as a whole, the state may stand to gain or lose congressional seats. Similarly, a severe undercount due to lack of census participation could adversely affect a state already in danger of losing a representative. This also affects states' Electoral College votes,

which are used to determine the office of presidency, as each state receives the number of votes equal to their number of congressional representatives plus senators. The census is also used to re-draw congressional districts such that population changes or undercounts can be used to consolidate political power in one party or another, known as gerrymandering.

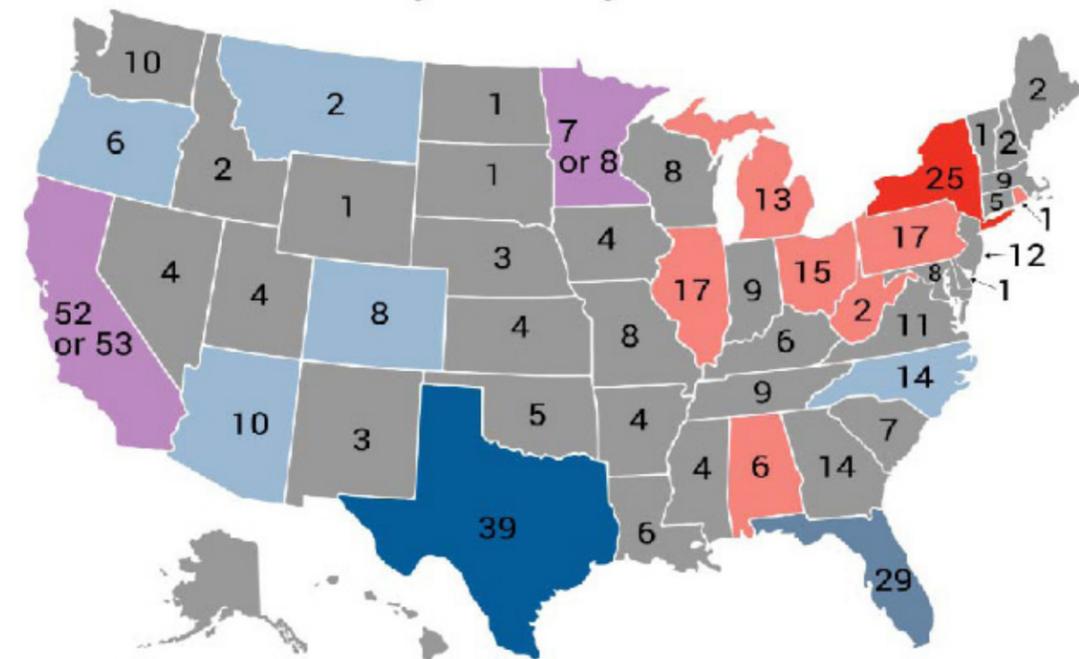
Why do you suppose that Texas is expected to gain 3 seats in 2020?

What factors could be causing north eastern states to lose seats?

How might these changes affect the political landscape of the 2020's?



Census Projections for 2020 Congressional Reapportionment
Net Change in Total Congressional Seats

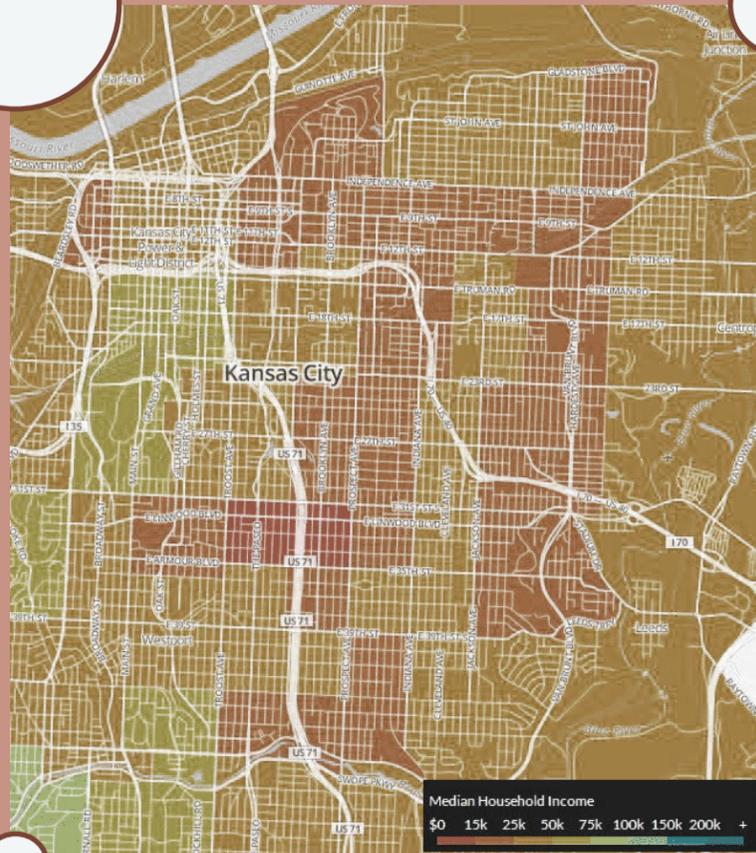


BRENNAN
CENTER
FOR JUSTICE

Gain 3 seats Gain 2 seats Gain 1 seat None Lose 1 seat Lose 2 seats None or lose 1 seat

Source: Election Data Services

Who is at Risk of Being Undercounted in 2020?

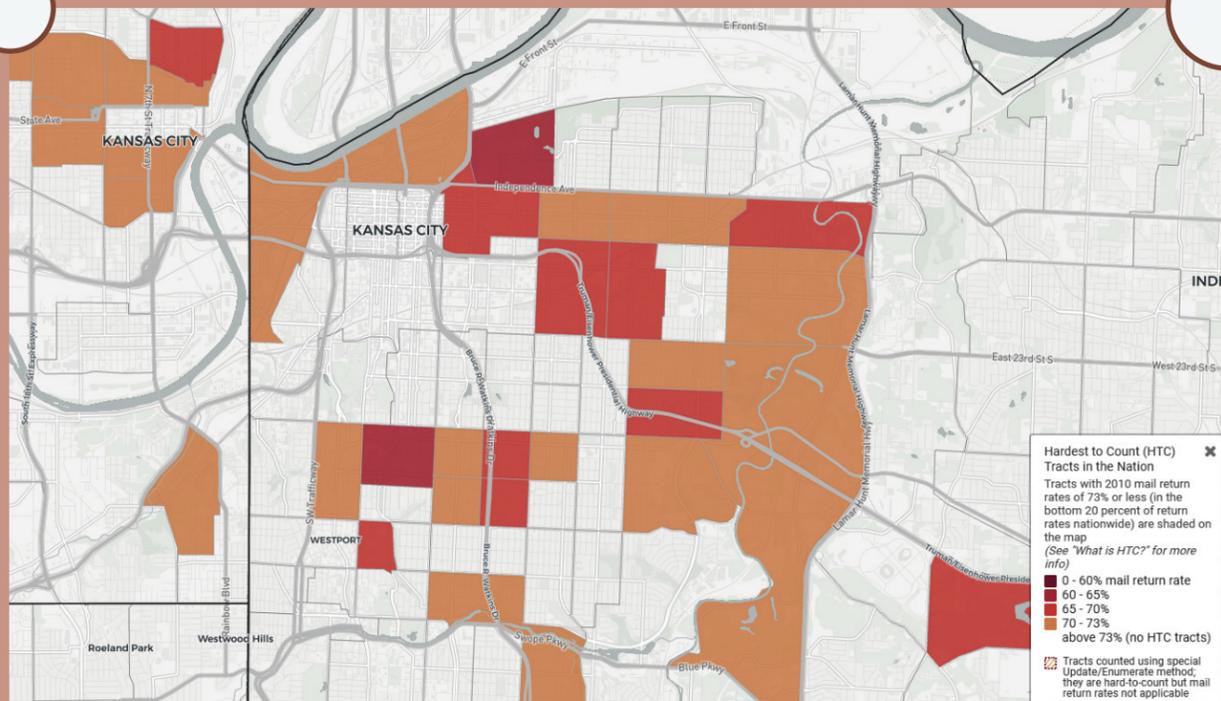


According to new projections from the Urban Institute, up to 4 million Americans are at risk of being undercounted in the 2020 census. The Census Bureau has developed an online mapping tool capable of revealing “hard to count” tracts—those where the self-response rate in the 2010 census was 73% or less.

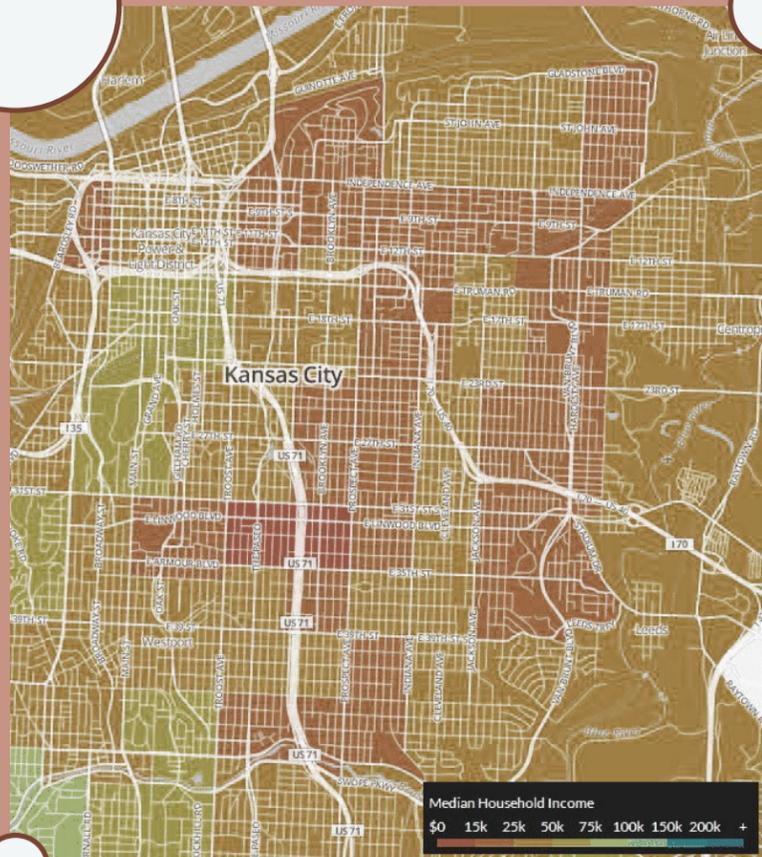
What obstacles might prevent minorities and lower income households from participating in the census?

What are some possible solutions that could prevent undercounting?

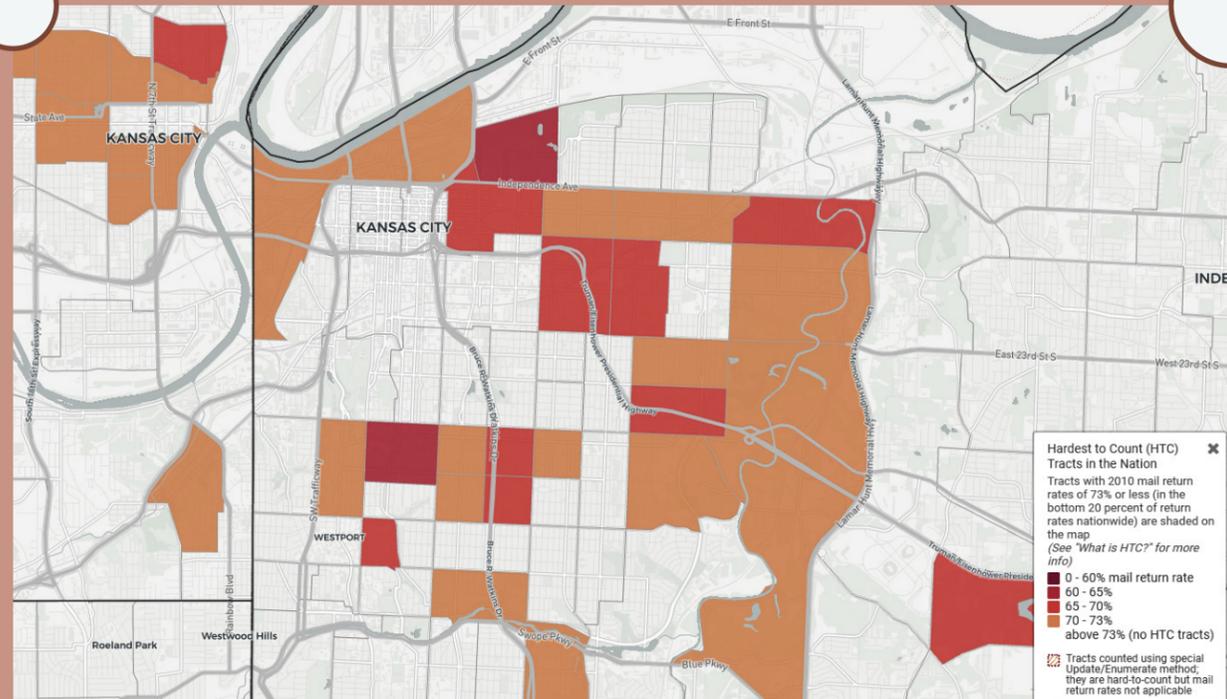
The greatest risk for undercounting exists amongst young children, low-income households, rural residents, and people of color. Census tracts with a greater number of households that are single-parent, low educational attainment, linguistically isolated, or foreign born are also less likely to produce an accurate count. Often these demographics stand to suffer the most from a lack of funding that results from an undercount. The Hard to Count 2020 map can help communities identify where census outreach is needed most.



Who is at Risk of Being Undercounted in Kansas City, MO?



According to the Census Bureau, around 9% of Missourians live in hard to count neighborhoods. Using data from the previous census in 2010, the Bureau's online Hard to Count mapping tool can reveal which Kansas Citians are least likely to be counted at block-level. When viewed next to maps depicting Kansas City's racial makeup and median household income, it becomes clear that KC's minority and lower income communities are at greatest risk of undercounting.



What obstacles might prevent minorities and lower income households from participating in the census?

What are some possible solutions to prevent undercounting?

Will Missouri's Children be Undercounted in the 2020 Census?

The Census Bureau estimates that nearly 1 million children nationwide between the ages of 0–4 years old were not counted in the 2020 enumeration, making children under 5 the most at-risk age demographic for under-counting in the decennial census.

There are many factors that can make young children difficult to count. Research from the Population Reference Bureau suggests that a higher net undercount of children is closely associated with the percentage of those that live with grandparents, nonrelatives, in group quarters, in households that are linguistically isolated, or are members of racial and / or ethnic minorities.

States depend on an accurate census to allocate federal funding for programs that benefit young children like Head Start, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Supplemental Nutrition

Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

In Missouri, 10% of the state's children under 5 years old live in what the Census Bureau considers "hard-to-count" tracts. The 2010 census failed to count 3.6% of its youngest age demographic, resulting in an undercount of more than 14,000 children.

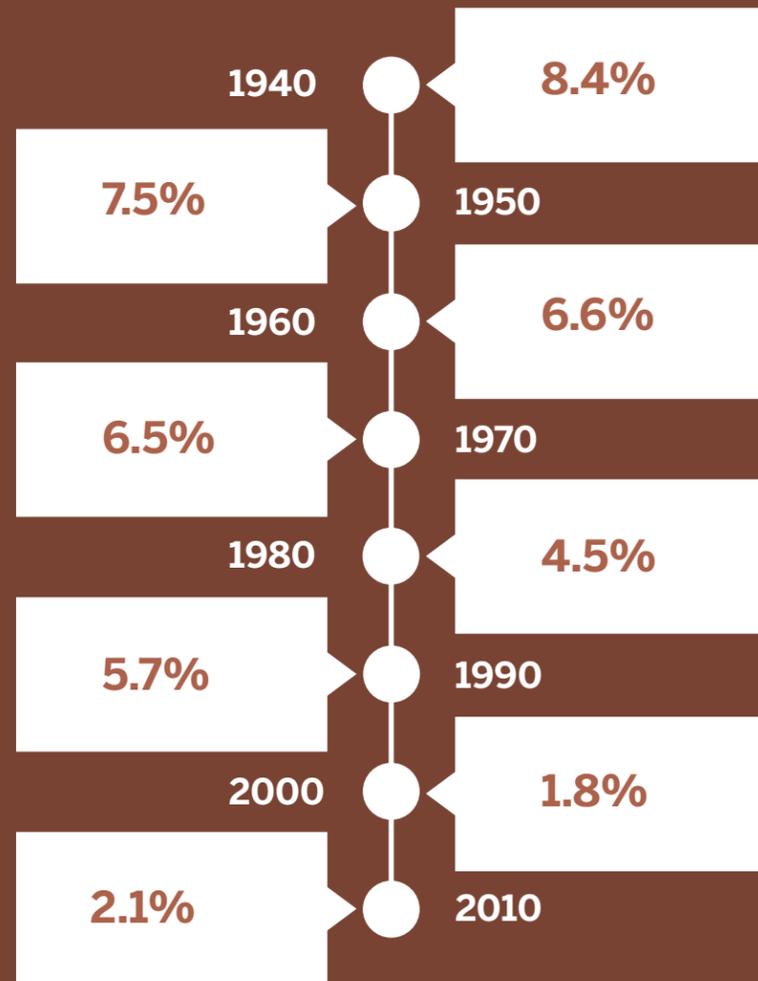
What other factors might contribute to the undercounting of young children?

What can Missourians do to ensure that young children are counted in 2020?



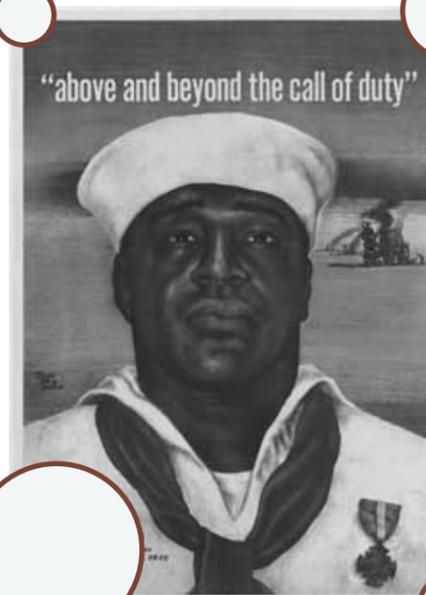
Does Everyone Count?

Percentage of African Americans Undercounted in the Census



The 1940 census counted approximately 2.4 million African American males of eligible draft age (20–44). However, over 2.5 million African Americans registered for the draft during World War II.

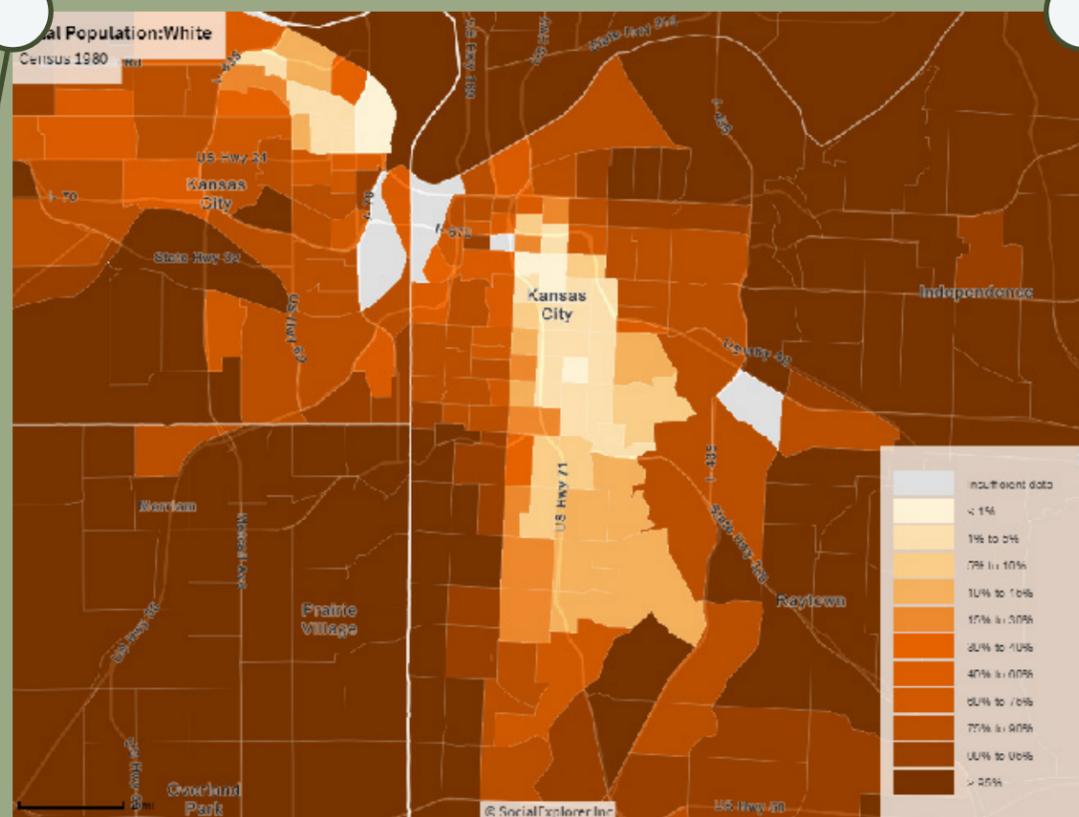
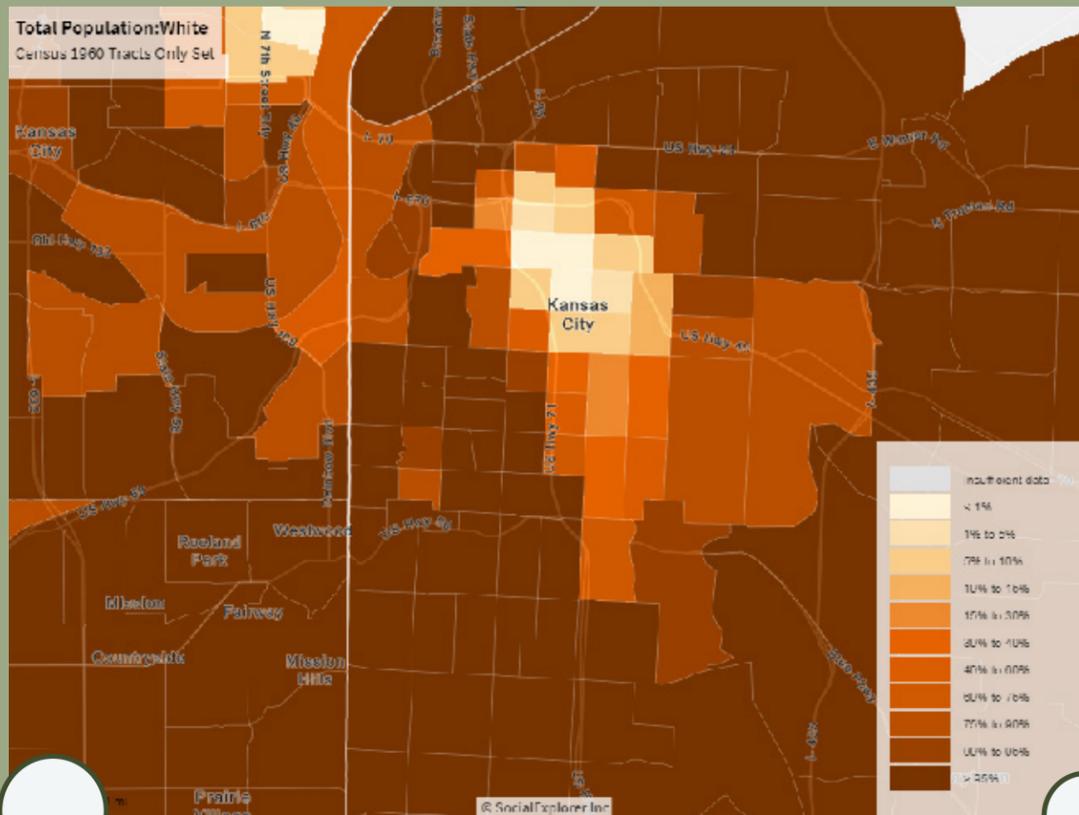
African Americans are still misrepresented in census data. The 2010 census estimated that they undercounted African Americans by 2.1% (amounting to 820,000 people).



How does undercounting effect communities?
Undercounting can threaten a community's access to quality services from both the private and public sectors.

Private businesses and nonprofits use census data to decide where they are most needed or how to best serve a particular community.
The government uses its data to determine political representation, redistricting, and the allocation of governmental resources to a community.

What can Census Data tell us about Racial Segregation in Kansas City, MO?



Kansas City has a long history of racial segregation, stemming largely from housing discrimination and resistance to the racial intergration of public schools. Census data allows us to paint a vivid picture of “white flight,” a term used to describe the mass exodus of white residents from neighborhoods where the racist real-estate practices of red-lining and blockbusting were used to drive down property values, allowing the cheap acquisition of homes and their subsequent re-sale to black families at much higher prices. In Kansas City, the North-South thoroughfare of Troost Avenue became a dividing line between east and west, and black and white.

However, census data made available by the annual American Community Survey now suggests that Kansas City’s

segregation may be on a marginal decline. In 2000, the Brookings Institute listed the locale as the 11th most segregated large city in America; by 2017 it had been bumped to the 27th. Several factors are thought to contribute to this trend towards racial intergration including white residents moving from the suburbs to the newly revitalized downtown area and more black families choosing the safety and economic opportunities of the surrounding suburbs over the city.

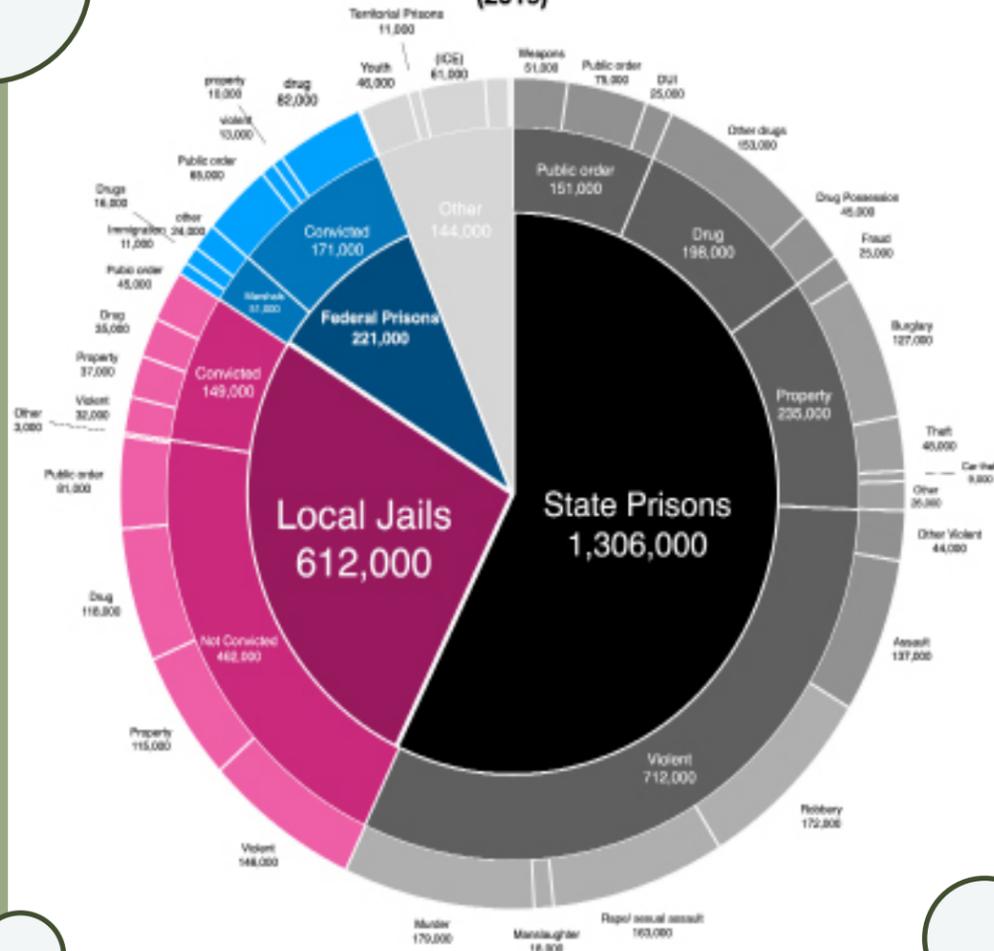
Does racial integration correspond to racial equity?

What role might gentrification play in Kansas City’s racial segregation?

How do racially discriminatory policies of the past continue to impact Kansas City today?

The Census and Mass Incarceration?

Incarceration in the United States (2019)



Since at least 1850, prisoners have been counted by the Census Bureau in the location of their incarceration. Back then there were only about 29 prisoners per 100,000 adults living in the United States. By 1983, that figure had increased almost ten-fold; by 2008, 1 out of every 100 adult resident of the nation was incarcerated.

vote or participate in local economies, and are not recipients of census related benefits. They do, however, factor into the partisan re-districting of the areas where they are incarcerated, leading opponents of this policy to coin the term "prison gerrymandering."

As the number of prisoners surged upward, concerns regarding their enumeration emerged. The Census Bureau's policy requires that Americans be counted in their place of "usual residence." In practice, that means that inmates residing in local, state or federal detention centers on Census Day, April 1st of a decennial census year, are counted at the facility, without regard to the duration of their sentence.

In the 2020 census, the Bureau released prisoner data early to individual state governments to allow them to make the final decision regarding where to count inmates.

Which communities are most likely to benefit from "prison gerrymandering?"
Which are most likely to be disadvantaged?

This can artificially inflate the population of prison localities, since prisoners can't often

Seeing Change

The statistics gathered by the Census Bureau reflect the changes in our societal history and reveal new perspectives on many stories.

What events, innovations, or incidents may have contributed to these statistical changes?

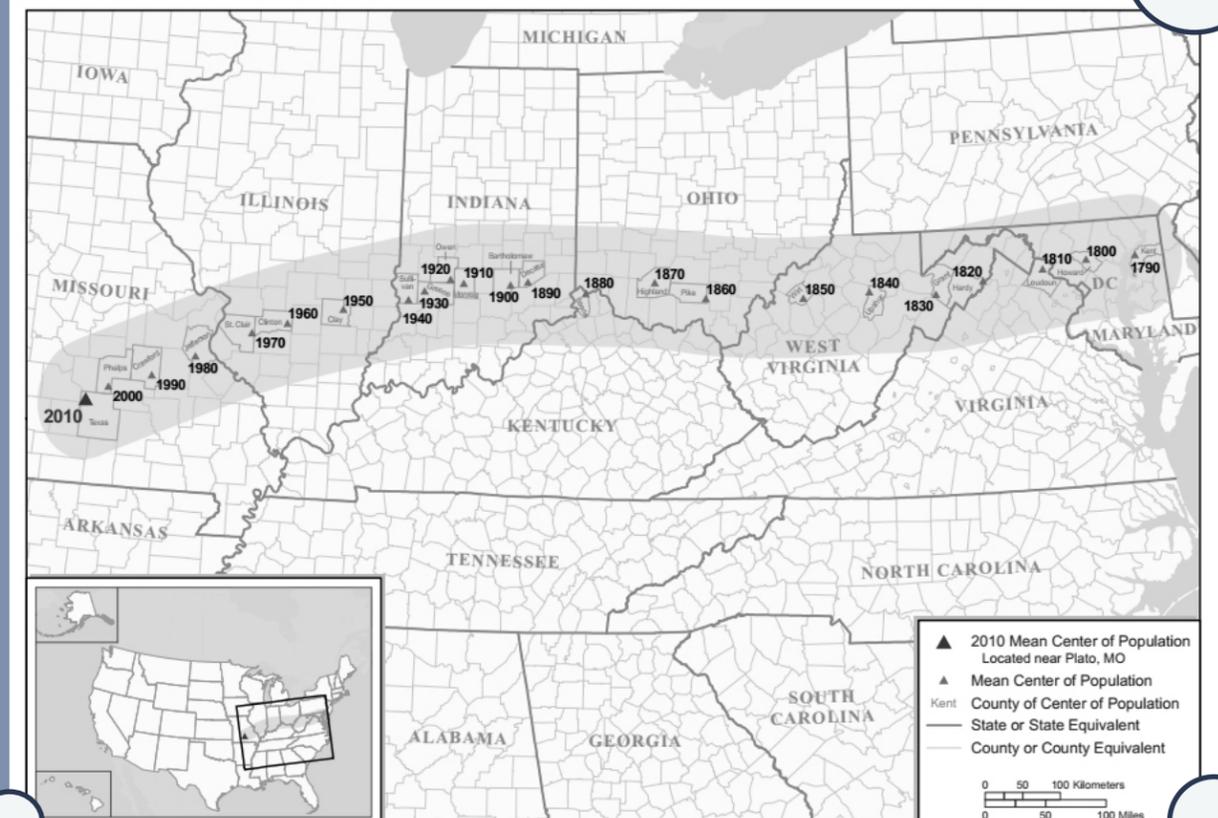
What other stories can we uncover based on statistics?

Why move West? Tracking population movement with census data.

States that lost population between 1930 and 1940: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma.

What might have caused these states in particular to lose population?

Mean Center of Population for the United States: 1790 to 2010



The U.S. population has continually moved West across the nation since the founding of the nation. However, some decades saw a greater jump, others not so much. What are some reasons for this?

What other trends can you identify, and what may have spurred those changes?

1862 SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in *Colville Valley* in the County of *Spokane* State of *Washington* enumerated by me, on the *13th* day of *August* 1860. *George Taylor* Agent Marshal Post Office *Colville Valley* Page No. *24*

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11	12	13
			4	5	6		9	10				
1	1	1	1	1	1							
2	1	1	1	1	1							
3	1	1	1	1	1							
4	1	1	1	1	1							
5	1	1	1	1	1							
6	1	1	1	1	1							
7	1	1	1	1	1							
8	1	1	1	1	1							
9	1	1	1	1	1							
10	1	1	1	1	1							
11	1	1	1	1	1							
12	1	1	1	1	1							
13	1	1	1	1	1							
14	1	1	1	1	1							
15	1	1	1	1	1							
16	1	1	1	1	1							
17	1	1	1	1	1							
18	1	1	1	1	1							
19	1	1	1	1	1							
20	1	1	1	1	1							
21	1	1	1	1	1							
22	1	1	1	1	1							
23	1	1	1	1	1							
24	1	1	1	1	1							
25	1	1	1	1	1							
26	1	1	1	1	1							
27	1	1	1	1	1							
28	1	1	1	1	1							
29	1	1	1	1	1							
30	1	1	1	1	1							
31	1	1	1	1	1							
32	1	1	1	1	1							
33	1	1	1	1	1							
34	1	1	1	1	1							
35	1	1	1	1	1							
36	1	1	1	1	1							
37	1	1	1	1	1							
38	1	1	1	1	1							
39	1	1	1	1	1							
40	1	1	1	1	1							
41	1	1	1	1	1							
42	1	1	1	1	1							
43	1	1	1	1	1							
44	1	1	1	1	1							
45	1	1	1	1	1							
46	1	1	1	1	1							
47	1	1	1	1	1							
48	1	1	1	1	1							
49	1	1	1	1	1							
50	1	1	1	1	1							
51	1	1	1	1	1							
52	1	1	1	1	1							
53	1	1	1	1	1							
54	1	1	1	1	1							
55	1	1	1	1	1							
56	1	1	1	1	1							
57	1	1	1	1	1							
58	1	1	1	1	1							
59	1	1	1	1	1							
60	1	1	1	1	1							
61	1	1	1	1	1							
62	1	1	1	1	1							
63	1	1	1	1	1							
64	1	1	1	1	1							
65	1	1	1	1	1							
66	1	1	1	1	1							
67	1	1	1	1	1							
68	1	1	1	1	1							
69	1	1	1	1	1							
70	1	1	1	1	1							
71	1	1	1	1	1							
72	1	1	1	1	1							
73	1	1	1	1	1							
74	1	1	1	1	1							
75	1	1	1	1	1							
76	1	1	1	1	1							
77	1	1	1	1	1							
78	1	1	1	1	1							
79	1	1	1	1	1							
80	1	1	1	1	1							
81	1	1	1	1	1							
82	1	1	1	1	1							
83	1	1	1	1	1							
84	1	1	1	1	1							
85	1	1	1	1	1							
86	1	1	1	1	1							
87	1	1	1	1	1							
88	1	1	1	1	1							
89	1	1	1	1	1							
90	1	1	1	1	1							
91	1	1	1	1	1							
92	1	1	1	1	1							
93	1	1	1	1	1							
94	1	1	1	1	1							
95	1	1	1	1	1							
96	1	1	1	1	1							
97	1	1	1	1	1							
98	1	1	1	1	1							
99	1	1	1	1	1							
100	1	1	1	1	1							

Can Census Data be used to Reconstruct Native American Genealogies?

Census information is often used to recover family histories or trace ancestry and heritage. For Native Americans, inconsistencies within the historical record can present challenges to rediscovering one's lineage.

The 8th decennial census in 1860 was the first to identify Native Americans living within the general population of the United States; it wasn't until 1900 that an effort was made to include those living on a reservation or in what the government considered "unsettled tracts of the country," from their counts.

When Native Americans did appear in census records, their racial identification varied according to the instruction manual of a given year and the perceptions of enumerators. Some early censuses

offered only the choice of white, black, or "mulatto," a term historically used to describe persons of mixed heritage. Others, like the 1930 census, instructed officials to record any individual that was both Native American and black or African American as black, unless, "the Indian blood predominated and the person was generally accepted as an Indian in the community."

Additionally, Native Americans may have difficulty locating the census records of relatives due to variations in record keeping by enumerators, who often wrote in English names for Native individuals and either gave no surname or wrote "Indian," "Papoose," or "Squaw" as a given name.

How might these strict definitions of race have skewed early U.S. population data?

How might these inaccuracies affect the construction of reliable genealogies?



How has the Census Measured LGBTQ+ Populations?

Beginning with the 12th census in 1900, enumerators were instructed to designate two or more otherwise unrelated persons sharing a household together as “partners.” While this term did not necessarily indicate a romantic relationship, it was notably distinct from other cohabitative categories such as lodger, servant, pupil, and boarder.

By tracking how many of those partners were reported to be same-sex individuals, census records can be used to gather historical data on LGBTQ+ populations in America.

The addition of “unmarried partner” to the list of possible relationship designations in 1900 allowed for greater visibility and more accurate data generation for LGBTQ+ individuals and communities. However, the possibility of errant marks in response to declared gender created a wide margin of error in the Census Bureau’s

attempts to produce reliable statistics on same-sex relationships. To improve the accuracy of these studies, the 2020 census will be the first to offer “same-sex husband / wife / spouse” and “same-sex unmarried partner” alongside their opposite-sex counterparts.

What else might be missing from the census’ picture of what constitutes a family?

How might this data be used to better the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals and their communities?

Why is LGBTQ+ visibility in the census important?



Gentrification

Gentrification is an increasingly controversial subject. Cities like Portland, Washington, D.C., and Minneapolis have seen a least 50% of their metro-area neighborhoods gentrified—making them over double the national average of 20%.

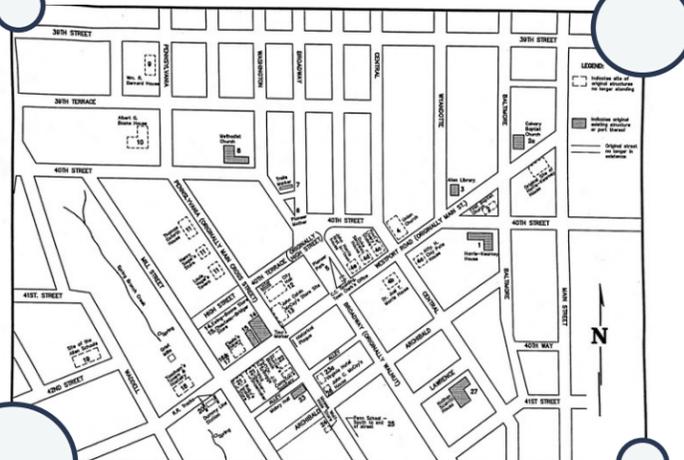
Gentrification brings with it many issues. The neighborhoods see rising rent, displacement of people who live there, and changes in the neighborhood's culture.

Areas that experience gentrification see safer neighborhoods and more jobs. Assessing the effects of gentrification in your neighborhood requires accurate data. This is where the census comes in!

What data points indicate gentrification in a neighborhood?

What other data points might you look at to learn about a neighborhood?

What about a neighborhood cannot be measured by data?



Westport Stats

2017

70.1% household above \$25,000 (+3.6%)

Median income \$45,026 (+\$9,581)
Median Age 31.7 years (-2.6 years)

Not His/Latino White 71.3% (+4.7%),
Black 8.6% (-5.2%),

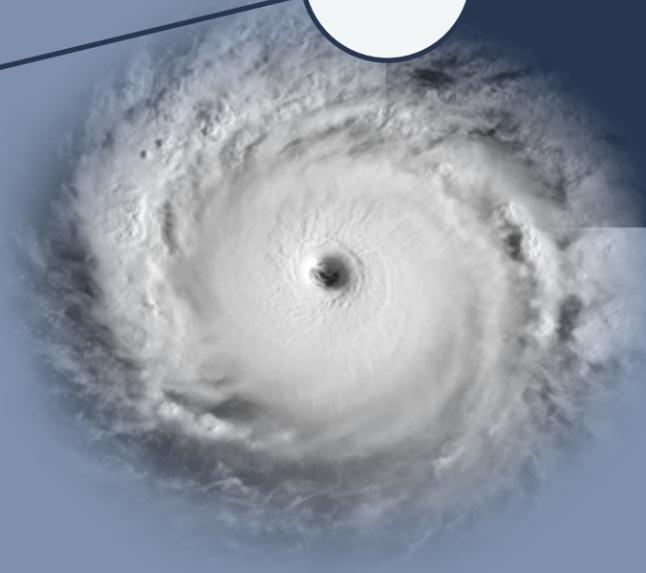
66.5% household above 25,000

Median income \$36,445
Median Age 34.3 years

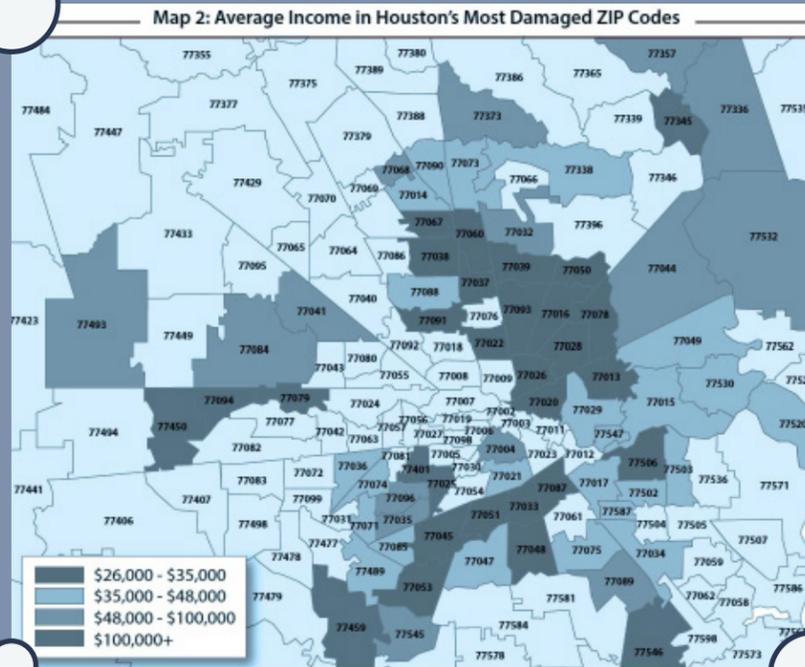
Not His/Latino White 66.6%,
Black 13.8%,
His/Latino 15%

2011

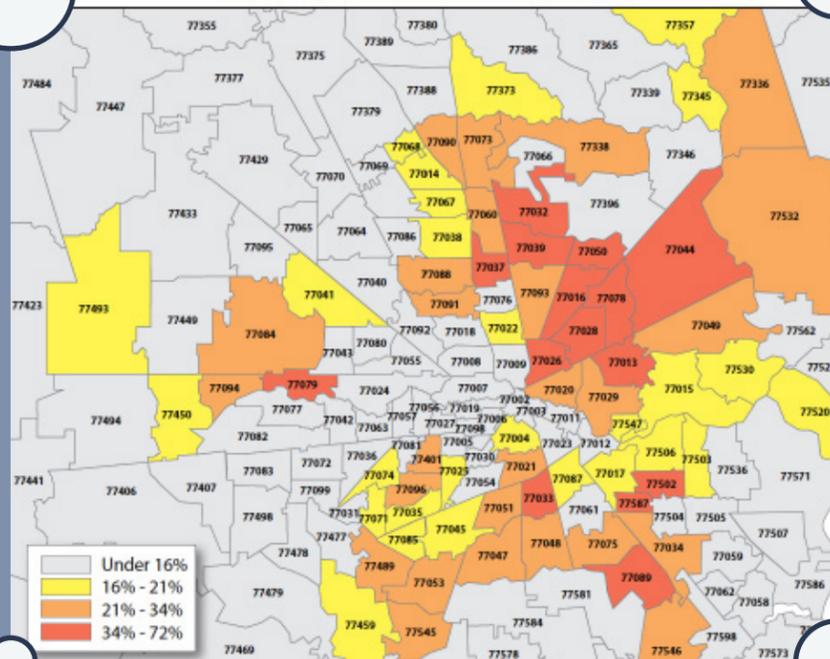
The Census to the Rescue!



Map 2: Average Income in Houston's Most Damaged ZIP Codes



Map 1: Proportion of Houston Homes Damaged



The Census Bureau formed a team of economists, demographers, outreach professionals, and statisticians to create the Emergency Preparedness and Response Team (EPRT). This team collects data to help federal agencies both prepare and respond to natural disasters throughout the United States of America.

In 2017, when Hurricane Harvey hit the Gulf Coast, the Census Bureau gave information to the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FEMA) to help them plan their recovery efforts.

What is the relationship between average incomes and the level of damage to homes in each Zip Code?

What does population growth along the coasts mean for disaster planning and relief?