



City Council "A" Session
June 21, 2018

**2020 US
CENSUS &
CITIZENSHIP
QUESTION**



IMPORTANCE OF AN ACCURATE CENSUS COUNT

- Determines distribution of federal funds
- Forecasts transportation needs
- Determines eligibility for assistance programs
- Apportionment of seats to the House of Representatives; impact on Texas
- Planning & implementing programs
- Redistricting



REDESIGNED 2020 CENSUS



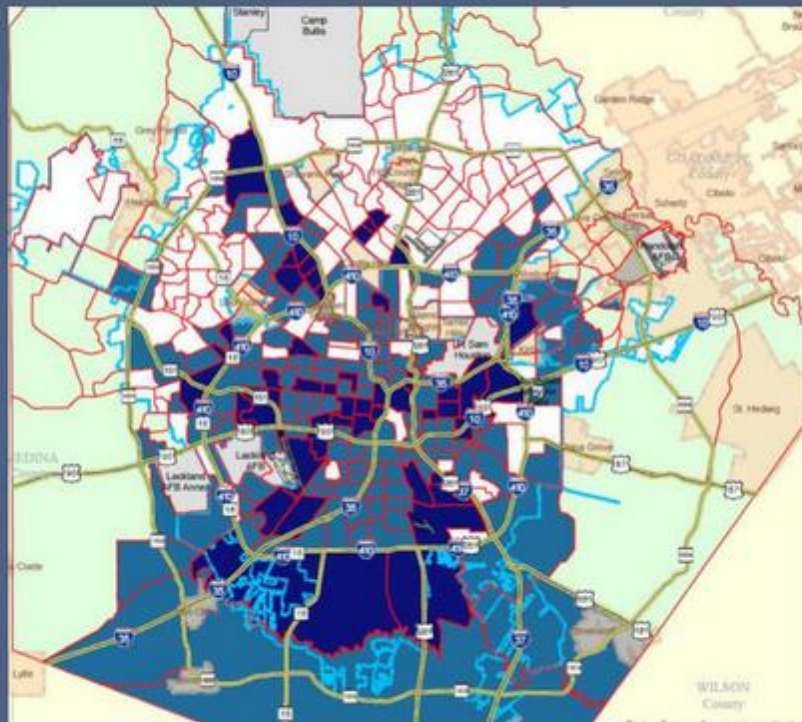
- Four key changes:
 - 1) Reduced field canvassing
 - 2) Emphasis on online/telephone response
 - 3) Reengineered field operations
 - 4) First day to self respond is March 23, 2020; Census Day is April 1



RESPONSE RATES IN SAN ANTONIO



- About 24 percent of San Antonio residents are likely to not self-respond
- From 2000 to 2010, Bexar County's participation declined from 74 to 73 percent
- 66 percent of Texans live in tracts that exceed average low response score



2020 QUESTIONNAIRE



- Proposed questions sent to Congress in late March
- Overview of planned questions
- History of question on citizenship

Citizenship asked since 1820.¹

Is this person a citizen of the United States?

- Yes, born in the United States
- Yes, born in Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Northern Mariana
- Yes, born abroad of U.S. citizen parent or parents
- Yes, U.S. citizen by naturalization – *Print year of naturalization*
- No, not a U.S. citizen

Census 2020 This is the official form for all the people of this address. It is quick and easy, and your answers are protected by law.

Start here

The Census must count every person living in the United States on April 1, 2020.

Before you answer Question 1, count the people living in the house, apartment, or mobile home using our guidelines.

- Count all people, including babies, who live and sleep here most of the time.
- The Census Bureau also counts people in institutions and other places, so:
- Do not count anyone living temporarily in college or in the Armed Forces.
- Do not count anyone in a nursing home, an assisted-living facility, etc., on April 1, 2020.
- Count those people off your team, even if they will return to school after they finish college. Do not count those who will be off-site. Otherwise, they may be counted twice.

The Census must also include people without a permanent place to stay, so:

- A person who has no permanent place to stay is staying here on April 1, 2020, count that person. Otherwise, he or she may be missed in the Census.

1. How many people were living in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2020?

Number of people =

2. Were there any **probationers** staying here on April 1, 2020? **Yes** **No** *(Probationers are people on parole or probation.)*

3. In the house, apartment, or mobile home –

- Do you or anyone in the household use a wheelchair or other mobility device?
- Do you or anyone in the household use any other medical equipment or device?
- Do you or anyone in the household use a hearing aid?
- Do you or anyone in the household use a prosthetic limb?

4. What is your **White** race? (You may check all that apply.)

5. What is your **Hispanic or Latino** race? (You may check all that apply.)

6. What is your **Asian** race? (You may check all that apply.)

7. What is your **Pacific Islander** race? (You may check all that apply.)

8. What is your **Other** race? (You may check all that apply.)

9. What is your **Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander** race? (You may check all that apply.)

10. What is your **Other** race? (You may check all that apply.)

11. What is your **Hispanic or Latino** race? (You may check all that apply.)

12. What is your **Asian** race? (You may check all that apply.)

13. What is your **Pacific Islander** race? (You may check all that apply.)

14. What is your **Other** race? (You may check all that apply.)

CITIZENSHIP QUESTION



- Letter by 6 former Census Directors
- Census testing
- Pending lawsuits
- Opposition by other entities

The Honorable Wilbur L. Ross
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
14th St. and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

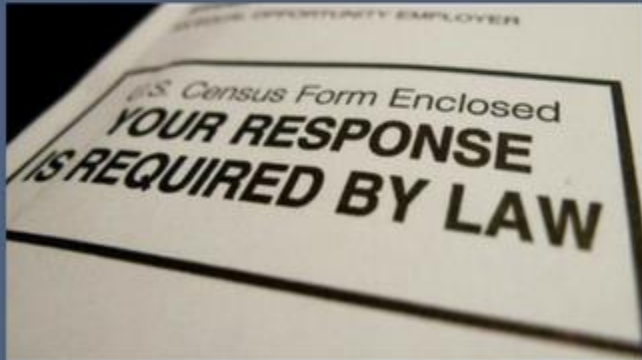
January 26, 2018

Dear Secretary Ross:

As former directors of the U.S. Census Bureau, serving under both Republican and Democratic administrations, we want to thank you for the care for the future of the Census Bureau you have displayed. We were, however, troubled to learn that the Department of Justice has recently asked the Bureau to add a new question on citizenship to the 2020 census. We are deeply concerned about the consequences of this possible action and hope that our objective observations provide a useful perspective before a final decision is made on this issue.

We were encouraged by your testimony before the Census Bureau's House and Senate authorizing committees last October. Your frank assessment of the status of 2020 Census preparations and your acknowledgment that the Bureau will need more resources to conduct an acceptably accurate enumeration were correct. Undoubtedly, your substantial private sector experience has informed your approach to the Bureau's mission. Similarly, your experience as a census enumerator many years ago may have helped to shape your appreciation for the importance of the fair and accurate census our Constitution envisions, free from partisan influence and guided by sound, well documented, scientifically driven decisions.¹

There is a well-proven multi-year process to suggest and test new questions. We strongly believe that adding an untested question on citizenship status at this late point in the decennial planning process would put the accuracy of the enumeration and success of the census in all communities at grave risk. Your observation at the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on October 12, 2017 — that adding untested questions could reduce response rates — suggests that you have carefully considered respondent



“We were, however, troubled to learn that the Department of Justice has recently asked the Bureau to add a new question on citizenship to the 2020 census. We are deeply concerned about the consequences of this possible action...”

-Former Directors of US Census Bureau

PROPOSED RESOLUTION



- Adopted by Intergovernmental Relations Committee on June 13, 2018
- Staff recommends approval of the resolution opposing the inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE INCLUSION OF A CITIZENSHIP QUESTION ON THE 2020 CENSUS.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the U.S. Census Bureau will conduct a decennial census in 2020 as required by Article I, Section 2, Clause 3, of the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce directed the U.S. Census Bureau to include a citizenship question in the 2020 Census at the request of the Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, several lawsuits challenging the inclusion of the citizenship question as a violation of the Constitution's enumeration clause have been filed by municipal governments, county governments, and state governments; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of such a question on the census would result in reduced participation by immigrant and other hard-to-count populations, including communities of color, urban and rural low income households, and young children; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the City of San Antonio's population is Hispanic/Latino, with approximately two-hundred and five thousand residents that are foreign born, and an estimated forty-four percent of residents speak a language other than English at home; and

WHEREAS, Bexar County's participation rate during the 2010 census was seventy-three percent and the Census Bureau already estimates that nearly 24% of residents are unlikely to self-respond in 2020; and



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