2020 Census Tribal Consultation with State-Recognized Tribes

FINAL REPORT

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United States Census 2020

Acknowledgements

Our gratitude is extended to the tribal delegates, American Indian and Alaska Native organization representatives, and other American Indian and Alaska Native participants who attended the tribal consultation meeting and whose input is contained in this report. We also appreciate the support and advice of members of the Census Advisory Committee on the American Indian and Alaska Native Populations, and the partnership of the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs in promoting attendance at the tribal consultation.

Census Bureau executive leadership who participated in the consultation included: John Thompson, Director; Albert Fontenot, Acting Chief, Field Division; Jeannie Shiffer, Associate Director for Communications; Deborah Stempowski, Chief, Decennial Census Management Division; and Tim Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations.

Atlanta Regional Director George Grandy, Jr., and Atlanta regional staff also participated in the tribal consultation.

The following headquarters Census Bureau staff delivered short presentations at the meetings: Dee Alexander, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs; Deborah Stempowski and Maryann Chapin, Decennial Census Management Division; Roberto Ramirez, Population Division; Laura Waggoner, Geography Division; Kendall Johnson, Communications Directorate; and Sydnee Chattin, Decennial Programs Field Division.

Dee Alexander (Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma), Tribal Affairs Coordinator, had primary responsibility for the tribal consultation and the final report.

Kauffman & Associates, Inc., (KAI) an American Indian-owned firm, was contracted to provide logistical support for the 2020 Census tribal consultations and develop the final reports. KAI President Jo Ann Kauffman co-facilitated the tribal consultation with Tim Olson.

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Final Report

United States Census 2020

Executive Summary

In recognition of the importance of engaging with all indigenous groups to promote an accurate count in the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau held a tribal consultation specifically designed for state-recognized tribes. The objectives of the tribal consultation meeting included:

- encouraging open communication between the Census Bureau and tribes;
- gathering tribal input on how to effectively implement programmatic and operational activities;
- recording and addressing outcomes and recommendations; and
- providing information on and answering questions about Census Bureau programs and the 2020 Census.

The meeting agenda was structured according to the six main topics covered in the *2020 Census Tribal Consultation Handbook,* which include:

- population statistics,
- geography,
- enumeration,
- the 2020 Communications Campaign,
- the AIAN Partnership Program, and
- recruiting for Census jobs.

Through dialogue about these topics, several overarching themes organically emerged. These high-level topics include:

- unique challenges faced by state-recognized tribes,
- the implications of census data on tribal programs and planning, and
- a need to actively involve younger generations in promoting and conducting the census in their tribal communities.

This report summarizes by topic the responses from state-recognized tribal leadership. Next, the report explores several overarching themes covered during the consultation that transcend the agenda topics. The report concludes by outlining next steps based on follow-up items identified during the tribal consultation. For reference, the notes from the tribal consultation are included as an appendix.

The 2020 Census Tribal Consultation Process

Tribal consultation is a forum for meaningful dialogue in the context of the government-to-government relationship between the federal government and tribes. It emphasizes open communication around upcoming decisions, policies, or actions that may impact tribes. For the decennial census, tribal consultation helps to:

- involve tribes in decision-making,
- give tribal governments an open forum to raise issues or concerns,
- enhance communication between the Census Bureau and tribal leadership,
- strengthen partnerships between the Census Bureau and tribes, and
- identify action items or issues that need further input.

Tribal consultation is a vital component in ensuring that everyone is counted in the decennial census. It is the basis of the Census Bureau's partnership with tribal governments and the springboard for planning an accurate count of American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIANs) in the decennial census. To honor the government-to-government relationship between the federal government and tribes and ensure tribal input is incorporated into the design and execution of the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau began consulting with tribal leaders 5 years in advance of the decennial census.

Guided by its own and the Department of Commerce's tribal consultation policy, the Census Bureau executed an initial round of tribal consultations, which included eight meetings and a national webinar, followed by a second round of nine meetings as part of the 2020 American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Program. During this second round of consultations, the Census Bureau held a tribal consultation specifically for state-recognized tribes.

The 2020 AIAN Program leads the Census Bureau's tribal consultation process. This program exists to raise awareness of the purpose and importance of the census among tribal audiences. The AIAN Program emphasizes outreach to AIANs living on tribal lands—a historically undercounted population—to promote a complete, accurate count of AIANs in the 2020 Census.

2020 Tribal Consultation with State-Recognized Tribes

Working with and achieving accurate counts for all indigenous groups in the United States is a priority for the Census Bureau. Because tribes without federal recognition face a unique set of circumstances, the Census Bureau prioritized a tribal consultation specifically with state-recognized tribal governments. In partnership with the North Carolina Indian Affairs Commission, the Census Bureau hosted a tribal consultation intended specifically for state-recognized and non-recognized tribes on September 1, 2016, in Raleigh, NC.

CENSUS BUREAU HEADQUARTERS SUPPORT

An invitation letter from Census Bureau Director John Thompson was sent electronically to 67 state-recognized tribes. Background information and follow-up correspondence were also sent to the leadership of these tribes.

CONTRACTOR SUPPORT

The Census Bureau contracted with Kauffman & Associates, Inc. (KAI), an American Indian-owned professional services firm, to assist with planning and executing the tribal consultation.

KAI researched tribes and tribal organizations that could be ideal partners in planning the consultation, and collaborated with the Census Bureau to coordinate the consultations.

KAI sent the initial invitation and additional notifications to tribal leadership, helped arrange travel, and developed the meeting agenda. Onsite at the consultation, KAI provided logistic, registration, and note-taking services; developed summary notes following the tribal consultation; and created the final report.

BACKGROUND MATERIALS

The *2020 Census Tribal Consultation Handbook*, which was sent to tribes prior to the consultation, contained context information on six tribal consultation topics to help tribal delegates prepare responses. Each topic was accompanied by discussion questions. The six tribal consultation topics are listed by programmatic area in the table below.

Table 1. Agenda Topics by Program

Census Bureau Programmatic Area	Tribal Consultation Topic
Racial Statistics	Population Statistics
Geography Division	Geography
Decennial Census Management Division	Enumeration Discussion
Integrated Communication Program	2020 Communications Campaign
2020 AIAN Program	Partnership Program
2020 Recruiting Program	Recruiting for Census Jobs

Also included in the handbook were a copy of the "Dear Tribal Leader" letter from Director Thompson, two frequently asked questions about the census with accompanying answers, a brief history of the decennial census as it relates to AIANs, and an overview of the planning for the 2020 Census. Instructions for alternative ways of submitting comments were also included for those who were unable to attend the consultation in person, but still wanted to contribute.

MEETING AGENDA

The meeting agenda was structured according to the six main topics covered in the *2020 Census Tribal Consultation Handbook*. The agenda was designed with a flexible structure to stimulate discussion about the tribal consultation topics and gather tribal input, concerns, questions related to the 2020 Census.

The tribal consultation opened with a brief presentation from the Census Bureau that summarized planning for the 2020 Census, followed by introductions and an open discussion period. Next, the Census Bureau delivered a brief presentation for each of the six topics, with a discussion period following each presentation. Each Census Bureau presentation concluded by posing discussion questions from the *2020 Census Tribal Consultation Handbook*. Feedback from tribes during previous 2020 Census tribal consultations answered some of the Census Bureau's initial requests for information and reshaped some of the more complex questions. Therefore, the questions asked at this tribal consultation did not precisely match those printed in the handbook.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION PARTICIPANTS

Participants at the consultation included tribal leaders and official tribal delegates, representatives of tribes and AIAN organizations, and representatives of Census Bureau headquarters and the Atlanta regional office.

Tribal Participants

Thirty-six tribal delegates and AIAN organization representatives attended the tribal consultation, representing 24 state-recognized tribes and 6 AIAN organizations. Some participants attended in multiple capacities by representing a tribe and an organization, and some tribes and organizations were represented by multiple participants.

Census Bureau Leadership

Census Bureau executive leadership who participated in the tribal consultation included:

- John Thompson, U.S. Census Bureau Director;
- Jeannie Shiffer, Associate Director for Communications;
- Tim Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations;
- Deborah Stempowski, Chief, Decennial Census Management Division; and
- Albert Fontenot, Acting Chief, Field Division.

George Grandy, Jr, Atlanta Regional Director, also participated in the tribal consultation.

Headquarters staff from each of the programmatic areas represented in the agenda attended the tribal consultation and delivered brief presentations to inform discussions with tribal leadership. Census Bureau staff from the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, as well as the Atlanta Regional Office, were also involved.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION THEMES

This portion of the report summarizes by topic the responses from state-recognized tribal leadership. The sections below correspond with each of the six agenda topics, which include:

- population statistics,
- geography,
- enumeration,
- the 2020 Communications Campaign,
- the AIAN Partnership Program, and
- recruiting for Census jobs.

Subsections under each topic summarize tribal responses to a particular discussion question for each topic.

Population Statistics

Census data on the AIAN population and counts for specific tribes are gathered through the question on race. Individuals self-identify with a tribe by writing the name of the tribe with which they are affiliated in the write-in space that accompanies the race question. To produce high-quality data on the AIAN population, the Census Bureau needs tribal input on how to code, classify, and tabulate responses gathered through the write-in space.

Collection of Tribal Enrollment Data

In the lead-up to the 2010 Census, some tribes requested that the Census Bureau explore the possibility of gathering data on the tribal enrollment status of individuals who self-identify as AIAN. Because the 2010 Census tribal consultations began later in the decade than the 2020 Census tribal consultations, there was insufficient time to incorporate this suggestion. The Census Bureau instead committed to test a potential tribal enrollment question for the 2020 Census. Other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, have also requested that the Census Bureau gather tribal enrollment data. However, throughout the 2020 Census tribal consultations, many tribes, along with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), have expressed grave concerns about the possibility of capturing accurate tribal enrollment numbers through a self-response census. The Census Bureau does not plan to include a tribal enrollment question in the 2020 Census, but will follow through with testing the question to inform possible future data needs.

Discussion question: *If the Census Bureau collected data on tribal enrollment, would your tribe or village use those data? If yes, how?*

Tribal Response

Leadership from state-recognized tribal governments expressed opposition to the collection of tribal enrollment data, citing the following reasons.

- Tribal enrollment numbers gathered through self-identification would not match tribal rolls.
- Gathering tribal enrollment data infringes on tribal sovereignty, since tribes, alone, have the right to determine their own enrollment.
- Maintaining tribal enrollment records is the responsibility of sovereign tribal nations, not the duty of the federal government.
- The Census Bureau cannot verify the tribal enrollment data gathered without tribes sharing their confidential rolls with the Census Bureau, and, similarly, the tribes cannot verify the census data without the Census Bureau sharing individual responses to the census, which are also confidential.

- Gathering tribal enrollment data through the census may set a precedent that encourages other federal agencies to ask to view tribes' proprietary enrollment records.
- If tribal enrollment data gathered by the census is perceived as more credible than tribal enrollment records, this would place a burden of proof on tribes.

A recommendation gathered from the tribal consultation is for the Census Bureau to work one-on-one with tribes that have requested tribal enrollment data to publish that information.

The Question on Race

The Census Bureau has been testing new formats for the race question to elicit detailed responses.

Discussion question: *How would you like to report your race on a census form?*

Tribal Response

The question wording and format must encourage people to report multiple races by providing clear instructions and ample write-in space. Examples of write-in responses should be specific to encourage the reporting of detailed tribal identities. Enumerators should be trained to ask AIAN respondents specifically with which tribe they identify.

It is important for tribal governments to conduct outreach to their citizens about how to self-identify on the census form to ensure that responses will be coded and tabulated appropriately.

Coding and Classification of AIAN Responses

People often write in different responses about their racial identities, though they are attempting to provide the same high-level information. For example, tribal citizens may write the acronym for their tribe's official name, or they may write a response in their Native language. The Census Bureau maintains a code list that includes known names for federally recognized, state-recognized, and non-recognized tribal groups, to ensure that write-in responses are classified and tabulated correctly.

Discussion question: *Please share updates and any other feedback regarding your coding and classification preference for the 2020 Census.*

Tribal Response

The Southeastern Mvskoke Nation, Inc., recently changed its official name from the Star Clan of Muscogee Creeks. This change needs to be reflected in the code list.

Tribal Groupings

Discussion question: *Please share updates and any other feedback regarding your coding and classification preference for the 2020 Census.*

Tribal Response

The term Algonquin should be included among the Wampanoag classification on the code list.

Geography

In addition to producing total counts at the national level, the Census Bureau tabulates data for all households located within specific geographic areas, such as reservations or counties. To ensure the right households are counted toward a particular geography, the Census Bureau must have up-to-date boundaries and an accurate address list. The Census Bureau wants to work with tribes to accurately define tribal geographies that ensure useful data is returned to tribes.

Considerations for Mapping Tribal Boundaries

Discussion question: *For which geographic areas does your tribe use data most often?*

Tribal Response

Consultation with individual tribes is key to understanding their perceptions of their tribal lands. Many tribes may understand the boundaries of their lands independently of state or county boundaries, which were drawn long after most tribal communities established a sense of place.

Statistical Boundaries for State-Recognized Tribes

Statistical areas can be defined when a tribe needs data for a specific area that does not have legally defined boundaries. Tribes without trust lands or reservations can define statistical areas within which to count their populations. Statistical areas can also be used to capture a concentrated population of tribal citizens living off tribal lands.

Discussion question: *Has your tribe used data from geographic statistical areas, such as State-Designated Tribal Statistical Areas (SDTSAs) or Census Designated Places (CDPs)?*

Tribal Response

State-recognized tribes face unique challenges in designating statistical areas. To define an SDTSA, the encompassing state must formally recognize the tribe as existing within its boundaries. Sappony's geographic situation illustrates these unique challenges. The tribe is located in North Carolina and Virginia, but is only recognized by North Carolina, which prevents the designation of an SDTSA to capture the tribe's population in Virginia.

Additional Geographies

Discussion question: *Are there geographic areas that the Census Bureau does not currently map that would be helpful to your tribe?*

Tribal Response

For tribes with tribal schools, designating a statistical area based on the school district could provide the tribe with useful data.

Enumeration

The primary response option for the 2020 Census will be Internet self-response through a secure website. The Census Bureau will also offer options to respond through a paper questionnaire or over the telephone. For places where other response options are not feasible, and to follow up with households that do not self-respond, the Census Bureau will conduct in-person enumeration by sending interviewers to knock on doors. The Census Bureau would like individual tribal input on the best way to enumerate each tribal community.

Enumeration Challenges

Each enumeration method has associated challenges, and the Census Bureau faces overarching challenges to enumerating AIAN populations, such as a fear that individual information collected through the census will be released or used to the detriment of tribal people. In spite of these challenges, the Census Bureau needs to work with tribes to determine how to count everyone.

Discussion question: *How can we ensure that every person within a household is counted, especially if there is more than one family living in the home?*

Tribal Response

Challenges identified include counting the homeless, as well as community members who frequently move residences and do not have a permanent home. Capturing the number of residents in overcrowded or multi-family homes also presents a challenge, since people may fear being penalized for violating housing regulations.

Tribal delegates emphasized the importance of hiring enumerators locally who understand their communities and are trusted by community members. The Census Bureau should prioritize local expertise, such as fluency in the tribe's Native language, when recruiting enumerators, and ensure enumerators understand that citizens of state-recognized tribes can and should self-identify as AIAN.

Feasibility of Internet Self-Response

***Discussion question**: Is Internet connectivity an issue in your area?*

Tribal Response

Internet connectivity is often an issue in rural tribal areas. For many North Carolina tribes, high-speed Internet is not widely available. Many tribal homes lack Internet access, and some lack computers. Since connectivity is often available through mobile data on smartphones, a mobile app or mobile-friendly website was recommended.

Preferred Enumeration Approach

***Discussion question:** Could you share with the Census Bureau your preferred enumeration approach for the 2020 Census?*

Tribal Response

Several tribal delegates reported that in-person enumeration worked well for their tribes in the past, especially when enumerators worked in close partnership with tribal offices.

In-person enumeration in a group setting, such as at an elders' meeting, was discussed as an effective approach. Census Bureau regional offices will work with tribes individually to understand their preferred enumeration approach, and implement this strategy where desired.

2020 Communications Campaign

The Census Bureau will conduct a large-scale communications campaign to raise awareness about the census and encourage self-response. The campaign will involve traditional media and partnerships. It will incorporate significantly greater use of social media, as this platform has grown immensely. Messages will be targeted to specific audiences.

Recommended Communication Channels

***Discussion question:** What is the best way to reach your tribal citizens who live on and off tribal lands?*

Tribal Response

Staffing a booth at well-attended tribal community events, especially powwows, is a powerful way to connect with tribal citizens. Community gathering places, such as tribal churches and community centers, are also an excellent forum for outreach.

Outreach Messaging

Discussion question: *What types of messages work best?*

Tribal Response

Tribal delegates emphasized the importance of engaging tribal youth with census messaging. The Census Bureau should design outreach that specifically targets younger adults, such as by acknowledging the diversification of the younger generations by reimagining traditional images and highlighting how census data justifies funding for programs relevant to youth, such as financial aid for higher education. This demographic is typically online frequently and could be reached through outreach on social media. The Census Bureau should target audiences at a detailed level, such as by tailoring AIAN ads by region with the message that those tribes count.

The Role of Social Media in Outreach to Tribal Communities

Discussion question: *How big of an influence is social media in your community?*

Tribal Response

Social media has significant influence in tribal communities. Many tribes operate their own Facebook pages. Although social media is most popular among young people, many tribal elders use social media, as well. It is important to use a blended approach of online and print media to reach those without computers or Internet access.

AIAN Partnership Program

The Census Bureau's AIAN Partnership Program leverages the trusted voices of tribal leadership to promote tribal participation in the census. The program has three components, which are:

- the Tribal Governments Liaison Program, through which tribal leaders can designate a point of contact to communicate between the Census Bureau and the tribe about census issues;
- Tribal Complete Count Committees, which are created by tribal leaders to conduct outreach to their communities about the importance of the census and how they should self-identify; and
- partnerships with AIAN organizations, such as tribal community centers and enrollment offices, are key to raising awareness of and promoting participation in the census.

Building Trust with Tribes

Discussion question: *How do Census Bureau staff who are devoted to working with tribal governments most effectively improve participation in the 2020 Census?*

Tribal Response

Tribal consultation helps build a foundation of trust. Input from state-recognized and non-recognized tribes is often minimized during tribal consultation, and these groups are often excluded completely from tribal consultations completely. Tribal delegates noted that the Census Bureau's efforts to consult with state-recognized tribes in a government-to-government context has begun to build a basis of trust. To continue building trust, the tribal delegates recommended that the Census Bureau continue its tribal consultation efforts through visits to individual tribes and seek to understand individual tribal cultures.

The tribal delegates recommended investing effort into partnership with NCAI. In particular, Census Bureau could partner with the NCAI Veterans Committee to begin building trust among tribal veterans.

Recruiting for Census Jobs

As the 2020 Census approaches, the Census Bureau will recruit for temporary positions, primarily enumerators. The Census Bureau intends to hire local, tribal enumerators to the greatest extend possible to ensure tribal households are enumerated by familiar faces who understand the community and its members.

Circumstances That May Affect Recruiting

Discussion question: *What types of changes have happened in your communities since the 2010 Census that could affect recruiting for Census Bureau jobs?*

Tribal Response

Many of the tribes represented at the state-recognized tribal consultation are currently facing high rates of unemployed youth due to recent economic downturn, which may mean the Census Bureau will have a large pool of young applicants.

Avenues for Recruitment

Discussion question: *What are the best avenues for promoting and recruiting for Census Bureau jobs?*

Tribal Response

The tribal delegates recommended the Department of Labor's Workforce Program and national youth councils as partners in recruitment for Census Bureau jobs. To recruit young people for Census Bureau jobs, the Census Bureau could advertise through the Uber app,

since many youth seek part-time, flexible job opportunities that involve driving, like Uber and Census Bureau positions. The Census Bureau should partner with tribes to the greatest extent possible to ensure local, tribal enumerators are hired.

OVERARCHING THEMES

Often, overarching themes emerge in tribal consultations that do not fit under the agenda topics. During the tribal consultation with state-recognized tribes, the following topics surfaced frequently:

- unique challenges faced by state-recognized tribes,
- the importance of involving youth in the census, and
- the importance of accurate data for tribal use.

Challenges Faced by State-Recognized Tribes

While tribes that are not federally recognized face many similar challenges to those faced by federally recognized tribes, such as historic undercounts and resulting underfunding, state-recognized tribes face challenges that spring from not being formally recognized by the federal government. For example, most state-recognized tribes do not have legal boundaries, such as federally recognized reservation lands, so they work with states to designate statistical geographies. Federal agencies often fail to acknowledge and consult appropriately with state-recognized tribes, and local governments often do not view citizens of state-recognized tribes as AIAN. Even when state-recognized tribes are acknowledged in tribal consultation, their voices are not always given the same weight as input from federally recognized tribes. Further, politicians and researchers often treat the AIAN population as insignificant in size, in comparison to other minority groups.

The Effects of Census Data on Tribes

Several of the tribes in attendance reported undercounts in previous censuses, which harmed funding for key tribal programs.

Accurate census counts are critical to ensuring that tribes are allocated the appropriate amount of funds for health, housing, and other crucial programs. Tribes also need accurate census data to plan appropriately for how to effectively use their limited resources. Other organizations, such as minority affairs commissions, also need accurate tribal data to inform policy work, research, and services. Further, using census data as the building blocks to create an accurate depiction of Indian Country would aid in legitimizing state-recognized tribes with federal agencies, local governments, politicians, researchers, and the general public.

Importance of Engaging Youth

The tribal delegates repeatedly emphasized the role of younger generations of AIANs in promoting and conducting the census. They recommended targeting outreach to this audience, tailoring recruitment efforts for Census Bureau jobs to tribal youth, and partnering with youth councils to promote the census and recruit for Census Bureau jobs.

Follow-Up Items

This section notes follow-up items identified by the Census Bureau during the tribal consultation and indicates the actions the Census Bureau has taken and will take to follow up with tribal questions, comments, and concerns.

COMPLETED FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

The Census Bureau has fulfilled the following commitments made during the tribal consultation:

- The Census Bureau's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs sent copies of the meeting notes and presentations to all tribal consultation participants.
- As requested, Southeastern Mvskoke Nation, Inc., was added to the 2017 Census Test coding and classification list to reflect the tribe's recent name change. The Census Bureau will continue to work with leadership of the Southeastern Mvskoke Nation, Inc., to ensure tribal citizens are accurately coded and classified in the 2020 Census.
- In response to a question raised during the tribal consultation, the U.S. Census Bureau confirmed that federally recognized tribes are ineligible to be designated as State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas. Although SDTSAs can cross county lines, they cannot cross state lines.
- The Census Bureau followed up with Earl Evans, Tribal Councilor for the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, regarding his inquiry about the designation of school districts as statistical areas. After the Census Bureau spoke to Mr. Evans about its role in the School District Review Program, he had no additional follow-up.

- The U.S. Census Bureau staff met with Dorothy Crowe, Chairperson of Sappony, immediately following the tribal consultation, to discuss the identification of contacts in Virginia with whom Sappony should coordinate to designate an SDTSA for the tribe. Census Bureau Philadelphia Regional Office staff worked to coordinate this discussion between state and tribal representatives and learned that Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia Kelly Thomasson will serve as the state's point of contact for tribes. Secretary Thomasson indicated she maintains good relationships will all Virginia tribes, has contact information for the tribes, and is willing to host a meeting with tribal leaders regarding the 2020 Census. She encouraged Sappony to contact her or her staff directly for assistance with the state's tribal recognition process, which is handled through the Virginia General Assembly.
- In response to an inquiry about how the term Algonquin is coded and classified, the Census Bureau offers the following response:

  "Race and ethnicity categories in the United States are defined by the Office of Management and Budget, with the latest set based on a 1997 revision of a 1977 standard. The minimum race categories in the 1997 OMB standards for collecting data on race and ethnicity are:

  - *American Indian or Alaska Native*
  - *Asian*
  - *Black or African American*
  - *Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander*
  - *White*

  The minimum ethnicity categories are:

  - *Hispanic or Latino*
  - *Not Hispanic or Latino*

  Although Algonquin is not coded and classified as a race or ethnicity under these standards, American Indian and Alaska Native respondents who write in 'Algonquin' as a detailed response under the race question receive a unique code for tabulation under the Algonquin tribal grouping. For example, in 2010 there were 905 people who reported being Algonquin alone and 4,136 who reported being Algonquin alone or in any combination."

NEXT STEPS

Based on follow-up items identified during the tribal consultation, the Census Bureau will do the following:

- Recognizing that not every tribal leader was able to attend the American Indian and Alaska Native 2020 Census Tribal Consultation Meetings, the Census Bureau will send a letter to all tribes and tribal leaders to request feedback on the current coding and classification list in preparation for the 2020 Census. In the summer 2017, the Census Bureau will send the current coding and classifications lists for tribal leaders to review and provide feedback. The coding and classification list is the foundation of the data provided on the American Indian and Alaska Native populations. Through intergovernmental relationships with tribal nations, the Census Bureau seeks to improve the accuracy of data to ensure the needs of its tribal partners are met.
- Census Bureau regional offices will reach out to AIAN communities, organizations, and tribal governments to establish partnerships in preparation for the 2020 Census. Through these partnerships, the Census Bureau and tribes can collaborate on Decennial Census outreach, promotion, and recruiting. Recruiting applicants from within each community is a common goal the Census Bureau shares with tribal communities. The Census Bureau's goal is to hire people who are familiar with the communities in which they will work. The Census Bureau would like to work with tribes individually to ensure enough tribal applicants are recruited to meet recruiting goals. The Regional Office will need help distributing job information and promoting census jobs and identifying facilities for completion of job applications, assessments, and training. At times, staff turnover may require additional recruiting efforts. The Census Bureau wants job recruitment to be a collaborative initiative to ensure tribal interests are reflected in the way recruiting efforts are carried out in their communities.

Conclusion

The Census Bureau gathered many useful insights and recommendations during the tribal consultation with state-recognized tribes. The meeting provided tribes with the opportunity to learn about census processes and planned changes for the 2020 Census, while the Census Bureau collected input for improving the AIAN count. The Census Bureau also gained insight into the unique hurdles faced by state-recognized tribes within the already challenging context of conducting the decennial census in Indian Country. Hosting a tribal consultation with state-recognized tribes strengthened partnerships with these tribes and provided the Census Bureau with valuable feedback that will inform planning as the 2020 Census moves forward.

Appendix

United States Census 2020

Appendix: Meeting Notes from the Consultation with State-Recognized Tribes

Hilton North Raleigh/Midtown Hotel, Raleigh, NC

Thursday, September 1, 2016, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

ATTENDEES

Tribal Delegates

Total: 30 tribal participants; 24 tribes represented

- Lebaron Byrd, Chief, MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians
- Nancy Carnley, Vice Chief, Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama; President, Alabama Indian Affairs Commission
- Dorothy Crowe, Chairperson, Sappony
- Randy Crummie, Chief, Santee Indian Organization
- Lana Dial, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
- Earl Evans, Haliwa-Saponi Tribe
- Duane Everhart, Second Chief, Piqua Shawnee Tribe
- Gerald Gray, Chairman, Little Shell Chippewa Tribe of Montana; President, Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council
- Susan Hayes-Hatcher, Second Chief, Waccamaw Indians of Aynor, SC
- Elton Jacobs (Waccamaw Siouan Indian Tribe), Member, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs
- LaVie Jones Pridgen, Meherrin Indian Nation
- Geneva LeBeouf, Membership Committee Representative, Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe
- Stan Long, Principal Chief, Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama
- Marian McCormick, Principal Chief, Lower Muskogee Creek Tribe
- Danielle McLean, Legal and Compliance Officer, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
- Brenda Moore, Housing Coordinator, Waccamaw Siouan Tribe

- Rico Newman, Elder Council Co-Chair, Piscataway Conoy Indian Nation of Maryland; Member, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs
- John Norwood, Tribal Supreme Court Chief Justice, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation; representing Confederation of Sovereign Nanticoke-Lenape Tribes
- Tanya Norwood, Census Tribal Liaison, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation
- Prentis Parr, Chief, Pee Dee Indian Tribe of South Carolina
- Cameron Press, Junior Tribal Representative, Cherokee of Georgia
- Tony Press, Cultural Preservationist, Cherokee of Georgia
- Brucie Ogletree Richardson, Chief, Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe
- G. Anne Richardson, Chief, Rappahannock Tribe
- Charles Scott, Sumter Tribe of Cheraw Indians
- Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III, Chief, Pocasset Wampanoag of the Pokanoket Nation
- Larry Townsend, Tribal Councilman, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina
- Asphy Turner, Tribal Council Member, Nottoway Indian Tribe of Virginia
- JaNella Williams, Tribal Enrollment Director, Coharie Tribe
- Martha Williams, Secretary, Southeastern Mvskoke Nation of Alabama

AIAN Organization Leadership

Organizations represented: 6

- Kerry Bird, President, Triangle Native American Society
- Furnie Lambert, Jr., Chairman, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs
- Nealie McCormick, Chairman, Georgia Council on American Indian Concerns
- Gregory Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi), Executive Director, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs
- Charles Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi), Member, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs
- Elk Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi), Program Director, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs

Census Bureau Staff

Headquarters

- Dee Alexander, Tribal Affairs Coordinator, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
- Akenabah Begay, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
- Helena Carapellatti, Program Manager, AIAN Program
- Maryann Chapin, Assistant Division Chief for Nonresponse and Coverage Operations, Decennial Census Management Division
- Sydnee Chattin, Assistant Division Chief for Decennial Programs Field Division
- Joshua Coutts, Geographer, Geography Division
- Albert Fontenot, Acting Chief, Field Division
- Kendall Johnson, Program Manager for the Integrated Communications Contract, Communications Directorate
- Van Lawrence, Chief, Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs
- Tim Olson, Associate Director for Field Operations
- Roberto Ramirez, Assistant Division Chief for Special Population Statistics, Population Division
- Hyon Shin, Chief, Racial Statistics Branch, Population Division
- Jeannie Shiffer, Associate Director for Communications
- Deborah Stempowski, Chief, Decennial Census Management Division
- John Thompson, U.S. Census Bureau Director
- Laura Waggoner; Assistant Division Chief for Geographic Partnerships, Data Collection, and Products; Geography Division

Regional Offices

- George Grandy, Jr., Regional Director, Atlanta Region
- Wes Flack, Tribal Partnership Specialist, Atlanta Region
- Kelly Karres, Data Dissemination Specialist for North and South Carolina, Atlanta Region
- Philip Lutz, Assistant Regional Census Manager, Philadelphia Region
- Gerson Vasquez, Data Dissemination Specialist, Atlanta Region

Other Attendees

- Kenneth Battle, Board Chair, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs
- Bob Coates, Governor's Census Liaison, North Carolina Governor's Office
- Marcy Hayden, Indian Affairs Coordinator, South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs—Native American Affairs
- Jennifer Gillissen, Director of Meeting and Event Planning, Kauffman & Associates, Inc.
- Jo Ann Kauffman, President, Kauffman & Associates, Inc.
- Katie Terra, Technical Writer, Kauffman & Associates, Inc.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Opening Ceremonies

Posting of the Flag

Lumbee Warriors

Opening Prayer

Chief Ogletree Richardson (Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe)

Welcome

Jo Ann Kauffman and Tim Olson introduced themselves as co-facilitators for the tribal consultation. Mr. Olson introduced those who made opening remarks.

Opening Remarks

George Grandy, Jr.

Mr. Grandy thanked the North Carolina Indian Affairs Commission and Gregory Richardson for hosting the tribal consultation.

The Census Bureau's Atlanta regional office oversees 1,300 field representatives normally, and this number swells to 80,000 during the decennial census. The Atlanta Region will soon reach out to tribes within the region regarding the 2020 Census. The Atlanta Region employs a tribal partnership specialist, Wes Flack, who works with the tribes in the region regarding the census.

John Thompson

Director Thompson thanked everyone for attending and expressed appreciation for the high number of attendees

In all meetings with tribal leadership, the Census Bureau is committed to honoring the policies of the Census Bureau and the Department of Commerce. These policies were put in place in 2008, and Dee Alexander helped guide their development. Before implementing any policy that may affect American Indian or Alaska Native communities, the Census Bureau will first consult with tribes. The Census Bureau needs tribal feedback on many items related to the 2020 Census and has already conducted eight tribal consultations. Now, the Census Bureau is conducting another round of nine additional tribal consultations. The Census Bureau began consulting with tribes about the 2020 Census 2 years earlier than was done for the 2010 Census.

Gregory Richardson

In the past, Mr. Richardson served on the American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Advisory Committee to Census. Through this opportunity, he learned that the census has larger implications beyond simple numbers and data. Partnership, geography, and other considerations are important in identifying American Indian communities.

He emphasized to the tribal leadership in attendance that they have an opportunity to help shape the planning of the 2020 Census. He shared with tribal leaders the importance of setting geographic boundaries from which to draw data. The day before the consultation, he attended a meeting between the North Carolina governor's office liaison and the Census Bureau where state and county officials learned about the 2020 Census. Mr. Richardson thanked everyone for attending.

[The Census Bureau played a short video with welcoming remarks from U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker.]

Thank you for being here and working with us to develop the 2020 Census. When I visited Indian Country over the summer, tribal leaders expressed how critical it is that accurate numbers be gathered. The Census Bureau is conducting a series of tribal consultation meetings to elicit your input. We look forward to your feedback.

In 2013, the Department of Commerce finalized its tribal consultation and coordination policy, which establishes how the Department works with federally recognized tribes. The policy allows us to capitalize on the tremendous value consultation brings to the decision-making process. While the consultation process was valuable to us in the lead-up to the 2010 Census, it was clear we needed more time to prepare. That's why we're here 2 years earlier.

No other department rivals the reach, depth, and breadth of our data collection efforts. The decennial census is the largest civilian mobilization effort in the nation and a constitutional requirement. It is a complicated logistical challenge. We need your help. In order for us to serve you better and gather accurate information from AIAN communities, we need to hear your concerns and suggestions, and we need you to encourage your tribal citizens to respond when they are contacted for the census.

Overview of the Agenda

Dee Alexander

Ms. Alexander is a citizen of Cheyenne Arapaho Tribes.

Consulting with state-recognized tribal governments is a priority for the Census Bureau. Ms. Alexander provided an overview of the Census Bureau's outreach efforts to these tribes: Kauffman & Associates, Inc., invited 67 state-recognized tribes to this consultation on behalf of the Census Bureau.

She added that she would set up any one-on-one discussions or consultations requested by tribal delegates.

Goals and Objectives

The goals of the Census Bureau tribal consultations are to:

- create open, two-way communication between tribal governments and the Census Bureau;
- collect input on effective ways to implement tribal-specific programmatic and operational activities;
- record and address outcomes, issues, and recommendations; and
- clarify Census Bureau programs and activities related to the 2020 Census.

Following the consultation, the Census Bureau will review tribal responses and questions. Meeting notes will be sent to attendees 2 weeks after the meeting. A final report about this meeting will be published in June 2017.

PRESENTATIONS, DISCUSSION, AND TESTIMONY

Introductions and Open Discussion

Many tribal delegates acknowledged the importance of ensuring a complete count and expressed an interest in learning more about the 2020 Census and an intention to share the information with their tribal communities. Several delegates expressed appreciation for the consultations being held 2 years earlier than was done in preparation for the 2010 Census.

Some of the delegates stated reasons why census data is important and beneficial to their communities. Reasons included that census data:

- helps secure funding,
- informs tribal programs,
- represents those with no voice at the table (state-recognized and non-recognized tribes),
- provides insight into where else in the country tribal citizens are living, and
- establishes the presence of tribes and AIAN people.

Other comments made during the introduction and open discussion period included the following.

Rico Newman

The 2020 Census will be the first decennial census in which Maryland tribes will participate since the state formally recognized their presence.

Larry Townsend

Most people are unaware that state-recognized tribes exist, even though the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina is the seventh largest tribe in the United States. It is difficult for state-recognized or non-recognized tribes to have a voice at the table.

Lebaron Byrd

Citizens of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians do not fully understand the importance of completing the census. Currently, they tend to think that the census collects information the government will use against them, and the tribe's leadership needs to educate them that it is a friendly inquiry that collects important numbers.

Stan Long

The Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama does not have land in trust. Due to adverse effects from the Jim Crow Laws and, later on, a lack of employment opportunities, many tribal citizens moved out of the state, but their roots are in Alabama. Many local officials are unaware that American Indians live in their jurisdiction. Mr. Long shared that he often has to inform them of the history to help them understand, which he is alright with, but accurate census numbers would help paint a larger picture showing that American Indians live all over the United States.

Nancy Carnley

It will be important for the 2020 Census data to accurately reflect tribal numbers. Politicians and researchers have treated the AIAN population as too small to be significant or matter

as much as other minority groups. One challenge in achieving an accurate count is that people are afraid to identify as AIAN due to historical trauma.

Martha Williams

The Southeastern Mvskoke Nation of Alabama has an elderly population who still remember when identifying as American Indian was dangerous, and the legacy of this memory carries through the whole community, resulting in people who may be distrustful. Encouraging them to complete a form and identify as AIAN will be difficult. They need to be educated about the census and reassured that, even though the U.S. government conducts the survey, it is safe to respond.

Gregory Richardson

North Carolina has the largest American Indian population east of the Mississippi River. Many American Indians live in rural areas. In addition to collecting data from AIANs in tribal settings, it is also important to gather data on those in urban settings. Outreach to AIANs will need to be specialized to both rural and urban areas.

Earl Evans

It is crucial to consult with tribes in their home states to learn nuances about how they perceive themselves and the places where they live. For example, the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe is located in the city of Hollister, and Hollister proper is located in Halifax County, NC. The tribe does not think in terms of the county boundaries that were drawn across the tribal territory long after its citizens established their sense of place. They think of Hollister as being about a 10-mile radius around the city, even though that area lies within two different counties.

Mr. Evans serves on the tribal consultation committee for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and has observed the particular considerations for formulating funding, such as who counts as a resident of a household. There are different housing scenarios to consider, such as "couch riders" who may stay in different residences for short periods of times, overcrowded residences, and multiple-family homes. He has also seen how the resulting data impacts funding. For this reason, an accurate count is vital.

Not all tribes are able to effectively track tribal citizens who move outside of tribal communities. While some tribes incentivize citizens to periodically update their contact information with the tribe, others cannot do so and lose track of these individuals.

Laura Waggoner

Ms. Waggoner serves as co-chair for the National Boundary Group through the Federal Geographic Data Committee. The group recently started a Tribal Lands Subgroup, which needs tribal membership. Ms. Waggoner asked anyone interested in participating to contact her.

Elk Richardson

For each decennial census, Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Labor do a special data tabulation that affects the funding of American Indian workforce development programs. Mr. Richardson expressed concern about how the Census Bureau will count AIANs and capture enrollment data, and how all of this data will ultimately affect workforce development programs.

Gerson Vasquez

The Census Bureau employs about 42 data dissemination specialists across the nation, and they help people access the data after its collection. The primary charge of these specialists is to help tribes, other local governments, or individuals find the data they need.

Lana Dial

Ms. Dial inquired about how data will be broken down by age, such as whether specific data will be available for elders or youth. This type of information would help the tribe further understand how to best use their limited resources. It would also be helpful to see data on how urban American Indians are located across the United States.

Marcy Hayden

South Carolina is home to 10 federally and state-recognized tribes. Because South Carolina has a small population, it is difficult to retrieve data beyond the federal and state levels. The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs needs to access more data on tribes, rural communities, and urban Indians to aid in its work related to policy, services, and research.

Overview of Planning for the 2020 Census

Census Bureau Presentation

Deborah Stempowski

The purpose of the decennial census is to count the population and housing and disseminate the results to the president, the states, and the American people. The decennial census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The resulting data is used for apportionment counts and is turned back to communities so they can use it to improve the lives of their community members.

Based on lessons learned from tribal consultation leading up to the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau knew the consultation process needed to start earlier for the 2020 Census. This time, it began 2 years earlier. The Census Bureau completed a first round of consultations in early 2016. The state-recognized tribal consultation launches the second round of tribal consultations.

The Census Bureau has already learned a lot from the first round of consultations. The Census Bureau acknowledges that online response is not always a viable option because of connectivity and trust issues. Some people would work with an in-person enumerator, particularly someone local. The Census Bureau understands the importance of hiring locally, and that is incorporated into the plan for the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau will use the information they learn from the tribal consultations to inform future testing and the final plan for conducting the census.

The research and testing phase gives early indications of what can work and what will not work. The Census Bureau is now moving into the operational research and building phase. The final phase will be implementation of the plan.

Last fall, the Census Bureau released the operational plan for the 2020 Census 3 years earlier than was done for the 2010 Census. It is a high-level plan for how to conduct an effort of this scale. The plan reflects and supports evidence-based decision making. It identifies decisions that need to be made. The plan will be refined every year, based on lessons learned.

The Census Bureau has begun a 2020 Census Memorandum Series, which documents significant decisions, actions, and accomplishments. **The series is posted on the Census Bureau website**[1].

The Census Bureau posted a Federal Register Notice in May 2015 asking for comments on the residence criteria. In February 2016, the Census Bureau published a summary of the comments received. In June 2016, the Census Bureau published the 2020 proposed residence criteria, which was open for comment until September 1. It will now be finalized and published.

Initial efforts have focused on major cost drivers, such as the cost of canvassing incurred by in-person enumeration. The 2020 Census has the potential to be the most innovative census in history.

1 To access the Census Memorandum Series, visit http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/planning-management/memo-series.html

There are four foundational tasks involved in counting the U.S. population. They are:

- establish where to count,
- motivate people to respond,
- count the population, and
- tabulate and release the results.

Establish Where to Count

This task involves identifying all addresses where people live or could live. In 2010, Census Bureau staff updated and verified the address list in conjunction with the count. For the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau will again conduct a 100% review and update of the address list but will approach it differently, using a combination in-office review alongside the in-field review. In-office review includes obtaining information from sources such as the U.S. Postal Service, imagery, commercial databases, and other private sector sources and files provided to the Census Bureau.

Motivate People to Respond

The Census Bureau will maximize outreach using traditional and new media and will target advertisements to specific audiences and work with trusted voices to share messages. Tribal government liaisons are key in communicating to tribal communities.

Count the Population

For the 2020 Census, those who can respond online will be encouraged to do so. Phone and paper response options will also be available. Providing more options for self-response means fewer enumerators will need to go out on the ground.

Tabulate and Release the Results

After the count is complete, the Census Bureau will process the results and provide them to the President of the United States, to be used for apportionment counts, by December 31, 2020. The data will be published for others to use.

Responses and Discussion

Gregory Richardson

Many homes in North Carolina do not have Internet access.

Brenda Moore

Within the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe, most families do not have computers in their homes. While there are pockets of connectivity, even the schools have connectivity challenges. Even the tribal office connects using hotspots, which only work some of the time because high speed Internet is not widely available.

Director John Thompson

The Census Bureau will not use the Internet as the preferred response option everywhere. The same goes for mail as the responses option. In some areas, the Census Bureau will walk door to door and enumerate in person. People will also have the option to call in to respond. Tribal liaisons will be crucial in communicating to the Census Bureau how a particular tribal community would like to be enumerated.

Brenda Moore

Ms. Moore asked whether those who call in will speak with a person or an automated system.

Director John Thompson

Those who call in will speak with a person.

John Norwood

Mr. Norwood asked whether the presentation will be shared digitally with attendees after the meeting, so they can pass the information on to other tribal leaders.

Dee Alexander

Ms. Alexander will send the presentations and the meeting notes to all attendees.

Earl Evans

One way in which Internet response could be beneficial is by requiring certain federal and state agencies to respond for any minors in their care. Some states try to avoid provisions of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). Many states lack the mechanisms to track compliance with ICWA. If health and human services officials were required to digitally report any American Indian children in their care and note what tribe the child could be eligible to enroll in, this could help count those children and track compliance with ICWA.

Larry Townsend

Mr. Townsend asked how homeless American Indian veterans will be counted. They may live in the woods and move farther into the woods when people approach.

Stan Long

Of the four links to more information that the Census Bureau included in the slideshow, the first three seem similar. Where do they lead, and do they all lead to different places?

Deborah Stempowski

"Sign up and manage alerts" goes to a site where you can set up alerts for certain things. For example, you can be notified of a newly posted document so you do not have to check back for it. "More information on the 2020 Census Memorandum Series" goes to a component of "More information on the 2020 Census." The memorandum series documents key actions.

Jeannie Shiffer

Everything discussed at the consultation can be found on the 2020 Census webpage. Another way to navigate there is to go to the **Census Bureau home page**[2] and click on Census 2020.

Marcy Hayden

Ms. Hayden inquired whether the Census Bureau has considered developing a mobile app, since connectivity is often less of an issue when using mobile data on a smartphone.

Deborah Stempowski

The Internet response site is optimized for mobile devices, but an app is not in development.

Duane Everhart

When a tribe is identified as being on a state reservation, that does not capture tribal enrollment. There are State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas (SDTSAs). Why aren't they listed together with state reservations? To properly count a tribe, you need to know how many people are living on the reservation and how many Indians are living in the area. Both are necessary. The Census Bureau listed the Piqua Shawnee Tribe as having fewer than 100 citizens, which is incorrect.

2 Visit the Census Bureau website at www.census.gov

In conducting the 2010 Census, the enumerators would ask, "Do you belong to a minority group?" If the person affirmed, the enumerator would follow up with, "Well, what do you belong to?" The person would respond, "Choctaw." They need to ask more specifically *which tribe* the person is affiliated with, and that person needs to be identified by the tribe name. They will respond with the name of the tribe (e.g., Choctaw, Cherokee), but will not necessarily specify the band (e.g. MOWA Choctaw). The census form needs to ask people for the specific name of their tribe once they check the AIAN box. The MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians was counted at approximately 3,500 citizens, but actually has about 6,500. This discrepancy likely resulted from people identifying only as Choctaw instead of MOWA Choctaw.

Roberto Ramirez

Mr. Ramirez responded that his upcoming presentation would address the code list and the race question, and suggested they discuss Mr. Everhart's concerns in more detail at that time.

Geneva LeBeouf

Ms. LeBeouf participated in the testing of a sample race question conducted by the Census Bureau the previous weekend in Louisiana. She expressed that there is not enough space to enter the name of the tribe with which the respondent is associated. That needs to be corrected so respondents feel like there is enough room to write in the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians instead of simply Choctaw.

John Thompson

Counting everyone is really important, but, for some components of the population, the Census Bureau must reach out through someone they trust to explain why being counted is important. The partnership program is often the best way to work together to identify these people and ensure they hear the message from a trusted voice.

Larry Townsend

In response to the veteran question, going to each NCAI conference is a good way to build trust. The NCAI Veterans Committee is co-chaired by Mr. Townsend. He stated he will begin sharing the message about census within the committee to begin building trust.

Dee Alexander

The Census Bureau will be attending NCAI events regularly until 2020. The Census Bureau has been invited to present at the general assembly at the October 2016 NCAI conference in Phoenix, AZ. The Census Bureau hopes to present and will also have a booth at the conference. The Census Bureau has been invited to sit on the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Homelessness and will hopefully be represented at the conference in that capacity, as well.

Dorothy Crowe

The Sappony population is split between North Carolina and Virginia. The tribe resided there before state lines were drawn. The tribe is concerned about being counted accurately due to its citizens being divided between two states.

Population Statistics Discussion

Roberto Ramirez

The Census Bureau relies on self-identification in collecting race data. Responses to the race question tabulated as AIAN are captured by checking the AIAN box and/or writing in one or more tribe names.

Currently, the Census Bureau is researching whether there are better ways to design the race question to gather better data from ethnic groups. Based on focus groups done with about 60 AIANs, the Census Bureau has learned that the instruction to "print name of enrolled or principal tribe" is potentially confusing and can mean different things to different people. Further, people have varying opinions on what *enrolled* or *village* means. The overwhelming sentiment expressed in the focus groups was that participants wanted to be treated equally by receiving the same type of instructions as other race groups. The Census Bureau is examining a possible question design that includes three different options, each accompanied by a checkbox, underneath the AIAN category: American Indian, Alaska Native, and Central/South American Indian. These three options are derived from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definition of AIAN. OMB sets the standards for race and ethnicity, which the Census Bureau follows in its data collection role.

If this question format moves forward, there are several types of responses that the Census Bureau would tabulate as AIAN. Mr. Ramirez presented a few examples.

- A respondent wrote in Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe, but did not check any boxes.
- A person wrote in Haliwa-Saponi and checked the AIAN box.
- A respondent checked the AIAN box, then checked American Indian and Central/South American Indian, and wrote in Blackfeet Tribe and Taino.

If someone identifies with more than one tribe, the Census Bureau counts all the tribes he or she lists.

The folders given to consultation attendees contain copies of an abbreviated AIAN code list. Mr. Ramirez requested that delegates check to ensure their tribe is correctly written. The Census Bureau wants to capture the specific tribal name with which its citizens identify. Online response will allow respondents to type in up to 200 characters. On the paper form, the Census Bureau is looking into ways to easily collect more than one write-in response to encourage people to respond with more than one tribe name if they identify with multiple tribes.

The code list includes tribes that are federally recognized, state-recognized, and non-recognized. The Census Bureau is in charge of enumerating all people in the country, not just those who identify with tribes that are federally recognized.

The Census Bureau will not instruct tribes on how to identify themselves, but wishes to work with tribal delegates to understand how they and their citizens might self-identify. Some respondents report the name of the same tribe in different ways. The code list, as well as the data products the Census Bureau produces based on the count, are structured by official tribe name. For example, the Lumbee Indian Tribe is listed under its official name—Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina—followed by other names by which it is known, such as Lumbi, Lumberton, Pembroke, and Cheraw. The code list is a living document that is updated as names are identified, such as when a new acronym is used. The Census Bureau would appreciate tribal feedback on the code list.

The Census Bureau is exploring the possibility of testing a potential tribal enrollment question. The census does not currently ask about enrollment. This question would be separate from the race question. The Census Bureau's investigation of this possible question is a result of the tribal consultations leading up to the 2010 Census when a number of tribal leaders asked about the possibility of adding an enrollment question. At that point, it was too late to consider the question for the 2010 Census. Other federal agencies, specifically HUD, have also requested the Census Bureau to look into the possibility of adding an enrollment question. During the first round of 2020 Census tribal consultations, the Census Bureau received mixed input—some tribal delegates favored the idea and some did not. The Census Bureau requested input from tribal delegates in attendance at this consultation for their feedback on the issue.

The Census Bureau is looking at three possible question formats for the potential question on enrollment.

The Census Bureau will conduct field testing in 2017. In 2018, the final wording for the census form is due to Congress. Processing plans for the 2020 Census will be finalized in 2019.

Mr. Ramirez posed three questions/requests to the tribal delegates.

- How would you like to report your race on the census form?
- If the Census Bureau collected data on tribal enrollment, would your tribe or village use that data? If so, how would you use it?
    - One of the delegates responded her tribe would use the data in applying for grants.
- Please share updates and any other feedback regarding your coding and classification preference for the 2020 Census.

John Thompson

Director Thompson provided some clarification on tribal stances regarding the potential enrollment question. The feedback the Census Bureau has received so far in 2020 Census tribal consultations differs from the input received leading up to the 2010 Census. The Census Bureau had anticipated hearing the same thing they heard strongly in preparation for the 2010 Census—that the enrollment question would be helpful for tribes.

However, responses in the 2020 Census tribal consultations so far have varied greatly. In Alaska, tribal delegates stated that the question would hurt them when it comes to funding. In the Southwest, tribal delegates expressed that the federal government has no business collecting tribal enrollment information—that this is the tribes' responsibility. In consulting with the Plains tribes, the request was again raised for the Census Bureau to include a tribal enrollment question on the census. NCAI passed a resolution stating that the Census Bureau should not collect enrollment status data. Right now, there is no data to support whether a self-identification-based survey can collect accurate tribal enrollment data. The Census Bureau will need to consult with tribes much more before making a decision to include the tribal enrollment question on the 2020 Census.

Charles Scott

How should tribes communicate coding and classification preferences to the Census Bureau?

Hyon Shin

Ms. Shin indicated she would write down any input shared at the tribal consultation and take it back to update the list. Delegates are welcome to respond at a later date, as well.

John Thompson

The Census Bureau has email addresses for all attendees and will contact them to collect further feedback on this topic.

Tony Press

What are the benefits of the census that tribes can convey to their citizens? Will tribes have access to census data after it's been collected?

Roberto Ramirez

Tribes can use the data to secure funding or to educate. Some tribes could use it to help achieve federal recognition. The Census Bureau is a data collection agency, so it does not make decisions, but provides data to support decision-making by others. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation have offered to work with the Census Bureau in testing possible question formats for a potential enrollment question.

Tony Press

Citizens of the Cherokee of Georgia are spread out across the country, and the tribe would like to know how to contact these individuals. Will tribes have access to that kind of information?

Tim Olson

The Census Bureau is not permitted to reveal identities of individuals or businesses. The Census Bureau will produce summaries of tabulated data, not individual responses. Tribes would receive information on how many people across the nation identify with them.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

Access to genealogical search sites and information through DNA testing are becoming more common. How do people with African genealogy identify as AIAN? Should they wait until the African American portion of the race question to respond?

Roberto Ramirez

Respondents can check as many boxes as they like and write in as necessary. You can check AIAN and African American. The Census Bureau will be introducing new terms, like Afro-Latino, to be more inclusive.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

Is there a reason why the Algonquin race hasn't been included?

Roberto Ramirez

Mr. Ramirez indicated he would investigate this issue and follow up with Mr. Yellowfeather.

Duane Everhart

Mr. Everhart expressed concern about the word *enrolled* appearing in the sample question. Listing examples instead would be more helpful. Citizens of the MOWA Choctaw Tribe of Indians would be more likely to write in *MOWA Choctaw*, rather than simply *Choctaw* if they saw a similarly descriptive example.

Roberto Ramirez

The race question will list examples of tribal affiliations.

Duane Everhart

Tribes need to ensure that their citizens living outside the area know how to identify themselves. How can tribes help ensure tribal citizens receive and complete the census form?

Dee Alexander

In the past, there was in issue with Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma writing in simply Choctaw and they were counted as Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Tribal leadership needs to let tribal citizens know how they should self-identify on the census. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma did this.

The Census Bureau has a Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program, which collects information on housing units and addresses so mailings go to the correct addresses where people currently reside.

Tribal partnership specialists are a huge help in getting the word out about how to self-identify.

Martha Williams

Ms. Williams mentioned that her tribe recently changed its official name. She asked how to reflect that change in the code list and the data products resulting from the census. Does this update happen through how tribal citizens self-identify when completing the census?

Roberto Ramirez

The Census Bureau will update the code list accordingly. Mr. Ramirez stated he would meet with Ms. Williams following his presentation and would contact her electronically.

Martha Williams

Ms. Williams expressed a concern that, since they have been using the old name for years, people will forget to write in the new one.

Roberto Ramirez

The Census Bureau has a crosswalk table, which people who tabulate the data can reference to find and write in the current name of a tribe if someone writes a past name in their 2020 response.

G. Anne Richardson

The enrollment information is not needed by the Census Bureau. What happens when someone says they are enrolled in a tribe with which they are not actually enrolled. That could work against the tribe in the end. If that happens, it will stop people from enrolling in the Rappahannock Tribe. The tribes are responsible for capturing information about their enrolled citizens.

John Thompson

The Census Bureau has heard those concerns expressed and takes them very seriously.

Prentis Parr

Is it correct that tribal leaders do not have to share enrollment numbers with the Census Bureau? That individuals report their enrollment status, and the information gathered has nothing to do with tribal rolls?

Roberto Ramirez

That's correct, since the census is based on self-identification.

Gregory Richardson

It appears that asking about tribal enrollment status on the census would tread on tribal sovereignty. Tribes have the right to decide who enrolls.

Is it correct that there are some tribes who do not participate in the census? In North Carolina, some American Indians identify with one of the New York tribes that does not participate.

Roberto Ramirez

Yes, the Census Bureau is aware of a few that do not participate in the census. If an individual writes that in, that is how the Census Bureau will tabulate the response, even if the tribe, as a whole, does not participate. Mr. Ramirez noted that he wanted to add this to his talking points for the future.

Dee Alexander

There are four or five tribes in New York who do not participate in the census, and one in Florida who has not participated in the last two censuses. The Census Bureau has communicated with these tribes and asked partnership staff to engage in one-on-one discussions with them. However, they have the right to not participate if they do not want to.

Nancy Carnley

In the 2010 Census, a person was defined as being AIAN who had maintained tribal affiliation. Will that definition still be used?

Roberto Ramirez

Yes, since OMB uses that definition.

Rico Newman

Using self-identification to tabulate people by ethnicity or race seems like a logistical nightmare. The Census Bureau should consider at least comparing the enrollment data they collect with tribal rolls to see if the census numbers match the actual numbers.

Dee Alexander

Currently, the Census Bureau is working on a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the tribes the Census Bureau is conducting research and analysis with related to tribal enrollment. If the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe shares their enrollment data, the Census Bureau will have access to the names of the enrolled citizens. The MOA is being developed to negotiate what this data can be used for and whether it should be destroyed after a certain amount of time. The Census Bureau never releases individual data.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

Mr. Yellowfeather inquired whether the Census Bureau is ever required to share any information like this under the Freedom of Information Act.

John Thompson

The title under which the Census Bureau collects data supersedes the Freedom of Information Act. The Census Bureau does not release confidential information to anyone, not even law enforcement entities.

Prentis Parr

If the tribal enrollment rolls are not shared, there is no way to know who is actually AIAN.

Tim Olson

The census is based entirely on self-identification. The Census Bureau relies on tribal leaders to get the word out to their citizens to participate and about how to self-identify.

Jo Ann Kauffman

It is important for tribal delegates to share their responses to these issues, either verbally or in writing.

Marian McCormick

Ms. McCormick expressed that asking about tribal enrollment status is not appropriate. This question could lead to tribes later facing the challenge of proving their own enrollment numbers if the numbers collected by the census are viewed as having greater weight.

Tony Press

Censuses and tribal rolls are used often when people apply to enroll in a tribe. Mr. Press indicated he sees little benefit and several potential problems in adding an enrollment question.

Brucie Ogletree Richardson

Brucie Ogletree Richardson reported hearing people who want to talk about tribal enrollment and who say, "I've been to the Bureau." Things may become an overwhelming burden of proof for tribes if people can self-identify this way. This is partly because the Census Bureau's data and tribal rolls are confidential, so the two entities cannot easily compare numbers.

Brenda Moore

Anyone can identify themselves as belonging to a tribe on a piece of paper. Ms. Moore indicated she does not see value in asking about enrollment status. Eventually, HUD and other federal agencies or other entities will ask to see tribal rolls to verify that a person who self-identified as enrolled with a certain tribe is, in fact, an enrolled citizen. The only way to verify that is to look at tribal enrollment records, and that infringes on tribal sovereignty. Numbers can be used to help you, but they can also be used against you. Ms. Moore stated she would not agree to share her tribe's enrollment records.

John Norwood

Many of the tribal delegates at this consultation are members of NCAI. Since the largest political entity representing AIANs opposes the idea, Mr. Norwood recommended heeding NCAI's advice. He suggested, as a way to meet the needs of tribes who requested the question, the Census Bureau could look at ways to work with the individual tribes on a government-to-government basis who made the request. Continuing to pursue the concept much further may cause some hostility toward the Census Bureau.

Some tribal elders from the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation were upset with the way they were treated by non-Native census workers. Given this situation, Mr. Norwood expressed doubt in his tribe's ability to convince its citizens that the tribal enrollment question is benign or will be used to benefit tribes.

On past censuses, the number of people who self-identify as Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape has exceeded the number reflected on the tribe's rolls. Many of them are extended tribal family whom the tribe embraces and serves. Some tribes do the same, but others do not record these extended members as enrolled citizens. Does that happen with U.S. citizenship? How does the Census Bureau handle non-U.S. citizens identifying as citizens?

John Thompson

The Census Bureau does not ask about citizenship on the census, but does ask about it on the American Community Survey (ACS).

Unknown Tribal Delegate

That should also apply to a question on tribal citizenship.

Dee Alexander

The ACS is conducted every day and during every year. Field representatives who collect that data are instructed to notify tribes when they plan to visit the reservation, so Ms. Alexander requested a conversation with Mr. Norwood later about the people who reported being treated poorly.

Larry Townsend

It seems possible that some of the federally recognized tribes are becoming skeptical of the numbers because something like 76% of American Indians live off-reservation, and they are worried this might negatively affect the funding they receive.

Geography Discussion

Laura Waggoner

There is a strong connection between geography and demographic data. Good geography means good data. The Census Bureau obtains geographic data from tribes, through working with tribal liaisons and tribal leadership.

The Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) is an opportunity to define and update statistical boundaries. At this time, the Census Bureau coordinates with state governments to work with the tribes they recognize to ensure correct boundaries are reflected in the Census Bureau's information. Censusdesignated places (CDPs) can be created for unincorporated communities to capture data within the correct geographical context. The Census Bureau still offers paper maps for those who lack electronic means to update the maps using the PSAP software.

Duane Everhart

How does the Census Bureau ensure the states have actually met with tribes on statistical areas? The states may say they have done this, but what assurances does the Census Bureau have?

Laura Waggoner

The Census Bureau can work with the state on meeting with the tribe regarding statistical areas.

Duane Everhart

Many people do not understand state- recognized tribes as being distinct from other races. They may say, "You don't have that many Indians in that geographic area" because they do not count citizens of state-recognized tribes. Citizens of the MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians live in an area that spans several counties. If there is no understanding of the geographic area within which the tribe should be counted, how can the Census Bureau be sure the numbers are accurate?

Laura Waggoner

Geographic areas are independent of addresses. When person responds to the census, the Census Bureau geocodes their response to a specific point on the land. Whether other people think that person counts or not, that person has self-identified with the tribe and the Census Bureau has geocoded their address. If needed, the Census Bureau can reach out to the state to coordinate work between the state and the tribe, and the Census Bureau can be in the room to help delineate the boundary.

Brenda Moore

Will there be a consultation packet for the PSAP?

Laura Waggoner

The PSAP will happen in 2018 so the Census Bureau will send out an invitation as the time approaches. The Census Bureau can work out a time with any of the tribes to work together on completing the PSAP. If any tribes would like individual training on geography, the Census Bureau employs data dissemination specialists who can visit the community to assist with that.

Many state tribes do not have reservation land so they cannot get useful census data from a legal area. If a state does not observe a recognized legal definition of a tribe's boundary, PSAP provides an opportunity to define a statistical area that allows the Census Bureau to capture the needed data. State-recognized tribes may have two options for types of statistical areas: State Designated Tribal Statistical Areas and CDPs.

SDTSAs offer an accurate picture of tribal communities that county-level data cannot achieve. An SDTSA is usually created for an area that contains a concentration of people who identify with a state-recognized American Indian tribe and in which there is structured or organized tribal activity.

There is no population minimum for CDPs. CDPs can only be in one state, so, if the area for which a tribe needs data crosses state boundaries, the tribe will need to create a separate CDP for each state.

The Census Bureau is currently seeking input on the criteria for defining an SDTSA. Final criteria will be issued in 2017. Current criteria include that an SDTSA:

- must be geographically located within the state in which the tribe is recognized;
- may not overlap with other tribal geographic areas, including federal reservations, trust lands, state reservations, or other tribal statistical areas; and
- cannot include military installations.

The Census Bureau has additional guidelines for defining SDTSAs on which it would also like tribal input.

Ms. Waggoner posed several questions to the delegates.

- Has your tribe used data from geographic statistical areas, such as SDTSAs or CDPs?
- For which geographic areas (e.g., reservation, county) does your tribe use data the most?
- Does your tribe use other Census Bureau spatial data, like roads?
- Are there geographic areas or other geographic data that the Census Bureau does not currently provide that would be helpful to your tribe?

Earl Evans

What might be helpful for the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe is designating a school district as a statistical area, since the tribe has a tribal school.

Laura Waggoner

The Census Bureau does work with the U.S. Department of Education on capturing this type of data. Ms. Waggoner requested to meet with Mr. Evans to discuss this further so she can contact the state department of education to see how the school district is currently delineated.

Geneva LeBeouf

The entire population of a tribe located near the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe will soon be relocated because of flooding. The tribe's population will be distributed over another area in the parish. Most of the tribal citizens have moved out of the community. Another tribe has the area to which they are moving designated for its own counts.

Laura Waggoner

If this tribe is clustered in another location, Ms. Waggoner recommended that tribe delineate that area as a statistical area or count them at the county level if they are relatively dispersed across the parish.

John Norwood

The Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone) Program, a small business grant program through HUD, defines the zones based on census geographic areas, especially for tribes. SDTSAs are usually counted as zones. How will the CDPs work with that program? Will designating CDPs allow tribes to expand their zones?

Laura Waggoner

This question will need to be clarified with HUD. For some HUD grant programs, CDPs are recognized, as long as the tribe can provide a census code for the geographic area. Ms. Waggoner was unsure whether the HUBZone Program is one such program. She recommended reading the specific language of any HUD grant for which a tribe applies to learn which census geographies are eligible for that particular grant.

Gregory Richardson

In North Carolina, some of the tribes border other states. Sappony is located in North Carolina and Virginia, but is only recognized by North Carolina. Can the Census Bureau extrapolate numbers for the Virginia side that are tabulated for a tribe recognized only by North Carolina?

Laura Waggoner

The state has to recognize the tribe as existing within the state boundary to define an SDTSA. If Virginia did recognize Sappony, the Census Bureau would tabulate data for a separate SDTSA in each state and combine the two population counts. As long as the Sappony citizens living in Virginia respond to the census and self-identify as Sappony, they will be captured in census data. However, they would not be counted at the SDTSA level. The data for those tribal citizens would only be available at the county or state level. Those people will still be counted, just not within a reservation or the North Carolina SDTSA. Geographical boundaries only affect where that number gets reported, rather than whether it gets reported at all. People are counted for whichever tribe they identify with, regardless of where they are. Ms. Waggoner recommended delineating a CDP for the area in Virginia where Sappony citizens live. Ms. Waggoner suggested that, perhaps, the Census Bureau should discuss this issue with the state of Virginia.

Dorothy Crowe

Ms. Crowe clarified that each time a Sappony citizen self-identifies on the census form as American Indian and Sappony, they will be counted for each state where they are located. How does the tribe get a cumulative count?

Roberto Ramirez

Anyone who self-identifies this way will be counted in the state where their address is. The tribe will also be counted aggregately at the national level, regardless of the states where people live. The data can also be broken down by how many tribal citizens are in each state.

Bob Coates

There is a Sappony SDTSA in North Carolina, but there is not one in Virginia. If the tribe and the state of Virginia go through the process to define an SDTSA for the Sappony in Virginia, what is the tribal role for coordinating that those boundaries match up with the North Carolina SDTSA boundaries to form a contiguous area across state boundaries.

Laura Waggoner

The Census Bureau would have to work with both states to ensure the two statistical areas align. If they do not align, the Census Bureau, the tribe, and the two states would need to work together to delineate boundaries that align. As part of LUCA, the tribe would have the opportunity to make sure the information has been captured correctly.

Joshua Coutts

This is the first instance the Census Bureau has encountered in which a tribe crosses state boundaries, but is not recognized by both states. Mr. Coutts expressed interest in hearing how all involved governments would want the Census Bureau to address the situation.

Tribal delegate

How does the Census Bureau handle geography for a federally recognized tribe that is split internationally, between the U.S. and Mexico or Canada?

Laura Waggoner

Federally recognized tribes crossing state boundaries are counted as one geography. The Navajo Nation, for example, crosses 11 counties, but can be tabulated as one geography at the reservation level. Tribes can get counts at the national level, state level, county level, or SDTSA level, so no counts are being lost.

Dorothy Crowe

What can Sappony do about designating an SDTSA in Virginia?

Laura Waggoner

Ms. Waggoner will work to begin identifying contacts in Virginia with whom the tribe should coordinate. The Census Bureau can help kick off and coordinate negotiations between the tribe and state. Ms. Waggoner and Ms. Crowe agreed to exchange business cards after the meeting so they can discuss the topic further.

Earl Evans

When a tribe is located across two states, it is not a matter of one space in one location and another space miles away—it is a contiguous space through which a line happens to be drawn. If federally recognized tribes are being counted contiguously regardless of state or county lines, the same should be done for state-recognized tribes.

Laura Waggoner

Federally recognized reservations are treated this way. Ms. Waggoner needs to determine whether federally recognized tribes work this way and confirm this with Mr. Evans.

John Thompson

The Census Bureau can work with the tribe to give them the data they need. It may be through a special tabulation or a CDP.

Earl Evans

If there is an instance of a federally recognized tribe that does not have reservation lands, but is simply a statistical boundary, perhaps like tribes in Oklahoma or any federally recognized tribes that cross state lines, then state-recognized tribes should be treated the same way as these tribes.

John Norwood

In looking at the code list, the race question has come up again. The column indicates it is counting those who identify as AIAN alone? If someone is biracial, if they check two boxes for race, does it ignore them?

Hyon Shin

If a person reports multiple races, the Census Bureau collects all responses. The Census Bureau tabulates data for those who report being AIAN only, and tabulates data for those who self-identify as being AIAN alone or in combination with other races.

Enumeration Discussion

Maryann Chapin

The Census Bureau is committed to conducting a cost effective census in 2020. Any steps to increase self-response are important to meeting this goal.

Each type of enumeration faces particular challenges. In 2010, issues with mail delivery or individuals choosing not to complete the census were challenges for mailing paper questionnaires. For in-person enumeration, the Census Bureau faced challenges related to geography, including travel, access issues, remote locations of houses, lack of street names or house numbers, and inclement weather. Enumerators also encountered language barriers. An overarching issue across all enumeration approaches is that not everyone is familiar with the census and aware of its importance, and people are not always willing to participate. In 2010, the Census Bureau saw an undercount for American Indians living on reservations.

For the 2020 Census, people will be able to respond online without their PIN so they can complete the census anywhere at any time. Households without computer or internet access can call in or mail back the paper questionnaire. In-person enumeration will be targeted to places where self-response is less feasible.

In 2017, the Census Bureau will test self-response with 34 housing units on the Colville Reservation and 2,800 units on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. Test objectives include examining the feasibility of collecting tribal enrollment status information.

Ms. Chapin posed four questions to tribal delegates.

- How can we ensure every person in a household is counted, especially if there is more than one family or multiple generations of the same family living in the home?
- In 2020 the Census Bureau plans for self-response via the Internet to be the primary response option. Is connectivity an issue in your area?
- Would your tribal citizens be willing to complete the census over the phone?
- Could you share with the Census Bureau your preferred enumeration approach for the 2020 Census?

Nancy Carnley

In 2010, people not originally from the Ma-Chis Lower Creek area were hired as enumerators and they told citizens of the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama they could not identify as AIAN since the tribe is not federally recognized. Ms. Carnley reported this issue to the Census Bureau, but nothing was done. In hiring locally, the Census Bureau must hire at the grassroots level. Simply hiring people who currently live in the area does not mean they will be right for the job.

Dee Alexander

The Census Bureau will ask tribes to appoint a tribal government liaison to work with Census Bureau staff. The Census Bureau will need guidance in recruiting and hiring locally, and the liaison can help with that.

Tim Olson

Mr. Olson offered apologies for the experience Ms. Carnley described. He expressed that he would like the Census Bureau Atlanta Region to work directly with her tribe to ensure that tribal enumerators are hired so the problem does not reoccur.

George Grandy, Jr.

The Atlanta Regional Office has contact information for all attendees and will reach out to them since the tribal delegates will be critical in helping recruit local enumerators.

Brenda Moore

Ms. Moore commended the enumerators who enumerated the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe during the 2010 Census because they partnered closely with the tribal office. The enumerators often contacted the tribal office to inquire about whether a certain residence was vacant. The hiring of local, tribal enumerators probably helped, but non-tribal enumerators also collaborated with the tribal office.

Geneva LeBeouf

The in-person enumerators worked well for the Pointe-au-Chien Indian Tribe. The tribe needs one translator who speaks French, due to the community's French roots.

Duane Everhart

On the paper form, there is insufficient space to write in a tribe name. Because they didn't have enough letter blocks to spell out MOWA Band of Choctaw Indians, enumerators simply wrote in Choctaw.

Tim Olson

Enumerators who conduct in-person enumeration will use smartphones, rather than paper questionnaires, to write in the responses, so the expanded 200-character limit will apply to in-person enumeration.

Roberto Ramirez

There are currently some space limitations on the paper form. The Census Bureau is exploring the possibility of collecting multiple write-ins.

Maryann Chapin

Eighty percent of the nation will be invited to participate online. Households that do not respond will be contacted via mail. In the fourth mailing for non-response follow-up, the paper questionnaire will be mailed.

Duane Everhart

Some sort of code for each specific tribe could help ensure the correct response. If a tribal citizen types the code in and the specific tribe name automatically populates and prompts the user to indicate if this is the tribe with which he or she identifies, that leaves less room for non-specific responses being tabulated to the wrong place (e.g., MOWA Choctaw citizens being tabulated as Choctaw of Oklahoma or Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians).

Roberto Ramirez

The concern with that is, if there were a drop-down menu, there would be thousands of options for the respondent to choose from. If each possible response was assigned a code, there would be thousands of codes.

Nancy Carnley

Perhaps the user could begin by selecting the state and then choose from a drop-down menu listing the tribes in the selected state.

Tanya Norwood

Elders of the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation hold regular meetings, so the tribe had the idea to project the electronic questionnaire onto a wall at one such meeting, and census enumerators could review the questions with them. Is that a possibility?

Albert Fontenot

Mr. Grandy was talking with Mr. Fontenot about how to assist groups in completing the census and ensure Atlanta Region field staff are conducting in-person enumeration in a way that works for the tribes. The Atlanta Region is looking at implementing something like this as an in-person enumeration approach. Sydnee Chattin will later discuss how the partnership program can help with this type of enumeration.

Stan Long

How long would it take to respond over the phone?

Maryann Chapin

In 2010, it took about 10 minutes to answer 10 questions, but it depends somewhat on the size of the household.

2020 Communications Discussion

Kendall Johnson

Counting everyone in a country as large and diverse as the United States is a significant challenge. To minimize barriers and maximize participation, the Census Bureau will conduct a communications campaign and partnership program.

Review of the 2010 Communications Campaign

In the fall of 2008, we conducted the Census Barriers, Attitudes, and Motivators Survey, which examined audience awareness of and favorability toward the census and told us how people consume media.

Also in 2008, the Census Bureau conducted audience segmentation, which is the process of dividing a large target audience into more similar groupings, which allows us to tailor advertising.

From the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau learned that the most effective messages empowered tribal audiences, encouraged a sense of census ownership, and promoted confidentiality. "It's easy, it's effective, and it's safe" was a successful message. "We can't move forward until you mail it back" did not perform as well, so it was changed to have a more positive focus: "We move forward when you participate."

Communication strategies leading up to the 2010 Census included:

- hiring an American Indian-owned advertising firm;
- posting downloadable, customizable materials on the Census Bureau website;
- advertising on billboards in visible places; and
- advertising in publications, on websites, and through radio and television programs that are popular among Natives.

The Statistics in Schools program, which was originally called Census in Schools when it launched in 2000, was so successful that the Census Bureau decided to make it an ongoing program. Statistics in Schools provides statistical literacy education and outreach to students in kindergarten, middle school, and high school, including those in tribal schools, home schools, and the Head Start program. Statistics in Schools offers grade-appropriate lessons in math and history that complement existing lesson plans. The program also encourages kids to tell their parents about the importance of the census, since children are powerful motivators of their parents.

2020 Communications Campaign

The Census Bureau will use media relations, earned media, and social media as part of the integrated communications plan. Social media is evolving rapidly. For 2020 Census, it will play a more predominant role in the campaign than it did for the 2010 Census. The 2020 Census provides opportunities to innovate. Messages will be culturally relevant and will run in media outlets most watched, listened to, and read by AIANs. The Census Bureau will run ads on websites most often visited by AIANs. Clicking on these ads will take users directly to the online census form. If the ads do not receive enough clicks, they can be switched out for new ads. The Census Bureau will again provide downloadable, customizable materials for tribal use.

Ms. Johnson posed three questions to the delegates.

- What is the best way to reach your tribal citizens who live on and off the reservation?
- What types of messages work best? Is it best to emphasize the role the census plays in securing federal funding for AIAN programs?
- How big of an influence is social media in your community?

Many tribal leaders affirmed that social media has a significant influence within their communities.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

The younger generations of AIANs are growing more diverse. The Census Bureau may need to reach out to them with additional images, beyond the traditional images, to let them know they are acknowledged.

Tony Press

Younger tribal citizens are a possible resource in assisting tribal elders with the census since they are frequently on the Internet and on social media. There needs to be targeted outreach efforts to adults in their 20s. If the Census Bureau made completing the census into a social media contest, younger adults would contribute more responses than ever.

Charles Scott

Just put the Census Bureau logo on one of those Pokémon characters.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard, III

Facebook would be effective for outreach to tribes. Many tribes have tribal pages on Facebook. Many Facebook pages are tribal in nature, and elders are involved with some of those pages. There are more elders on social media than people often realize; elders often disseminate genealogical information, which is frequently done online.

Martha Williams

The Southeastern Mvskoke Nation of Alabama produces a monthly newsletter and tries to disseminate it via email, but there is a long list of tribal citizens who lack Internet access, computers, and smartphones. To get carriers to provide service in the tribe's area is so expensive that the tribe cannot afford it. Advertising to the Southeastern Mvskoke Nation of Alabama people through traditional media, such as magazines, would be more effective.

Jeannie Shiffer

Are local radio stations a good way to conduct outreach?

Martha Williams

That would work, too.

Tanya Norwood

Northeast Tribes are often forgotten, so letting tribal people in this area know that they count is an important message. The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Nation distributed t-shirts leading up to the 2010 Census. On the front they said, "I'm Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape," and on the back they said, "and we count." This was a powerful way to communicate the message to tribal citizens.

Susan Hayes-Hatcher

In 2009, a Census Bureau representative attended the Waccamaw Indians powwow and set up a booth. This outreach was effective in getting the word out to the community. If anyone has powwows the year before the census, Ms. Hayes-Hatcher recommended sharing information about the census that way.

Tony Press

The Cherokee of Georgia see more of its tribal citizens at the powwows than at any other time of the year. The Census Bureau could reach a lot of people by providing materials for tribal representatives to set out at the powwows.

Tribal delegate

A tribal delegate recalled hearing from several delegates that their tribes lack Internet access, but, perhaps, satellite is an option. Tribal citizens may also be able to visit a nearby library to access computer services.

Elk Richardson

A lot of the tribes in North Carolina have, and have historically had, identity crises, and youth among these tribes have identity crises. Mr. Richardson encouraged the Census Bureau and tribal delegates to use AIAN forums to do outreach about the census to tribal communities. Seeking tribal forums, such as powwows, tribal churches, and Boys and Girls Clubs located in tribal communities, would help promote culture, rather than further encouraging the loss of culture.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

It is still unclear to many people how important census data is to all people in the United States and, especially, to tribal nations. This message needs to reach tribal youth. Emphasizing how the data supports things important to youth, like financial aid for higher education, could be an effective strategy for reaching this demographic.

Partnership Discussion

Sydnee Chattin

The AIAN Partnership Program includes three facets:

- the Tribal Governments Liaison Program,
- Tribal Complete Count Committees (TCCCs), and
- partnering with AIAN organizations.

Tribal Governments Liaison Program

The Census Bureau asks tribal leaders to designate contacts who can work with the Census Bureau. Many tribes continued to employ the tribal liaison position because it was so successful in conducting the 2010 Census. Because the tribal liaison is a trusted voice, he or she helps the Census Bureau more effectively get the word out about the census, for example at powwows, like Mr. Press mentioned. The tribal liaisons can also encourage tribal citizens to apply for Census Bureau jobs.

Tribal Complete Count Committees

TCCCs have been very successful since their development in 2000. TCCCs are volunteer committees established by the tribal government. Tribal leadership can designate those who would best represent the tribe to develop outreach efforts. A Census Bureau tribal partnership specialist would be available to answer questions. An example of communications developed by a TCCC is a video created by the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians that played on a loop in a local clinic's waiting room. You know what's best for your communities, so the TCCC helps make that a reality. The Census Bureau will reach out to tribes about TCCCs in 2017.

Partnership with AIAN Organizations

Tribal delegates suggested the following potential partners during the tribal consultations leading up to the 2010 Census:

- senior centers,
- community centers,
- museums,
- enrollment offices,
- ICWA staff,
- schools,
- casinos,
- Indian Health Service, and
- the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Attendee packets include a copy of a newsletter from the Denver regional office. Tribes often take information like this that the Census Bureau sends them and posts it on their own websites or social media pages. In 2010, an entire newsletter issue was published on how to complete the census form. That newsletter issue could be used to start a conversation in which a tribe explains to tribal citizens how they should complete the form and how they should indicate their tribal affiliation.

How can Census Bureau staff who are devoted to working with tribal governments most effectively improve participation in the 2020 Census?

Nancy Carnley

In rural areas, traveling around to fulfill tribal liaison or TCCC tasks can be expensive. These should be paid positions.

Larry Townsend

The best ways to encourage participation are understanding tribal culture and building trust so those living in rural areas are not afraid to open their doors for enumerators.

John Norwood

What the Census Bureau is currently doing—consulting with tribes—makes a lot of difference. When it comes to tribal consultation, state-recognized tribes or non-recognized tribes are often pushed to the back of the room or not invited. Mr. Norwood commended the Census Bureau for observing the rights of all indigenous groups, not just those who are federally recognized. Because the Census Bureau took its responsibility to consult with tribes seriously, Mr. Norwood indicated the information would be taken seriously when he brings it to his community.

Ms. Chattin posed two additional questions to tribal delegates.

- How does the Census Bureau build trust with tribal governments?
- In what role do you, as a tribal leader, see yourself related to promoting the 2020 Census within your reservation or area?

Gregory Richardson

To build trust, the Census Bureau should continue what it is doing—being at the table. The Census Bureau should visit the tribal communities to discuss census issues. Mr. Richardson expressed his gratitude to Director Thompson for engaging in the tribal consultation process.

John Thompson

Director Thompson made his closing comment at this time. He thanked the tribal delegates for their time and energy. The fact that all delegates were still at the table after a long day shows how serious they are about the census, and the Census Bureau is also serious about listening to tribal input. This consultation is not the end of conversations between the Census Bureau and the tribal delegates—it is the beginning. The Census Bureau would like to keep the dialogue going.

Job Recruitment Discussion

Sydnee Chattin

Many tribal leaders have worked for the Census Bureau to help ensure an accurate count. To see what types of positions the Census Bureau offers and to apply, people can visit the Census Bureau website. Candidates must pass an employment assessment to be considered. The Census Bureau will pay for training once a person is hired. Some of the trainings will help those hired develop new skills and enhance their resumes. The Census Bureau conducts training through e-learning, hands-on training, and performance support.

Many different types of positions will become available as the 2020 Census approaches. Enumerators will be hired in the highest numbers. Enumerators are based from their homes and they work directly in their communities.

If the enumerators need to drive to access their work assignments, they need to have valid driver's licenses and ensure they can get to their work assignments.

Tribal governments that would like to assist the Census Bureau with recruiting efforts can do so through community organizations. Communities without Internet services should inform the Census Bureau about whether there is a library in a nearby town or somewhere else people can go to apply online. Please think about what the Census Bureau can do to make it easier for people to apply online. Tribes can also help by providing space for training and by providing a point of contact to form a bridge of communication between the Census Bureau and the tribe. Typically, the contact is the tribal liaison. The Census Bureau will keep the tribal contact aware of current events and upcoming activities. Working for the Census Bureau is a great opportunity to give back to the community by ensuring the community achieves a complete count.

What types of changes have happened in your tribe since the 2010 Census that could affect recruiting?

Tony Press

The Cherokee of Georgia have many unemployed young adults due to the recent economic downturn. In the application process, how much weight does the Census Bureau give to the age of the applicant? This seems like a good opportunity for younger adults to be employed for a while and learn skills that will help them compete in the job market. One of our biggest problems of many tribes who attended this consultation is unemployment among younger adults.

Sydnee Chattin

Applicants must be 18 and above. If an applicant is not yet 18, he or she will be automatically added to the pool of applicants upon turning 18. Younger adults could have the benefit of knowing how to use the handheld and automated devices used by the enumeration.

Furnie Lambert, Jr.

What are the wages and the timeline?

Sydnee Chattin

Employment could range from temporary employment at Census Bureau headquarters, lasting up to 4 years, or could be as short as a week or a few days. Wages vary according to the type of job and where the position is located. The Census Bureau follows a rigid process to determine wages. That information will be available within the next year and half.

Tony Press

What is the ballpark wage for an enumerator?

Tim Olson

It varies by area, but can be thought of as somewhat equivalent to McDonalds wages. The wages are intended to be competitive, though benefits are not provided. The usual length of employment is 3 to 6 weeks. Ninety-five percent of the jobs for the 2020 Census will be at the enumeration level when the Census Bureau follows up with households that have not responded. There is no age preference. Veteran preference does apply.

Tony Press

What does the background check for employment look like? Some of the Cherokee of Georgia's younger tribal citizens have gotten into trouble in the past, but are still good candidates.

Tim Olson

It's a name check to see if the applicant is on an FBI list. Things that would disqualify an applicant include a felony and certain misdemeanors that could indicate the person may be perceived as a threat when knocking on doors. The background check is done to ensure the safety of the people being enumerated and the community's trust.

Gregory Richardson

A lot of Census Bureau hiring could be achieved through the network in place with the Department of Labor workforce program or by partnering with national youth councils.

Duane "Yellowfeather" Shepard III

Many young people work through Uber. The Uber app runs advertisements, so the Census Bureau could run a recruitment ad there. Lots of youth seek part-time job opportunities that involve driving around, and this seems like a good way to reach that specific audience.

Rico Newman

Where should people go online to apply?

Sydnee Chattin

Go to the Census Bureau website and pull up the Regional Offices page. Select a state to see open positions within that state. Open Census jobs will increase as 2020 approaches.

Tim Olson

The first big field operation will occur in the fall of 2019. Advertising and social media pushes regarding enumerator jobs will increase leading up to this.

Rico Newman

To what extent will tribal offices affect Census Bureau decisions on who gets hired? It would be difficult to choose a culturally competent candidate who is right for the position without an understanding of the community customs.

Tim Olson

The Census Bureau adheres to high standards in terms of non-discrimination. Within the regulations the Census Bureau follows, there is no allowance for a referral system or anything that could be considered hand-picking by another party. Filling the applicant pool at the smallest possible geographic level is important to helping ensure the selection of appropriate candidates.

CLOSING REMARKS

Wrap-Up, Overview, Clarification, and Next Steps

Dee Alexander

Tribal delegates should email any questions or concerns to Ms. Alexander. The Census Bureau Office of Intergovernmental and Congressional Affairs and regional offices will continue the dialogue with the tribal delegates. More consultations will be sought at the regional level.

Tribal delegates around the table thanked the Census Bureau. Additional comments made at this time are indicated below.

Martha Williams

Trust has been a recurring theme in this consultation. Trust and respect of tribal people must be earned.

Stan Long

Mr. Long expressed feeling encouraged to work hard, promote the census, and rally his leadership and tribal council to do the same.

Duane Yellowfeather III

This consultation went a long way toward building trust between the Census Bureau and tribes.

Randy Crummie

Mr. Crummie expressed that achieving an accurate count of Santee Indians is not possible, because some tribal citizens will refuse to respond. A more accurate count could be achieved by asking the tribal leadership for numbers, because full numbers will not be achieved through enumeration.

Larry Townsend

Mr. Townsend expressed his appreciation that the census will not include the term *Native American*, as he feels it is inaccurate.

Charles Scott

Isolation has characterized tribal existence for years. The census is a chance for tribes to proudly take their places.

Gregory Richardson

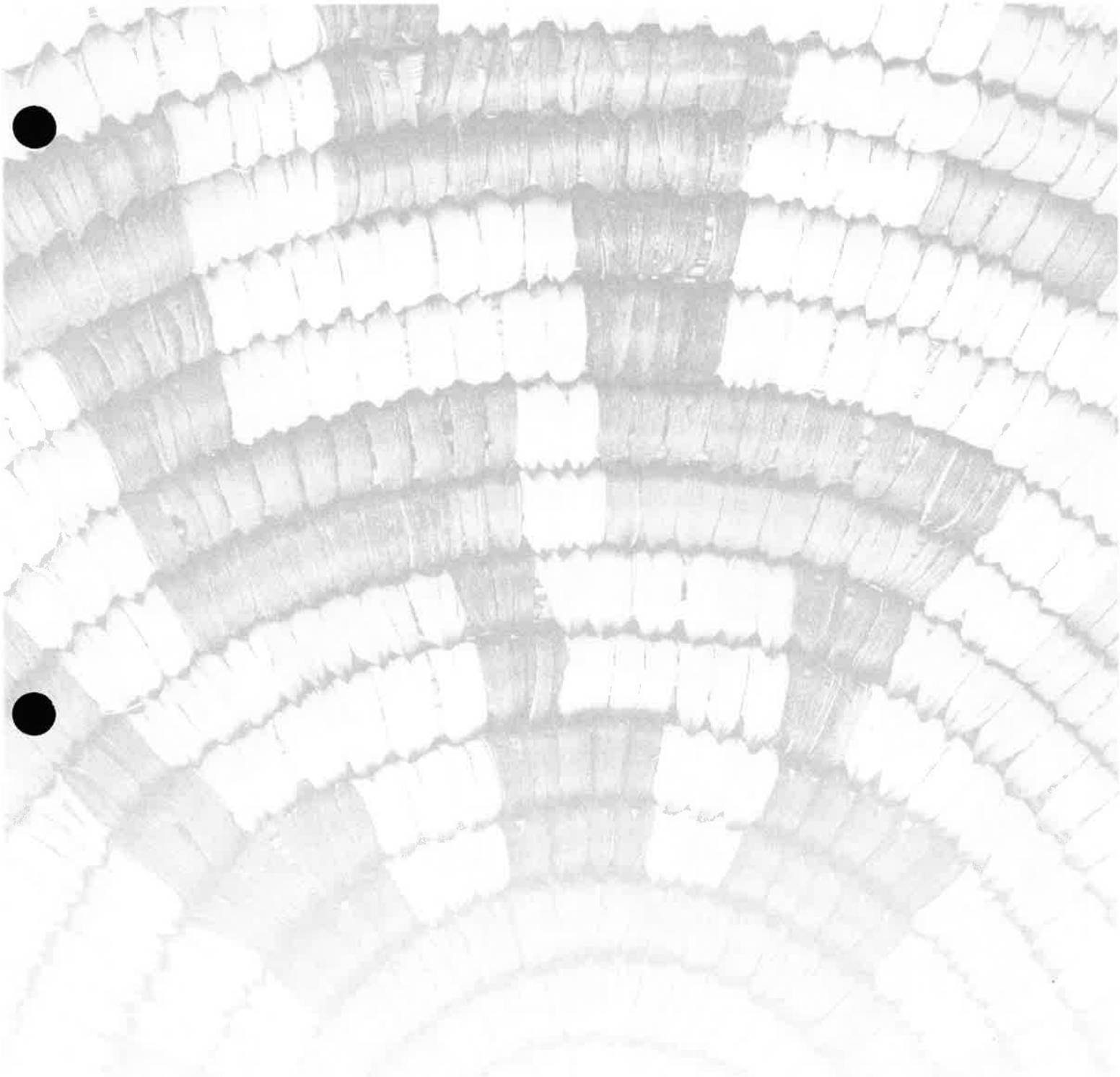
Failing to achieve an accurate count means some programs will be cut. Engaging youth is important.

Closing Prayer

John Norwood

ACTION ITEMS

- The Census Bureau will review tribal responses and questions from the consultation. Ms. Alexander will send meeting notes and the PowerPoint presentations to attendees 2 weeks after the meeting.
- The Census Bureau requested tribal feedback on the code list. The Census Bureau will contact attendees to collect further feedback on code and classification preferences.
- Mr. Ramirez will follow up with Mr. Yellowfeather regarding why the term *Algonquin* is not listed under Wampanoag in the code list.
- The Census Bureau will update the code list to reflect the name change of the Southeastern Mvskoke Nation of Alabama. Mr. Ramirez will follow up with Ms. Williams about the change.
- The Atlanta Regional Office will reach out to attendees who fall within that region regarding tribal assistance in recruiting local enumerators.
- Ms. Waggoner requested to discuss with Mr. Evans the designation of a school district as a statistical area. Depending on the outcome of this conversation, she may also work with the state department of education to learn more.
- Ms. Waggoner will work to identify contacts in Virginia with whom the Sappony should coordinate in designating an SDTSA for the tribe.
- Ms. Waggoner will confirm whether federally recognized tribes with SDTSAs crossing state or county boundaries are recognized as a contiguous area and follow up with Mr. Evans.



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