

2020 Census Deadline Extensions

Delays in 2020 Census operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic compelled the U.S. Census Bureau to make dramatic changes in schedule. **These delays most dramatically affected the Census Bureau's ability to deliver apportionment and redistricting data by their statutorily required deadlines, December 31, 2020, and March 31, 2021, respectively.**

Despite efforts by the Trump Administration to force the delivery of apportionment and redistricting data by the original statutory reporting deadlines, **the Census Bureau resisted**, citing the **discovery of numerous data anomalies** discovered during the post-data collection operations.

The Biden Administration is committed to giving Census Bureau professionals the time that they need to adequately review, prepare, and report the apportionment and redistricting data. According to a revised schedule, the Bureau has committed to **delivering apportionment data to the President by April 30, 2021, and redistricting data to the states by September 31, 2021.**

During the 116th Congress, PAA endorsed bipartisan legislation, **the 2020 Census Deadline Extensions Act (S. 4571 and H.R. 8250)**, which would have extended the statutorily required reporting deadlines by four months. The bill, which did not become law, will be **reintroduced in 117th Congress.**

PAA urges Congress to pass the 2020 Census Deadline Extensions Act and give the Census Bureau the formal authority and certainty of time that it needs to thoroughly review the 2020 Census data and compile accurate data sets.

The Population Association of America (PAA) and the Association of Population Centers (APC) are two affiliated organizations comprising over 3,000 behavioral and social scientists, including demographers, sociologists, and economists, who conduct research on the causes and consequences of population change and more than 40 federally funded population research centers nationwide. Their diverse research interests include aging, adolescent health, fertility, immigration and migration, health disparities, labor force dynamics, mortality, and population forecasting.

[The Census Bureau](#) is the largest federal statistical research agency, providing data about the nation's demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. The Census Bureau is best known for conducting decennial censuses; however, it also conducts numerous surveys, including the American Community Survey, measuring annual changes in individual and household demographics and economic conditions of the nation. Population scientists use census data, regardless of their unique expertise, to conduct research and research training activities.