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Statement from the Population Association of America and Association of Population Centers in Response to Call for a New Census

On behalf of the organizations we represent, the [Population Association of America](#) (PAA) and [Association of Population Centers](#) (APC), we are responding to the President's purported call for a new, mid-decade census that would, for the first time ever, exclude undocumented immigrants.

Population scientists, including demographers, economists, sociologists, and epidemiologists, in the public, private, academic, and non-profit sectors rely on census data to inform their research, evaluation, and training activities. As a result, PAA and APC support an accurate, inclusive, and cost-effective decennial census. We recognize that the decennial census is the nation's largest, most complex peacetime activity requiring almost a decade of preparations, including painstaking research and testing.

Recommending a "new" census at this point in the ramp up to the 2030 Census poses significant operational, fiscal, and constitutional challenges. These challenges would be exacerbated by potential unprecedented changes to the design and conduct of such an enumeration.

We urge the Administration to remain focused on its current robust planning schedule for the 2030 Census and consider how a poorly constructed, unnecessary mid-decade census could diminish the quality and utility of census data and instill uncertainty in the next legally required decennial census.

Dr. Irma T. Elo, President
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