



September 5, 2023

Senator Jeanne Shaheen, Chair
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Jerry Moran, Ranking Member
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

Representative Hal Rogers, Chairman
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Matt Cartwright, Ranking Member
Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Shaheen, Ranking Member Moran, Chairman Rogers, and Ranking Member Cartwright,

On behalf of [The Census Project](#), a broad-based coalition of business, civic, human services, state and local government, and academic groups committed to supporting the U.S. Census Bureau's mission to produce full, fair, complete, and accurate data, we are writing to express support for ensuring the agency receives the highest possible level of funding in the final Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) appropriations bill.

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have made important progress on their versions of the FY 2024 CJS bill under challenging circumstances. Funding levels for the Census Bureau in the House and Senate CJS bills, \$1.354 and \$1.501 billion, respectively, fall short of what the President requested, and the level [census stakeholders endorsed](#). Given the current state of play, however, we urge Congress to provide the Census Bureau with no less than the amount recommended by the Senate Appropriations Committee in the final version of the FY 2024 CJS bill.

As you know, the Census Bureau is the nation's principal statistical agency, producing demographic and economic data used to guide the prudent allocation of over \$2 trillion in annual federal funding and inform key investment and planning decisions in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Insufficient funding in FY 2024 could undermine the Bureau's ability to sustain and enhance the quality of its surveys and programs that produce these invaluable data. Stakeholders are also concerned that if the Bureau receives less than \$1.501 billion in FY 2024, ongoing initiatives to make census data timelier and more accessible and to reduce survey respondent burden could be stymied.

Another major component of the Bureau's operations is its conduct of the nation's constitutionally mandated decennial census. Remarkably, we are already a third of the way into the 2030 Census cycle. In FY 2024, the Bureau will choose a design and release an initial operational plan for the 2030 Census—decisions that will affect every facet of the next decennial. Sound investments now will help to ensure the future success and cost efficiency of the 2030 Census by reducing the risk of requiring unplanned, additional funding in the peak planning years later in the decade. In addition, increased funding will enable the Bureau to pursue a thoughtful research agenda to ensure the 2030 Census is inclusive and accurate.

Thank you for considering our views as you move towards completion of the FY 2024 CJS appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

National

ABISA (African Bureau for Immigration and Social Affairs)

Academic Pediatric Association

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Anthropological Association

American Educational Research Association

American Pediatric Society

American Psychological Association

American Sociological Association

American Statistical Association

Arab American Institute

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - AAJC

Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote)

Association of Population Centers

Association of Public Data Users (APDU)

CensusChannel LLC

Claritas

Coalition on Human Needs

Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)

Council for Community and Economic Research

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics

Decision Demographics, LLC

Demographic Analytics Advisors

Fair Count

Gerontological Society of America

Government Information Watch

ICSC

Insights Association

Movement Advancement Project

NAACP Legal Defense Fund
 NALEO Educational Fund
 National Association for Business Economics
 National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
 National Association for the Education of Young Children
 National Association of Counties (NACo)
 National Association of REALTORS
 National Association of Towns and Townships
 National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
 National Community Development Association
 National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)
 National Women's Law Center
 NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
 Nielsen
 Parents as Teachers
 Partnership for America's Children
 Population Association of America
 Prison Policy Initiative
 ReadyNation
 RLS Demographics, Inc.
 Society for Pediatric Research
 Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC)
 The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
 The United States Conference of Mayors
 Urban and Regional Information Systems Association
 Whitman-Walker Institute
 ZERO TO THREE

State-Level

American Children's Campaign	FL
California Native Vote Project	CA
Center for Economic Inclusion	MN
CivicGeorgia	GA
Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF)	NY
Colorado Common Cause	CO
Connecticut Community Nonprofit Alliance	CT
Council of Michigan Foundations	MI
Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement	DE
Equality California	CA
Erase The Divide LLC	NJ
Every Texan	TX
Forefront (IL)	IL
Housing Action Illinois	IL
MACS 2030 - Minnesotans for the American Community Survey & 2030 Census	MN

Michigan Nonprofit Association		MI
Minnesota Council on Foundations		MN
N.Y. Census & Redistricting Institute at New York Law School		NY
NC Counts Coalition		NC
Nonprofit Network		MI
Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy		OK
Parent Possible		CO
Public Justice Center		MD
Silver State Voices		NV
The Bingham Program		ME
VOICES for Alabama's Children		AL

Local/City/Regional

AltaMed Health Services	Los Angeles	CA
Dan and Margaret Maddox Fund	Nashville	TN
Detroit Change Initiative	Detroit	MI
Dreams United/Sueños Unidos	Long Prairie	MN
FaithAction International	Greensboro	NC
Greater Milwaukee Foundation	Milwaukee	WI
Minneapolis Foundation	Minneapolis	MN
New York City Department of City Planning	New York	NY
Region Nine Development Commission	Mankato	MN
Scotland Neck Community Task Force Team, Inc.	Scotland Neck	NC
The Healing Trust	Nashville	TN
The Help Center NC	Wake	NC
Triangle Empowerment Center	Durham	NC