2020 CENSUS DATA PRODUCTS
THE DATA USERS’ PERSPECTIVE

Workshop on Challenges and New Approaches for Protecting Privacy in Federal Statistical Programs

Committee on National Statistics

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Our Mission

The Census Bureau’s mission is to serve as the nation’s leading provider of quality data about its people and economy.
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“Too many statistics published too accurately from a confidential database exposes the entire database with near certainty.”

**Disclosure**: The release of information that would enable the identification of an individual, or otherwise reveal sensitive information that could be linked to an individual.
1. Decisions on the amount of noise to inject into the data are inherently subjective

2. Providing useful data should be the priority

3. The only real guidepost is a strong sense of how the data are being used at multiple geographic levels

4. A representative set of data applications needs to be assembled in order to determine what works and what does not. (The Federal Register Notice does not make the grade)
A Recommended Course of Action

1. Provide a representative group of data users with access to SF1 data from the 2010 Census at different noise levels

2. Engage users in an iterative feedback process that would demonstrate the utility (or lack thereof) of tables at different noise levels

3. Gather case studies of data applications that represent cross section of users and conduct a forum/workshop where analyses can be presented and discussed

4. Disclosure issues should not prohibit the release of files to the group, since the Epsilon can be set for some minimum amount of noise to ensure confidentiality
Emergency Preparedness
New York City
Hurricane Sandy Inundation Areas in New York City

394 of 2165 Census Tracts (18%) in NYC were in the Hurricane Sandy Inundation Areas

Inundation Areas are areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined were inundated with flood waters.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning
### Population 75 and Over

#### Hurricane Sandy Inundation Areas in New York City

In Hurricane Sandy Inundation Areas
- Total Population: 1,659,347
- Population 75 and Over: 108,322 (6.5%)

#### Population 75 years and over

- **1,000 or more** (10 Census Tracts)
- **750 to 999** (16)
- **500 to 749** (28)
- **250 to 499** (107)
- **Less than 250** (233)

Inundation Areas are areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined were inundated with flood waters.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census
Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning
Hazard Mitigation Strategies Require Serviceable Data

**Mitigation Strategy**
Ensure coastal storm shelters are physical accessible

**Lead agency**
Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities

**Importance of good data**
Need characteristics of local population

**Population 75 years and over**
- 1,000 or more (10 Census Tracts)
- 750 to 999 (16)
- 500 to 749 (28)
- 250 to 499 (107)
- Less than 250 (233)

*Inundation Areas are areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined were inundated with flood waters.*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census
Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning
Hazard Mitigation Strategies Require Serviceable Data

Mitigation Strategy
Establish evacuation fleet of 50 buses

Lead agency
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Importance of precise population data
Need to identify areas with a large senior population

Population 75 years and over
- 1,000 or more (10 Census Tracts)
- 750 to 999 (16)
- 500 to 749 (28)
- 250 to 499 (107)
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Inundation Areas are areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined were inundated with flood waters

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census
Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning
Mitigation Strategy
Install emergency generators at Department of Health facilities

Lead agency
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Importance of precise population data
Need to identify neighborhoods with significant vulnerable populations

Inundation Areas are areas that the Federal Emergency Management Agency determined were inundated with flood waters

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census
Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning
For More Information

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www.nyc.gov/population