

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE
NEWS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20230

BUREAU OF
THE
CENSUS

STATEMENT BY VINCENT P. BARABBA, DIRECTOR, THE BUREAU OF THE
CENSUS AT A NEWS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dec. 31, 1980

Mr. Secretary, I take pleasure in conveying to you the official counts of the population of the United States, and for each of the States, from the 1980 decennial census.

These are the figures that the Census Bureau has used to determine the number of seats that each State will receive in the United States House of Representatives for the decade of the 1980's. They are required by the Constitution for this purpose and mark the 20th time, spanning a period of 190 years, that a census has been carried out to perform this function.

Under the formula used for this apportionment, a method approved by the Congress, we have calculated a change of 17 seats in the House since the apportionment following the census of 1970. The changes essentially represent major shifts in the population during the past decade.

These results also mark the beginning of a statistical harvest that the Nation will reap from the 1980 census, an effort that proves once again that the overwhelming majority of the country's residents are willing to participate in one of the most important exercises of our free society.

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This census of all the people is the only source of data that can provide a detailed statistical portrait of the economic and social characteristics of America at all geographic levels. Over the next two or three years, data users everywhere will have the opportunity to utilize these statistics in carrying out their responsibilities, whether in government or in the private sector.

In presenting these numbers to you, I would like to say a word about the quality of this census. We can say without qualification that this has been by far the most accurate census ever taken, a census that comes as close as possible to reflecting the actual number of citizens in this country. For this reason, as we indicated to you earlier, we do not believe that the Nation would be better served by any kind of adjustment of these official census numbers.

However, in the years ahead, as we develop the ability to determine what areas may have been undercounted by the census, as small as those numbers may be, we would make adjustments to reflect these findings to the population estimates that are the basis for distributing federal funds. We also recognize that because of pending litigation, we may later be required to make widespread adjustments before all the numbers are considered final.

Mr. Secretary, the United States Census Bureau is proud to present to you this first and very important set of population counts from the 20th decennial census.

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OFFICE
OF THE
SECRETARY

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK ON
DELIVERY OF 1980 CENSUS FIGURES

Mr. Barabba, on behalf of the President of the United States, I accept these figures from the 1980 Census. I will see that they are conveyed to the President in accordance with the requirements under Federal law.

I join the Director in calling this effort the most successful decennial census in modern times.

It was a tremendous and unprecedented undertaking. Within a period of three months, 300,000 census employees, many with different language skills needed for the assignment, were employed and trained in the techniques required to reach and enumerate members of the diverse ethnic groups within our population. More than 400 temporary offices were established to assemble the data.

So to all those involved--to the Chief Economist, Courtenay Slater, to Director Vince Barabba, to the expert professionals within the Census Bureau, to the thousands of temporary employees--I want to express the Nation's deepest gratitude. The assignment was carried out with a dedication that was in the highest tradition of service to our country.

Indeed, I understand from Mr. Barabba that the final processing of the count was not complete until Sunday, December 28 at 4:58 p.m. That Sunday, I'm told, was only one of many spent by Census workers preparing for this important day.

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I also want to congratulate the American people. They completed and returned their census forms in numbers that exceeded the Census Bureau's most optimistic projections. And those who were contacted by the enumerators also cooperated to a high degree.

The 1970 Census counted more than 203 million people. An evaluation of these results led the Bureau of the Census to estimate that there had been an undercount of approximately 5 million people.

Prior to the Census just completed, the Bureau estimated the population to be 226 million. The actual count was 226,504,825, which stands as testimony to the improved techniques employed in this effort and to the dedication of the Census workers.

Of course, no one can say that this or any count is perfect, and we recognize that some jurisdictions have differences with the results in their areas. The courts are the appropriate place for the adjudication of these differences. We believe the ultimate decisions reached by the courts will be helpful for future censuses.

Again, Mr. Barabba, I commend you and your dedicated staff for a magnificent achievement, one that pioneered many new techniques in census taking, and one that gave the United States the most accurate count of its people ever taken. We are all grateful for the tremendous time, energy, effort and professional skill that you devoted to this undertaking.

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1980 CENSUS POPULATION COUNT FOR U.S. IS 226,504,825;
REAPPORTIONMENT WOULD SHIFT 17 SEATS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The population total of the United States counted in the 1980 census is 226,504,825.

The figure was received today by Secretary of Commerce Philip M. Klutznick from the Director of the Census Bureau, Vincent P. Barabba, who also provided the Secretary with final population counts for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The Secretary is required by law to deliver final counts to the President by Dec. 31, 1980.

The new population count is 11.4 percent greater than the 1970 population count of 203,302,031.

These counts determine the apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the states, since the Constitution requires a census every 10 years to assure that each state's population is equitably represented in the House. The utilization of these figures may be affected by the outcome of litigation now under appeal.

An attached table lists the final 1980 census population totals for the U.S., the District of Columbia, and the 50 states; the number of Representatives to which each state is entitled on the basis of the new counts; and the changes in House seats since the 1970 reapportionment.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of the Census

1980 POPULATION AND NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES BY STATE

State	Resident Population used as the basis for apportionment (1)	Number of Representatives based on 1980 census (2)	Change from 1970 apportionment (3)
United States <u>1/</u>	226,504,825	435	
Alabama	3,890,061	7	
Alaska	400,481	1	
Arizona	2,717,866	5	+1
Arkansas	2,285,513	4	
California	23,668,562	45	+2
Colorado	2,888,834	6	+1
Connecticut	3,107,576	6	
Delaware	595,225	1	
District of Columbia <u>2/</u>	637,651	--	
Florida	9,739,992	19	+4
Georgia	5,464,265	10	
Hawaii	965,000	2	
Idaho	943,935	2	
Illinois	11,418,461	22	-2
Indiana	5,490,179	10	-1
Iowa	2,913,387	6	
Kansas	2,363,208	5	
Kentucky	3,661,433	7	
Louisiana	4,203,972	8	
Maine	1,124,660	2	
Maryland	4,216,446	8	
Massachusetts	5,737,037	11	-1
Michigan	9,258,344	18	-1
Minnesota	4,077,148	8	
Mississippi	2,520,638	5	
Missouri	4,917,444	9	-1
Montana	786,690	2	
Nebraska	1,570,006	3	
Nevada	799,184	2	+1
New Hampshire	920,610	2	

State	Resident Population used as the basis for apportionment (1)	Number of Representatives based on 1980 census (2)	Change from 1970 apportionment (3)
New Jersey	7,364,158	14	-1
New Mexico	1,299,968	3	+1
New York	17,557,288	34	-5
North Carolina	5,874,429	11	
North Dakota	652,695	1	
Ohio	10,797,419	21	-2
Oklahoma	3,025,266	6	
Oregon	2,632,663	5	+1
Pennsylvania	11,866,728	23	-2
Rhode Island	947,154	2	
South Carolina	3,119,208	6	
South Dakota	690,178	1	-1
Tennessee	4,590,750	9	+1
Texas	14,228,383	27	+3
Utah	1,461,037	3	+1
Vermont	511,456	1	
Virginia	5,346,279	10	
Washington	4,130,163	8	+1
West Virginia	1,949,644	4	
Wisconsin	4,705,335	9	
Wyoming	470,816	1	

1/ Includes the District of Columbia. The total excluding the District of Columbia is 225,867,174.

2/ Excluded in determination of apportionment.

Authenticated:



VINCENT P. BARABBA
Director
Bureau of the Census