

Alaska Census Working Group Priority Initiatives

1. Educate policy makers on the importance of accurate census data for Alaska and advocate for the commitment of sufficient federal and state resources to achieve the following results:

- State policy makers, including the legislature and the administration, and local policy makers, including mayors and local legislative bodies, understand the importance of accurate census data collections in Alaska and the risk/harm to Alaska communities if Census Bureau data collections are not accurate.
- State and local policy makers commit to help educate Alaska's congressional delegation on the importance of accurate Census Bureau data collections in Alaska.
- Alaska's congressional delegation understands the importance of accurate census data collections in Alaska and the risk/harm to Alaska communities if Census Bureau data collections are not accurate.
- Alaska's congressional delegation commits to advocating for specific appropriation levels that are considered necessary to preserve or enhance the accuracy of the Decennial Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data for Alaska.
- The Alaska Legislature, the Office of the Alaska Governor, and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DoL) commit to providing appropriate resources to and properly staff DoL and other state agencies whose work is imperative to ensure accurate Census Bureau data collections in Alaska.

2. Connect with the Census Bureau regarding critical tribal issues to achieve the following results:

- Alaska stakeholders coordinate with the Census Bureau in advance of the 2020 Decennial Census to ensure that tribal consultation is open, transparent, and effective.
- ANCSA regional and village corporations, tribal nonprofit organizations, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, and tribal consortia coordinate with the Census Bureau to help preserve or improve the accuracy of Census Bureau data collections involving Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/AI) persons living in Alaska.
- Tribal stakeholders and the Census Bureau understand the potential impacts of an enrollment question to the accuracy of the AN/AI count in Alaska, and the Census Bureau does not add an enrollment question that will harm data quality in Alaska.

3. Educate the Census Bureau on the impact of specific technical and methodological issues and recommend specific solutions that promote an accurate count/estimate in Alaska to achieve the following result:

- The Census Bureau understands the impacts of its decisions regarding its methodology for conducting the Decennial Census and ACS in Alaska and works with Alaska stakeholders to develop solutions to mitigate potential data quality issues. Examples include group quarters enumeration, address canvassing, 2018 census testing, use of P.O. Boxes, non-response follow-up, and Internet response.