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Needs for Reapportionment and Redistricting -- Other Data Needs --
Federal Agency Needs for Census Data -- Needs of Other Data Users --
Conclusion About Data Needs -- CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING
APPROACHES TO THE CENSUS -- NOTES -- 2 Population Coverage and
Its Implications -- COVERAGE ESTIMATES -- Coverage Errors --
Undercount by Subgroups -- Errors in Small-Area Data --
IMPLICATIONS OF UNDERENUMERATION -- Effects on Congressional
Apportionment -- Effects on Distribution of Federal Funds -- NOTES --
3 Census Cost Increases and Their Causes -- GENERAL FACTORS --
SPECIFIC FACTORS AND MARGINAL COSTS -- Census Content --
Changes in Population and Housing -- Mail Response Rates -- Other
Factors -- Census Cost Changes -- Census Staff Productivity --
SUMMARY -- NOTES -- 4 Radical Alternatives -- A NATIONAL REGISTER
FOR THE BASIC CENSUS -- AN ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS CENSUS -- A
CENSUS CONDUCTED BY THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE -- A ROLLING OR
SAMPLE CENSUS -- NOTES -- 5 A Redesigned Census -- TWO
APPROACHES TO COUNTING THE POPULATION -- Census Bureau Plans
-- Legal Issues of Statistical Estimation -- BASIC ELEMENTS OF A NEW
CENSUS DESIGN -- Decreasing the Intensity of Nonresponse Follow-Up
-- Sampling for Nonresponse Follow-Up.
Truncation of Enumeration After a Reasonable Effort -- Alternative
Techniques of Truncation -- What Determines a Reasonable Effort --
Survey-Based Methods to Complete the Count -- ADDITIONAL
MEASURES TO IMPROVE ACCURACY AND REDUCE COSTS -- Improve
Response Rates -- A Simplified Questionnaire Design -- Respondent-
Friendly Long Forms and the Use of Appeals -- Partnerships with State
and Local Governments -- Partnership with the U.S. Postal Service --
Current Role -- Expanded Role -- A REENGINEERED CENSUS --
BUILDING PUBLIC SUPPORT -- NOTES -- 6 Census Content -- THE
PROCESS FOR DETERMINING CENSUS CONTENT -- THE LONG FORM --
Costs -- Mail Return Rates -- Effects in 1980 and 1990 -- Experiments
to Improve Response -- Conclusions -- Coverage -- Matrix Sampling
-- CONTINUOUS MEASUREMENT -- Costs -- Cost Savings from
Dropping the Long Form -- Continuous Measurement Cost Estimates
-- Missing Cost Data -- Other Cost Savings -- Data Quality --
Conceptual Issues with Cumulated Data -- Relation to Other Household
Surveys -- Alternative Ways to Provide Small-Area Data -- Conclusions
-- CONCLUSIONS: CONTENT IN THE 2000 CENSUS -- NOTES -- 7 Data
on Race and Ethnicity -- HISTORICAL CONTEXT -- CURRENT
REQUIREMENTS -- FUTURE REQUIREMENTS -- CONCLUSIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS -- NOTES -- 8 Intercensal Small-Area Data --
NEEDS FOR SMALL-AREA DATA -- Timeliness -- Past Attempts to
Produce Intercensal Small-Area Data -- ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT
METHODS -- Mid-Decade Censuses -- New and Special Surveys --
Augmenting Existing Surveys -- Model-Based Estimates --
ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS -- A GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCE SYSTEM AND
UPDATED ADDRESS FILE -- INTERAGENCY DATA SHARING --
CONCLUSION -- NOTES -- References -- Appendices -- APPENDIX A
Basic Information on Census Questionnaires -- SHORT-FORM AND
LONG-FORM QUESTIONNAIRE CONTENT -- QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIPT
AND RESPONSE -- NOTE.
REFERENCE -- APPENDIX B The Census Process -- DEVELOPMENT OF
MAILING LIST (MASTER ADDRESS CONTROL FILE) -- 1988 -- 1989 --
1990 -- COLLECTING THE DATA -- FIELD OPERATIONS (OPENING OF
OFFICES) -- 1988 -- 1989 -- 1990 FIELD OPERATION-FOLLOW-UP --
Mail Return -- Nonresponse Follow-Up -- Field Follow-Up -- OTHER
COVERAGE IMPROVEMENTS -- LOCAL REVIEW -- POST-ENUMERATION
SURVEY -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX C Data Requirements

for Reapportionment and Redistricting -- REAPPORTIONMENT -- The Role of Sampling -- Role of Administrative Records -- REDISTRICTING ON THE BASIS OF TOTAL POPULATION -- Legal Foundations -- Census Data for Redistricting -- Required Level of Geographic Detail -- Role of Sampling and Administrative Records -- REDISTRICTING ON THE BASIS OF RACIAL OR ETHNIC COMPOSITION -- Legal History -- Role of the Census -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX D Research Uses of Census Data -- RESEARCH VALUE -- Forms of Census Data -- Advantages of PUMS Files -- Examples of Research -- Aging of the Population -- Race Relations -- Education -- Concentrated Poverty -- Global Change -- DEVELOPMENT OF CENSUS MICRODATA FILES -- Development of PUMS Files -- Development of Summary Tape Files -- Historical Census Files -- ACCESS TO CENSUS DATA -- Role of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research -- Underutilization -- Online Access -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX E State and Local Needs for Census Data -- USES OF CENSUS DATA: AN OVERVIEW -- CENSUS DATA CATEGORIES -- General Demographic Data -- Race, Hispanic Origin, and Ancestry -- Immigration: Citizenship, Year of Entry, and Language -- Labor Force and Occupation -- Education: School Enrollment and Highest Grade Completed -- Disability -- Transportation -- Income and Poverty -- Housing -- USES OF CENSUS DATA -- Uses of Census Data for State and Federal Legislative Requirements. Uses of Census Data for State and Federal Grants Applications -- Uses of Census Data for Public Health and Social Service Programs -- Uses of Census Data for Community Planning and Development -- School Districts -- Law Enforcement -- Library Services -- Emergency Planning -- Uses of Census Data for Environmental Planning -- Economic Uses of Census Data: Employment, Labor Force, and Economic Development Analyses -- SMALL-AREA DATA NEEDS FOR GEOGRAPHICALLY DETAILED DATA -- CONCLUSIONS -- APPENDIX F Business Uses of Census Data -- RETAIL AND RESTAURANT -- BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS -- MEDIA AND ADVERTISING -- INSURANCE COMPANIES -- UTILITY COMPANIES -- HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS -- NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS -- OTHER USERS -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX G Use of Decennial Census Data in Transportation Planning -- HISTORY OF TRANSPORTATION QUESTIONS IN THE CENSUS -- THE 1990 CENSUS -- THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PACKAGE (UTTP) -- Use of the 1980 UTTP Data-A Case Study -- Summary -- DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CENSUS AND TRAVEL SURVEY DATA -- Journey-to-Work Adjustments -- Problems Inherent in Census Data -- Positive Aspects of Census Data -- USE OF DECENNIAL CENSUS DATA BY TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AGENCIES -- RELATIONSHIP OF CENSUS DATA TO LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS -- Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Legislative Requirements -- Comprehensive Planning Provisions -- Transportation Improvement Program: Project Selection -- Traffic Congestion Management -- Corridor Preservation -- Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 Legislative Requirements -- Other Legislative Requirements -- STATE AND LOCAL USES -- COST AND FEASIBILITY OF REPLACING CENSUS TRANSPORTATION DATA -- NOTE -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX H Census Data Needs for Housing and Urban Development -- FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AND CENSUS DATA REQUIREMENTS -- Small-Area Geographic Detail -- Census Content. Population Counts -- Housing -- Income and Poverty -- Labor Market Information -- Mobility, Health, Ethnicity, and Language -- Homeless Population -- PROGRAM USES OF CENSUS DATA -- Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategies -- Housing Policy Development --

Analysis, Development, and Evaluation of Urban Policy Initiatives --
Urban Poverty, Need, and Economic Trends -- Housing and
Neighborhoods -- Urban Programs -- ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF
CENSUS DATA -- PRIORITIES FOR HOUSING DATA -- Data From Future
Censuses -- Improving Data on the Condition of Housing Structures --
Outdated and Too Little Data -- Additional Decennial Census Questions
-- Data for Small Areas -- CONSEQUENCES OF NOT COLLECTING
CENSUS DATA -- NOTE -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX I Alternative Ways
to Produce Intercensal Small-Area Data -- QUALIFIED MILITARY
POPULATION -- EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES -- State Estimates --
Substate Estimates -- INCOME AND POVERTY -- Income --
Methodology -- Estimation Models -- Time Frame -- Poverty --
MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS -- Limitations of Census Data
-- A National Sample Survey -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX J
Content and Quality of Federal and State Administrative Records --
FEDERAL FILES -- STATE FILES -- REFERENCES -- APPENDIX K Quality of
Current Data on Race and Ethnicity -- REQUIREMENTS FOR RACE AND
ETHNICITY DATA SINCE 1970 -- COLLECTION OF RACE AND ETHNICITY
DATA IN THE CENSUS -- ALLOCATION RATES -- MEASURES OF
INCONSISTENCY -- LIMITATIONS OF THE RACE AND HISPANIC ORIGIN
QUESTIONS -- LIMITATIONS OF THE ANCESTRY QUESTION --
STRENGTHS OF THE RACE AND ANCESTRY QUESTIONS -- NOTES --
REFERENCES -- APPENDIX L Allocation Rates -- ALLOCATION RATES
FOR SHORT-FORM POPULATION ITEMS BY FORM TYPE -- ALLOCATION
RATES ON LONG FORMS BY RESPONSE TYPE -- ALLOCATION RATES ON
LONG FORMS BY RACE AND GEOGRAPHIC RESIDENCE -- REFERENCE --
NOTES.
APPENDIX M Census Data Requirements by Federal Agencies.

Sommario/riassunto

The U.S. census, conducted every 10 years since 1790, faces dramatic new challenges as the country begins its third century. Critics of the 1990 census cited problems of increasingly high costs, continued racial differences in counting the population, and declining public confidence. This volume provides a major review of the traditional U.S. census. Starting from the most basic questions of how data are used and whether they are needed, the volume examines the data that future censuses should provide. It evaluates several radical proposals that have been made for changing the census, as well as other proposals for redesigning the year 2000 census. The book also considers in detail the much-criticized long form, the role of race and ethnic data, and the need for and ways to obtain small-area data between censuses.
