

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2023

Robert Santos
Director
US Census Bureau
4600 Silver Hill Road
Washington, DC 20233

Dear Director Santos:

We are writing to request an update on the Census Bureau's efforts to incorporate into its ongoing Population Estimates the findings of the Bureau's May 2022 Post-Enumeration Survey (PES). As you know, this survey found that Illinois likely was undercounted at a rate of 1.97 percent in the 2020 Census, which would mean Illinois' population would have been roughly 13 million people, the highest population the state has ever recorded.

Prior to the release of the 2022 Population Estimate, Members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation met with and wrote to you, asking the Bureau to commit to incorporating the PES projections into its yearly Population Estimates. However, your reply indicated that "while too early to commit to incorporating PES into the population estimates, the Census Bureau is researching the feasibility of taking coverage measures from both the Demographic Analysis and Post-Enumeration Survey into account in the development of the official population estimates."

Given the Census Bureau released its 2022 Population Estimate shortly after the aforementioned meeting and it did not yet compensate for such an undercount, we patiently heeded your letter stating the Bureau was developing the mechanism by which to do so. We hope the Bureau has had adequate time to determine how to incorporate this margin of error into future Population Estimates, beginning with 2023.

We are now writing to request an answer as to whether or not the Census Bureau will incorporate the PES into the next Population Estimate. Each year the Census Bureau does not correct for a likely undercount in 2020, the people of Illinois are penalized and at risk of losing valuable federal funding. Accurate Census data is critically important, as it informs more than \$1.5 trillion in federal funding decisions.

We ask for your timely commitment to correcting the estimated undercount, beginning with the upcoming Population Estimate expected in the coming months. We look forward to hearing from you on this important issue.

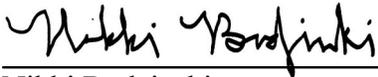
Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress