



## THE CENSUS PROJECT

Supporting quality measures of  
America's economy and places

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### **Census Experts and Members of Congress Call for Increased Funding for U.S. Census Bureau in Fiscal Year 2024**

**Washington, D.C.** – Experts at The Census Project and Members of Congress are calling for increased funding for the U.S. Census Bureau in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024). The increases would be used to support preparations for the 2030 Census and secure and maintain the nation’s critical data infrastructure, which is relied on by institutions in and outside of the government.

Coalition members at The Census Project [urged Congress](#) to provide the agency with \$2 billion in FY 2024 — an increase of \$394 million from the President’s request and \$521 million from FY 2023. Additionally, in letters to colleagues, a group of 23 U.S. Senators echoed that request, while a bipartisan group of 45 U.S. Representatives asked the House Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations Subcommittee to prioritize the highest possible funding for the agency.

“The U.S. Census Bureau provides data essential to our nation and democracy. Adequate funding for the agency will ensure the United States is prepared for the 2030 Census planning cycle, which is already well underway,” said Mary Jo Hoeksema, Co-Director of the Census Project.

“Additional funding will also support the annual American Community Survey (ACS), ensuring that decisionmakers in the private and public sector continue to receive the most accurate local, state, and federal data,” said Howard Fienberg, Co-Director of the Census Project.

The [bipartisan House letter](#), led by Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA-28), urged colleagues to make the Census Bureau a high priority in the FY 2024 CJS Appropriations bill: “Funding shortfalls during the last decade forced the Bureau to scale back strategic field tests — a decision that may have contributed to the less accurate counts of racial and ethnic populations, rural areas, and young children resulting from the 2020 Census. Investing in the 2030 Census now will allow the Bureau to sustain essential capabilities and schedules and reduce the risk of requiring unplanned, additional funding in the peak planning years later in the decade.”

The [Senate letter](#), led by Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI), noted that, “Census data helps the private

sector make sound investments by identifying underserved or emerging markets and developing business plans and loan applications,” while more than “\$1.5 trillion in Federal funding for healthcare, roads and bridges, education, first responders, rural businesses, and support for veterans is allocated annually to states and localities based on census data.”

Priority areas that would be supported with additional funding as recommended by The Census Project include:

- Enhancing the American Community Survey (ACS), which [research](#) from The Census Project showed is at risk.
- Strengthening the Population Estimates programs.
- Investing early and fully in 2030 Census preparations.
- Accelerating initiatives to make Census data timelier and more accessible and to reduce survey respondent burden.

For more on the Census Project’s recommendations for FY 2024, read the full recommendation [here](#).

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### **About The Census Project**

The Census Project (<https://thecensusproject.org>) is a broad-based coalition of national, state, and local organizations and companies that support an inclusive and accurate 2030 Census and American Community Survey (ACS) (the modern version of the census “long form”). Its 800+ member organizations and companies, representing the private, public, non-profit, and academic sectors, rely on objective data that the Census Bureau produces to inform evidence-based investment, policy, and planning decisions.