



WASHINGTON UPDATE

November 12, 2019 Volume 38, Issue 22

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FEATURED NEWS

Census Bureau Releases "Demonstration" Decennial Data Products, Working with National Academies to Collect Public Input

On October 29, the Census Bureau released a set of [demonstration data products](#) that show how

the privacy measures planned for 2020 Census data would have applied to data from the 2010 Census. In a [blog post](#), Census Bureau Chief Scientist John Abowd and Associate Director for Demographic Programs Victoria Velkoff assert that the "methods we used to protect the 2010 Census and earlier statistics can no longer adequately defend against today's privacy threats." They describe the new disclosure avoidance techniques planned to protect 2020 Census data and invite researchers and data users to experiment with the new demonstration products and determine if they meet their needs.

To assess the adequacy of the proposed data products, the Census Bureau is sponsoring a [workshop](#) on the demonstration data products on December 11-12 conducted by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT). CNSTAT is [requesting public comments](#) from users of decennial data products--regardless of whether the demonstration products apply to their work--to inform the agenda of the workshop and to inform the Census Bureau's final decision making about the 2020 products. CNSTAT seeks detailed input from data users on whether the demonstration products would be adequate, how critical the data products are to their research, how comparable the new products are to the 2010 products, and how to address the tension between privacy and accuracy of 2020 Census data. Full details on information requested and how to submit comments are available on the [CNSTAT website](#). While there is no hard deadline for comments, comments received by December 4 will be the most helpful for the workshop organizers' planning.

COSSA IN ACTION

November's Headlines to Feature Deep Dive on 2020 Census



COSSA members are encouraged to sign up for the monthly [COSSA Headlines](#) webchat on Thursday November 14, in which COSSA staff will recap the most important social and behavioral science news from the past month and answer participants' questions. The November chat will feature Mary Jo Hoeksema, Director of Government Affairs for the Population Association of America and Co-Director of the Census Project, on the 2020 Census. Individuals employed by or affiliated with a COSSA member organization or university can register for the webchat [here](#).

Share Your Story with COSSA!

COSSA is always looking for tangible examples from the social and behavioral sciences to help make the case that federal investment in these sciences is not only a wise use of taxpayer dollars, but that this research yields results that make the nation and world healthier, safer, and more prosperous. If you have a social science story-- a research success, an example of how social science is being used effectively in your community, an educational experience or teacher who shaped the trajectory of your social science career, or any other experience or activity that showcases the many positive impacts the social and behavioral sciences make to all aspects of life-- share it with COSSA by filling out the [form on our website](#).



CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

FY 2020 Spending Still Uncertain, Continuing Resolution Likely Through December

As COSSA has [reported](#), the federal government is currently operating under a continuing

resolution (CR), a stopgap measure that has frozen funding for federal agencies at fiscal year (FY) 2019 levels, which is set to expire on November 21. On October 31, the Senate made progress on its FY 2020 appropriations work by passing a package of four spending bills, including the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies bill that funds the National Science Foundation and Census Bureau, but leaving the fate of the remaining eight appropriations bills - and final year funding - uncertain. While the final decisions on FY 2020 spending are yet to be settled, reports from Congress indicate that leadership in both chambers and the White House have come to an agreement that the next CR should only last until mid-December, putting pressure on Congress to finish its work before the holidays.

COSSA released an [Action Alert](#) calling on members to communicate directly with their Senators and Representatives to urge them to complete work on FY 2020 funding as soon as possible to mitigate any further uncertainty to federal science and statistical agencies.

House Committee Passes *Higher Education Act* Reauthorization

On October 31, the House Education and Labor Committee reported out its version of the *Higher Education Act* reauthorization bill, [The College Affordability Act](#). The legislation includes a reauthorization of the Title VI International Education Programs and extends the six currently funded international education programs, including both Domestic Programs (also known as Title VI) and Overseas Programs (also known as Fulbright-Hays). The legislation also proposes that the funding level for International Education Programs should be increased to \$125 million and be updated annually to account for inflation. This would be significantly higher than the \$72.2 million appropriated in fiscal year (FY) 2019. The Committee hopes to bring their bill to the floor for full House consideration before the end of the year. More information, including the full bill text, can be found on the [Committee's website](#). While the legislation benefits from strong support in the Democratically-controlled House, it is not likely that it will be considered in the Republican-controlled Senate.

FEDERAL AGENCY & ADMINISTRATION NEWS

White House Hosts Summit of the Joint Committee on the Research Environment

The Joint Committee on the Research Environment (JCORE), a committee of the National Science and Technology Council, hosted a White House Summit in Washington, DC on November 5. JCORE was established in May 2019 and, as [COSSA has reported](#), is working to address some of the most pressing challenges facing America's research and scientific community. COSSA, along with other members of the scientific community, attended and discussed topics including administrative burdens on federally funded research; rigor and integrity in research; and safe, inclusive, and equitable research settings. Representatives from industry, academia, and senior officials from the National Institutes of Health, Department of State, National Security Agency, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, Department of Agriculture, U.S. Patent and Trade Office, Department of Defense, and National Institute of Standards and Technology also attended. Following the summit, JCORE [released a summary](#) including key takeaways in the areas of transparency, integrity, workload and coordination. COSSA will be closely following the work of JCORE; watch for COSSA's coverage over the coming weeks and months.

New Advisory Committee on Evidence Building Seeking Nominations

The Department of Commerce is [accepting nominations](#) for a new Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building, established by the *Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018* (see [COSSA's coverage](#)) and in accordance with the [Federal Data Strategy](#). The Committee

is authorized for two years and is tasked with assisting the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in carrying out its statutorily-mandated responsibilities related to evidence-building, "evaluating and providing recommendations to the OMB Director on how to facilitate data sharing, enable data linkage, and develop privacy enhancing techniques;" and "reviewing the coordination of data sharing or availability for evidence building across all agencies." The Committee will be chaired by the Chief Statistician of the United States, who will appoint members of the Committee from federal agencies. In addition, at least 10 members will be appointed from the non-federal stakeholder community, who will have expertise in transparency policy, privacy policy, statistical data use, information management, and information technology, as well as at least one member from the research and evaluation community. Nominations must be submitted by December 4, 2019. More details on the Committee and how to nominate members is available in the [Federal Register notice](#).

NIH to Host 2019 Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Festival

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) is hosting the [2019 NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Festival](#) on December 6 on NIH's main campus in Bethesda, MD. The festival brings together researchers from around NIH and will feature three plenary sessions. Chanita Hughes-Halbert from the Medical University of South Carolina will serve as a keynote presenter and Alia Crum from Stanford University will serve as a featured presenter. Registration details and more information about the festival may be found on [the OBSSR website](#).

Nomination Opportunities

- **NEW:** DOC: [Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building](#) (Closes: December 4, 2019)
- NIH/OBSSR: [2020 NIH Matilda White Riley Honors Distinguished Lecture](#) (Closes: November 15, 2019)

Funding Opportunities

- NSF/SBE: [NSF Dynamic Language Infrastructure - NEH Documenting Endangered Languages \(DLI-DEL\)](#) (Closes: September 15, 2020)
- NIH: Research on biopsychosocial factors of social connectedness and isolation on health, wellbeing, illness, and recovery ([R01 Clinical Trials Not Allowed](#)) ([R01 Basic experimental studies with humans \(BESH\) required](#)) (Opens: February 17, 2020; Closes: March 17, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Ethical and Responsible Research \(ER2\)](#) (Closes: February 24, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Human Networks and Data Science - Infrastructure \(HNDS-I\)](#) (Closes: February 24, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health \(R21 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: February 16, 2020)
- **NEW:** NIH/OBSSR: [Improving Patient Adherence to Treatment and Prevention Regimens to Promote Health \(R01 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) (Closes: February 5, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Science and Technology Studies \(STS\)](#) (Closes: February 3, 2020)
- NSF: [National Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Research Institutes](#) (Closes: January 30, 2020)
- NIH/OBSSR: [Administrative Supplements to NIH-funded T32 and TL1 Training Grants to Better Integrate Behavioral and Social Sciences \(BSS\) with other Health-Related Sciences](#) (Closes: January 25, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Law & Science \(LS\)](#) (Closes: January 15, 2020)
- NSF/SBE: [Political Science \(PS\)](#) (Closes: January 15, 2020)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** BEA: [Request for Comments on Developing State-Level Statistics for the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account](#) (Closes: March 31, 2020)

- **NEW:** BEA: [Request for Comment: Notice of Development of Economic Statistics for Puerto Rico](#) (Closes: December 2, 2019)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Notice of Interest in Long-term Maintenance of Behavior Change Research](#)
- **NEW:** NIH: [Notice of Special Interest: Administrative Supplements to NIH-funded T32 and TL1 Training Grants to Better Integrate Behavioral and Social Sciences \(BSS\) with other Health-Related Sciences](#)

Fellowships & Professional Development

- GSA: [Annual Fellowship](#) (Closes: December 15, 2019)
- GSA: [Evidence Fellowship](#) (Closes: November 20, 2019)

COMMUNITY NEWS & REPORTS

Sudip Parikh Named Next AAAS CEO

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has [named](#) Sudip Parikh its next CEO effective January 6, 2020. Parikh is currently Senior Vice President at DIA Global, a non-profit organization and publisher that mobilizes life science professionals from across all areas of expertise to engage with patients, peers, and thought leaders. He also worked at the research and development organization Battelle and served as a science advisor and professional staff for the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee. Parikh will succeed Rush Holt, who left the organization in September. AAAS CEO Emeritus Alan Leshner has been Acting CEO in the interim.

Nomination Opportunities

- [2020 Golden Goose Awards](#) (Closes: December 20, 2019)

Funding Opportunities

- NASEM: [Healthy Longevity Global Competition](#) (Opens: January 2020; Closes: February 2020)

Notices & Requests for Comment

- **NEW:** NASEM: [Call for Input: 2020 Census Data Products: Data Needs and Privacy Considerations](#) (Closes: December 4, 2020)

COSSA MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Nomination Opportunities

- SSRC: [Albert O. Hirschman Prize](#) (Closes: January 20, 2019)

Fellowships & Professional Development

- **NEW:** SRCD: [Federal Policy Fellowship Program](#) (Closes: January 3, 2020)
 - **NEW:** SRCD: [State Policy Fellowship Program](#) (Closes: January 3, 2020)
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EVENTS CALENDAR

- [Evaluation 2019 \(American Evaluation Association\)](#), November 11-16, 2019, Minneapolis, MN
- [North American Regional Science Council Annual Meeting](#), November 13-16, 2019, Pittsburgh, PA
- [American Society of Criminology Annual Meeting](#), November 13-16, 2019, San Francisco, CA
- [National Communication Association Annual Convention](#), November 14-17, 2019, Baltimore, MD
- [COSSA Headlines | November Headlines & Deep Dive on the 2020 Census](#), November 14, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [Putting Social Science to Work for Society](#), November 20, 2019, Washington, DC
- [National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference](#), November 20-23, 2019, Fort Worth, TX
- [American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting](#), November 20-24, 2019, Vancouver, Canada
- [African Studies Association Annual Meeting](#), November 21-23, 2019, Boston, MA
- [Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Annual Convention](#), November 21-24, 2019, Atlanta, GA
- [Social Science History Association Annual Meeting](#), November 21-24, 2019, Chicago, IL
- [NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research Festival](#), December 6, 2019, Bethesda, MD
- [COSSA Headlines | December Headlines](#), December 10, 2019, 2:00 pm
- [CNSTAT: 2020 Census Data Products: Data Needs and Privacy Considerations](#), December 11-12, 2019, Washington, DC
- [Presidential Awards for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring \(PAESMEM\) Applicant Webinar](#), January 7, 2020, 4:00 pm

A list of COSSA members' annual meetings and other events can be found on the COSSA [events page](#). COSSA members who have an upcoming event they would like to see listed in the Events Calendar and on our website should send an email to jmilton@coffa.org.

SAVE THE DATE!



Consortium of Social Science Associations Members

Governing Associations

American Anthropological Association
American Association for Public Opinion Research
American Economic Association
American Educational Research Association
American Political Science Association
American Psychological Association
American Society of Criminology
American Sociological Association
American Statistical Association
Law and Society Association
Linguistic Society of America

Colleges and Universities

Arizona State University
Boston University
Brown University
Carnegie Mellon University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University
Fielding Graduate University
George Mason University
Georgetown University
Harvard University

Midwest Political Science Association
National Communication Association
Population Association of America
Society for Personality and Social Psychology
Society for Research in Child Development

Membership Organizations

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences
African Studies Association
American Association of Geographers
American Council of Learned Societies
American Evaluation Association
American Historical Association
American Psychosomatic Society
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management
Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations
Association of American Law Schools
Association of Research Libraries
Council of Colleges of Arts and Sciences
Council on Social Work Education
Economic History Association
History of Science Society
Midwest Sociological Society
National Association of Social Workers
National Council on Family Relations
North American Regional Science Council
Rural Sociological Society
Social Science History Association
Society for Prevention Research
Society for Research on Adolescence
Society for Social Work and Research
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Southern Political Science Association
Southern Sociological Society
Southwestern Social Science Association

Centers and Institutes

American Academy of Arts and Sciences
American Academy of Political and Social Science
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences
Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research
Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
Institute for Social Science Research,
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
NORC at the University of Chicago
RTI International
Social Science Research Council

Indiana University
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Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan State University
North Carolina State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University, The
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey
Stanford University
Texas A&M University
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Georgia
University of Illinois
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
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The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to promote sustainable federal funding for and widespread use of social and behavioral science research and federal policies that positively impact the conduct of research. COSSA serves as a united voice for a broad, diverse network of organizations, institutions, communities, and stakeholders who care about a successful and vibrant social science research enterprise. The COSSA membership includes professional and disciplinary associations, scientific societies, research centers and institutes, and U.S. colleges and universities.

