Redistricting Data Program Overview

Maryland State Data Center
09/24/2025

United States® Census Bureau

Agenda

1. Redistricting Data Program (RDP)
    1. Mission
    2. Program Phases
    3. RDP Program Activities Timeline
2. Redistricting Data Program Resources

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Redistricting Data Program Mission

Program Mission: Provide states an opportunity to identify the geographic areas for which specific tabulations of population are needed for legislative redistricting and to deliver high quality data for those areas in a timely manner.

Primary Program Requirements:

- Conduct the program in a non-partisan manner.
- Establish program criteria.
- Identify required tabulations and geographic areas.
- Deliver basic tabulations of population in the state identified geographies to the governor and the officers or public bodies having initial responsibility for the legislative apportionment or districting of each state no later than 1 year from Census Day.

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2030 Redistricting Data Program's Five Phases

Building the Frame

Meeting the Legal Deliverable Requirement

Providing Additional Value

Research and Planning

- Phase 1: Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP)

- Phase 2: Voting District Project (VTDP)

- Phase 3: Data Delivery (Official Tabulations & Geographic Support Products)

- Phase 4: Collection of Congressional and State Legislative Redistricting Plans

- Phase 5: Evaluation of the Census Redistricting Data Program and Recommendations for the Next Census

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Phase 1: Block Boundary Suggestion Project Roles

Liaison Role

Liaisons flag edges (lines or linear features) to be held or not held as 2030 Census Block Boundaries, allowing states to shape their small area geographies for use in redistricting. Liaisons can:

- Report boundary changes to legal geography (e.g., cities, towns, county subdivisions).
- Add, delete, or modify linear features (e.g., roads).
- Add nonvisible lines to be held as block boundaries.
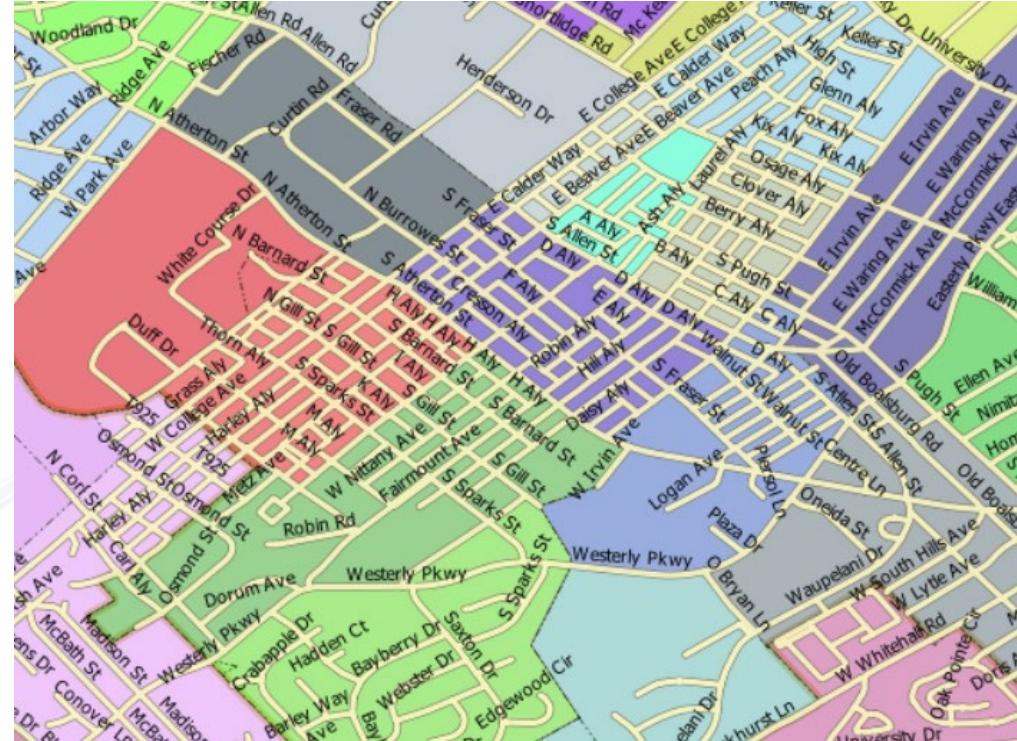- Add, delete, or modify area landmarks (e.g., college campuses, jails).

- **Initial delineation: January 2026 - May 2026.**
- **Verification: January 2027 - May 2027.**

Phase 2: Voting District Project Roles

Liaison Role

Liaisons provide and make edits to their voting districts (e.g., precincts, wards). Liaisons can:
- Continue block boundary flagging.
- Report boundary changes to legal geography (e.g., cities, towns, county subdivisions).
- Add, delete, or modify linear features (e.g., roads).
- Add, delete, or modify area landmarks (e.g., college campuses, jails).

- **Initial delineation: January 2028 - May 2028.**
- **Verification 1: January 2029 - May 2029.**
- **Verification 2 (VTDV2) from January 2030 - March 2030.**
  (Limited updates for VTDV2 due to shorter timeframe)

Phase 3: Data Delivery, Official Tabulations

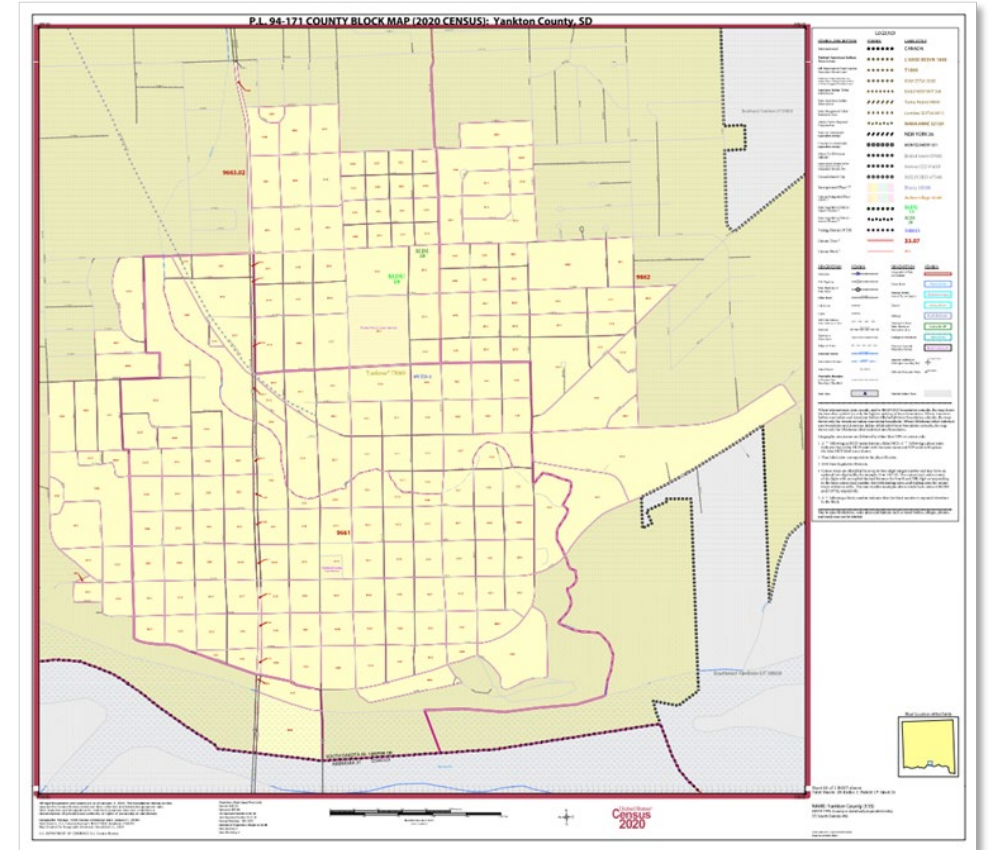"**Tabulations of population** for the areas identified in any plan approved by the Secretary shall be completed by him [her] as expeditiously as possible after the census date and reported to the Governor of the State involved and the officers or public bodies having responsibility for legislative apportionment or districting of such State, except that such tabulations of population of each State requesting a tabulation plan, and basic tabulations of population of each State, shall, in any event, be completed, reported and **transmitted to each respective State within one year after the census date.**"

2020 Census P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data Tabulations
Table P1 – Race
Table P2 – Hispanic or Latino, and not Hispanic or Latino by Race
Table P3 – Race for the Population 18 Years and Over
Table P4 – Hispanic or Latino, and not Hispanic or Latino by Race for the Population 18 Years and Over
Table H1 – Occupancy Status (Housing)
Table P5 – Group Quarters Population by Group Quarters Type

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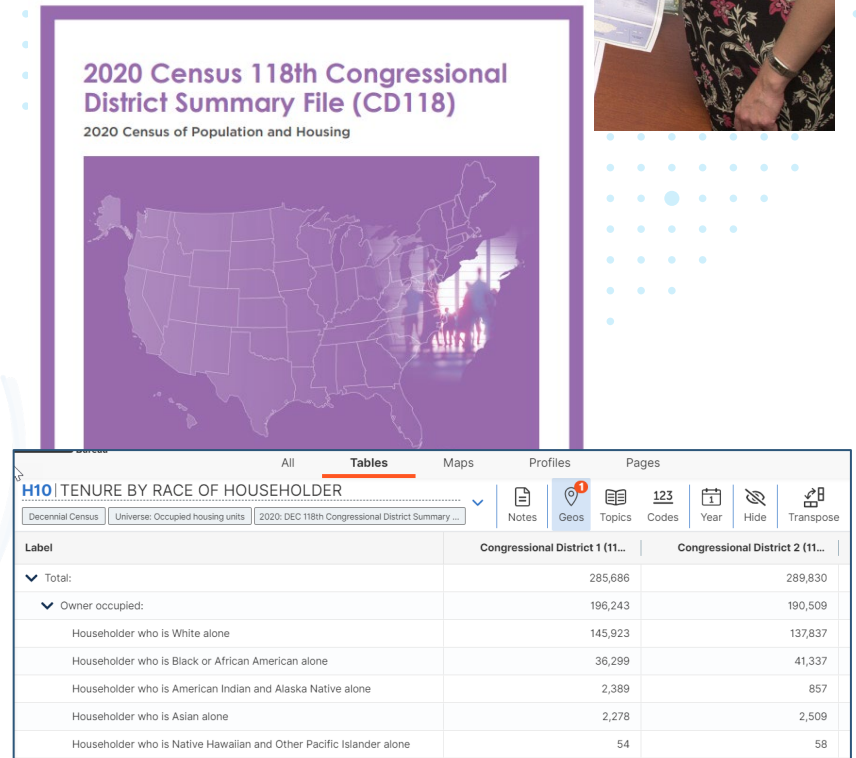# Phase 3: Data Delivery, Geographic Support Products

A series of geographic support products will be provided to assist states in their use of the provided redistricting data.

- Shapefiles – Digital boundary and feature files for use in computerized mapping and analysis.

- Maps (PDF only) – County Block, State Legislative and Voting District, Census Tract, School District.

- Block Assignment Files – Tables identifying the blocks used to build different geographic entities.

- Name Lookup Tables – Tables showing geographic entity names associated with their geographic codes.

- Block to Block Relationship Files – Crosswalk of 2020 Blocks to 2030 Blocks.
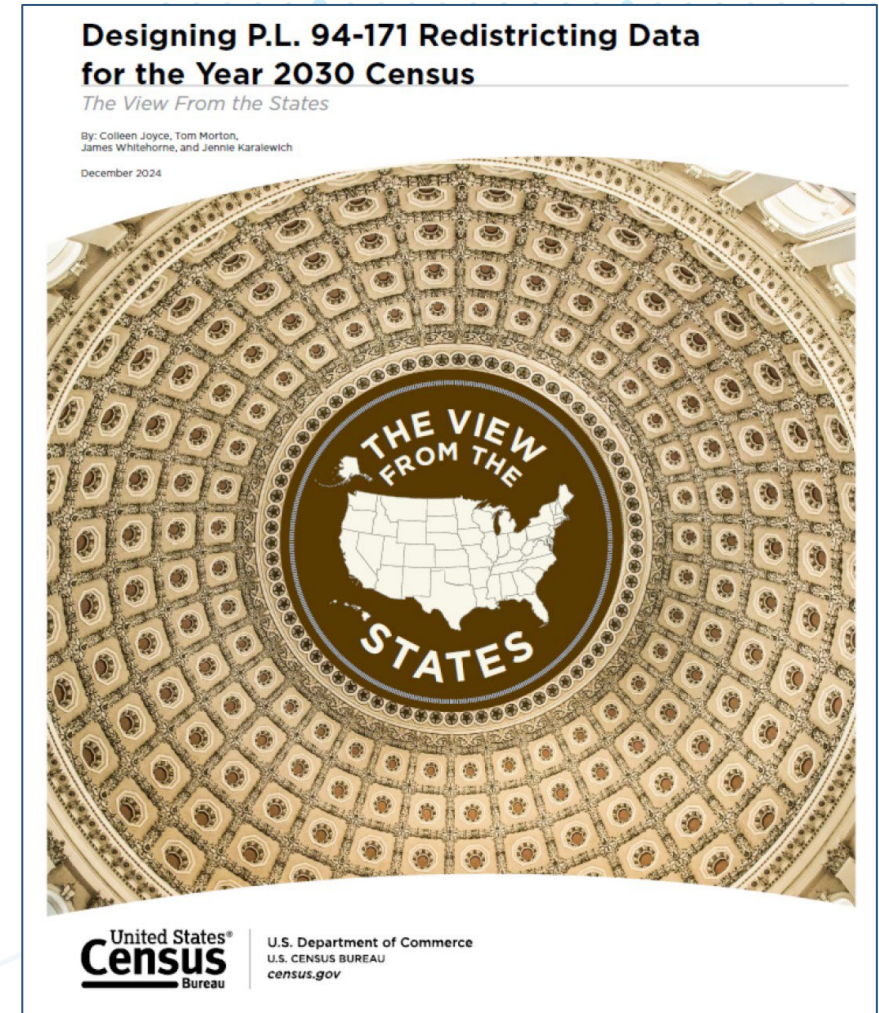
Phase 4: Collection of Congressional and State Legislative Redistricting Plans

- Before the 2030 Census, changes to congressional or state legislative districts are collected every two years.
- Following the 2030 Census, a national collection of the post-decennial congressional and state legislative districts occurs.
- The new plans are collected from the state appointed Redistricting Data Program liaisons.
- Geographic products are created from the new plans and made available to the states and the public.
- A Congressional District Summary File tabulation product (which includes state legislative districts) is created from the collected plans.
- Other surveys (e.g., the American Community Survey) incorporate newly redistricted plans into future data products.

2020 Census 118th Congressional District Summary File (CD118)
2020 Census of Population and Housing

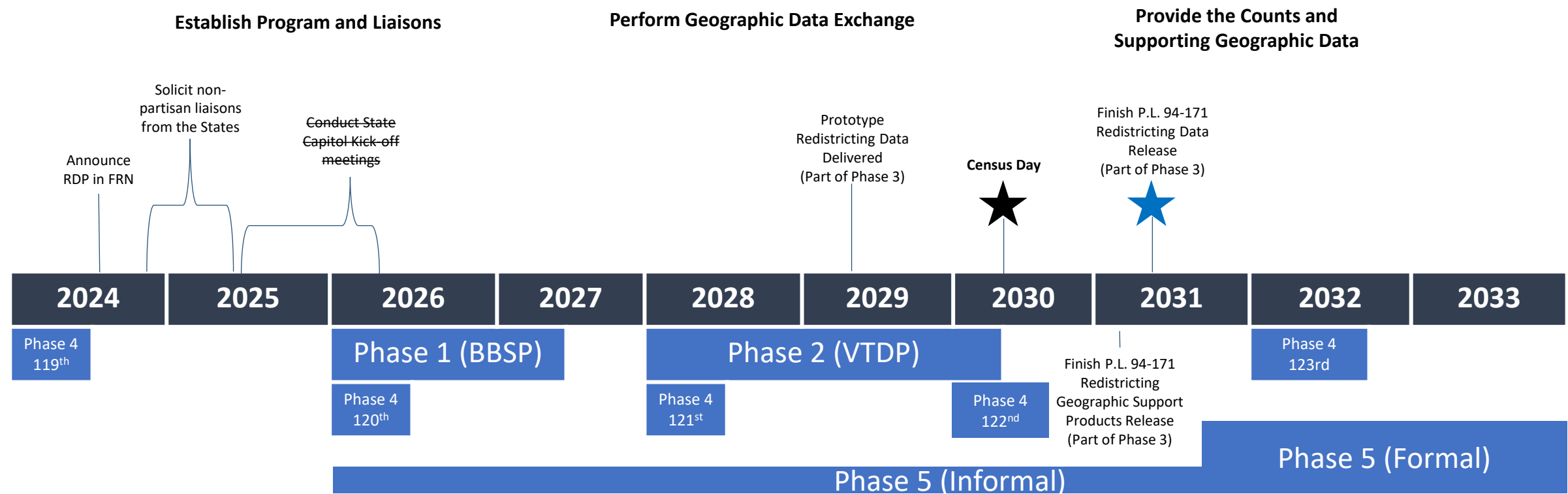| Label	Congressional District 1 (11...	Congressional District 2 (11...
Total:	285,686	289,830
Owner occupied:	196,243	190,509
Householder who is White alone	145,923	137,837
Householder who is Black or African American alone	36,299	41,337
Householder who is American Indian and Alaska Native alone	2,389	857
Householder who is Asian alone	2,278	2,509
Householder who is Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	54	58

H10 | TENURE BY RACE OF HOUSEHOLDER

Phase 5: Evaluation of the Census Redistricting Data Program and Recommendations for the Next Census

- Each decade we consult with stakeholders and official program non-partisan liaisons to identify successes and shortcomings of the previous Census's Redistricting Data Program (RDP).

- We use that feedback to identify and catalog state supplied recommendations for the next Census's RDP.

- Phase 5 for the 2030 Census will culminate in a publication titled *Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the Year 2040 Census—The View From the States.*

Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the Year 2030 Census
The View From the States

By: Colleen Joyce, Tom Morton, James Whitehorne, and Jennie Karalewich

December 2024

THE VIEW FROM THE STATES

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Redistricting Data Program Resources

Redistricting Data Program Main Page

- https://www.census.gov/rdo

Voting Rights Data Main Page

- https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/about/voting-rights.html

Redistricting Data Program Management

- https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/about/rdo/program-management.html

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