

The 2030 Redistricting Data Program and How to Prepare

State Data Center Meeting
October 24, 2024



2030 Redistricting Data Program

What is the Census Bureau's Role in Redistricting?

Public Law 94-171

Geography and Data

- Total Population Counts
- Race and Ethnicity Data
- Small-Area Geography



PUBLIC LAW 94-171—DEC. 23, 1975

89 STAT. 1023

Public Law 94-171 94th Congress

An Act

To amend section 141 of title 13, United States Code, to provide for the transmittal to each of the several States of the tabulation of population of that State obtained in each decennial census and desired for the apportionment or districting of the legislative body or bodies of that State, in accordance with, and subject to the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, a plan and form suggested by that officer or public body having responsibility for legislative apportionment or districting of the State being tabulated, and for other purposes.

Dec. 23, 1975
[H.R. 1753]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 141 of title 13, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new subsection:

“(c) The officers or public bodies having initial responsibility for the legislative apportionment or districting of each State may, not later than three years prior to the census date, submit to the Secretary a plan identifying the geographic areas for which specific tabulations of population are desired. Each such plan shall be developed in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary, which he shall furnish to such officers or public bodies not later than April 1 of the fourth year preceding the census date. Such criteria shall include requirements which assure that such plan shall be developed in a nonpartisan manner. Should the Secretary find that a plan submitted by such officers or public bodies does not meet the criteria established by him, he shall consult to the extent necessary with such officers or public bodies in order to achieve the alterations in such plan that he deems necessary to bring it into accord with such criteria. Any issues with respect to such plan remaining unresolved after such consultation shall be resolved by the Secretary, and in all cases he shall have final authority for determining the geographic format of such plan. Tabulations of population for the areas identified in any plan approved by the Secretary shall be completed by him 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

Population,
tabulation for
State legislative
apportionment.

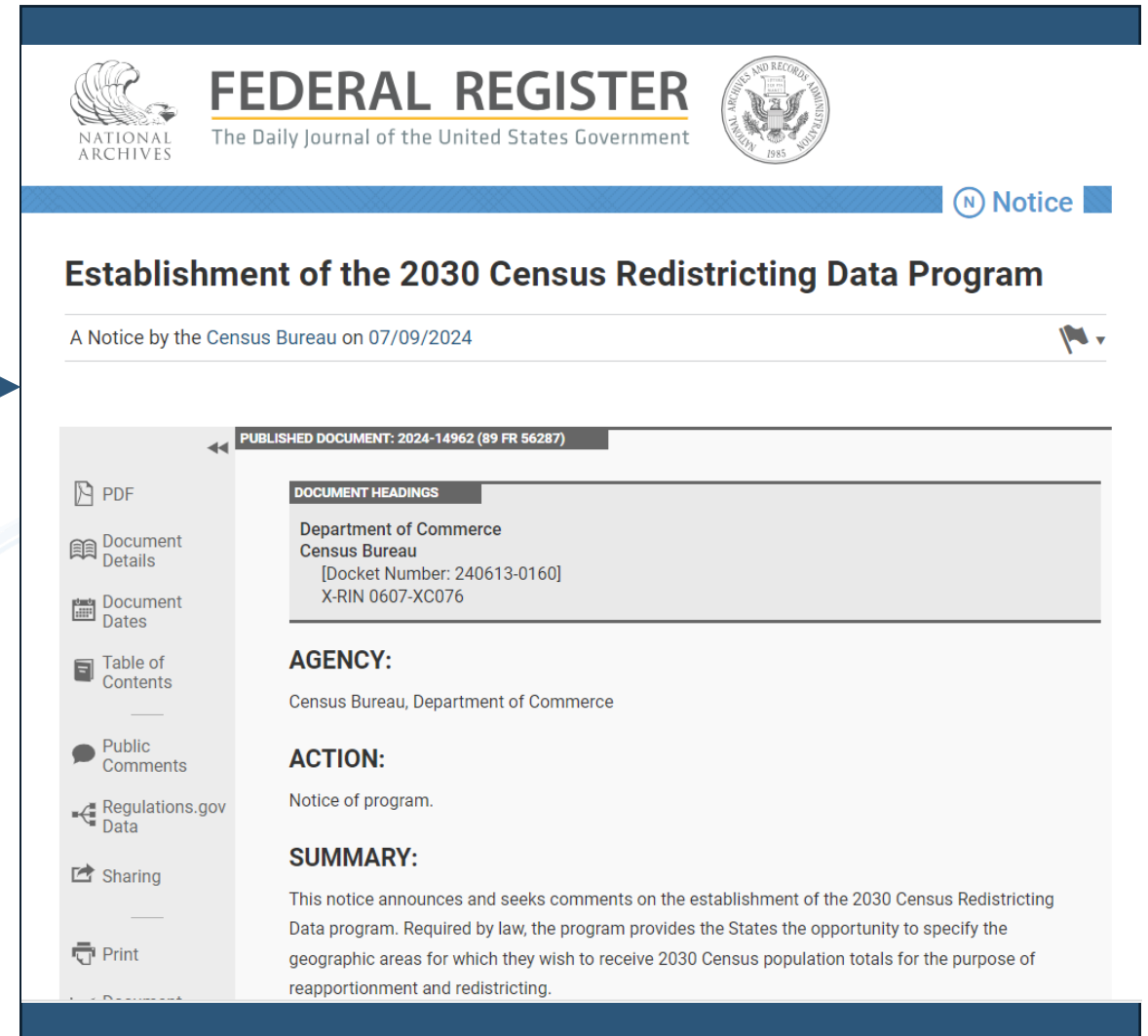
Key Language of P.L. 94-171

Developing a Plan

“Each such plan shall be developed in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary, which he [she] shall furnish to such officers or public bodies not later than April 1 of the fourth year preceding the census date.”

Federal Register notice announcing the 2030 Redistricting Data Program was published on July 9, 2024.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/07/09/2024-14962/establishment-of-the-2030-census-redistricting-data-program>



The screenshot displays the Federal Register website interface. At the top, the National Archives logo and the text 'FEDERAL REGISTER The Daily Journal of the United States Government' are visible, along with the Department of Commerce seal. A blue navigation bar contains a 'Notice' button. The main content area features the title 'Establishment of the 2030 Census Redistricting Data Program' and a sub-header 'A Notice by the Census Bureau on 07/09/2024'. Below this, a sidebar on the left offers options like PDF, Document Details, Document Dates, Table of Contents, Public Comments, Regulations.gov Data, Sharing, and Print. The main content area includes a 'PUBLISHED DOCUMENT: 2024-14962 (89 FR 56287)' header, a 'DOCUMENT HEADINGS' section with 'Department of Commerce Census Bureau [Docket Number: 240613-0160] X-RIN 0607-XC076', and sections for 'AGENCY: Census Bureau, Department of Commerce', 'ACTION: Notice of program.', and 'SUMMARY: This notice announces and seeks comments on the establishment of the 2030 Census Redistricting Data program. Required by law, the program provides the States the opportunity to specify the geographic areas for which they wish to receive 2030 Census population totals for the purpose of reapportionment and redistricting.'

Key Language of P.L. 94-171

A Nonpartisan Program

“Each such plan shall be developed in accordance with criteria established by the Secretary...Such criteria shall include requirements which assure that **such plan shall be developed in a nonpartisan manner.** ↓

- Redistricting and Voting Rights Data Office (RVDO) invites majority and minority legislative leadership in each state to designate a nonpartisan liaison(s) to represent their state.
- Official liaisons can appoint technical liaisons.
- Program submissions are only accepted from official liaisons.

The Census Bureau will send a letter to state officials to solicit nonpartisan liaisons in early 2025.

The 2030 Redistricting Data Program

The 2030 Redistricting Data Program (RDP) will be conducted through five phases and in accordance with Public Law 94-171 (P.L. 94-171), and with minimal change from the 2020 RDP.

Phase 1: Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP)

Phase 2: Voting District Project (VTDP)

Phase 3: Delivery of the 2030 Redistricting Data

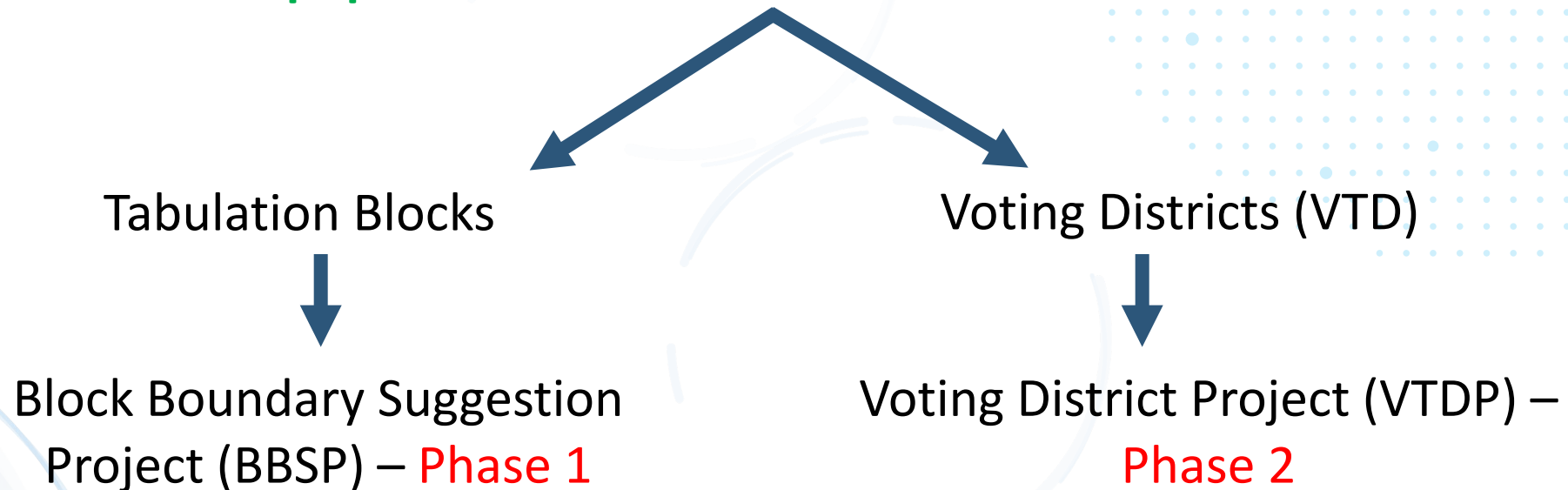
Phase 4: Collection of Post-2030 Census Congressional and State Legislative District Plans

Phase 5: Review of the 2030 Census Redistricting Data Program and Recommendations for the 2040 Census Redistricting Data Program

Key Language of P.L. 94-171

Phases 1 and 2

“The officers or public bodies having initial responsibility for the legislative apportionment or districting of each State may, not later than three years prior to the census date, **submit to the Secretary a plan identifying the geographic areas for which specific tabulations of population are desired.**”



States also request standard geographies (state, county, place, county subdivision, etc.)

Phase 1: Block Boundary Suggestion Project

Initial Delineation (BBSP) January – May 2026

- States can identify and flag features that should be either held (“must hold”) as a block boundary or not held (“do not hold”) as a block boundary to inform the creation of the 2030 census block universe.
- States can make updates to:
 - linear features (e.g., roads, railroads);
 - area landmarks (e.g., parks, lakes);
 - and
 - suggest updates to legal boundaries (e.g., incorporated places, townships).



Verification (BBSPV)
January 2027 – May 2027

Census Tabulation Block Creation Process

1. Generate the base block layer of physical features.
 - Roads (primary, secondary, neighborhood, alleys, service drives, private roads, dirt 4WD vehicular trails), railroads, streams/rivers, canals, power lines, pipelines) and geographic area boundaries (e.g. counties, places, tracts, reservations, voting districts).
 - Includes any edges that form a polygon with other edges.
2. Assign priority values to each edge.
3. Conduct merges based on priority values.
 - Priority values assigned to each edge, 0-99.
 - The higher the priority value, the less likely it is to be merged across.

Census Tabulation Block Creation Process - Priorities

Boundaries for geographic entities and BBSP “must holds” have the highest value.

Primary roads (e.g. state highways) generally have a higher value than neighborhood roads.

Named neighborhood roads generally have a higher value than unnamed neighborhood roads.

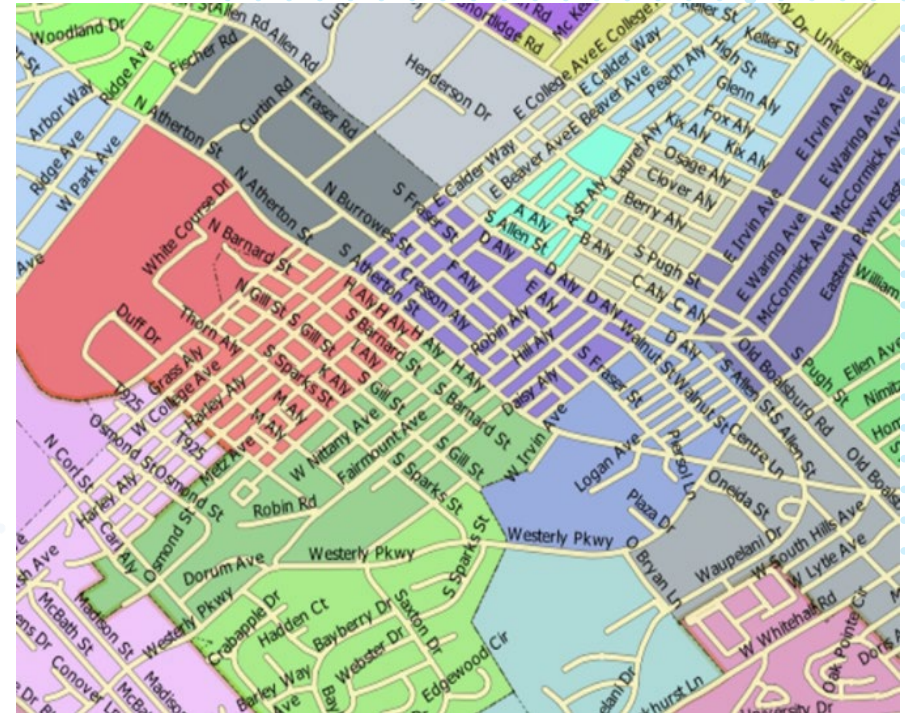
Neighborhood roads generally have a higher value than service roads or ramps.

Roads generally have a higher value than power lines.

2020 RDP Phase 2: Voting District Project

Initial Delineation (VTD) January – May 2028

- States can delineate VTDs
- States can make updates to
 - state legislative and congressional district boundaries;
 - linear features (e.g., roads, railroads);
 - area landmarks (e.g., parks, lakes); and
 - suggest updates to legal boundaries (e.g., incorporated places, townships).
- States can continue making block boundary suggestions.



Verification (VTDV) January – May 2029
Verification 2 (VTDV2) January – March 2030

Key Language of P.L. 94-171

Phase 3

“**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)	
New Table for 2020	
Table P5 – Group Quarters Population by Group Quarters Type	

2020 RDP Phase 3: The 2020 Census Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171) Summary File

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)

New Table

Table P5 – Group Quarters Population by Group Quarters Type

- All tables were produced at multiple geographies including census block.
- Group quarter types included: Correctional institutions for adults, juvenile facilities, nursing facilities/skilled nursing, other institutional, college/university student housing, military quarters, and other noninstitutional.
- Group quarters table included total population only, no demographic breakdown.

Plans for the 2030 RDP: Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171) Summary File

- Content and how it is presented in the Redistricting Data File must change for 2030 in response to the revisions made to OMB Directive No. 15 on collecting, maintaining and reporting race and ethnicity data. ([spd15revision.gov](https://www.spd15revision.gov)).
- The Census Bureau still plans to provide a GQ table and a housing unit table broken down by vacant and occupied housing unit counts.
- A Dress Rehearsal is currently planned for 2028 with a prototype product expected in early 2029.

Label	CENTER-01-01, Marion County, I...
▼ Total:	0
▼ Institutionalized population:	0
Correctional facilities for adults	0
Juvenile facilities	0
Nursing facilities/Skilled-nursing facilities	0
Other institutional facilities	0
▼ Noninstitutionalized population:	0
College/University student housing	0
Military quarters	0
Other noninstitutional facilities	0

Collection of Post-Census Redistricting Plans

Phase 4

- Collection of 118th CD and 2022 SLD plans from January – July 2022.
 - Collected Block Equivalency Files from the official liaisons.
 - Released geographic products.
 - Released 2020 Census 118th Congressional District Summary File in August 2023.
 - 2020 Census 119th Congressional District Summary File to be released in December 2024 and geographic products releasing on the flow.
- Collection of new plans planned every two years if states have changes.



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



H10 TENURE BY RACE OF HOUSEHOLDER		
Label	Congressional District 1 (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

Phase 4- Congressional and State Legislative District Collection Schedule through 2030

CD Session	SLD Session	Collection Period
119th	2024	November 2023-April 2024
120th	2026	November 2025-April 2026
121st	2028	November 2027-April 2028
122nd	2030	November 2029-April 2030

Plans for Releases of Subsequent Congressional District Summary Files

CD Session	Congressional District Summary File Release
119th	December 2024
120th	December 2026
121st	December 2028

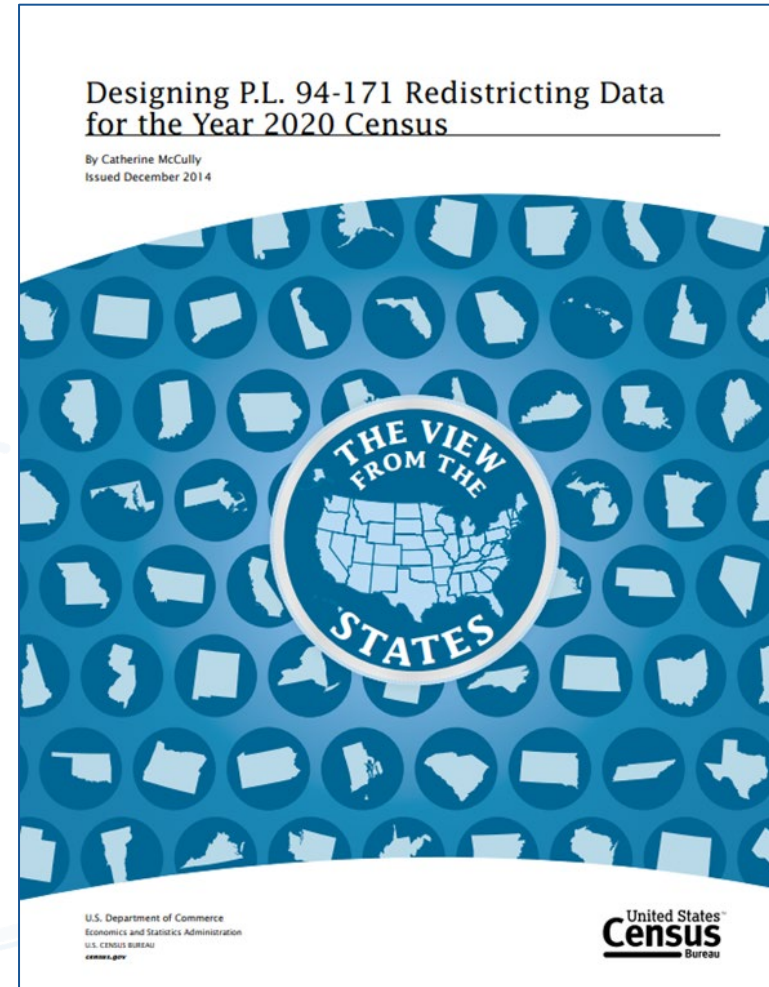
Future ACS Data Release Timing for New CD and SLD Data

CD Session	SLD Year	ACS 1-Year for CDs	ACS 5-Year for CDs/SLDs
118th	2022	September 2023	December 2023
		September 2024	December 2024
119th	2024	September 2025	December 2025
		September 2026	December 2026
120th	2026	September 2027	December 2027
		September 2028	December 2028
121st	2028	September 2029	December 2029
		September 2030	December 2030
122nd	2030	September 2031	December 2031
		September 2032	December 2032

Evaluation of the Census Redistricting Data Program and Recommendations for the Next Census

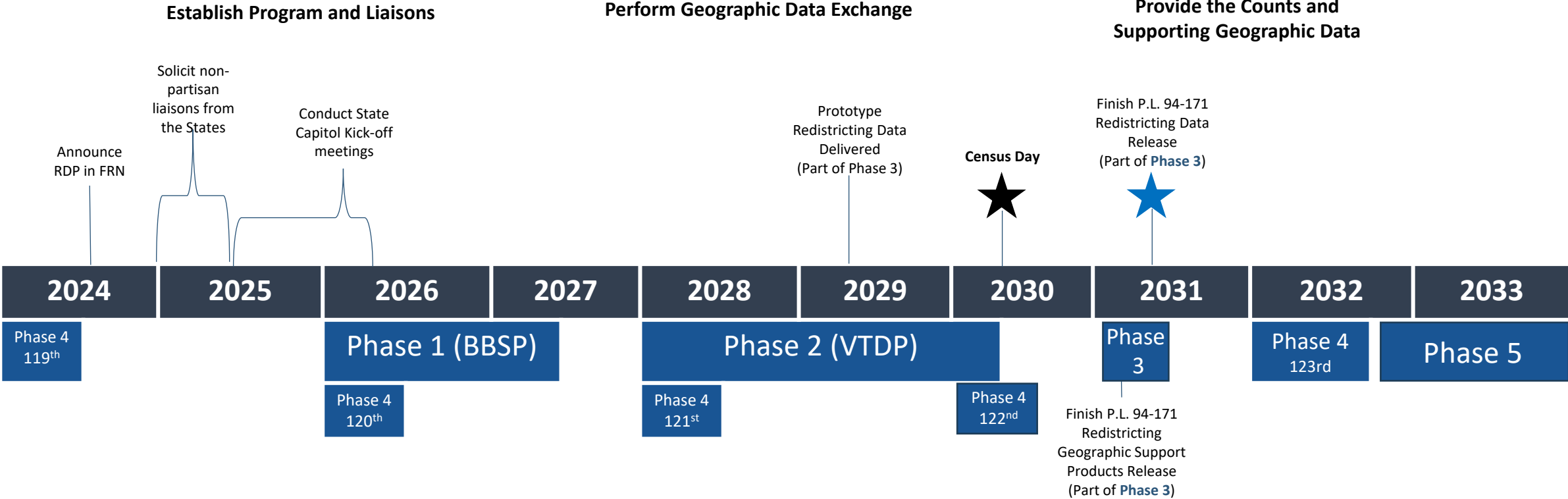
Phase 5

- Work with stakeholders and official program liaisons to identify successes and shortcomings of previous Census' RDP.
- Develop Recommendations for the next Census RDP.
- The 2030 RDP will culminate in publication of *Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the 2040 Census—The View From the States*.
- *Designing P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data for the 2030 Census—The View From the States* will be released in December 2024.



2030 Census Redistricting Data Program

Program Activities Timeline



Five Phases of the 2030 Redistricting Data Program (RDP)

- Phase 1 – The Block Boundary Suggestion Project (BBSP)
- Phase 2 – The Voting District Project (VTDP)
- Phase 3 – Delivery of the P.L. 94-171 Redistricting Data and Geographic Support Products
- Phase 4 – The Collection of Congressional and State Legislative Districts (CD/SLD)
- Phase 5 – The Review of the 2030 RDP and the Look-ahead to the 2040 RDP (The View from the States)





Preparing for the 2030 Block Boundary Suggestion and Voting District Projects

Preparing Your Geography

States can prepare for the 2030 RDP by ensuring that the Census Bureau has correct boundaries in place ahead of the 2030 Redistricting Data Program by participating in other, ongoing boundary update programs.

Better boundaries ensure

- Better blocks that meet your redistricting and planning needs.
- Improved other geographies including block groups and tracts for 2030.
- Alignment between existing boundaries and new Voting Districts.

Look for issues encountered in post-2020 redistricting to see if they can be “fixed” in the 2030 BBSP.

- Involve local officials.

Review Prototype Blocks

With each cycle of BBSP and VTDP, Census Bureau runs the block algorithm.

- Generates a shapefile of what the tabulation blocks would be given the geography at that time.
- Helps participants target areas for BBSP and other geographic update work.



UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU

THANK YOU



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