

2020 Decennial Census Group Quarters Data Collection Operation

National Academies of Science 2020 Group Quarters Data Collection Deep Dive

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*All estimates are considered preliminary. Final counts and percentages will be released as part of the 2020 Census Operational Assessments series.

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Presentation Outline

- What are Group Quarters
- Complexities and Strategies
- Operational and Other Changes Between 2010 and 2020
- 2020 Group Quarters Data Collection (Pandemic Impact, Stakeholder Engagement, etc.)

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Group Quarters Operation Definitions

- A Group Quarters (GQ) is a place where people live or stay in a group living arrangement that is owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. This is not a typical household-type living arrangement. These services may include custodial or medical care as well as other types of assistance, and residency is commonly restricted to those receiving these services
- People living in group quarters are usually not related to each other
- Group quarters include such places as college/university student housing, residential treatment centers, nursing/skilled nursing facilities, group homes, correctional facilities, and workers' group living quarters and job corps centers
- As part of the Group Quarters operation, the Census Bureau developed special enumeration procedures to *provide opportunities* for people experiencing homelessness to be counted at service locations and pre-identified outdoor locations. These are soup kitchens, regularly scheduled mobile food vans, and targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations
- There are close to 30 group quarter type codes and definitions
- Group Quarter residents represents 3.2 percent of the population – small population, but large impact

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Group Quarter Operation Definitions

Complexities

- There is a different enumeration strategy for every group quarters type
- There is a 'Gatekeeper' for all group quarters facilities and the Gatekeeper helps decide the group quarters type, access to residents, and how residents will be counted. The Gatekeeper's (AKA the group quarter administrator) main concern is the safety and confidentiality of the residents
- Assisted living facilities are housing units, but if there is a floor or wing where residents receive 7 day/24-hour care (skilled nursing) those units are considered group quarters. This means some of the residents receive an invitation to respond via the internet or mail, and the Gatekeeper or administrator decides how the group quarters residents will participate in the Census
- Some student housing facilities are considered housing units, and some are considered group quarters
- If a hotel is considered a person's usual home elsewhere, it is considered a housing unit, but if the hotel is housing people based because of a natural disaster, it is considered a group quarters. If all units of the hotel are housing individuals experiencing homelessness it is considered a group quarters. If a hotel is housing both individuals experiencing homelessness and individuals who are paying for extended care, it is considered a housing unit

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Group Quarters Operation Definitions

Strategies

- Data collection strategies allow group quarters administrators several options that can be used to count residents that meet their concerns
- There are various paper data collection methods and an electronic data collection method
- The data collection strategies were also designed to be agile because group quarters administrators sometimes change enumeration methods during the time of enumeration
- Because of the agility built into group quarters data collection, during the 2020 Group Quarters Data Collection we were able to switch from in-person enumeration methods to other methods during the Pandemic

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2010 vs. 2020

	2010	2020
Frame Development	Included Group Quarters Validation (or GQV) and 'Other Living Quarters (OLQ) concept <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During GQV field staff made a personal visit to all addresses identified as an "Other Living Quarter (OLQ)" or not clearly a housing unit or group quarter or a transitory location. Geocodes were validated and adds were assigned geocodes. GQV included a redesigned Facility Questionnaire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GQ frame development/update was included as a component of Address Canvassing operation through an In-Office GQ Review operation. Updating the GQ frame and the OLQ concept was performed during Advance Contact and Enumeration operations.
	Service Based Enumeration (SBE) Address List Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An internet research, phone and mail solicitation program was conducted by the National Processing Center (NPC) to identify SBE locations and group homes. Outreach to governmental units for SBE locations 	SBE Address List Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did not conduct internet research for 2020 Did not conduct outreach to governmental units. Staff from Area Census Offices (ACOs) identified SBE locations in their areas
	Group Quarters Update Program Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates (FSCPE) Members provided GQ addresses	Group Quarters Update Program Federal-State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates (FSCPE) Members provided GQ addresses.
Group Quarters Advanced Operation		
Advanced Contact	GQAV – In- Field operation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group Quarters Advance Visit (GQAV) was conducted in 2010. Results were captured in the Paper Based Operational Control System (PBOCS). The operation was conducted by Crew Leaders in the field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GQAC – In Office operation that used GQ Production Control System (PCS) to capture results. The operation was conducted by office clerks from the ACOs. In-Field visit was conducted if there was no available contact name or a phone number
	Visited GQs and provided facility letters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mailed GQ advance letter to GQ administrators Created a GQ website to post GQ informational copies of materials

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Group Quarter Tests Leading to Decennial Census: 2010 vs 2020 Data Collection

Census Tests Leading Up to 2010	Census Tests Leading up to 2020
2004 Census Test Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fully integrate the list of GQ addresses with the list of HU addresses on the MAF.Manage the GQs inventory at the GQ level instead of at the Special Place.Revise definition of a GQ, and several GQ type classifications such as nursing homes, college housing, and group homes.	2015 Group Quarters Electronic Capability Test Survey Purpose: <p>Explored GQ administrators' ability and willingness to send resident-level data electronically to the Census Bureau</p>
2006 Census Group Quarters Validation/Advance Visit (GQV/AV) Test Purpose of combining GQV/AV was three-fold: <p>Enhanced Address data collection methods to improve the coverage of group quarters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Administered a redesigned OLQ Validation Questionnaire based on 2004 Census Test,Revised definitions and classifications of GQs, andContinued to update the MAF in a comprehensive and integrated manner	2016 Group Quarters eResponse Independent Census Test (Small-Scale) (Three GQs) Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explored the ability of the GQ administrator to transfer GQ address-level and client-level data using a secure site via a unique login IDs and an Excel template.
2006 Census Test Group Quarters Enumeration (Electronic Linking and GQ Tracking) Purpose: (Two-fold) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Address the problem of linking ICRs to a GQAddress the problem of the inability to track each individual questionnaire encountered in Census 2000. <p>No ICRs were lost or not associated with a GQ when they arrived at the NPC.</p>	2016 Service-Based Enumeration Census Test (Two-day operation) Purpose: <p>Explored the feasibility of enumerating this population using an automated instrument in lieu of the paper ICR.</p> <p>If a respondent refused, had privacy concerns, or was uncomfortable with the automated instrument, the enumerator offered the paper ICR to the respondent to allow the person to self-respond or receive assistance from an enumerator.</p>
	2017 Group Quarters eResponse Test (Small scale) (Eight GQs) Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Test the use of a standard template for data submissionDetermine if GQ administrators who handled multiple GQs would submit multiple files (i.e., one file for each GQ) or one file (i.e., multiple GQs in one file).Test helped to redesign the acceptance criteria for the 2018 GQ eResponse data collection system.

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Group Quarter Tests Leading to Decennial Census: 2010 vs 2020 Data Collection

Census Tests Leading Up to 2010	Census Tests Leading up to 2020
<p>2008 Census Dress Rehearsal Group Quarters Enumeration</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply the revised GQ definitions to improve the classification of GQs;• Administer the redesigned ICR that had all the respondent questions on the front of the form• Administer a modified OLQ Validation Questionnaire that was renamed the Group Quarters Validation (GQV) Questionnaire.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The modified GQV Questionnaire was streamlined, revised, and the number of GQ definitions was simplified resulting in fewer GQ type codes○ The GQV Questionnaire was designed to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Facilitate personal visit interviewing○ Collect information on one or more GQs and/or one or more HUs at one OLQ address.• Employ electronic linking of the ICRs to their respective GQ• Enter the population and USC for each GQ into the OCS• Provide requirements to GEO to maintain the population and USC for each GQ on the MAF for future use	<p>2018 End-to-End Census Test GQE (Providence County, Rhode Island)</p> <p>Purpose: Lower costs, Maintain high quality , and Utilize technology</p> <p>Purpose/Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group Quarters Advance Contact (GQAC) In-Office operation (June 18 – July 10, 2018)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tested the use of telephone interviews from ACOs with the GQ contact person to prepare for upcoming SBE / GQE• Used a web-based application redesigned Production Control System (PCS), designed to support GQAC• Tested revised definitions for college/university student housing and different types of living arrangements• Service-Based Enumeration (July 25 – July 27, 2018)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offered shelters an option to provide paper response records to enumerate their residents to reduce respondent burden.• Group Quarters Enumeration (July 30, 2018 – August 24, 2018)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Test GQ administrators being able to submit data using their choice of enumeration methods including electronic transfer of data to eliminate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tracking and maintaining the linkage of ICQs to the GQs• Preparing, mailing, and tracking receipt of ICQ shipments• Manual transcription of paper response administrative records onto a paper instrument.• Field assignment done electronically through a Field Operational Control System (FOCS)

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2010 vs. 2020

Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE)		
	2010	2020
Data Collection Enumeration Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Person Interview • Drop off/ Pick up • Facility Self Enumeration (Offered to only correctional and medical facilities) • Paper Listings: Information from paper listings received from GQ administrators were transcribed onto a paper questionnaire either by the enumerator or by a clerk in the local census offices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Person Interview • Drop off/ Pick up • Facility Self Enumeration • Paper Listings (Paper Response Data Collection(PRDC) Template: Information from paper listings were received by enumerators and sent to the ACOs. • Mail out/Mail Back of Paper Response Data Collection(PRDC) Template: ACOs mailed PRDC to GQ administrators and GQ administrators mailed completed PRDC back to the ACOs. The ACOs sent the paper listings to NPC to key in the response data from the paper response data collection template into the Decennial Tracking and Control System (DCTS) • eResponse (electronic transfer of data records): GQ administrators uploaded administrative response data for individual living or staying in their facility to a secured web-based Census Bureau portal. • Emailed eResponse letters to GQ administrators with login information (Were previously scheduled to mail login information).
Data Collection Instrument	Data Collection-Individual Census Report (ICR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The questionnaire used to collect individual respondent data for individuals living or staying in a group quarters. 	Data Collection-Individual Census Questionnaire (ICQ) – redesigned to include expanded origin and race questions. UHE questions updated with a checkbox “I never stay at any other place. I only live here.” Centurion – Census Bureau web-based secure portal

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2020 Residence Rules

The three key principles of the Residence Criteria for 2020 were essentially unchanged

- Count people at their usual residence, which is the place where they live and sleep most of the time.
- People in certain types of group facilities on Census Day are counted at the group facility.
- People who do not have a usual residence, or who cannot determine a usual residence, are counted where they are on Census Day.

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Stakeholder “Gatekeeper” Engagement

- American Healthcare Association (AHCA)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Defense
- American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO)
- Department of Education (DoE)
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Group - National Network Against Domestic Violence
- Federal Correctional Facilities (Prisons and Detention Centers) Agencies
- Federal State Cooperative for Population Estimates (FSCPE)
- Maritime/Military Vessel Working Group
- National Association of Confidentiality Address Program
- States Department of Corrections
- The Salvation Army
- Veteran Affairs

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Group Quarters Operation

The 2020 Census Group Quarters (GQ) Operation included:

- Group Quarters Advance Contact (In-Office/In-Field)
- Service-Based Enumeration
- Group Quarters Enumeration, including Stateside/Puerto Rico Military Enumeration (In-Office/In-Field)
- Maritime/Military Vessel Enumeration
- Deployed Military Enumeration

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operations

Advance Contact (In-Office and In-Field) operation: February 3, 2020 – March 6, 2020

Area Census Office (ACO) clerks made a telephone call to the GQ (Student Housing Administrators) to confirm and explain the procedures for the upcoming Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE) operation. The Census worker:

- Verified the Group Quarter name, address information, contact name, phone number, and business email address.
 - Collected an expected Census Day population count and maximum population count.
 - Allowed facility managers to choose a method of enumeration based on the GQ type.
 - Scheduled an appointment for enumeration.
- **Note:** If there was no available contact name or a phone number, the designated staff made a personal visit to collect the above information and discuss the enumeration procedures including the enumeration options.

March: Nationwide “Stay at Home” Orders

2020 Census Group Quarters Operation Updates Due to the Coronavirus – 2019

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operations

Planned 2020 Census Group Quarters Operations and Operational Dates

- Advance Contact (In-Office and In-Field) operation: February 3, 2020 – March 6, 2020
- Service-Based Enumeration: March 29, 2020 -
- Group Quarters Enumeration: April 1, 2020 – June 5, 2020
 - GQE eResponse Data Collection: April 1, 2020 – May 1, 2020
 - GQE In-Field Data Collection: April 2, 2020 – June 5, 2020
- Maritime/Military Vessel Enumeration: April 1, 2020 – June 20, 2020

Actual Start Dates of 2020 Census Group Quarters Operations

- Advance Contact (In-Office and In-Field) operation: February 3, 2020 – March 6, 2020
- Service-Based Enumeration: September 22, 2020 – September 25, 2020
- Group Quarters Enumeration: April 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020
 - GQE eResponse Data Collection: April 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020
 - GQE In-Field Data Collection: April 20, 2020 – June 5, 2020
 - Mail out/ Mail Back of Paper Response Data Collection Template: April 20, 2020 – August 26, 2020
 - In-Person Data Collections Methods: July 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020
- Maritime/Military Vessel Enumeration: April 1, 2020 – August 24, 2020

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operations After Start of COVID - 19

Group Quarters Enumeration Operation (In-Office and In-Field) Operation: April 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020

- The primary objective of the 2020 Census Group Quarters Enumeration operation was to enumerate people residing in a Group Quarters as of April 1, Census Day using their preferred choice of enumeration.
 - In-Office: GQ Enumeration: April 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020
 - **Electronic Response Data Transfer (eResponse)**
 - In-Field: GQ Enumeration:
 - **Alternative Paper Response Data Collection (Administrative response records): Mail Out/Mail Back: April 20, 2020 – August 26, 2020**
 - In-Person GQ Enumeration: July 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020
 - **In-person Paper Response Data Collection Pick Up: July 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020**
 - A Census worker met with the GQ contact person to obtain a paper listing of Census response data (data items listed on the ICQ) for each person who was living or was staying at that facility on Census Day, April 1, 2020.
 - **In-Person Interview: July 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020**
 - **Drop Off/ Pick Up of Paper Questionnaires: July 1, 2020 – August 26, 2020**

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operation Results – Preferred Enumeration Methods

Preferred Enumeration Methods	2020 Census Group Quarters Advance Contact Results*	2020 Census Group Quarters Enumeration Results*
eResponse	36%	43%
Drop Off/ Pick Up of Paper Questionnaires	26%	13%
In-Person Interviews	26%	8%
Paper Response Data Collection	10%	37% (**Includes Alternative Mail Out/ Mail Back of Paper Response Data Collection Template)
Facility Self-Enumeration	2%	<1%

*CBDRB-FY21-DSSD007-0029.

**The Alternative Mail Out/ Mail Back of Paper Response Data Collection Template was not an option during the GQAC

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2020 Census Group Quarters Enumeration Operation Unique Challenges Posed by COVID-19

#	Title	Description	Mitigation
1	Access to GQs were limited with restrictions (Nursing homes, hospitals, other health-based facilities, Universities; group homes, etc.)	CDC recommended limiting access to group facilities- particularly nursing homes and hospitals-that could require enumerators to comply with certain restrictions, such as temperature taking or other requirements	Offer GQ Admins alternative methods of enumeration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swap to eResponse • Mail in Paper Response Data Collection template with populated client level data
2	Access to GQ(s) were denied due to quarantine	GQ facility had confirmed cases or suspected cases and would not allow enumerators inside facility; operations within the facility may be dire causing enumeration priority to decrease	
3	College/university closed	University decides risk exposure it too great, and closes housing facilities	Offer GQ Admins alternative methods of enumeration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper Response Data Collection (Mail out/ Mail Back, and Pick Up) • eResponse Enumeration
4	Enumerators refused to work	Enumerators quit en masse or refuse to enumerate certain locations due to fear of exposure – postpone/ delay operations	Reduce field workload by offering alternative methods that require no contact with GQ facility residents in advance of offices openings and In-Field (In-person enumeration).
5	Accounting for individuals in quarantine on military bases/ ships	Populations at military bases increase due to housing of quarantined populations; military facility is faced with unexpected enumerating duties	Offer GQ Admins alternative methods of enumeration
6	Staffing not available to handle specific planned activities	Expected mail out of letters and packages to GQ administrators to enable them to complete their enumeration process (eResponse). NPC had to work out logistics to be able to assist with responding to GQ Admin	Offered alternative method of sending login credentials. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HQ and RCC staff called to confirm and obtain missing GQ admin email addresses • MOJO HERMES Email Blasts using data captured and received from NPC ATAC ERDT • MOJO HERMES Email Blasts using information captured and received from FOCS in ACOs

*All estimates are considered preliminary. Final counts and percentages will be released as part of the 2020 Census Operational Assessments series.

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2020 Census Service-Based Enumeration After Start of COVID - 19

Service-Based Enumeration Operation: September 22, 2020 – September 25, 2020

The SBE operation was conducted at service-based locations and targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations (TNSOLs) to provide an opportunity for people experiencing homelessness to be included in the census. These service-based locations include:

- Shelters For People Experiencing Homelessness
- Soup Kitchens
- Regularly Scheduled Mobile Food Vans

Planned modes of data collection for SBE were:

- In-Person interview
- Paper listings—Field staff pick up a paper listing from the GQ administrator.
 - Paper listings were keyed at the National Processing Center.

Planned TNSOL Enumeration: Evening of September 23, 2020, through the morning of September 24, 2020

- In-Person interview

Operational adjustments:

- Drop Off/Pick Up of ICQs enumeration option was added for Shelters Only
- ACO Clerks began calling SBE locations to reschedule appointments and find TNSOLs: August 17, 2020

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2020 Census Service-Based Enumeration Results*

During the 2020 Census Service-Based Enumeration, field workers and GQ contact persons submitted data using the following enumeration methods for their locations:

- <1 percent used the electronic response data transfer (eResponse) methodology, meaning administrators uploaded administrative response data for residents residing in their GQ onto the Census Bureau's secure server
- 3 percent chose the drop-off/pick-up option, which involved census field staff dropping off individual census questionnaires (ICQs) for the GQ contact person to distribute to residents living or staying in their GQ, after which census field staff returned to pick up the completed ICQs
- 88 percent chose In-Person interviews, meaning census field staff conducted interviews with residents to complete the ICQs
- 9 percent chose Paper Response Data Collection meaning GQ contact person provided census field staff with a paper listing containing response data for their residents

*CBDRB-FY21-DSSD007-0029.

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2020 Census Service-Based Enumeration After Start of COVID - 19

Unique Challenges For SBE Posed By The Pandemic And Other External Events

- Fires and Smoke
- Hurricanes and other tropical storms
- Civil unrest across the nation
- Obtain an updated frame for the revised enumeration dates
 - Previously identified service locations that targeted people experiencing homelessness were no longer allowed to operate
 - There was an increase of Hotels/Motels that became quarantine facilities/ being used to house people experiencing homelessness

College/University Student Housing

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operations

- About 15% of GQs were college/university student housing
- Because of COVID-19, many students were sent home and not living in student housing at the time of Group Quarters enumeration
- Historically, college/university contact persons mainly select methods that allow students to self-respond
- Due to COVID-19, contact persons had to answer the census on behalf of the students using facility administrative records
- eResponse method mainly used.

*CBDRB-FY21-DSSD007-0029

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2020 Census Group Quarters Advance Contact Operation Results*

During the 2020 Census Group Quarters Advance Contact operation, college/university student housing administrators selected the following enumeration methods for their students:

- 47 percent, chose the electronic response data transfer (eResponse) methodology, meaning administrators will upload directory-level information about each student onto the Census Bureau's secure server
- 35 percent chose the drop-off/pick-up option, which involves census field staff dropping off individual census questionnaires (ICQs) for the administrator to distribute to students, after which census field staff would return to pick up the completed ICQs
- 9 percent chose In-Person interviews, meaning census field staff will conduct interviews with students to complete the ICQs
- 10 percent chose Paper Response Data Collection meaning administrators will provide census field staff with a paper listing containing directory information about their students

*CBDRB-FY21-DSSD007-0029.

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operation Updates Due to the Coronavirus - 2019

Given the dismissal of students from on-campus housing due to the health crisis, the Census Bureau started reaching out to group quarter administrators that chose the In-Person and the Drop-off/pick-up methods to ask them to choose either:

- [eResponse](#) or the [Group Quarters Enumeration](#) Paper Response Data Collection options.
- While the two methods above did not give students and residents in noninstitutional GQ types like military barrack, group homes, etc. the opportunity to self-respond, which was preferred, it allowed the Census Bureau to accurately enumerate students at school despite the fact they may be temporarily living at home or elsewhere.
- [Based on feedback from the Department of Education Student Privacy Policy Office webinar](#) on February 14, 2020, the eResponse and Paper Response Data Collection methods have FERPA implications
 - Schools could provide “Directory Information” for each of their students without student consent unless the student has opted out of the disclosure.
 - Schools could not include race/ethnicity and gender as directory information under FERPA.

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2020 Census Group Quarters Operation Updates Due to the Coronavirus - 2019

- Census Bureau staff conducted several presentations and webinars with the Department of Education (DoE) and with the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) to discuss the eResponse method
- Census Bureau staff also prepared audio messaging on the Census Bureau website directed at students and how data would be collected
- The DoE and AACRAO placed information about data collection for college/university student housing, as well for off campus students on their respective websites
- Because of FERPA, administrators could provide only limited information about students

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2020 Group Quarters (GQ) Enumeration

- 88 percent* of college/student housing were enumerated during the regular GQE data collection
- Post data collection, December 2020, the Census Bureau conducted phone calls to student housing facilities, and well as other GQ types to verify counts and attempt to convert refusals
- College/university student housing increased from 88 percent to 97 percent*

*CBDRB-FY21-DSSD007-0029.

Summary

- Overall, because of the design of the GQ operation and established partnership, GQ staff was able to pivot and inform GQ administrators and umbrella organizations of the need to use less in-person methods of data collection to protect and ensure the safety of their residents and census workers
- The success of that outreach is realized in the comparison of enumeration methods from GQAC operation and GQE operation



Questions



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Group Quarter Tests Leading to Decennial Census: 2010 vs 2020 Data Collection

Census Tests Leading Up to 2010	Census Tests Leading up to 2020
<p>2004 Census Test</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fully integrate the list of GQ addresses with the list of HU addresses on the MAF.<ul style="list-style-type: none">The integration of the two address lists resulted in two new address list development operations: 1) Address Canvassing (AC) and 2) Group Quarters Validation.Manage the GQs inventory at the GQ level instead of at the Special Place.Revise definition of a GQ, and several GQ type classifications such as nursing homes, college housing, and group homes.The GQ definition for group homes was revised to apply only to residential treatment centers that provided group living arrangements.	<p>2015 Group Quarters Electronic Capability Test Survey</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <p>Explored GQ administrators' ability and willingness to send resident-level data electronically to the Census Bureau</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Of the 260 GQ umbrella organizations and agencies contacted, 40 percent (105) responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">↑73.3 percent reported they have eResponse data records available↑72.4 percent are able to transmit electronic eResponse data records to the Census Bureau↑64.8 percent can provide an electronic file in an Excel format↑53.3 percent were willing to participate in a Group Quarters Electronic Response Data Transfer Test (or eResponse Test)
<p>2006 Census Group Quarters Validation/Advance Visit (GQV/AV) Test</p> <p>Purpose of combining GQV/AV was three-fold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Support the Census Bureau's efforts to compile the most accurate address file using improved methodologies for data collection and coverageDetermine the type of GQsInform the GQ contact persons of the upcoming GQ enumeration, address privacy and confidentiality concerns, identify any security issues, verify the GQ name and address information, contact name and phone number, and obtain an expected Census Day population count. <p>Enhanced Address data collection methods to improve the coverage of group quarters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Administered a redesigned OLQ Validation Questionnaire based on 2004 Census Test,Revised definitions and classifications of GQs, andContinued to update the MAF in a comprehensive and integrated manner (DMD, 2006).	<p>2016 Group Quarters eResponse Independent Census Test (Small-Scale) (Three GQs)</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explored the ability of the GQ administrator to transfer GQ address-level and client-level data using a secure site via a unique login IDs and an Excel template. <p>Results/Learned</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Two of the participating GQs provided client-level data andAll three GQs provided address-level data.Being able to send response data electronically was well received by the three participating GQ administrators.

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Group Quarter Tests Leading to Decennial Census: 2010 vs 2020 Data Collection

Census Tests Leading Up to 2010	Census Tests Leading up to 2020
<p>2006 Census Test Group Quarters Enumeration (Electronic Linking and GQ Tracking)</p> <p>Purpose: (Two-fold)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Address the problem of linking ICRs to a GQ• Address the problem of the inability to track each individual questionnaire encountered in Census 2000. <p>Assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each Individual Census Report (ICR)/Military Census Report (MCR)/Ship Census Report (SCR) would be printed with a unique eye readable and scannable bar code• Each ICR/MCR/SCR would be linked to its GQ for tabulation• MAF Action Codes and Unit Status Codes for each GQ would be entered into OCS.• No major changes were made to field data collection procedures. <p>Data from the 2006 Census Test revealed with certainty that the electronic linking of the ICRs to the GQs was a success, along with the ability to track each individual questionnaire. No ICRs were lost or not associated with a GQ when they arrived at the NPC.</p>	<p>2016 Service-Based Enumeration Census Test (Two-day operation)</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <p>Explore the feasibility of enumerating this population using an automated instrument in lieu of the paper ICR.</p> <p>If a respondent refused, had privacy concerns, or was uncomfortable with the automated instrument, the enumerator offered the paper ICR to the respondent to allow the person to self-respond or receive assistance from an enumerator.</p> <p>Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using an automated instrument to enumerate the population at the 11 service-based locations during the test was well received.• Although the refusal rate was high and the reasons varied, the use of the automated instrument was not cited as a reason for a refusal.• When people participated, they provided complete data. <p>2017 Group Quarters eResponse Test (Small scale) (Eight GQs)</p> <p>Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Test the use of a standard template for data submission• Determine if GQ administrators who handle multiple GQs would submit multiple files (i.e., one file for each GQ) or one file (i.e., multiple GQs in one file). <p>Results/Learned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GQ administrators were willing to use the Census Bureau's provided template but were reluctant to provide separate data for each of their associated GQs in separate tabs.• Census Bureau would need to be able to accept data from an umbrella organization in one file versus multiple files or tabs in one file.• Test helped to redesign the acceptance criteria for the 2018 GQ eResponse data collection system.