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Popular Science : Popular Science in Statistics

Sullivan, Teresa A.

# Census 2020

**Understanding the Issues**

- Addresses the unique issues of a census in the 21st Century, including hacking, mistrust of government, privacy concerns, a highly mobile population, and hard-to-count subgroups
- Investigates and analyzes the entwined technical and political issues of the Census
- Explores recent Supreme Court decisions affecting the Census

The decennial Census is the US Government's largest statistical undertaking, and it costs billions of dollars in planning, execution, and analysis. From a statistical viewpoint, it is critical because it is the only database that maps every inhabitant into a geographic location. By constitutional mandate, census data are the basis for reapportioning the House of Representatives and the Electoral College. The states use census data to redistrict their state legislatures and often to redraw boundaries for local elections. Census data inform the distribution of over \$1.5 trillion in federal funding during the decade. This book details the fundamentals and significance of the 2020 Census for the non-specialist reader. It covers why the Census is the only statistical activity required by the US Constitution, the challenges of working towards an accurate and complete count, and what political ramifications flow from this process. Concise, timely, and comprehensible, this book provides helpful real-life examples while also offering an overview of the entwined statistical and political issues that surround the Census.

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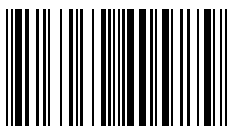
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