#census2020

the first online decennial census

Greta Byrum

<u>Digital Equity Laboratory</u>, The New School <u>Community Tech NY</u> @gretabyrum

Carolyn Bennett Glauda
Education and Outreach Librarian
Southeastern NY Library Resources Council

Why the decennial census matters

- \$700-900bn in funding nationally
 - schools, libraries, parks, social services
- Census population counts determine redistricting & levels of representation
- Business & residential development
- This is a civic action for all. Everybody counts!

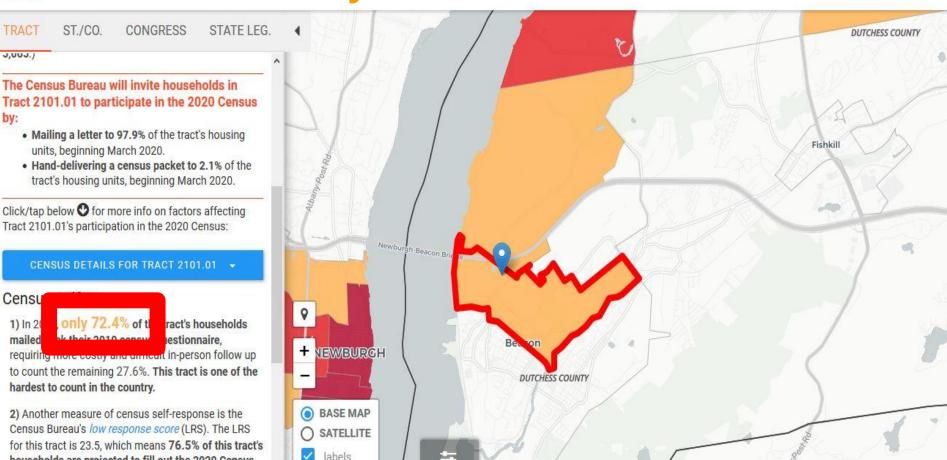
Why it matters: New York State

- We could lose \$1.5bn each year over the next decade in federal aid provided through 75 programs:
 - Medicaid, Section 8, Head Start, SNAP, schools
 - \$2.4bn education, \$4.1bn housing, \$6.8bn human services, and \$1.7bn transportation
- NYS Congressional representation could shrink from 27 to 25 seats

HTC 2020

households are projected to fill out the 2020 Census

Why it matters: Beacon



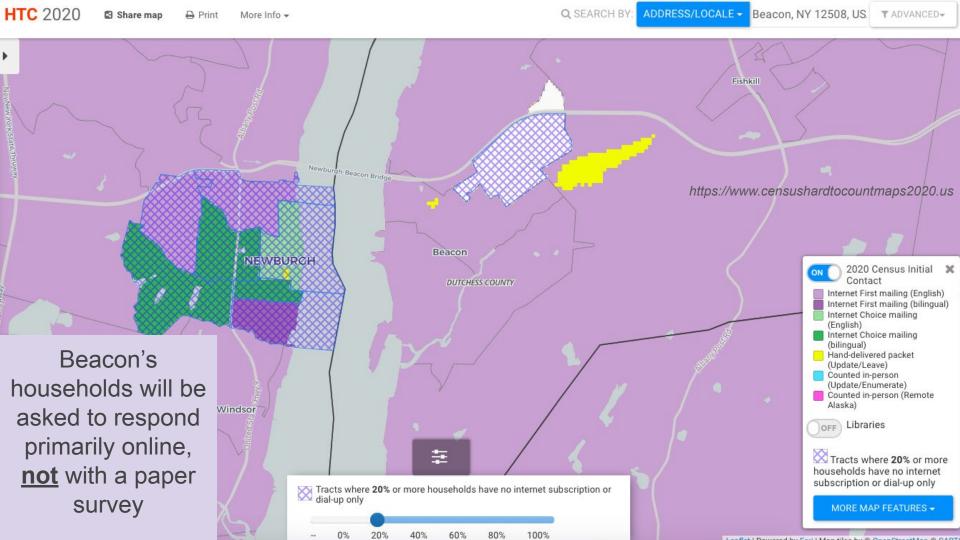
Wait, the census is going to be online?!

The census is moving online

- Other ways to be counted:
 - Call centers
 - Enumeration
 - Eventually, paper forms

...but the most reliable way to get counted in 2020 will be online 11/14/2018 OMB No. 0607-0999; Approval Expires 09/30/2020 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE **Economics and Statistics Administration** U.S. Census Bureau Washington, DC 20233-0001 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR P1C-40851-P2T64 թիժժուրթիվոկիկիրբարկրկութիկիկիսկայից TO RESIDENT AT 56 BELAIR AVE March 16, 2018 A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau Dear Resident: To prepare for the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau is conducting the 2018 Census Test. The Census Bureau conducts this important 10-minute survey to help make the 2020 Census easier, more convenient, and less costly. Results from the 2020 Census will be used to: Allocate resources for schools, health services, and new business development. Prepare your community to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs. Help ensure the political representation of your community. Your User ID is: Respond by April 1 at: survey.census.gov 1203 - 0535 - 0284

The Census Bureau is using the internet to securely collect your information. Respond online to help us conserve natural resources, save taxpayer money, and process data more efficiently. If you are unable to and mail back.



Who's at risk of not being counted?

- (1) children under 5 years old,
- (2) PoC,
- (3) Latinx,
- (4) over 65 years of age,
- (5) limited English speaking,
- (6) people in poverty,
- (7) renters,
- (8) single parents,
- (9) foreign born, and
- (10) no internet.

groups that rely on social programs & more likely to use smartphones for internet

If these groups are undercounted, funding will be cut and they will lose representation



Recommendations

- Create internet access points (hotspots, kiosks)
- Public events (trusted community partners & library)
 - Hotspots/devices
 - Coordinate with Complete Count Committees
- Guidance for how to get counted online (post information, get the word out)
 - Training for volunteers, staff at service orgs/library
- Messaging (small business community, faith community)
 - Renters who may not have been counted in the past
 - Schools
- Response Rate Toolkit

Bottom line:

Enumerators *should* come around, the paper forms *should* come around, but we can't count on that.

Getting everyone counted online by April 1 is our best option.

Get your community counted for:

- Public infrastructure
- Social services
- Representation and fair districting
- The future of equitable development
- Democracy!



Thank you!