



Tuesday, July 9th – Day 1

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Registration

8:15 am – 8:30 am

Welcome Address

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Plenary Panel

Machine Learning, Algorithms, and Public Data

The use of artificial intelligence or machine learning in public data and public policy is a relatively new endeavor shrouded in a bit of mystery. A panel of experts in these fields will discuss the basics of machine learning, how it can be deployed to improve public data, and the potential pitfalls of relying on algorithms.

Moderator: Mauricio Ortiz, Economist, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Speakers:

- Jeff Chen, Chief Innovation Officer, Bureau of Economic Analysis
- Graham MacDonald, Chief Data Scientist, Urban Institute

9:30 am – 10:00 am

BLS Plenary Session

Introducing New BLS Commissioner William Beach

The Bureau of Labor Statistics once again has a Commissioner in William Beach, formerly of George Mason University. Dr. Beach will discuss his priorities and provide updates on BLS activities and operations.

Moderator: Kevin McAvey, Senior Manager, Manatt Health

Speaker:

- William Beach, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Exhibit Hall Networking Break

Breakout Sessions

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Breadth of Public Data

Under-the-Radar Public Data

This session shines a spotlight on three important data sources: the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey Public Use File, the Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, and the Consumer Expenditure Surveys Public-use Microdata. Participants in this session will learn where to find the data, how to work with the data, and some key themes from the data.

Moderator: Brendan Buff, Program Manager, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

Speakers:

- Nicholas Schluterman, Statistician, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Bonnie Nichols, Operations Research Analyst, National Endowment for the Arts
- Taylor J. Wilson, Economist, Bureau of Labor Statistics

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Diverse Uses of Public Data

Leveraging the Census Bureau's Data Linkage Infrastructure for Evidence Building

Roundtable discussion with the principal investigators from several of the Census Bureau's evidence-building pilot projects. This session will explore challenges with data access, availability, quality, linking, bias, and disclosure experienced during such projects.

Moderator: Scott Boggess, Chief, Evidence Building Staff, US Census Bureau

Speakers:

- John Eric Humphries, Assistant Professor of Economics, Yale University
- Paul Bailey, Director, Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy, Central Connecticut State University
- Tim Allen, Chief, FEMA Analysis Branch, Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Drew Anderson, Associate Economist, RAND Corporation

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Strengthening and Supporting the Public Data System

Privacy, Security, Transparency, and Engagement

We have entered an era of heightened awareness and sensitivity to the risks of abuse of personal data by the public. In this session, we will learn about efforts to increase data privacy, security, transparency, and community engagement in two data spheres: the Evidence-Based Policymaking Act and the Administrative Data Research Initiative (ADRI).

Moderator: Ron Nakao, Economics, Data and Computational Social Science Librarian, Center for Interdisciplinary Digital Research (CIDR), Stanford University Libraries

Speakers:

- Amy O'Hara, Research Professor, Georgetown University
- Nick Hart, Chief Executive Officer, Data Coalition
- Sara Collins, Policy Counsel, Future of Privacy Forum

11:45 pm - 12:45 pm

Networking Lunch

12:45 pm - 1:45 pm

Keynote

How Accurate is Too Accurate? Balancing Privacy and Reliability in the 2020 Census and Beyond

The Census Bureau faced a zero-sum game between privacy and accuracy in its publications of the Decennial Census, ACS and PUMS microdata. Join four experts to hear about “Differential Privacy”, the Census Bureau’s solution that involves injecting noise into data while adhering to formal privacy rules. Learn about why differential privacy been adopted as a solution, how it’s future-proof, and what the implications are for users of Census data products.

Moderator: Connie Citro, Senior Scholar, Committee on National Statistics, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Speakers:

- Steven Ruggles, Director/Regents Professor, IPUMS/Minnesota Population Center
- Andrew Beveridge, President, Social Explorer, and Professor, Queens College, CUNY
- Michael Davern, Executive Vice President, NORC

1:45 pm – 2:15 pm

Exhibit Hall Networking Break

Breakout Sessions

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Breadth of Public Data

Best Ways to Access the Census Data You Need

The Census Bureau a key source of data for researchers across the country, either through their new dissemination platform, data.census.gov (yes, American Factfinder is going away), the State Data Center network, or through the Federal Statistical Research Data Centers. For either a novice user or a researcher, this session will help you understand the ways you can access the information.

Moderator: Sue Copella, Director, The Pennsylvania State Data Center

Speakers:

- Tyson Weister, Program Analyst, Center for Enterprise Dissemination, US Census Bureau
- David N. Beede, Knowledge Transfer Officer and Economist, US Census Bureau

Breakout Sessions Continued

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Diverse Uses of Public Data

Census Updates, Transportation, & Data Integration for End Users

The Census Bureau has several new and updated data programs that data users can benefit from. Learn about upcoming changes to Federal business statistics and the Current Population Survey ASEC supplement, new tract-level transportation data products from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, and a new education career planning platform from Ripe Data that integrates several public data sources into one web-based platform.

Moderator: Collin McCarter, Data Scientist, Nielsen

Speakers:

- Adela Luque, Senior Economist, US Census Bureau
- Elsa Schaefer, Data Scientist, Ripe Data
- Penelope Weinberger, Transportation Data Programs Manager, AASHTO
- Sharon Stern, Special Assistant, Social, Economic, and Housing Statistics Division, US Census Bureau

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Strengthening and Supporting the Public Data System

Linking Administrative and Evaluation Data to Measure Long-term Effects of Social Programs

Many social programs are designed to have long-term benefits, but their evaluations do not track outcomes in the long-term. Administrative data may help to address this lack of evidence, and there is increased interest in this making these data more accessible, such as the recommendations of the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking. This panel will discuss how researchers and policymakers can understand if and how administrative data sets can be linked to evaluation data sets.

- Moderator: Nick Hart, Chief Executive Officer, Data Coalition

Speakers:

- Alexandra Pennington, Research Associate, MDRC
- Megan Millenky, Senior Research Associate, MDRC
- Scott Boggess, Chief, Evidence Building Staff, US Census Bureau

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm

Data Agency Leadership Session

Meet the leaders from several major Federal statistical agencies. Learn about their priorities, challenges, and initiatives in 2019 and beyond.

Moderator: Cliff Cook

Speakers:

- Brian Moyer, Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis
- James Lynn Woodworth, Commissioner, National Center for Education Statistics

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Exhibitor Reception Happy Hour – Networking Event



Wednesday, July 10th – Day 2

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Registration

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Washington Briefing

Learn more about the issues and challenges facing key federal statistical programs (e.g., Census, BLS, BEA, NCHS, and others). This session will also examine key concerns among stakeholders and how to talk about them to political leaders and other decision makers.

Moderator: Mary Jo Hoeksema, Director of Government and Public Affairs, Population Association of America

Speakers:

- Leticia Mederos, Chief Of Staff, United States Congress US Rep. Rosa DeLauro
- TBD

10:00 am – 10:30 am

Networking Break

Breakout Sessions

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Breadth of Public Data

Data Visualization: Key to Making Sense of a Wide Variety of Data

The old cliché is “a picture is worth a thousand words” – a great image (chart, map, or info graphic) is worth a thousand data points. Data visualization can be very effective for a wide variety of data. This session will highlight the use of data visualization tools to effectively communicate labor market information, water quality, and more.

Moderator: Eliza Wallace, Data Development Lead, PolicyMap, Inc.

Speakers:

- Samuel Keathley, Workforce Research Analyst, Kentucky Center for Statistics
- Michael Crow, Chief Data Illuminator, Crow Insight
- Sarah Cohen, Knight Chair in Journalism, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University

Breakout Sessions Continued

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Diverse Uses of Public Data

How Many Federal Dollars Do We Get? The Role of Public Data in Disbursing Federal Money

Public data plays a critical role in allocating federal funds to states, counties, cities, and communities. In this session we discuss the important role the Decennial Census plays in apportioning federal dollars, and we explore a new website in available for New York city that organizes, analyzes, and visualizes how federal grants support human services in New York City.

Moderator: Beth Jarosz, Senior Research Associate, Population Reference Bureau

Speakers:

- Derek Thomas, Senior Fiscal Policy Analyst, FPWA
- Andrew Reamer, Research Professor, George Washington Institute of Public Policy, George Washington University

10:30 am – 11:45 am

Strengthening and Supporting the Public Data System

Bringing Data to the Table: Challenges of Building, Distributing and Using Data to Drive Decision Making in Local Communities

Distributing data to local communities to enrich discussion, solve community problems and make data-driven decisions is not a simple once and done process. In this session we will hear about research that investigated how to build a more community-inclusive data ecosystem as well as those who have developed databases and data tools for public use.

Moderator: Kathy Pettit, Principal Research Associate, Urban Institute

Speakers:

- Ayoung Yoon, Assistant Professor, Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
- Jack Mullan, Research Associate, Citizens' Committee for Children of New York
- Bernita Smith, Director, Neighborhood Nexus

11:45 am – 12:45 pm

Networking Lunch

12:45 am – 1:45 pm

Keynote

Federal Statistical Agency Reorganization Updates

The Trump Administration has made proposals to reorganize several statistical agencies to varying degrees. These potential changes include combining the Census Bureau, Bureau of Economic Analysis, and Bureau of Labor Statistics, and moving the Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service to a new department at USDA and moving it out of the Washington, DC area. Attend this session for updates on the planning process and the implications for public data.

Moderator: Mauricio Ortiz, Economist, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Speakers:

- Erica Groshen, Visiting Senior Scholar, ILR School, Cornell University
- TBD

1:45 pm – 2:15 pm

Exhibit Hall Networking Break

2:15 pm – 3:00 pm

Data Viz Awards

Award winners will provide a brief overview of their award-winning projects. Identify creative approaches that others have used to visualize their data. Discover innovative ideas that you can adopt and make your own.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Census Plenary Session

The 2020 Census and Beyond

The Census Bureau is full speed ahead with the upcoming 2020 Decennial Census and much more. Learn from Census leadership about the latest preparations for the Decennial Census, new technology the Census Bureau plans on using, and what potential new things might be in store for public data users. Additionally, learn about recent developments and what is new with other noteworthy Census programs.

Moderator: Ken Poole, Chief Executive Officer, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

Speaker: Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau

4:00 pm

Conference adjourns