

Tribal Consultation

Director's remarks as prepared for delivery

February 23, 2023

- Good afternoon, everyone. We're honored to have you join us today.
- Every time we have assembled, I've told you this: Our work together is of the highest priority. And we seek to strengthen our government-to-government relationships with all tribes.
- Tribal consultations are a critical way we serve you. They allow us to understand your needs. And that helps us produce better data for your tribes . . . data that facilitate your governance.
- We know that your data are used widely, such as for federal funding, for governance, and for public health and economic planning.
- That's why we're so committed to producing the quality data your communities rely on.
- Today, we seek your feedback on a proof of concept we prepared in advance of the Detailed DHC-A product.
- Let's take the next few minutes to walk through these tables and how we arrived at them. I've brought my staff, who know them backwards and forwards, to help explain them and answer any questions.
- Having said that, no one needs to be a technical expert to tell us about what levels of geography they need, or how detailed attributes should be for your governance and planning.
- We need to hear you in the way that you are best able to offer feedback. We also are hoping you can inform your staff who work with census data about the importance of their feedback, too.
- We still have another week before the comment period closes!
- Now, in a few minutes our staff will provide a summary of the proof-of-concept data. This product reveals the amount of data that each tribe or village would receive under our current privacy methods.
- We've carefully worked to preserve the richness of data, while preserving confidentiality. But we can't and shouldn't complete this project alone. We need to hear your voices.
- Remember, your feedback leads to better data.
- Now, you can take the proof-of-concept data and compare with the actual 2010 data we released a decade ago. That comparison will show you the impact of our privacy algorithm we are proposing.
- If the comparison shows no effect on how you use census data, that's good. But if the comparison reveals differences that reduce your decision-making or your insights, we want to know.
- There's still time for us to adjust our methods to improve the 2020 Detailed DHC-A data for tribes.
- We're confident that by working together, we can better meet your needs and produce useful statistics about the American Indian and Alaska Native population.
- We look forward to a continued partnership with you and our tribal partners. Thank you for joining us.