

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Meeting

Director's remarks as prepared for delivery

April 30, 2024

- Congresswoman Barragán and other esteemed members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, good afternoon. I sincerely appreciate you asking me to meet with you today.
- Madam Chair, the Census Bureau is appreciative of your leadership and unwavering support.
- At the Census Bureau, we're committed to producing data that reflects an accurate portrait of America. Our data are valuable assets that can be used by policymakers and the public to advance equity.
- That's why we're so committed to producing the quality data your communities rely on.
- We're continually striving for excellence. I believe that we promote excellence by embracing equity, diversity and inclusion in our workforce, in our policies and practices, as well as in how we engage partners.
- An important part of our efforts includes seeking out and listening to diverse voices. That certainly includes listening to our partners, which of course includes you.
- In that way, I believe that we can find new ways to collect data that are more accurate, relevant, and, most of all, useful.
- We constantly assess how we can improve our statistical programs to better serve and represent underserved groups. We also continuously research strategies for improving respondent understanding of questions we ask and the accuracy of the data we produce.
- And as I mentioned, we are conducting ongoing engagement and discussions about our research and findings.
- As elected officials who are in close contact with people and community groups in your districts, you are uniquely positioned to know about the data needs of your communities.
- That's one of the reasons I'm so pleased to be here today—to talk to you more about our work, and to find out more about your needs, and how we can work together to meet them.
- As we prepare for the 2030 Census, an important part of our efforts includes seeking out and listening to diverse voices. That certainly includes listening to our partners and stakeholders, which of course includes you.
- We're confident that by working together, we can better meet your needs and produce useful statistics about the Hispanic population.
- Today, I have colleagues from our Population Division, Roberto Ramirez and Merarys Rios, to help answer your questions. I also have with me, Rod Owens and Alan Lang from our Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Office. Please don't hesitate to contact Rod and Alan with any follow-up questions or suggestions. They will make sure we are responsive to your inquiries.
- Thank you again for having me. We stand ready to answer any questions you have, and to help you access our wealth of data in any way we can. I look forward to our discussion.