

# Puerto Rico Federal Statistical Research Data Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

## Afternoon event

Deputy director's remarks as prepared for delivery

September 9, 2024

### WELCOME

- Good afternoon everyone, thank you all for joining us for this historic event. I am so pleased to be here with all of you as we get ready to open the very first Federal Statistical Research Data Center right here, in beautiful Puerto Rico.
- Today's event is one that has been in the works for many years. At the U.S. Census Bureau, we are working diligently to expand data infrastructure in Puerto Rico, and an FSRDC is a fantastic way of doing that.
- With these centers, qualified researchers can access restricted-use microdata from a variety of statistical agencies to address important research questions. Federal and state statistical agencies collaborate with the Census Bureau to provide microdata to approved researchers in the secure FSRDC environment.
- Currently, seven federal partner agencies provide data directly through the FSRDCs. And, many other agencies who sponsor surveys or collect administrative data, collaborate with the FSRDC program by making available the data collected from respondents or program participants.
- Access to FSRDC data will enhance the statistical capacity right here on the island. The data will enable local officials, industry leaders, and third sector to make more informed, timely data-driven decisions. And, it will also allow local academics to address previously unanswerable research questions.
- At the Census Bureau, our goal is to empower decision-makers, businesses, researchers, and the public with timely, accurate, reliable, and meaningful data. Whether you're a government official looking for demographic data to plan public services, a business seeking market trends for investment decisions, or a resident curious about your neighborhood's statistics, our Census Bureau data serve as a reliable source.
- The Census Bureau currently partners with several organizations in Puerto Rico, and we hope to continually add to that list. We understand the importance of good data, and we're excited of the work and collaboration that's to come.
- Thank you.