2030 Census Planning Timeline

**EARLY PLANNING PHASE**
2019–2021

- **Begin Early Planning**
  - Analyze operational metrics.
  - Study lessons learned.
  - Review stakeholder feedback.
  - Explore potential enhancements to existing systems and methods.

**DESIGN SELECTION PHASE**
2021–2024

- **Begin Initial Design Research and Testing**
  - Identify “Enhancement Areas” that will guide research and testing priorities.
  - Conduct research and small-scale testing that builds on existing systems and methods as well as creating new features.

- **Engage the Public on 2030 Planning**
  - Receive feedback on preliminary 2030 Census research through a Federal Register Notice.

- **Issue Initial Operational Design**
  - Synthesize recommendations from stakeholders and the results of research and small-scale testing.
  - Produce Baseline 1 of Operational Plan (December 2024).

**DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION PHASE**
2025–2029

- **Continue Research and Testing**
  - Continue research and small-scale testing.
  - Conduct two major field tests:
    - 2026 Census Test.
    - 2028 Dress Rehearsal.

- **Finalize Operational Planning**
  - Integrate recommendations following small-scale and field tests.
  - Develop detailed plans for each operation.
  - Produce Baseline 2 of the Operational Plan (December 2027).
  - Produce Baseline 3 of the Operational Plan (2029).

**PEAK PRODUCTION AND CLOSE-OUT PHASE**
2029–2033

- **Conduct the 2030 Census**
  - Census Day will be April 1, 2030.

- **Conduct Close-Out Activities**
  - Implement experiments, assessments, and evaluations.
  - Gather lessons learned.

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We consult external stakeholders throughout the decade, including government agencies, tribal governments, oversight entities, the general public, and respondents.

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