

BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS
1958 AUG 4 PM 4 07
POPULATION ESTIMATES

July 30, 1958

Washington 25, D. C.

LIBRARY Series P-25, No. 180

PROJECTED REAPPORTIONMENT OF NUMBER OF CONGRESSMEN
BY STATES

Under present law a reapportionment of the House of Representatives will be made by means of a stipulated computational procedure based on the population of each State as it will be found by the population count of the 1960 Census. Since this reapportionment will become effective unless Congress takes specific action to change it within 15 days of the date the figures are passed along by the President, it is of interest to compute the apportionment based on the projected population by States for April 1, 1960. This projected apportionment is shown in the following table. It is emphasized that this apportionment is based in part on conjecture as to future population changes and that it is not unlikely that several of the Congressional delegations may prove to differ by one member from those shown in the table.

In view of the passage of the Alaska Statehood Act by the Congress in July 1958, Alaska has been allocated one seat in the apportionment based upon the 1960 projection. No provision has been made for the possible effect on apportionment if Hawaii should be admitted as a State before April 1, 1960.

If population developments follow the course outlined in these projections, 23 of the present States will experience a change in the number of Representatives to which they are entitled, with 9 gaining, and 14 losing seats. The 1950 Census returns led to losses in 9 States and gains in 6. The largest gain would be that of California, with 7 seats, the same as the gain for the preceding decade. Other States with gains of more than 1 Representative would be Florida (3), Michigan (2), and Texas (2). In addition to Alaska, Arizona, Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, and Oregon would gain a single Representative. Heading the States which would lose Representatives

would be New York and Pennsylvania with losses of 3 each and Arkansas and Massachusetts with losses of 2 each. Ten States would lose a single Representative.

The West would increase its representation from 57 to 66 seats; the Northeast would drop from 115 to 106. The South would lose one seat, and the number from the North Central Region would remain unchanged. Alaska has not been allocated to any region.

The table also shows what the apportionment would have been on the basis of population estimates for July 1957. It may be seen that most of the changes in apportionment projected to 1960 have already taken place. However, relatively small changes in the population of a State between 1957 and 1960 from the assumed trend could affect the number of Representatives to which a State is entitled so that a projected increase or a decrease in the number of Representatives on the basis of these 33 months would not occur or that changes would be greater than those shown.

The figures for 1957 are based on the estimated population of the States shown in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 168, "Provisional Estimates of the Population of the United States and Selected Outlying Areas of the United States: July 1, 1957." Those for 1960 are based on a revision of the Series 1 projections for 1960 contained in Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 160, "Illustrative Projections of the Population, by States: 1960, 1965, and 1970." This revision takes into account postcensal estimates of State population more recent than those available when the last population projections were made. As of 1960, there are only very small differences in various illustrative series of State projections. For the methods used in the

preparation of the population estimates and projections by States, see the reports cited.

In addition to the uncertainties connected with the projections of the population by States, it should be noted that a shift of a relatively small number of persons between two States competing for the 435th Representative may result in a change in the number of seats assigned to each. In the apportionment based on the 1960 projections, for example, a shift of 6,000 people in the estimated population of the State assigned the 435th Representative to that of its closest competitor would have resulted in the loss of a Representative to this competitor.

Legislative procedure of apportionment.--The 1960 Census of Population will be taken as of April 1, 1960. The Bureau of the Census has eight months

from the start of enumeration to determine the total population of the States. Upon completion of this tabulation, the Bureau will transmit these totals and an apportionment of the present number of Representatives (435) by the method of "equal proportions" to the President of the United States. The President in turn will transmit this information to the Congress within the first week of the first regular session in January 1961. Within 15 days of the receipt of the message from the President, the Clerk of the House of Representatives will inform the executives of each of the States of the number of members of the House of Representatives to which his State is entitled in the following Congress. Thus, the reapportionment of seats among the States made as a result of the 1960 Census will become effective in the elections for the 88th Congress in November 1962.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AS BASED ON THE 1950 CENSUS, AND HYPOTHETICAL MEMBERSHIP AS BASED ON ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION FOR 1957 AND ON PROJECTIONS FOR 1960

Region, division, and State	1960	1957	1950	Changes, 1950 to 1960		Region, division, and State	1960	1957	1950	Changes, 1950 to 1960	
				Gains	Losses					Gains	Losses
United States.....	435	435	435	20	20	WEST NORTH CENTRAL--Con.					
REGIONS:						North Dakota.....	2	2	2	...	...
Northeast.....	106	108	115	...	9	South Dakota.....	2	2	2	...	...
North Central.....	129	129	129	4	4	Nebraska.....	4	4	4	...	...
South.....	133	133	134	6	7	Kansas.....	5	5	6	...	1
West.....	66	65	57	9	...	SOUTH ATLANTIC:					
DIVISIONS:						Delaware.....	1	1	1	...	...
New England.....	25	25	28	...	3	Maryland.....	8	7	7	...	1
Middle Atlantic.....	81	83	87	...	6	Virginia.....	10	10	10	...	...
East North Central.....	90	90	87	4	1	West Virginia.....	5	5	6	...	1
West North Central.....	39	39	42	...	3	North Carolina.....	11	11	12	...	1
South Atlantic.....	61	60	60	4	3	South Carolina.....	6	6	6	...	...
East South Central.....	30	31	32	...	2	Georgia.....	9	10	10	...	1
West South Central.....	42	42	42	2	2	Florida.....	11	10	8	...	3
Mountain.....	17	17	16	1	...	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL:					
Pacific.....	49	48	41	8	...	Kentucky.....	8	8	8	...	...
NEW ENGLAND:						Tennessee.....	9	9	9	...	1
Maine.....	2	2	3	...	1	Alabama.....	8	8	9	...	...
New Hampshire.....	2	2	2	...	...	Mississippi.....	5	6	6	...	1
Vermont.....	1	1	1	...	...	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL:					
Massachusetts.....	12	12	14	...	2	Arkansas.....	4	5	6	...	2
Rhode Island.....	2	2	2	...	...	Louisiana.....	8	8	8	...	...
Connecticut.....	6	6	6	...	...	Oklahoma.....	6	6	6	...	...
MIDDLE ATLANTIC:						Texas.....	24	23	22	...	2
New York.....	40	41	43	...	3	MOUNTAIN:					
New Jersey.....	14	14	14	...	3	Montana.....	2	2	2	...	...
Pennsylvania.....	27	28	30	...	...	Idaho.....	2	2	2	...	...
EAST NORTH CENTRAL:						Wyoming.....	1	1	1	...	...
Ohio.....	24	23	23	1	...	Colorado.....	4	4	4	...	...
Indiana.....	12	12	11	1	...	New Mexico.....	2	2	2	...	...
Illinois.....	24	25	25	...	1	Arizona.....	3	3	2	...	1
Michigan.....	20	20	18	2	...	Utah.....	2	2	2	...	...
Wisconsin.....	10	10	10	...	...	Nevada.....	1	1	1	...	...
WEST NORTH CENTRAL:						PACIFIC:					
Minnesota.....	8	8	9	...	1	Washington.....	7	7	7	...	...
Iowa.....	7	7	8	...	1	Oregon.....	5	5	4	...	1
Missouri.....	11	11	11	...	...	California.....	37	36	30	...	7

¹ Includes one seat allocated to Alaska.