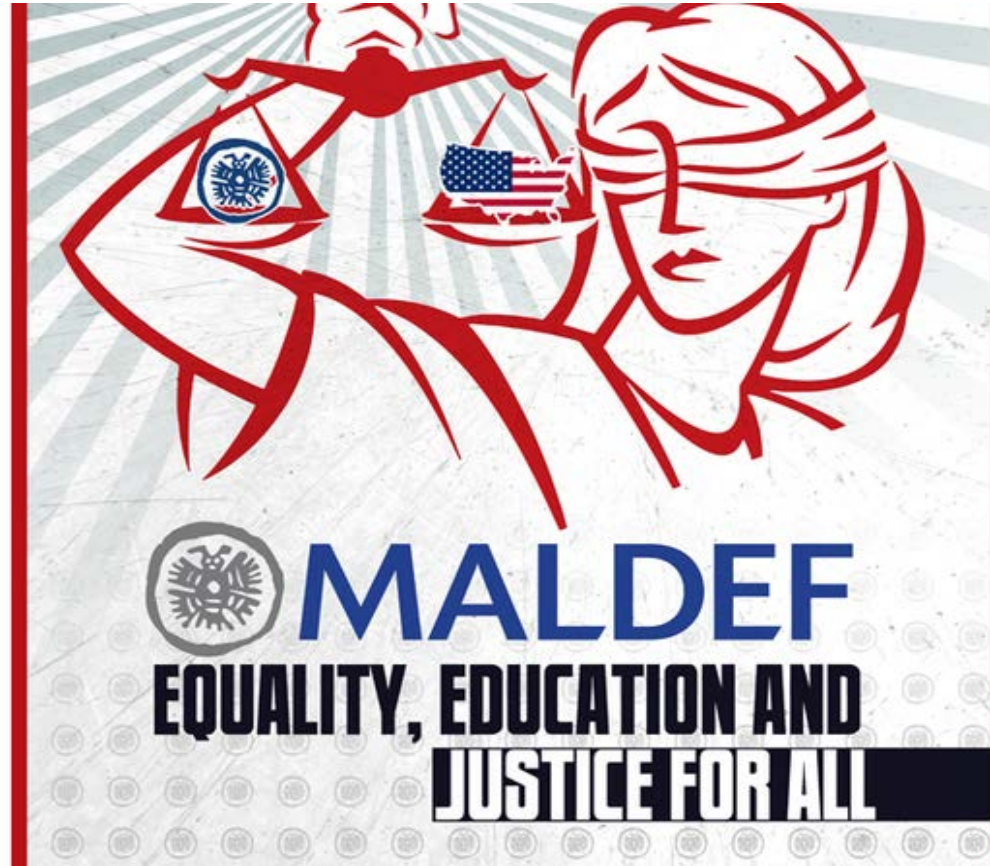


# Census 2020: What it means for Illinois



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# 2020 CENSUS



# 2020 U.S. Census



- Count of everyone living in the U.S. every 10 years required by Constitution
- Every person is counted regardless of citizenship, age, or legal status
- Information shared is protected by federal law

# How does the Census work?

- Census Bureau will send out **1 page letter**
  - Response options = Internet, Phone or Mail (after 4th letter)



- **Non-Response** follow-up by Census workers



# Citizenship Question

On **American Community Survey**  
sent to 3.5 million homes yearly  
(Long form)

**Decennial Census**, every 10 years,  
counts everyone (Short form)

No short form citizenship question  
since (1950)

Is this person a citizen of the United States?

Yes, born in the United States

Yes, born in Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Northern Marianas

Yes, born abroad of U.S. citizen parent or parents

Yes, U.S. citizen by naturalization – *Print year of naturalization* ↴

No, not a U.S. citizen



**Why Include The  
Citizenship  
Question?**

**To Make Latinos  
And Immigrants  
Politically Invisible**



# Threat #1 – Allocation of Political Power

- **Total number of seats are divided among states for both:**
  - the House of Representatives and Electoral College
- **Distribution of millions of federal resources and aid to states**
- **States also use Census data to draw district lines for:**
  - Congressional and State legislative seats – to ensure communities are fairly represented

# Threat #2 – State and Local Redistricting

## **Total Population - Current Standard**

- Districts must have nearly equal total population
- One Person One Vote - *Reynolds v. Sims* (1964)
- Upheld *Evenwel v. Abbott* (2016)

## **Total Voters – SCOTUS Has Not Commented**

- Nearly equal citizen voting age population (CVAP)
- No states used CVAP in 2011 redistricting / Illegal for Congressional dist.
- Nebraska Constitution: “The basis of apportionment shall be the population excluding aliens, as shown by the next preceding federal census”

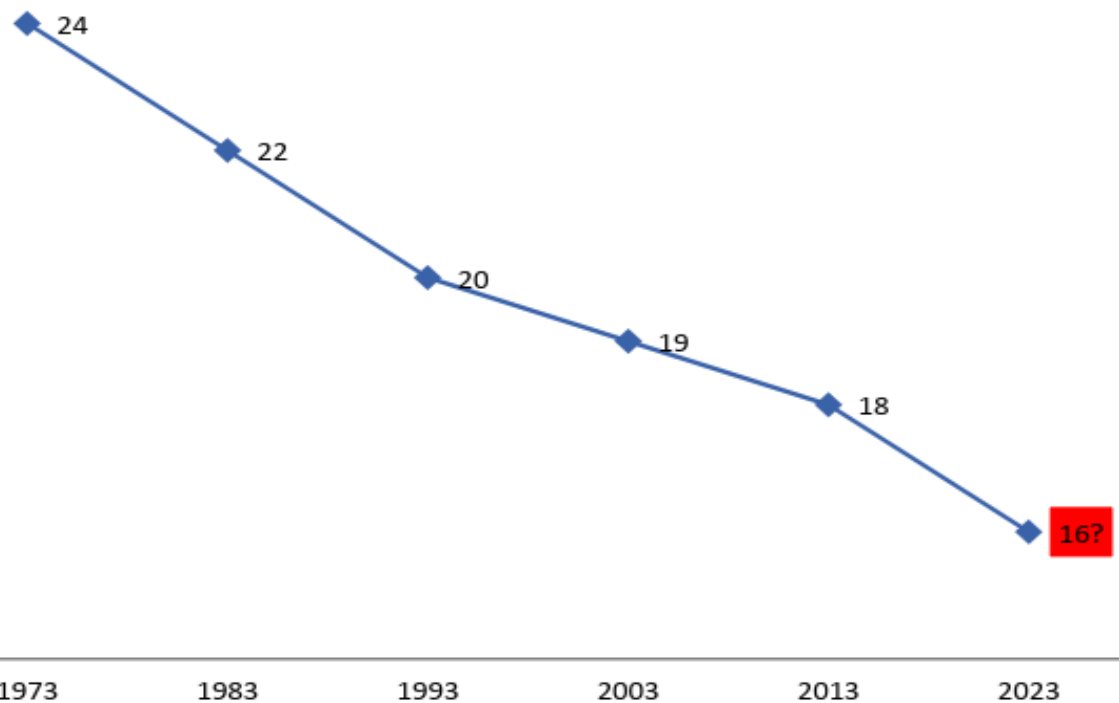


# Legal Challenges – 7 Lawsuits

- ***New York v. US Dept. of Commerce*** ~ remove question (APA violation)  
Direct S. Ct. appeal
- ***California/San Jose v. Ross*** ~ remove question (APA & Enumeration Clause); 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit appeal ongoing
- ***La Union del Pueblo v. Ross / Kravitz v. United States Dep't of Commerce***
  - remove question (APA and Enumeration Clause); appealed to 4<sup>th</sup> Circuit
  - new evidence raising “substantial issue” of Equal Protection and § 1985 claims, **June 25** - 4th Circuit remanded back down to district court

# What's at Stake?

## Illinois Congressional Seats



## Federal Funding

- At least \$1,800 per year for each person undercounted in 2020
- Federal programs that distribute funds based on the Census:
  - Medicaid and CHIP
  - SNAP, WIC, and LIHEAP
  - Title 1 Grants and Head Start
  - Highway Construction

# Why Will People **Avoid** the Census?

- **Trust** - suspicious of government / citizenship question; Information Sharing/Confidentiality
- **Education** - No one explained the Census and its importance
- **Time** - People are busy and forget to fill it out
- **Barriers** - Non-english speaking, not tech savvy, low civic engagement

## Top Hard-Count Groups

- Low-income families; Renters; Children 0-5 years old.

TRACT ST./CO. CONGRESS STATE LEG.

STATE COUNTY

### ILLINOIS COOK COUNTY



The 2020 Census is critically important to Cook County in Illinois!

Based on the latest census estimates (for the 2013-2017 period), **5,146,835 people live in 1,956,561 households** in this county, and **91,706 people live in group quarters.** (Total population = 5,238,541.)

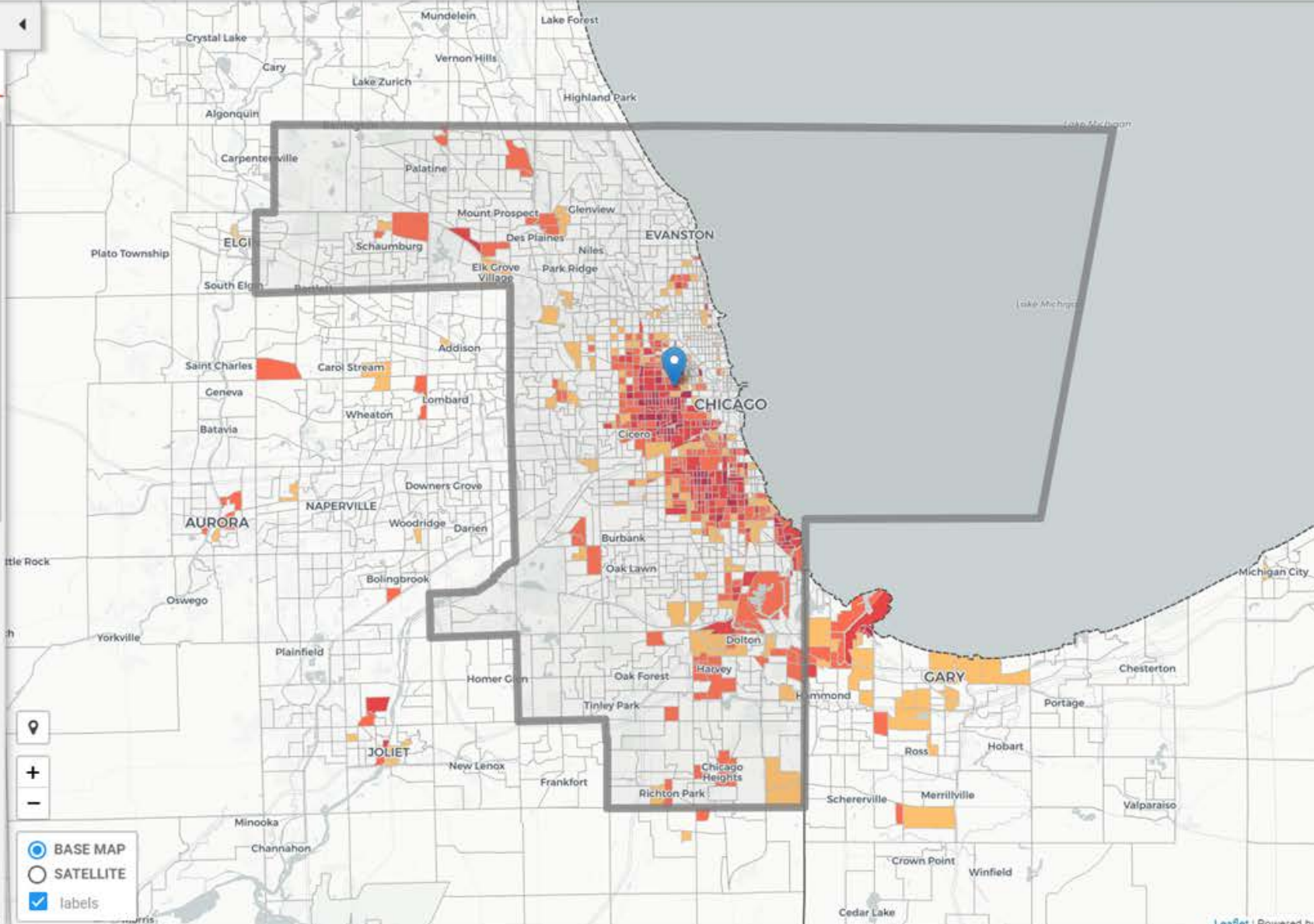
Some population characteristics that may affect this county's participation in the 2020 Census include:

#### Census Self-Response

In 2010, **76.9%** of the county's households mailed back their 2010 census questionnaire, requiring more costly and difficult in-person follow up to enumerate the remaining 23.1%.

Based on the latest census estimates, **approx. 32% of Cook County's current population (or 1,667,960 people) lives in hard-to-count neighborhoods**, shaded in light orange-to-dark red on the map. (These are census tracts where almost a quarter or more households did not mail back their census questionnaires in 2010.) Without higher self-response, more households in these and other neighborhoods in the state are at risk of being missed in the 2020 census.

In 2020, for the first time the Census Bureau will be urging most households to submit their census responses online via the internet (though you will have a choice to submit your responses either online, by phone, or mailing back a paper questionnaire). During 2013-17, **18.9% of Cook County's households had either no internet access or dial up-only**, according to the latest American Community Survey estimates. (Read more about the importance of internet access for the 2020 Census.)



**Hardest to Count (HTC) Tracts in the Nation**

Tracts with 2010 mail return rates of 73% or less (in the bottom 20 percent of return rates nationwide) are shaded on the map (See "What is HTC?" for more info)

- 0 - 60% mail return rate
- 60 - 65%
- 65 - 70%
- 70 - 73%
- above 73% (no HTC tracts)

Tracts counted using special Update/Enumerate method; they are hard-to-count but mail return rates not applicable

Counties

Tribal Lands

Population in HTC tracts

Libraries

ZIP Codes

BASE MAP

SATELLITE

labels

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