Gregg Bell, PhD
SDC Steering Committee

Institute for Rural Health Research
The University of Alabama

ACS Users Group

Alexandria, VA

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Census Bureau Mission Statement

The Census Bureau serves as the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy. We honor privacy, protect confidentiality, share our expertise globally, and conduct our work openly. We are guided on this mission by our strong and capable workforce, our readiness to innovate, and our abiding commitment to our customers.

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Some Census Bureau Directorates

Associate Directorates

1. Communications
2. 2020 Census
3. Research and Methodology
4. Administration and Finance
5. Information Technology
6. Field Operations (Including Regional Offices)
7. Economic Programs (Including Governments)
8. Decennial Census (including Geography)
9. Demographic Programs

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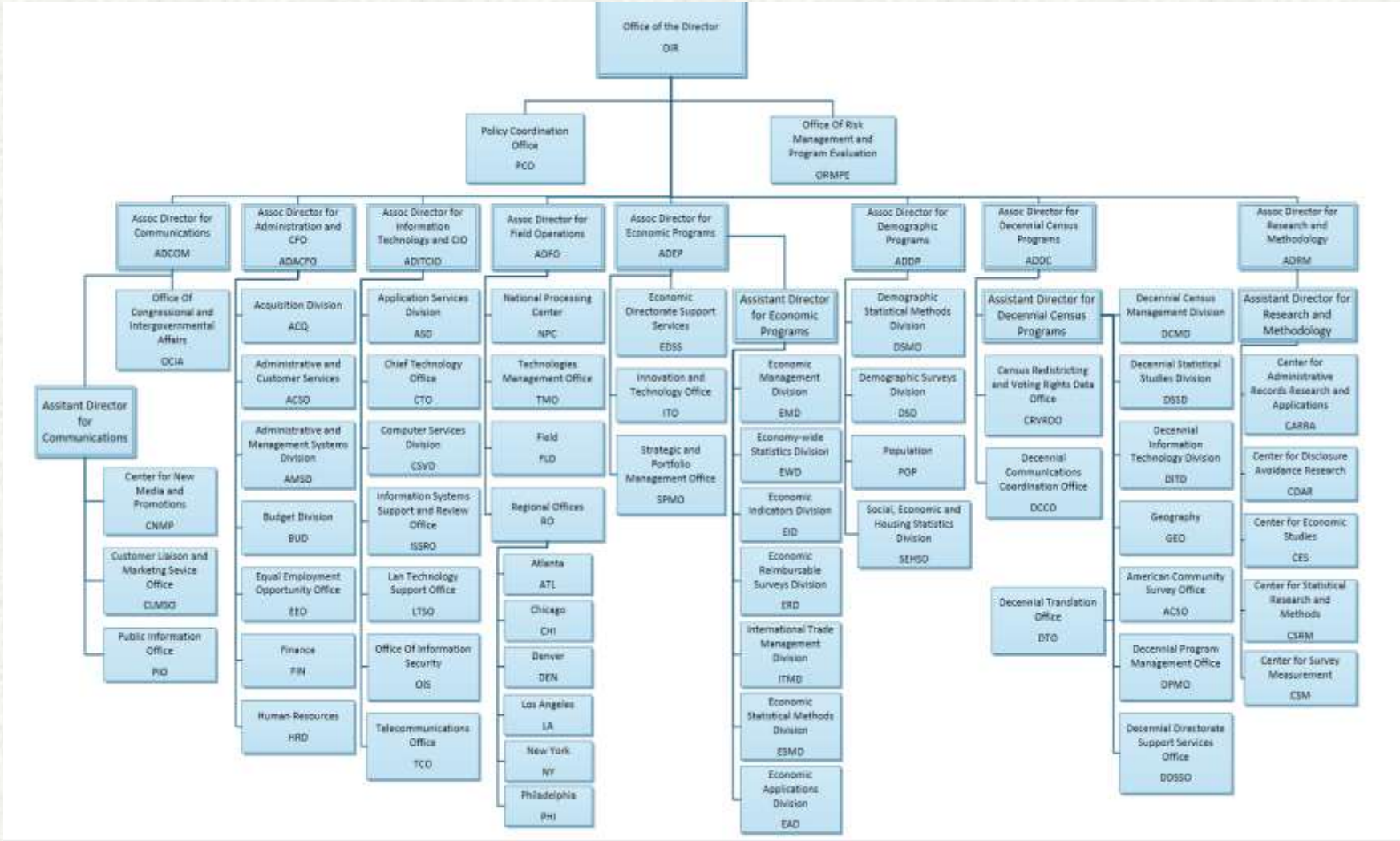
The Census Bureau



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State Data Center History

- Began in 1978 with just a few states.
- Repository for Census data
- Each State SDC was created by the Governor's Liaison in each state
- Often located at research universities, libraries, state government, etc.

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State Data Center Mission Statement

Empower data users with understandable, accurate, and timely information through the mutually beneficial partnership between the State Data Centers (SDCs) and the Census Bureau.

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State Data Center Network

- 56 Lead Data Centers

  - 9 Person Steering Committee
    - Each elected to a three-year term
    - Allowed to serve two consecutive terms before rotating off

  - 225 Coordinating Agencies
    - The number of coordinating agencies is determined by the lead; usually 1-3 per state

  - 1,400 Affiliates
    - Each state has a number of affiliates commensurate with their states population

The State Data Center Program is a…

- Partnership between the Census Bureau and the states
- Network of data professionals who provide data assistance, training, and presentations
- Source of feedback about statistics, programs, data users' needs, and operational issues
- Premier local partner and an official source of Census Bureau data

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Lead organizations and their networks…

Provide staff and budget to support the objectives of the program.

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Data Dissemination is What We Do

The SDC network disseminates Census data and provides guidance, tools, technology, and expertise to local stakeholders.

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Consultation

Most services are provided free of charge.

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Training and Education

- Lead agencies and/or network members:
  - Conduct training for local data users
  - Give presentations to local groups
  - Host an annual meeting and training conference.
    - Ask for an invitation!

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Advisory Role

The SDC network participates in the design, input and testing of products, programs, technologies and services.

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Census Bureau Support

SDC Leads or their delegates participate in the annual meeting at The Census Bureau.

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State Data Center Resources

SDCs have:

- Embargo access
- Training
- Access to subject-matter experts
- Full-time staff
- Notifications from the Bureau

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How to contact a Specific SDC

- Search “census state data center network”
- https://www.census.gov/about/partners/sdc/member-network.html
- Click on “Member Network”

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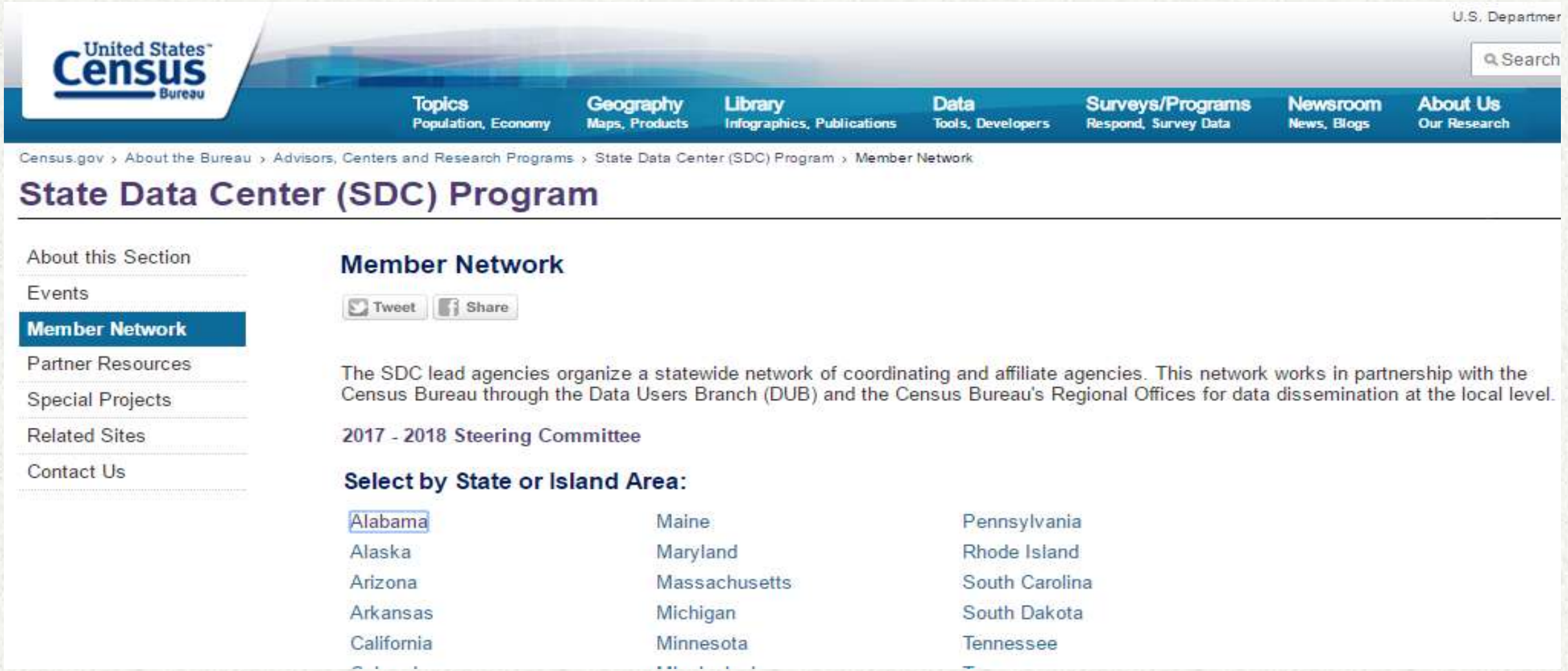

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State Data Center Clearinghouse

https://sdcclearinghouse.com/

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Using the SDC's Supports the Census Bureau

- Every SDC submits an Annual Report of their activities
  - Data requests, training, presentations, etc.
- Used to Demonstrate Value of Census Activities

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Questions? Call Me!

Gregg Bell

205.348.1690

gregg.bell@ua.edu

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