Development of the 2020 Census Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File-A (DHC-A)

Rachel Marks
U.S. Census Bureau

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United States® Census 2020

Detailed DHC-A
Detailed race, ethnicity, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and villages

- Subjects repeated by detailed race, ethnicity, and American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) tribes and villages include:
  – Total population
  – Sex by age for selected age categories

- Proposed geographic levels:
  – Nation, state, county, AIANNH areas

- The proposed tables were developed based on stakeholder feedback, combined with review of table access rates, and subject matter expert knowledge

- We are prioritizing the development and production of the Detailed DHC-A based on public feedback

- Planned release date: August 2023

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DEMO Research Goals for DHC-A

Develop parameter settings for algorithm to produce differentially private 2020 Census data for detailed race and ethnicity groups, and their demographic characteristics
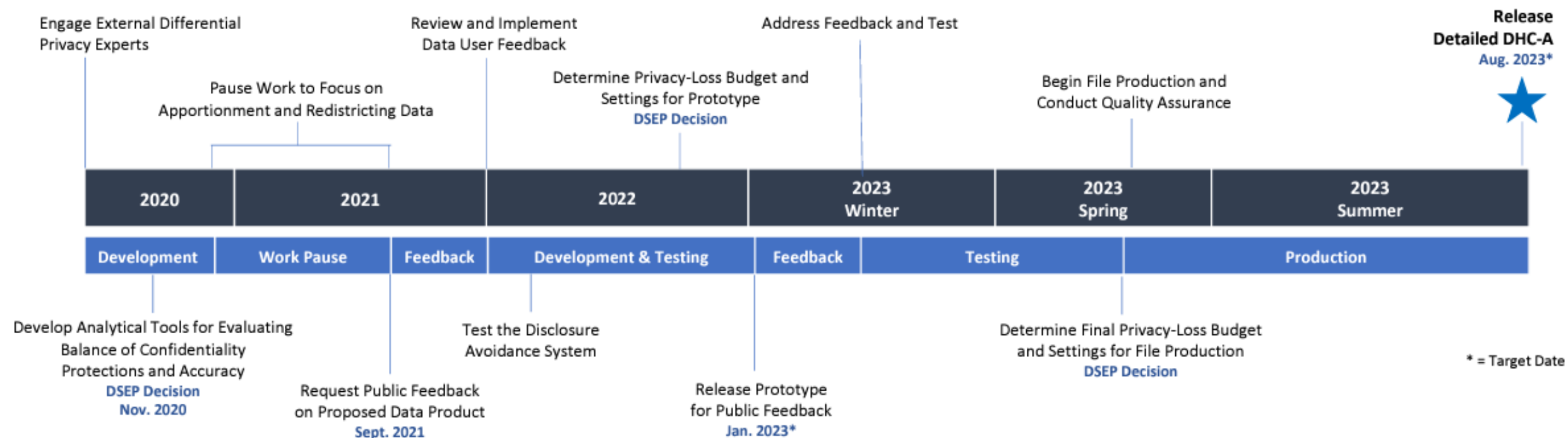
- Explore how to establish privacy and accuracy levels to produce statistics for our nation's myriad detailed racial and ethnic population groups

- Allow for equity across all major race and ethnicity categories

- Provide same amount, or more data, than provided from 2010 Census

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Public Feedback on Detailed DHC-A

- Critical need for population counts and sex by age statistics for detailed race, ethnicity, and tribal groups

- Use cases for lower levels of geography, such as places and census tracts

- Ongoing engagement with stakeholders and partners about Detailed DHC-A development and plans for iterative feedback and discussions

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Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A)

Total Population and Sex by Age for Approximately 370 Detailed Racial and Ethnic Groups and 1,200 American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and Villages

Engage External Differential Privacy Experts

Pause Work to Focus on Apportionment and Redistricting Data

Review and Implement Data User Feedback

Determine Privacy-Loss Budget and Settings for Prototype
DSEP Decision

Address Feedback and Test

Begin File Production and Conduct Quality Assurance

Release Detailed DHC-A
Aug. 2023*

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2020	2021	2022	2023 Winter	2023 Spring	2023 Summer

Development	Work Pause	Feedback	Development & Testing	Feedback	Testing	Production

Develop Analytical Tools for Evaluating Balance of Confidentiality Protections and Accuracy
DSEP Decision Nov. 2020

Request Public Feedback on Proposed Data Product
Sept. 2021

Test the Disclosure Avoidance System

Release Prototype for Public Feedback
Jan. 2023*

Determine Final Privacy-Loss Budget and Settings for File Production
DSEP Decision

* = Target Date

Prototype Release and Feedback

Data users will have 30 days to review a prototype file and submit feedback. We're calling it a "prototype" because it will look a little different than the demonstration data for the Redistricting File and the Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC). It will include parameters and margins of error, using the available 2010 Census data as a proof of concept.

DSEP Decision Points

The Data Stewardship Executive Policy Committee (DSEP), composed exclusively of senior career officials, determines the allocation of privacy-loss budget across geography types and queries based on an analysis of data quality and disclosure risk.

Read our blog to learn more:

"Plans for Producing Detailed Racial, Ethnic and Tribal Data from the 2020 Census"

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