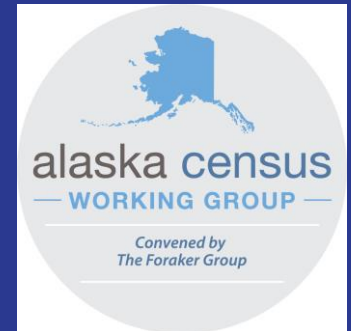


# Making Alaska Count in the 2020 Census

January 2019



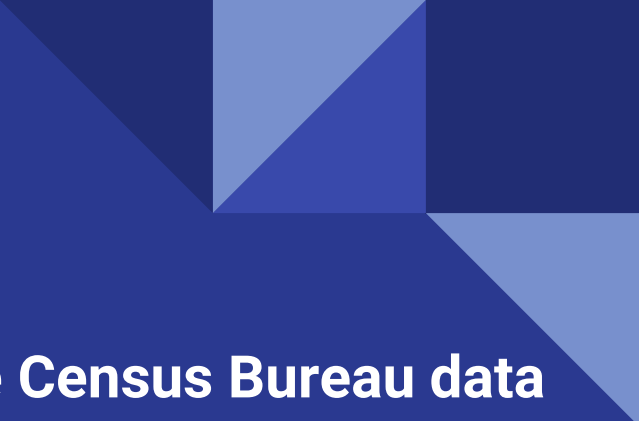
# WHY THE CENSUS MATTERS FOR ALASKA

- Determines federal funding allocations to over 70 programs
- Maintaining federal funding is critical in light of state and local budget gaps
- Organizations across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors rely on accurate census data

\$3.2  
billion

of annual federal funding allocations  
within Alaska are determined by  
Census data

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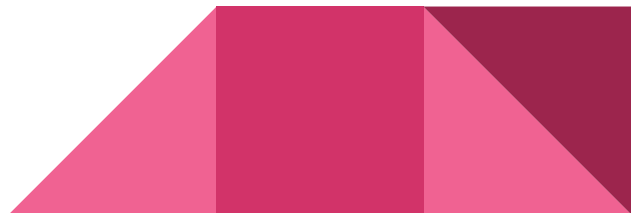


**“Private sector businesses rely on accurate Census Bureau data** to help us determine how and when to invest in the many Alaskan communities we serve. The more accurate the data is, the more confident we are when making those investments.”

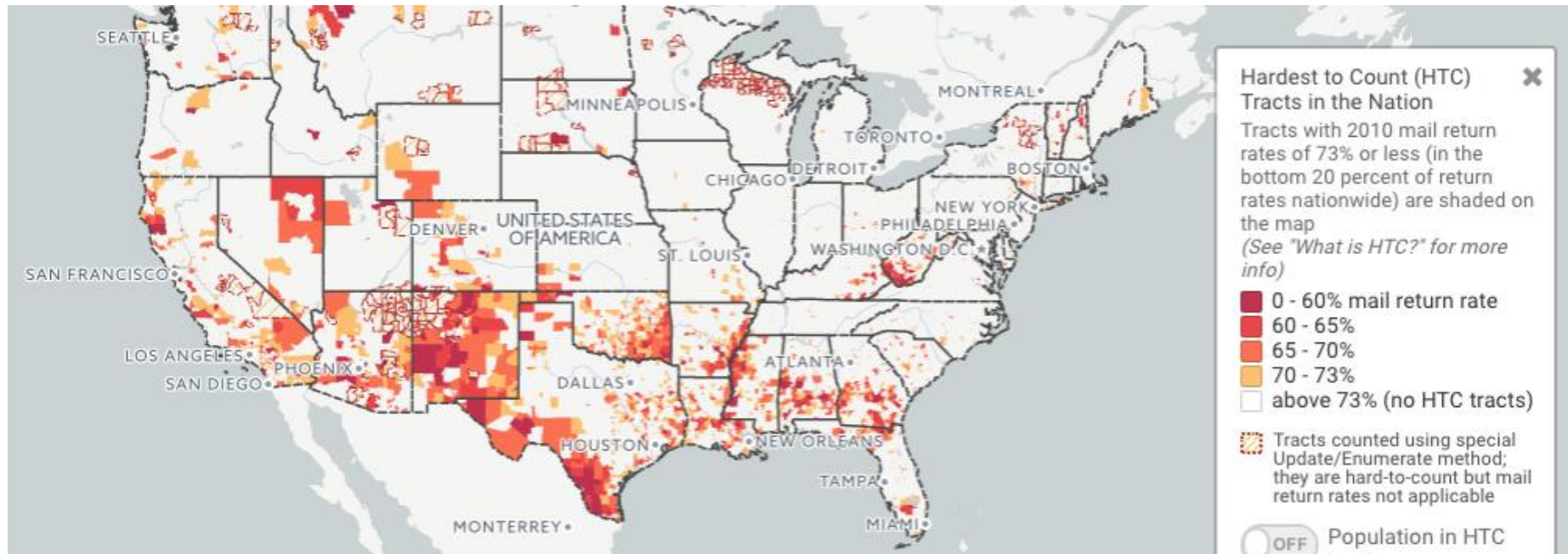
–**Tim Thompson**, *Alaska Airlines Public Affairs Manager (Alaska)*

# Threats to an Accurate Count in 2020

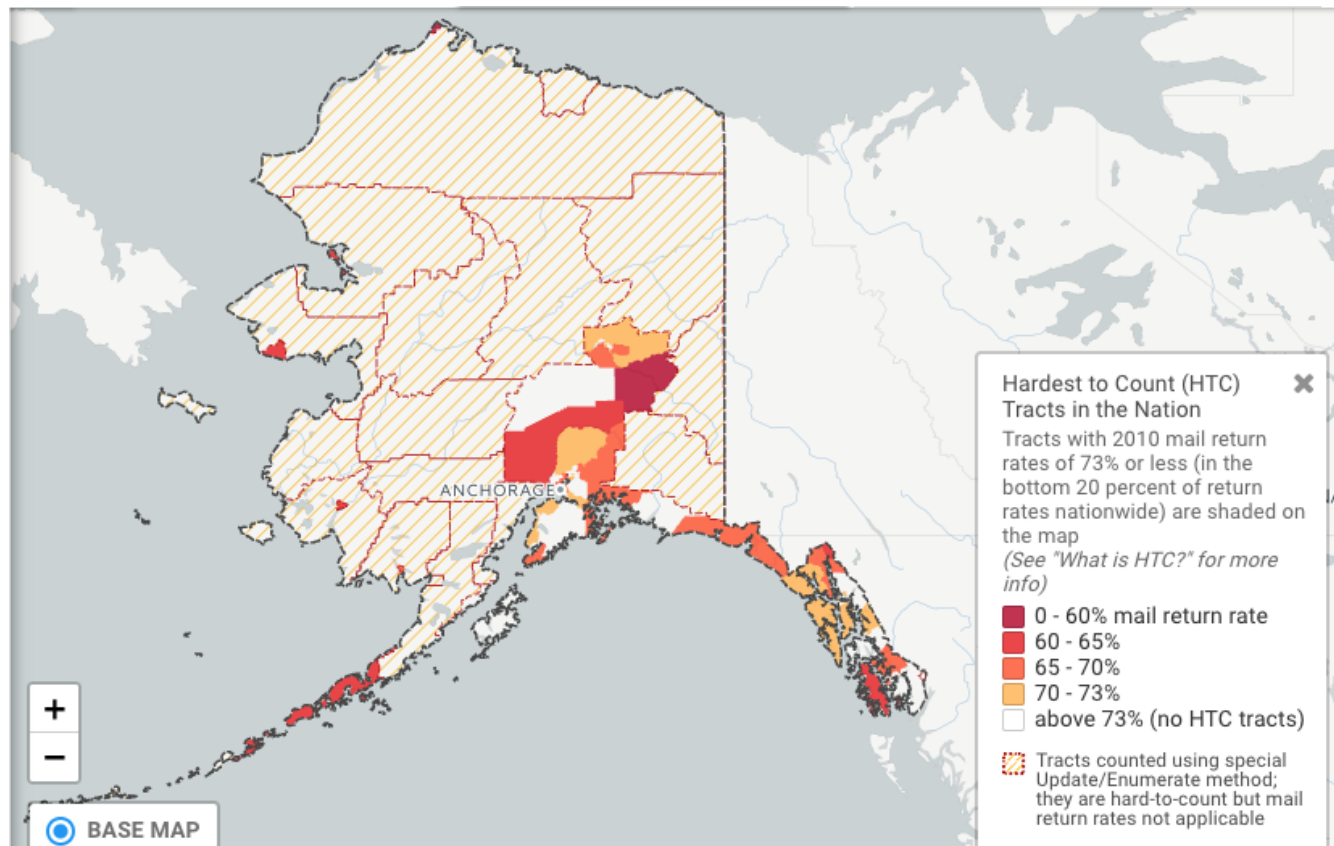
- **Geographic barriers**
  - Census Bureau will not conduct P.O. box outreach to remote Alaskans in 2020
- **Language barriers**
  - Census forms and other materials will not be translated into Alaska Native languages
- **Barriers to connectivity**
  - 2020 Census will be the first to push online responses
- **Prevalence of historically hard-to-count populations**



# Mapping Hard-to-Count Tracts



Alaska will be one of the hardest states to count in the 2020 Census.



# Alaskans at Risk of Undercount

8%

**Undercount of Alaskans in the  
state's special-enumeration tracts  
in 2010**

4.9%

**Undercount of American Indians and  
Alaska Natives living on reservations  
in the 2010 Census**

# EFFECTS OF AN UNDERCOUNT IN 2020



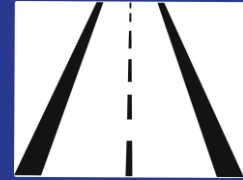
**Reduced  
federal funding  
that compounds  
state and local  
budget gaps**



**Lack of  
accurate data to  
plan and invest  
in communities  
across the state**



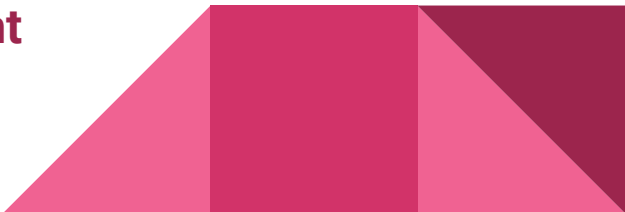
**Improper  
enforcement of  
voting and civil  
rights laws**



**Reduction in  
essential  
services like  
road repairs,  
education, etc.**



# Fewer Resources for the 2020 Count

- **Slow ramp-up of federal funding and the ongoing government shutdown have created uncertainty about the sufficiency of federal resources**
  - **Fewer Partnership Program staff have been hired**
  - **Communications materials won't be ready until late 2019**
  - **States across the country are allocating resources to fill gaps in federal funding and help ensure an accurate count**
- 



We are a collaboration of statewide stakeholders with broad cross-sector, nonpartisan representation convened by The Foraker Group to identify concerns with Census Bureau data collections in Alaska.



**Alaska Census Working Group**  
Convened by The Foraker Group

- Agnew::Beck Consulting
- Alaska Airlines
- Alaska Municipal League
- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- ANCSA Regional Association
- Cook Inlet Housing Authority
- First Alaskans Institute, Alaska Native Policy Center
- The Foraker Group
- Koniag Inc.
- McDowell Group
- Municipality of Anchorage
- Rasmuson Foundation
- Sealaska Corporation
- State of Alaska
- Departments of Community and Regional Affairs; Education; Health and Social Services; Labor Workforce Development; and Elections
- University of Alaska Anchorage

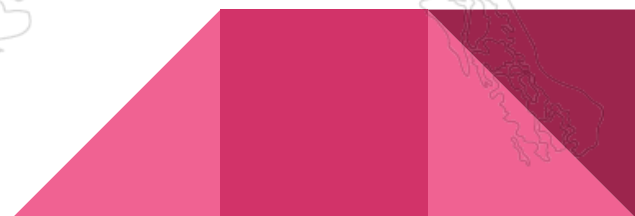
Participants in the Alaska Census Working Group are committed to addressing concerns, resources and appropriate counting methods that ensures a full and accurate count.

# Importance of State Support



The Alaska Census Working Group is not a substitute for, but a complement to, an Alaska Complete Count Commission and state engagement to achieve an accurate count.

We cannot achieve success without support and engagement from the State.



# Thank you!

**For more information, please contact:**

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*Director of Public Policy, The Foraker Group*