Speaker Biographies

California State Data Center Annual Meeting Thursday, October 8, 2015



Linda Akers Smith, Geographer, has been with the Census Bureau since 1995. During the 2010 Census, Linda was the Assistant Regional Census Manager for Geography and Census Coverage Measurement. In this position she was responsible for all census geographic partnership programs and quality measurement operations for the State of Hawaii and nineteen counties in California. For the 2000 Census, Linda held the title of Area Manager and was in charge of decennial data collection activities for five local census offices located in Los Angeles County.

James T. Christy is the Regional Director of the US Census Bureau's Los Angeles region. He is responsible for all Census Bureau activities in the Western United States, including Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. In this capacity, he directed the efforts of thousands of temporary workers during the 2010 Census. In addition to counting the population every ten years, the permanent presence of the Census Bureau in Los Angeles is involved in producing key social measures for things like poverty, health and well-being, crime and education. Christy is a 28 year veteran of the Census Bureau; he has worked for the Census in Los Angeles, Denver, Kansas City, and Washington, DC.





Elaine "Lia" Bolden is a Data Dissemination Specialist serving Northern California. She began her Census career in 1988 where she served as a Community Partnership Specialist for the 1990 Decennial Census in Los Angeles, California. She has an extensive background in outreach and community initiatives with the Census Bureau, serving in the Partnership and Data Services programs for both the 2000 and 2010 Census. During the interim years, Lia held a number of training, consulting, marketing, public and community relations positions which include: Co-Managing Partner of a consulting firm specializing in providing planning, training and project management services to local communities and organizations engaged in community/economic development.

Doug Kuczynski has worked for the California Department of Finance for 15 years after a fellowship at the University of Wisconsin – Madison where he earned a degree in Sociology with a concentration in analysis and research. In the Demographic Research Unit, he is responsible for producing sub-county population, housing, and group quarters estimates. His current research interests include annual vacancy rates, housing growth trends, and group quarters enumeration.





Ethan Sharygin joined the California Department of Finance as a demographer in 2014, after a fellowship at the University of Washington. He holds a PhD in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania. His research experience includes microsimulation, marriage markets, health consequences of famine, and mortality rates. In the Demographic Research Unit, he is responsible for reviewing the data and methods for estimating and forecasting rates of fertility, mortality, and migration, which will be used in future rounds of California population projections.