

Speaker Biographies
California State Data Center Annual Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016



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 29 year veteran of the Census Bureau; he has worked for the Census in Los Angeles, Denver, Kansas City, and Washington, DC.



Jonathan Buttle is a Research Program Specialist II with the Demographic Research Unit in the California Department of Finance. His responsibilities include updating and maintaining the State Data Center's website; retrieval, analysis, and distribution of U.S. Census Bureau products and data sets; assisting clients both inside of and outside of the Department of Finance with questions about American Community Survey and Current Population Survey data sets and producing custom data tabulations. Prior to working at the Department of Finance, Jonathan served as a budget analyst for the California Department of Consumer Affairs and the Contractor's State License Board.

Rob Chestnut is Dissemination Communications and User Engagement Chief at the U.S. Census Bureau. Rob works with internal and external stakeholders and partners to keep everyone informed on the new Census Dissemination platform and collect user feedback. Rob started his career with the Census Bureau in 1999 with the Foreign Trade Division's Automated Export Branch where he worked on data collection projects including the Automated Export System and the Automated Commercial Environment. In 2008, Rob accepted the role of Chief of the Requirements and Stakeholder Relations Branch in the Data Access and Dissemination Systems (DADS) Office. Rob served three main roles in DADS, including software development manager for American FactFinder 2, lead requirements manager, and providing communication and customer training support to American FactFinder internal and external users.