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ABSTRACT

Title	U.S. Census Bureau Pulse Surveys: Experimental Surveys to Address Data Needs During the Covid-19 Pandemic
Author Name	Amy Symens Smith
Author Organization	United States Census Bureau
Session	Solutions to COVID-19 challenges
<p>With circumstances changing rapidly, the Census Bureau developed two surveys to address an urgent need for near real time data as American families and businesses experienced rapid and unprecedented disruptions during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Small Business Pulse Survey (SBPS) and the Household Pulse Survey (HPS) were designed to deploy quickly and efficiently. The Census Bureau leveraged existing infrastructure and data assets for current economic and demographic surveys to design and implement the Pulse surveys. Engagement with other federal agencies to solicit questionnaire content resulted in surveys that covered a range of topics related to social and economic impacts that were important to multiple federal and state programs with a minimum of public burden. Pulse survey topics included: employment, housing and food security, health, and education, as well as small business well-being, operations, challenges, finances and outlook. Data collections started rapidly in April and continue into October with regular releases. Interactive data tools, visualizations, detailed data tables and public use data are available on the Census Bureau website at www.census.gov.</p>	