



POLIDATA Political Data Analysis

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PRESS RELEASE

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New Population Estimates Confirm Power Shift in U.S. House

Colorado picks up a seat; Illinois drops a seat; Georgia picks up two seats

Summary. It's that time of year again, logs on the fire, egg nog in hand, and a new set of population estimates from the Census Bureau. Every year at this time the Bureau releases estimates for the total population in each state. In fact, one year from now, President Clinton will deliver to Congress a one-page list of population numbers which will form the basis for the next peaceful transition of power in our nation.

Until then, political pundits and analysts can only guess at the details of the state-to-state shift. These new numbers are the latest entry in that annual event of prognostication. To those who follow these numbers on an annual basis, there are few surprises.

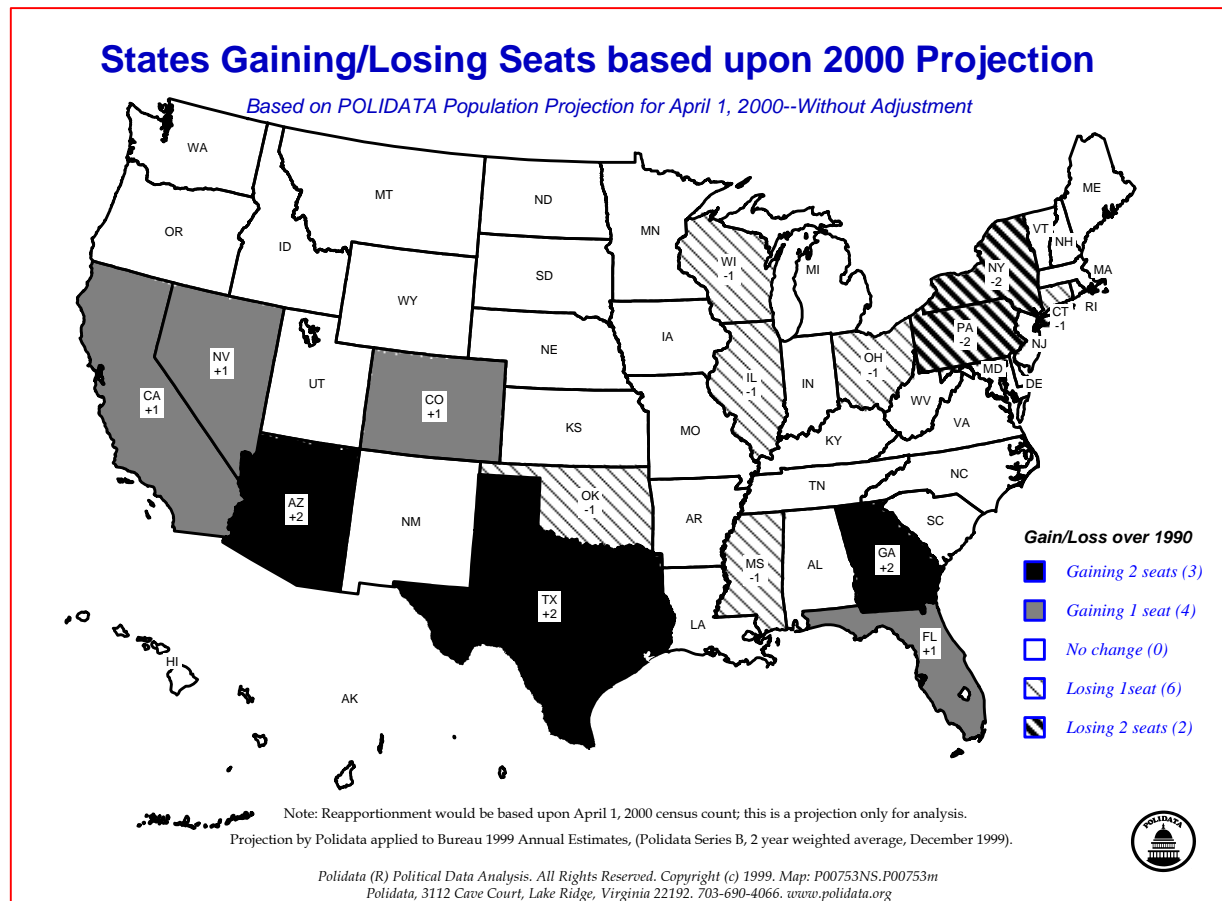
Details. The new 1999 estimates represented only two changes in the shifts of seats over the 1998 estimates. It now appears that Colorado will clearly pick up a seat in the House, raising it from 6 to 7 seats. It also now seems clear that Illinois will lose a seat, dropping from 20 to 19.

Projecting these 1999 estimates out to April 1, 2000, a mere nine-months spread, firms up two other likely shifts. Georgia is likely to gain two seats in the census, raising from its current 11 to 13 seats.

The fate of Montana still hangs in the balance, however. Based upon the 1999 estimates it would be the last seat assigned by the mathematical formula, the so-called method of equal proportions. But the recent growth rates have been far less than they were in the early 1990s and a projection for 2000 by POLIDATA places Montana as only about 5,000 persons below the last seat assigned. So, theoretically Montana could return to its pre-1990 status of two seats. However, given the trends, this is still a large number of additional persons to find in Montana.

Other considerations. The general shift of population from the Northeast and Midwest to the South and West, a trend established a generation ago, continues. Of the 7 states expected to gain seats in 2000, 5 are in the West and 2 in the South. Of the 8

states losing seats in 2000, 6 are in the East and Midwest, 1 in the South (MS) and 1 in the West (OK).

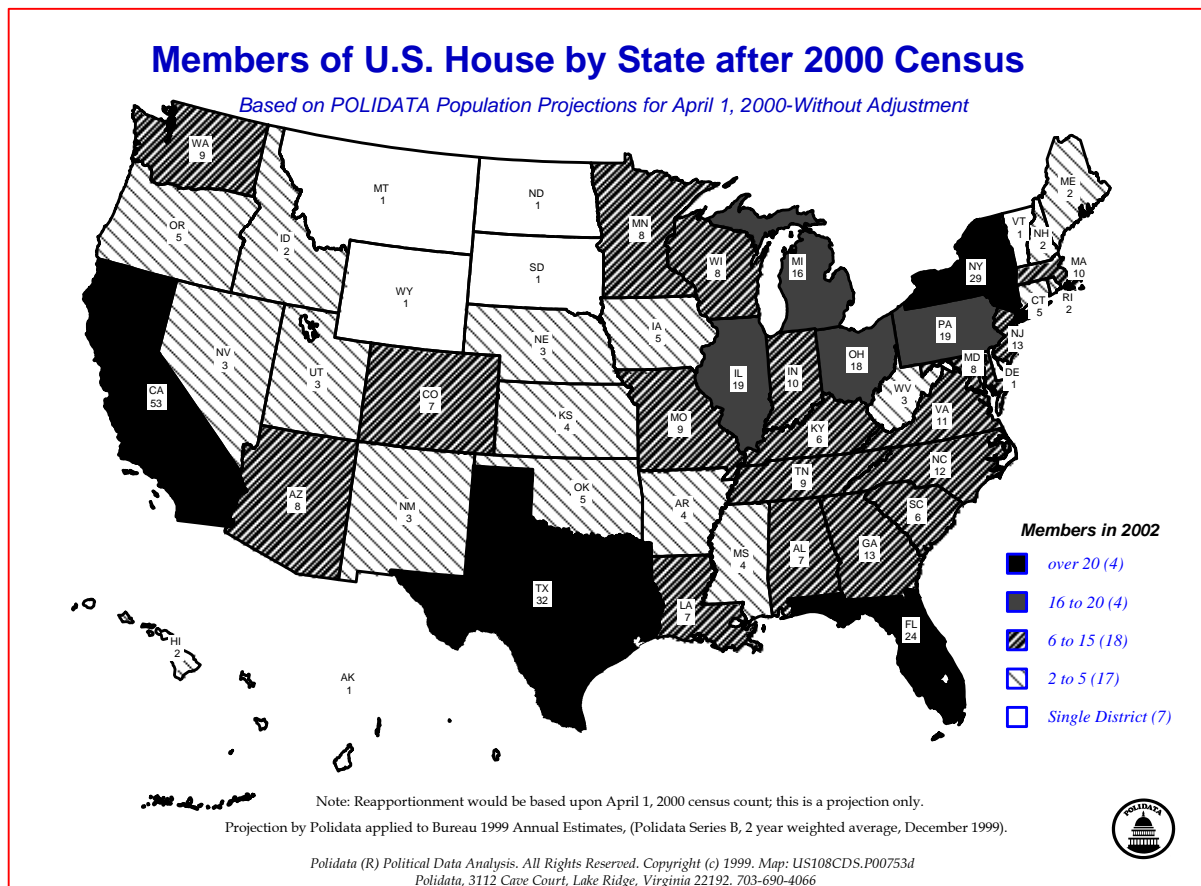


While many still recall the huge transfer of power to California over the past two decades, the shift likely to occur from the 2000 Census is minimal, at least on a state-to-state basis. As California is such a populous state, the number of persons needed just to keep pace with the national growth patterns is large. The nation has grown about 10% over the decade and California has only increased by about 11%, after a few years of very slow growth. Texas has experienced a larger rate of growth over the decade, over 18%. Based upon the projections, California is likely to pick up only 1 new seat, to 53 seats whereas Texas is likely to gain 2 seats, to 32. Based upon the POLIDATA projection for April 1, 2000, California would be shy 165,000 persons and Texas would be short 144,000 persons in order to pick up another seat. Likewise, Florida is expected to only gain one new seat and would need 141,000 additional persons to move up the priority ranks.

Limitations: The estimates are only current through July 1, 1999 so data analysts project these estimates out another nine months to approximate the apportionment population as of April 1, 2000. These data are all based upon what is known as

administrative records and can not replace the full census count of nearly 275 million persons. Nevertheless, they provide a useful tool to review the overall growth trends and how these will affect the apportionment of political power in the U.S. House.

POLIDATA, a demographic and political research firm outside of Washington, projected out the population for the nine-months from July 1, 1999 until April 1, 2000.



The analysis made several growth assumptions, all based upon the latest annual estimate as a starting point. The factors considered the annual growth rate over three different time periods, one year, two years and three years. In addition, two different methods of averaging the rates were used. All assume, to varying degrees, that the best predictor of the future is the past. All reflect the most recent annual growth rates and extend them out for the 9 month period from July 1, 1999 until April 1, 2000.

In many states, the growth rate was fairly constant over the last three years. Whether a state's growth rate was going up or down over the three years affected the relative position of its priority for an extra seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

It is important to understand the limitations on the use of the estimates or projections for apportionment analysis. The actual assignment of seats will still require a full Census in April of 2000. In fact, it is this apportionment for which the Constitution requires an actual Enumeration once a decade. Also the POLIDATA projections do not reflect any addition or subtraction to the apportionment population based upon

overseas residents. The projections are based upon the annual estimates, which are based upon the 1990 Census (a 100% count) and updated through a review of births, deaths and migration, providing a good clue where the actual shifts of seats will occur.

The Actual Enumeration. The Census results in a change in the number of congressional delegations in several states. Even in states whose delegation size does not change, the boundaries certainly will. Likewise, the boundaries of state legislative districts for seven thousand state legislators and countless local representative districts will need to be reviewed. In addition, the new numbers will affect the Electoral Votes in the Presidential Elections of 2004 and 2008.

Census Adjustment. The impact which the much discussed census adjustment issue would have had on the state-to-state shift of power in the U.S. House is one factor about which political stakeholders are no longer concerned. The Supreme Court decision in *U.S. House of Representatives v. Dept. of Commerce* decided, if nothing else, that adjustment will not be used for the initial assignment of seats amongst states.

- ⇒ **15 States to see Change in Size of the U.S. House Delegation**
- ⇒ **10 Seats to Shift Among States**
- ⇒ **The 7 gainers: GA (+2), FL (+1), TX (+2), CO (+1), AZ (+2), NV (+1), and CA (+1).**
- ⇒ **The 8 losers: CT (-1), NY (-2), PA (-2), OH (-1), IL (-1), WI (-1), MS (-1) and OK (-1).**
- ⇒ **Colorado Newest Addition to List of Gainers; Illinois to List of Losers**
- ⇒ **Montana Likely to Stay as Single Member At-Large State**
- ⇒ **Georgia, Texas and Arizona to Gain 2 seats each**
- ⇒ **New York, Pennsylvania to Lose 2 seats each**
- ⇒ **California to Gain Only 1 House Seat**
- ⇒ **Texas to Gain 2 seats**

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Apportionment based upon 2000 Projections

Summary of State Estimates and Projections

Annual Estimates from the Census Bureau, as of July 1, 1999

Projections by POLIDATA, to April 1, 2000

		(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
		1990	2000	Growth (#)	Growth (%)	CDs after	CDs after	Net in
Sta	State	Population	Projection	1990-2000	1990-2000	1990	2000	Seats
AL	Alabama	4,040,389	4,386,904	346,515	8.58	7	7	
AK	Alaska	550,043	623,263	73,220	13.31	1	1	
AZ	Arizona	3,665,339	4,865,417	1,200,078	32.74	6	8	2
AR	Arkansas	2,350,624	2,561,515	210,891	8.97	4	4	
CA	California	29,811,427	33,498,117	3,686,690	12.37	52	53	1
CO	Colorado	3,294,473	4,120,930	826,457	25.09	6	7	1
CT	Connecticut	3,287,116	3,287,693	577	0.02	6	5	-1
DE	Delaware	666,168	760,659	94,491	14.18	1	1	
FL	Florida	12,938,071	15,272,179	2,334,108	18.04	23	24	1
GA	Georgia	6,478,149	7,905,064	1,426,915	22.03	11	13	2
HI	Hawaii	1,108,229	1,183,274	75,045	6.77	2	2	
ID	Idaho	1,006,734	1,267,565	260,831	25.91	2	2	
IL	Illinois	11,430,602	12,172,942	742,340	6.49	20	19	-1
IN	Indiana	5,544,156	5,969,644	425,488	7.67	10	10	
IA	Iowa	2,776,831	2,875,224	98,393	3.54	5	5	
KS	Kansas	2,477,588	2,667,389	189,801	7.66	4	4	
KY	Kentucky	3,686,892	3,980,728	293,836	7.97	6	6	
LA	Louisiana	4,221,826	4,379,577	157,751	3.74	7	7	
ME	Maine	1,227,928	1,256,423	28,495	2.32	2	2	
MD	Maryland	4,780,753	5,201,888	421,135	8.81	8	8	
MA	Massachusetts	6,016,425	6,197,863	181,438	3.02	10	10	
MI	Michigan	9,295,287	9,894,106	598,819	6.44	16	16	
MN	Minnesota	4,375,665	4,810,250	434,585	9.93	8	8	
MS	Mississippi	2,575,475	2,782,324	206,849	8.03	5	4	-1
MO	Missouri	5,116,901	5,491,715	374,814	7.33	9	9	
MT	Montana	799,065	884,633	85,568	10.71	1	1	

<i>Sta</i>	<i>State</i>	(A) 1990 <i>Population</i>	(B) 2000 <i>Projection</i>	(C) <i>Growth (#)</i> 1990-2000	(D) <i>Growth (%)</i> 1990-2000	(E) <i>CDs after</i> 1990	(F) <i>CDs after</i> 2000	(G) <i>Net in</i> <i>Seats</i>
NE	Nebraska	1,578,417	1,669,902	91,485	5.8	3	3	
NV	Nevada	1,201,675	1,861,631	659,956	54.92	2	3	1
NH	New Hampshire	1,109,252	1,212,124	102,872	9.27	2	2	
NJ	New Jersey	7,747,750	8,177,614	429,864	5.55	13	13	
NM	New Mexico	1,515,069	1,745,716	230,647	15.22	3	3	
NY	New York	17,990,778	18,219,802	229,024	1.27	31	29	-2
NC	North Carolina	6,632,448	7,733,991	1,101,543	16.61	12	12	
ND	North Dakota	638,800	630,815	-7,985	-1.25	1	1	
OH	Ohio	10,847,115	11,272,695	425,580	3.92	19	18	-1
OK	Oklahoma	3,145,576	3,373,911	228,335	7.26	6	5	-1
OR	Oregon	2,842,337	3,343,264	500,927	17.62	5	5	
PA	Pennsylvania	11,882,842	11,986,820	103,978	0.88	21	19	-2
RI	Rhode Island	1,003,464	992,602	-10,862	-1.08	2	2	
SC	South Carolina	3,486,310	3,921,873	435,563	12.49	6	6	
SD	South Dakota	696,004	734,288	38,284	5.5	1	1	
TN	Tennessee	4,877,203	5,523,016	645,813	13.24	9	9	
TX	Texas	16,986,335	20,304,214	3,317,879	19.53	30	32	2
UT	Utah	1,722,850	2,153,637	430,787	25	3	3	
VT	Vermont	562,758	595,833	33,075	5.88	1	1	
VA	Virginia	6,189,197	6,929,614	740,417	11.96	11	11	
WA	Washington	4,866,669	5,812,486	945,817	19.43	9	9	
WV	West Virginia	1,793,477	1,803,676	10,199	0.57	3	3	
WI	Wisconsin	4,891,954	5,270,135	378,181	7.73	9	8	-1
WY	Wyoming	453,589	479,386	25,797	5.69	1	1	

EXPLANATION OF COLUMNS:

- (A) *Total Population from 1990 Census*
- (B) *Total Population from 2000 Projection by POLIDATA*
- (C) *Net Growth in numbers, 1990 Census to 2000 Projection*
- (D) *Net Growth as percentage of 1990, 1990 Census to 2000 Projection*
- (E) *Congressional Districts after 1990 Census*
- (F) *Congressional Districts after 2000 Census*
- (G) *Change in Seats after 2000 Census, for 2002 elections*