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New Population Estimates Show Slight Changes For 2010 Congressional Apportionment, With A Number of States Sitting Close to the Edge

With less than three months to go before final 2010 state census population numbers are unveiled by the U.S. Census Bureau, new estimates released this summer point to the continuing state of flux and closeness between states over how many congressional districts will shift with the new census. Using newly released 2010 population estimates created by Esri, a leading GIS and demographic company, Election Data Services, Inc. has generated the latest study in a decade long series on congressional apportionment. This new study has been released in conjunction with the National Conference of State Legislature's National Redistricting Seminar taking place in Providence, RI this weekend.

The new data confirms previous estimates for many states on whether they would lose, gain, or stay the same for their number of congressional districts. However, four states show a change this year that was not evident as recently as nine months ago (see Election Data Services, Inc., "[New Population Estimates Show Additional Changes for 2009 Congressional Apportionment, With Many States Sitting Close to the Edge for 2010](#)", December 23, 2009). Missouri is now estimated to lose a congressional seat (going from nine to eight congressional districts), while Minnesota would keep all eight of their current districts, reversing the loss of a seat that had been projected last year. The state of New York is now estimated to lose two seats (going from 29 to 27 districts ... they had previously been expected to lose only one seat). Finally, Florida is now estimated to be gaining two congressional districts (going from 25 to 27 districts ... previously they were expected to add a single seat).

"We had an inkling of the Minnesota/Missouri switch because both states were right on the edge for that last seat in our 2009 study," said Kimball Brace, President of Election Data Services, Inc. "But we were most surprised at the shift of an additional district out of New York and down to

Florida, even though that follows the population movement in this country since World War II," noted Brace.

Overall, the new 2010 estimates show that 12 congressional seats affecting 18 states would change hands if the new apportionment was made with the Esri provided data. Six states—**Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, Utah and Washington**—would each gain a single seat, **Florida** would gain two seats, and **Texas** would gain four seats if the U.S. House of Representatives were reapportioned with the Esri population estimates, according to Election Data Services' analysis. Eight states would lose single seats—**Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania**, while the states of **New York and Ohio** now stand to each lose two seats. *Appendix A* in this report shows the apportionment distribution for the 2010 estimates.

Esri's demographic unit and data development team has a 30-year history of involvement in market intelligence and development of population and demographic datasets. Esri utilizes the Census Bureau population estimates, and then supplements it with a variety of different sources to track county population trends. They also employ a time series of county-to-county migration data from the Internal Revenue Service, building permits and housing starts, and residential postal delivery counts. Finally, local data sources that tested well against Census 2000 data are reviewed. The end result balances the measure of growth from a variety of different data sources. A full white paper of their methodology can be found at:

http://www.esri.com/data/esri_data/methodology-statements.html

Because the estimates developed by Esri already reflect an estimate of the population for 2010, Election Data Services, Inc. did not need to migrate the data to correspond to 2010 Census Day. As a result, no adjustments to the Esri data have been made, unlike earlier studies of Census and other data that were used in the apportionment series of studies.

The 2010, Esri based, reapportionment analysis table below shows the margins by which congressional seats were allocated to the states, compared to the last congressional reapportionment in 2001 after the 2000 census. In the this new analysis, the last seat in the 435-member House of Representatives would go to **Texas**, which gains its 36th congressional seat (for the fourth district addition this decade) by a margin of only 38,005 people to spare. **Washington** received seat number 434 in this new 2010 study, gaining its 10th and new congressional district by just 12,923 people. **Minnesota**, in position no. 433, retains its 8th district by only 15,643 people to spare. **Florida**, at seat no. 432, would gain its 27th and second new seat this decade by 84,802 people in the new study. In our 2009 study, Florida's second new seat had just been missed because it came in as seat no. 437.

While seemingly out of the running to loose a seat, **Rhode Island** received seat no. 420, but with only 53,191 people to spare, further indicating how close the state is to shift to a single at-large state. The state of **Nebraska** in the future could also be in line to loose a seat. The current 2010 study shows it would keep all three of its current congressional districts, but that third seat comes in at seat no. 422, which the state keeps by only 81,380 people to spare. If not this decade, then certainly by 2020 these states are likely to be losing a seat if the current population trends continue.

2010 Reapportionment Analysis

2010 Esri-based Population Estimates			2000 Census Population		
Last Five Seats	Margin of Gain		Last Five Seats	Margin of Gain	
431	South Carolina (7th)	42,248	431	Iowa (5th)	44,338
432	Florida (27th)	84,802	432	Florida (25th)	212,934
433	Minnesota (8th)	15,643	433	Ohio (18th)	79,688
434	Washington (10 th)	12,923	434	California (53rd)	33,942
435	Texas (36 th)	38,005	435	North Carolina (13th)	3,087
Next Seats	Margin of Loss		Next Seats	Margin of Loss	
436	New York (28 th)	29,439	436	Utah (4th)	856
437	California (53rd)	99,396	437	New York (30th)	47,249
438	Arizona (10th)	30,157	438	Texas (33rd)	86,272
439	North Carolina (14 th)	51,588	439	Michigan (16th)	50,888
440	Illinois (19 th)	75,046	440	Indiana (10th)	37,056

The states that just missed a congressional district are also important to review because they are the states that could easily move up with just a slight change in the population numbers. For example, **New York** came in with seat number 436 (just past the current 435-member composition of the House of Representatives) and lost their second seat this decade by only 29,439 people. The next three seats would go to states that have already received all their current districts and are in a position to add a new district. These are **California** (for their 53rd seat), **Arizona** (for their 10th seat), and **North Carolina** (for their 14th seat). Seat number 440 would be going to **Illinois**, as their 19th district, allowing them to not lose a district this decade, if they had just 75,046 more people.

While seemingly out of the running for an additional seat, two other states are actually close based upon the small number of people they would need to gain an additional seat. **Missouri's** projected loss of a seat in this new study is because they fell to seat number 441, but they could get it back if they only had 36,723 more people. **Oregon** is also on the margin to actually gain a new district (as had been projected in several of our studies earlier in the decade). Using the Esri-based 2010 population numbers, **Oregon** comes in at seat number 443, but just missed getting their 6th and new district by only 33,230 people.

The 2010 Esri-based population estimates have not been statistically adjusted for any known undercount. In addition, no estimates were provided for U.S. military personnel, their families, and other federal workers currently living overseas. These individuals have in the past (and will be for 2010) been counted based on their administrative records by the Census Bureau, allocated to the states, and added to the residential population for a final apportionment population number. Overseas military personnel have been a factor in the apportionment formula for the past several

decades, including the switching of the final seat in 2000 that went from **Utah** to **North Carolina**. If the residential population only had been used in 2000, **Utah** would have gained an additional seat, but when the military population was added, that seat went instead to **North Carolina** because proportionally there were more military members who listed their (place) "home of residence" as **North Carolina**.

Because the United States is currently in the midst of two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq (unlike what was occurring at the last apportionment process in 2000), the addition of military and federal works living abroad are likely to have a more significant affect in 2010. "That is why it is important to review those states that are very close to that magic cut-off of 435 seats," said Brace.

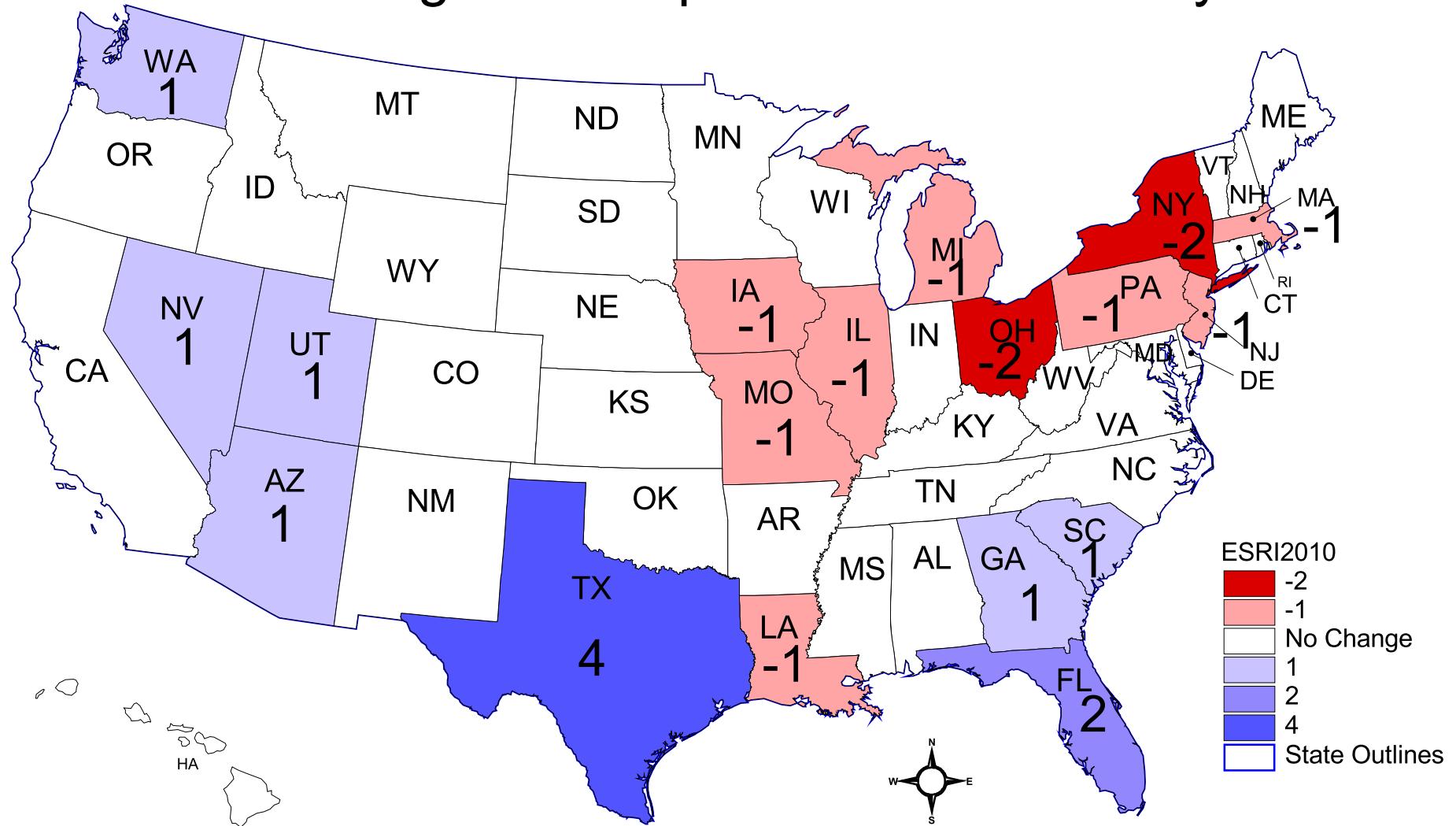
The new study shows there are 16 states that are close enough to that last seat that they could still change when the final population data is released at the end of the year. This is because of either their last allocated seat number, or the population by which they gained or lost their last seat. The addition of the military overseas population is also a factor. The states are **Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas** and **Washington**. All other states are sufficiently far enough away from the edge so that their allocation of seats is fairly certain. That allocation may include a gain or loss of a seat(s), as noted in *Appendix A* to this report.

Election Data Services Inc. is a political consulting firm that specializes in redistricting, election administration, and the analysis of census and political data. Election Data Services conducts the congressional apportionment analyses with each annual release of the census population estimates. For more information about the reapportionment analysis, contact Kimball Brace (202.789.2004 or 703-580-7267 or kbrace@electiondataservices.com).

APPENDIX A
apportionment1_5_ESRI2010Estimates.xls

ESRI 2010 Estimates, Released July, 2010; No Military Overseas factored in										
State	Population	Compare To	Seats	Change	Gain a Seat	Lose a Seat	Last Seat Given	Next Seat At	Average Size	Size Rank
Alabama	4,735,593	7	7	0	591,549	129,092	428	494	676,513	36
Alaska	695,751	1	1	0			at large	632	695,751	34
Arizona	6,723,229	8	9	1	30,157	691,903	397	438	747,025	40
Arkansas	2,923,603	4	4	0	259,974	461,325	371	476	730,901	18
California	37,983,948	53	53	0	99,396	668,713	429	437	716,678	24
Colorado	5,114,102	7	7	0	213,040	507,601	400	457	730,586	31
Connecticut	3,535,787	5	5	0	363,282	356,999	399	481	707,157	9
Delaware	893,724	1	1	0			at large	495	893,724	2
Florida	18,917,612	25	27	2	655,558	84,802	432	453	700,652	29
Georgia	10,014,045	13	14	1	301,922	424,848	423	452	715,289	22
Hawaii	1,309,580	2	2	0	434,137	304,359	339	584	654,790	44
Idaho	1,581,697	2	2	0	162,020	576,476	283	480	790,849	11
Illinois	13,089,726	19	18	-1	75,046	655,829	421	440	727,207	28
Indiana	6,479,832	9	9	0	273,554	448,506	411	458	719,981	13
Iowa	3,057,995	5	4	-1	125,582	595,717	352	456	764,499	5
Kansas	2,841,378	4	4	0	342,199	379,100	383	492	710,345	20
Kentucky	4,339,471	6	6	0	273,970	446,267	398	468	723,245	14
Louisiana	4,507,335	7	6	-1	106,106	614,131	381	448	751,223	37
Maine	1,338,645	2	2	0	405,072	333,424	330	568	669,323	30
Maryland	5,730,892	8	8	0	309,520	411,763	409	462	716,362	12
Massachusetts	6,555,736	10	9	-1	197,650	524,410	403	451	728,415	38
Michigan	10,104,633	15	14	-1	211,334	515,436	419	445	721,760	25
Minnesota	5,334,772	8	8	0	705,640	15,643	433	496	666,847	41
Mississippi	2,996,685	4	4	0	186,892	534,407	361	467	749,171	6
Missouri	6,003,689	9	8	-1	36,723	684,560	389	441	750,461	39
Montana	983,932	1	1	0			at large	447	983,932	1
Nebraska	1,822,473	3	3	0	643,515	81,380	422	592	607,491	48
Nevada	2,748,294	3	4	1	435,283	286,016	396	507	687,074	3
New Hampshire	1,329,915	2	2	0	413,802	324,694	331	574	664,958	35
New Jersey	8,822,373	13	12	-1	68,872	655,919	405	442	735,198	27
New Mexico	2,080,039	3	3	0	385,949	338,946	368	522	693,346	42
New York	19,543,731	29	27	-2	29,439	710,921	425	436	723,842	19
North Carolina	9,552,054	13	13	0	51,588	674,183	410	439	734,773	32
North Dakota	662,194	1	1	0			at large	657	662,194	43
Ohio	11,605,005	18	16	-2	135,445	593,361	418	444	725,313	26
Oklahoma	3,720,244	5	5	0	178,825	541,456	376	460	744,049	8
Oregon	3,865,839	5	5	0	33,230	687,051	363	443	773,168	7
Pennsylvania	12,574,407	19	18	-1	590,365	140,510	430	459	698,578	16
Rhode Island	1,058,412	2	2	0	685,305	53,191	420	706	529,206	49
South Carolina	4,649,749	6	7	1	677,393	43,248	431	501	664,250	10
South Dakota	827,263	1	1	0			at large	532	827,263	4
Tennessee	6,366,430	9	9	0	386,956	335,104	417	466	707,381	33
Texas	25,268,853	32	36	4	711,938	38,005	435	450	701,913	21
Utah	2,841,749	3	4	1	341,828	379,471	382	491	710,437	47
Vermont	626,078	1	1	0			at large	694	626,078	45
Virginia	7,965,681	11	11	0	213,075	510,763	413	449	724,153	23
Washington	6,756,150	9	10	1	709,999	12,923	434	483	675,615	15
West Virginia	1,842,096	3	3	0	623,892	101,003	416	589	614,032	46
Wisconsin	5,741,617	8	8	0	298,795	422,488	407	461	717,702	17
Wyoming	548,154	1	1	0			at large	779	548,154	50
Washington DC	600,671	0								
			435					Median =	716,520	
Other Inputs:	Seats to Apportion							Min =	529,206	
	435 Max Seats to Calculate							Max =	983,932	
	75 States									
	50									
<input type="checkbox"/>	Include Washington DC									

Change in Congressional Delegations Based on Projected 2010 Apportionment Using 2010 Population Estimates by Esri



Population Estimates Produced by:



Apportionment Study by:

