Population Data Highlights and Future Release Dates

2020 Decennial Census
- WA state and our 4 counties had very strong self-response rates, leaving less to be counted via nonresponse follow-ups
- Differential privacy
  - Resulted in odd data results, particularly for smaller geographies like block groups and especially census blocks
  - This will likely reduce the number of tables and geographies published compared to previous censuses

2020 American Community Survey (ACS)
- Data collection and quality was more substantially impacted than the 2020 Decennial Census due to COVID-19
- The Census Bureau decided not to publish 2020 1-year estimates due to the impact of nonresponse bias (i.e. where characteristics of households who didn’t respond are substantially different from those that did)
- 2016-2020 5-year estimates are still on track to be released, but delayed to March 2022 due to extra measures being taken to adjust for oddities in the 2020 data

Office of Financial Management (OFM)
- April 1 2021 estimates are being revised and due out by November 30, 2021
- Corrects for major data caveats in initial release where 2021 (but not 2020) data were adjusted to match 2020 Census apportionment counts for Washington state. For our region, this resulted in 1-year 2020-2021 changes being inflated by a substantial margin of roughly 30,000 people
- Intercensal population and housing estimates for the last decade where the postcensal series is adjusted to align with 2010 and 2020 census counts and will likely be available in early 2022
What data do you use and how can we make it easier for you?
PSRC is working on numerous improvements to the way we share information with people outside the organization:

- Development of a Data Portal to replace the Data page at PSRC (release date in 2022)
- Equity Data Tools (release date in 2022)
- Census Data Tools (TBD)

As we develop these tools, we have you all in mind. The Community Data Profiles is a pre-alpha test application which we are sharing to see if this sort of data and visualization technique is useful to our member organizations. A couple questions to keep in mind as we explore the tool:

- What sorts of data do you use the most from Census products and what would be the most useful to have in a ready-made tool?
- Do you want the latest data available, trend data or you don’t care?
- Are census tract maps useful in a data visualization tool or are you happy with jurisdiction level results?
- What other non-Census data would you benefit the most from having in a tool? OFM, ESD?

Questions
If you have any questions or want to share more ideas about what should be included in the Community Data Profile, please contact Craig Helmann at (206) 389-2889 or chelmann@psrc.org.