



Institute for Public Policy
and Social Research
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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THE CENSUS: WHAT IT MEANS FOR MICHIGAN

PEOPLE, PLACES, POPULATION GROWTH AND ELECTORAL POWER



KERRY EBERSOLE SINGH, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MICHIGAN STATEWIDE 2020 CENSUS, STATE OF MICHIGAN

Kerry Ebersole Singh joined the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) as a Senior Advisor and Director of the Sixty by 30 Office. She has more than 20 years of experience in national, state and local politics, issue advocacy and government affairs.

Prior to her LEO role, Ebersole Singh served as the Census 2020 Executive Director. Before returning to state service in 2019, Ebersole Singh was the CEO of Persuasion Link, LLC., a Michigan-based Public Affairs Firm.

She has served as the Michigan State Director and Senior Advisor to the Energy Foundation States and Regions Program, the largest climate and clean energy funder in the United States. She also formerly served as the Director of Get Out the Vote for Obama for America and as a Regional Director for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). She is a graduate of Michigan State University.



VICTORIA KOVARI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DETROIT 2020 CENSUS CAMPAIGN AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO DETROIT MAYOR MIKE DUGGAN, CITY OF DETROIT

Victoria Kovari was appointed by Mayor Mike Duggan as the executive director of the Detroit 2020 Census Campaign in January 2019.

For the past five years, Kovari served as general manager of the Department of Neighborhoods for the City of Detroit. Her position included directing the city's property tax foreclosure prevention efforts.

Before joining the mayor's office, she served as a field director and community organizer for various local, state and national non-profit organizations and was an adjunct faculty member of University of Michigan and Wayne State University School of Social Work. Kovari is a lifelong Detroit resident.



CORWIN D. SMIDT, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Corwin D. Smidt is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department in the Department of Political Science at Michigan State University.

He came to MSU in the fall of 2008 after earning his doctorate at Ohio State University. He studies American electoral politics, presidential primaries, political news media, campaign politics, and dynamics in American political behavior.

His current research investigates the extent to which candidates, news media and voters respond to one another during election campaigns His interests also include applying election science findings to improve Michigan's electoral process. He's originally from outside Grand Rapids.