

Peggy Howell-Jones
Deputy Regional Director
US Census Bureau
Atlanta Regional Office

Peggy Howell-Jones has been the Deputy Regional Director of the Atlanta Regional Office since 2018. She oversees the U.S. Census Bureau's data collection activities for survey operations in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. The Atlanta Region has the largest resident population (59.4 million) of the Census Bureau's 6 regions as of July 2018, the second-fastest growing county (Flagler, Fla., at 77 percent) this decade and the largest numeric increase of a metropolitan area (Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta at 1 million).

Under Peggy's leadership, the Atlanta Regional Office staff conduct several ongoing surveys monthly gathering a wide array of statistics that serve a multitude of local needs. The Census Bureau also provides statistical services to other Federal government agencies. Our Field Representatives make an average of over 26,000 visits throughout our region to respondents on a monthly basis. A few of the ongoing surveys conducted are: The **American Community Survey (ACS)** – an ongoing statistical survey that samples a small percentage of the population every year. The **Current Population Survey (CPS)** – is the primary source of labor force statistics for the population of the United States. **Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE)** – is important because it is the only federal survey to provide information on the complete range of consumers' expenditures and incomes, as well as the characteristics of those consumers. **National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)** – obtains accurate and current measures on the amount and kinds of crimes committed in the U.S. **National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)** – provides data on a broad range of health topics collected through personal household interviews.

The Census Bureau is also responsible for the 2020 Census with operations handled by the Regional Census Center (RCC). In August 2019, the Census Bureau launched the first infield operation for the 2020 Census, Address Canvassing. The Atlanta Region had the largest workload: to verify 13 million addresses in seven weeks. The work was completed on deadline, including the quality check. For the 2010 Census, the Atlanta Region had the largest workload in the nation, employing more than 80,000 people that worked out of 57 offices (33 of them in the state of Florida).

Ms. Howell-Jones began her career in 1984 at Census Bureau headquarters in Suitland, MD, as a Survey Statistician. Throughout her career, Mrs. Howell-Jones has held many positions at the Census Bureau working in several divisions/offices. Ms. Howell-Jones worked in Human Resources Division (HRD), for several years working in different branches providing technical guidance and leadership in the areas of staffing, recruitment/hiring, classification, and summer programs later serving as the Chief of the Strategic Recruitment and Outreach Branch managing the Census Bureau's centralized recruitment and outreach program for the mission critical occupations. Ms. Howell-Jones also worked over six years in the Equal Employment Opportunity Office providing support and guidance to managers and employees to resolve complaints of alleged discrimination.

To support Census 2000, Peggy worked in the Atlanta Regional Office serving as a Human Resources Specialist providing staffing and recruitment guidance for the Regional Census Center and the Local Census Offices for the Atlanta region. After Census 2000, Peggy returned to Washington, DC venturing out to the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) where she served as an Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist. In 2002, Peggy returned to Census Headquarters Field Division, Management Services Branch (MSB) serving as a Team Lead and later as the Chief of MSB where she worked several years providing guidance to the Regional Offices on all aspects of administrative issues such as recruitment and staffing, employee relations, awards, travel/relocation, procurement, etc.

Peggy holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration from North Carolina A & T State University, Greensboro, NC. Peggy has received numerous accolades and awards during her federal career, including the Department of Commerce Gold medal and a Hammer Award. She resides in Sandy Springs, GA with her husband and she has two children.