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Four States Would Gain Seats if Congress Were Reapportioned with 2004 Population Estimates

An analysis of new 2004 census population estimates finds that four states—**Arizona, Florida, Texas, and Utah**—would each gain one seat if the estimates were used to reapportion the 435-seat U.S. House of Representatives. For every gain there is a loser, and the states that would lose seats are **Iowa, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania**. These are the findings of Election Data Services' 2004 congressional reapportionment analysis based on population estimates released by U.S. Census Bureau on January 7th. The reference date for the new census population estimates is July 1, 2004. The estimates have not been statistically adjusted for any known undercount.

A summary of the 2004 reapportionment analysis shows the margins by which states received the last seats that were allocated as well as the margins by which seats were lost. The summary also shows the results of the last congressional reapportionment in 2001 with population data from the 2000 census. For example, Massachusetts, which has 10 seats, received the last seat (number 435) in the 2004 analysis and held onto that seat by a margin of only 15,374. New York, which has 29 seats, lost a seat in the 2004 analysis by a margin of 46,178. Nevada, which has three seats, missed gaining a 4th seat by a margin of only 8,206. Tables attached to this document show the results of the 2004 reapportionment analysis for all 50 states.

2004 Reapportionment Analysis Summary

2004 Population Estimates			2000 Census Population		
Last Five Seats		Margin of Gain	Last Five Seats		Margin of Gain
431	Florida (26th*)	194,637	431	Iowa (5th)	44,338
432	Minnesota (8th)	51,678	432	Florida (25th)	212,934
433	Missouri (9th)	29,272	433	Ohio (18th)	79,688
434	Arizona (9th*)	18,488	434	California (53rd)	33,942
435	Massachusetts (10th)	15,374	435	North Carolina (13th)	3,087
Next Seats		Margin of Loss	Next Seats		Margin of Loss
436	New York (29th)	46,178	436	Utah (4th*)	856
437	Nevada (4th*)	8,205	437	New York (30th)	47,249
438	Texas (34th*)	165,480	438	Texas (33rd*)	86,272
439	California (54th*)	289,828	439	Michigan (16th)	50,888
440	Pennsylvania (19th)	101,779	440	Indiana (10th)	37,056

*New seats based on the number of seats that were allocated in the 2001 congressional reapportionment.

Three of the four states that gained seats in Election Data Services' 2004 analysis—**Arizona, Florida, and Texas**—gained two seats each when Congress was last reapportioned in 2001. The

fourth state, **Utah**, just missed gaining a seat in 2001 by only 856 people. The last seat went instead to North Carolina, whose population included a substantial number of federal employees overseas. Federal employees overseas have been included in official census population counts since 1990, but census rules exclude non-federal overseas workers. (Federal employees overseas are not included in census population estimates.) After the 2001 reapportionment results were announced, **Utah** filed suit over the census rules on non-federal overseas workers, which excluded some 10,000 missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints working abroad. The suit was dismissed.

Three of the four states that lost seats in Election Data Services' 2004 analysis—**New York**, **Ohio**, and **Pennsylvania**—also lost seats in the reapportionment in 2001. **New York** and **Pennsylvania** each lost two seats in 2001, while **Ohio** lost one seat. **Iowa**, which held onto its fifth congressional seat in 2001 by a margin of only 44,338 people, would now, according to the 2004 analysis, lose that seat. **Iowa's** congressional delegation over the past century has been reduced by more than half, from 11 seats in 1900 to five seats in 2001. By contrast, **Texas'** congressional delegation has more than doubled, from 16 seats in 1900 to 32 seats in 2001. In the 2004 analysis, **Texas** not only gained a seat (number 33), but was next in line after Nevada to gain yet another seat (number 34).

Other state congressional delegations, mostly in the South and West, have grown even faster. In 1910, **Iowa** had the same number of congressional seats (11) as **California**. In the 2001 reapportionment, **California** received 53 seats. In Election Data Services' 2004 analysis, **California** was next in line, after **Texas**, to receive seat number 54 and was again in line three places later to receive seat number 55 (see attached tables). **Arizona** has gained at least one seat and **Florida** has gained from two to four seats in every reapportionment since 1951. The **New York** and **Pennsylvania** delegations have experienced the biggest reductions, 14 and 11 seats, respectively, since 1951. **Ohio** and **Illinois** have also had large reductions.

Election Data Services Inc. is a Washington, D.C.-based 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 kbrace@electiondataservices.com).