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Two States Gain, Two Lose if 2003 Estimates Used for Congressional Reapportionment

An analysis of state population estimates for 2003 released recently by the U.S. Census Bureau shows that **Texas** and **Utah** would each gain one seat if the 2003 estimates were used for reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. **Iowa** and **Ohio** would each lose one seat. The House of Representatives has 435 seats.

Texas gained two seats after reapportionment in 2001 and three seats after reapportionment in 1991 and again in 1981. The **Texas** delegation of 32 representatives has doubled in size since 1900 and is the second largest state delegation. California's is the largest. In Election Data Services' analysis, Texas not only gains one congressional seat, but is third in line for yet another seat. **Utah**, the other state gaining a seat in the analysis, currently has three representatives.

Over the period that **Texas'** congressional delegation doubled in size, **Iowa's** delegation declined by more than half. **Iowa** currently has five seats in the U.S. House of Representatives; but in 1900, Iowa held 11 seats. **Ohio**, the other state losing a seat in the analysis, lost one seat and came close to losing a second when the House was reapportioned in 2001.

A table at the end of this document shows the results of Election Data Services' 2003 congressional reapportionment analysis. The analysis shows the number of seats allocated to each of the 50 states and the margins by which seats were gained or lost. The table also shows the results of the last congressional reapportionment in 2001, which was based on population data from the 2000 census. The summary below is for the last five seats allocated. The numbers in parentheses refer to the number of seats held by each state.

Congressional Reapportionment Allocations

2003 Population Estimates			2000 Census Population		
Last Five Seats	Margin of Gain		Last Five Seats	Margin of Gain	
431 California (53)	440,048		431 Iowa (5th)	44,338	
432 New York (29)	168,075		432 Florida (25th)	212,934	
433 North Carolina (13)	69,642		433 Ohio (18th)	79,688	
434 Missouri (9)	40,196		434 California (53rd)	33,942	
435 Pennsylvania (19)	20,426		435 North Carolina (13th)	3,087	
Next Seats	Margin of Loss		Next Seats	Margin of Loss	
436 Florida	28,158		436 Utah	856	
437 California	286,612		437 New York	47,249	
438 Texas	278,679		438 Texas	86,272	
439 Iowa	46,220		439 Michigan	50,888	
440 Arizona	92,849		440 Indiana	37,056	

The 2003 reapportionment analysis gave **Texas** a new seat (number 33) with 425,937 people to spare. The state would have needed only 278,679 more people to gain a 34th seat. **Iowa**, on the other hand, would lose its fifth seat by a margin of only 46,220.

The 2003 reapportionment analysis gave the last seat in the 435-member House to Pennsylvania. When the Congress was reapportioned in 2001, the last seat went to North Carolina, whose population included a substantial number of federal employees overseas. After the reapportionment results were announced, **Utah** filed suit and argued against the census rules on counting overseas workers. Although federal employees overseas have been included in official census population counts since 1990, census rules have barred the inclusion of some 10,000 missionaries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints working abroad. The suit was dismissed. Although included in official population counts from the decennial census, federal employees overseas are not included in interim census population *estimates*. If the 2003 population estimates were used for reapportionment, not only would North Carolina retain the seat it gained after the 2000 census, but **Utah** would gain a seat as well.

The estimates used in the 2003 reapportionment analysis are of the number of persons residing in each state on July 1, 2003. State-level population estimates for 2003 were released by the U.S. Census Bureau on December 18, 2003. The estimates were not statistically adjusted for any known undercount.

Election Data Services 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 a congressional apportionment analysis after each annual release of state population estimates by the Census Bureau. For more information, contact Kimball Brace by telephone or email at (202) 789-2004 or kbrace@electiondataservices.com.