

Data Release Distasters



AOL Proudly Releases Massive Amounts of Private Data

Michael Arrington @arrington?lang=en / 2:17 AM GMT+1 • August 7, 2006



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Yet Another Update: [AOL: "This was a screw up"](#)

Netflix Cancels Contest After Concerns Are Raised About Privacy

By Steve Lohr

Study finds HIPAA protected data still at risks



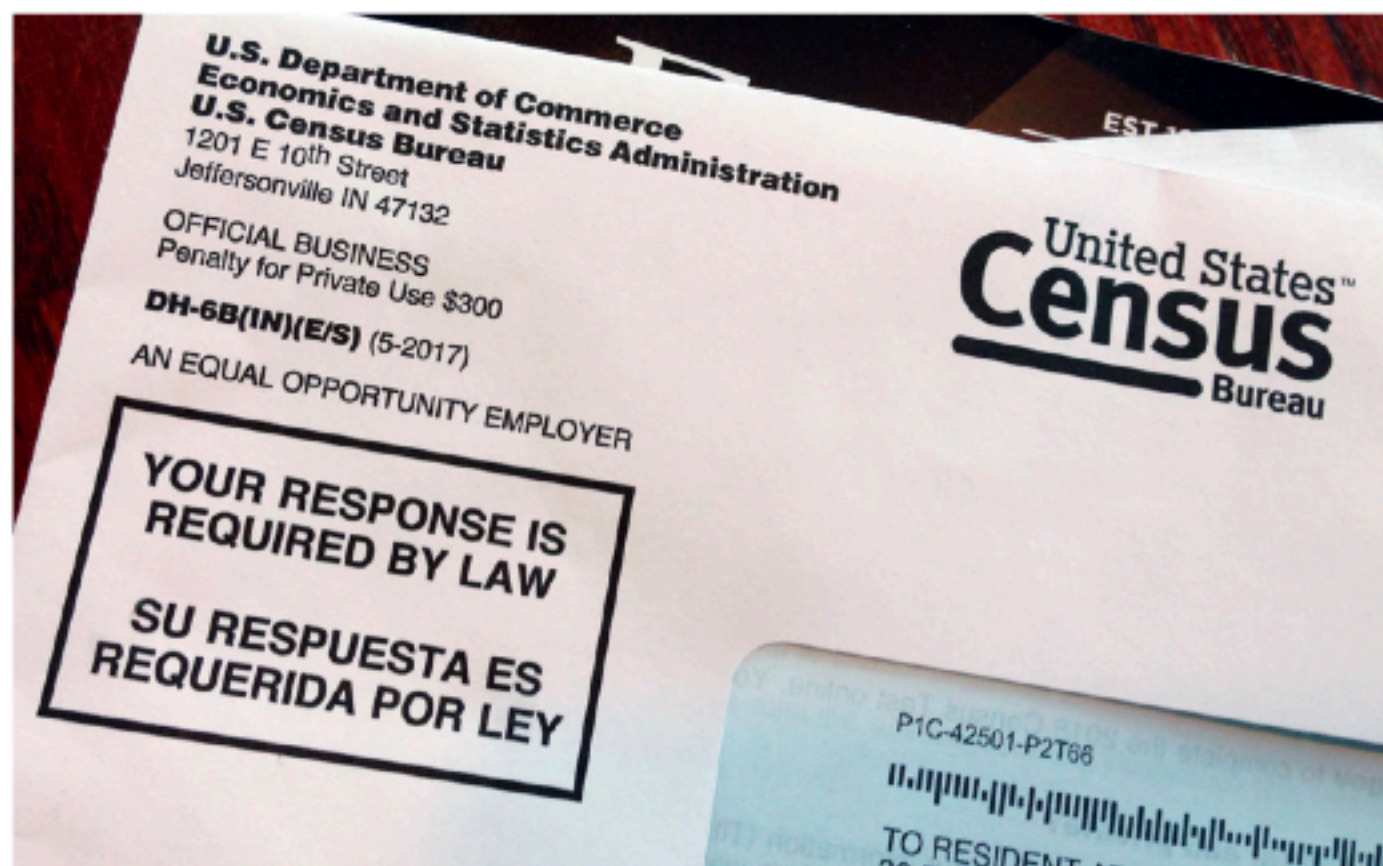
New York taxi details can be extracted from anonymised data, researchers say

FoI request reveals data on 173m individual trips in US city - but could yield more details, such as drivers' addresses and income



To Reduce Privacy Risks, the Census Plans to Report Less Accurate Data

Guaranteeing people's confidentiality has become more of a challenge, but some scholars worry that the new system will impede research.



A 2018 census test letter mailed to a resident in Providence, R.I. The nation's test run of the 2020 Census is in Rhode Island. Michelle R. Smith/Associated Press

'Anonymised' data can never be totally anonymous, says study

Findings say it is impossible for researchers to fully protect real identities in datasets



▲ In practice, supposedly anonymised data can be deanonymised in a number of ways to identify real people.

Photograph: Stefan Rousseau/PA

Researchers Find 'Anonymized' Data Is Even Less Anonymous Than We Thought

Corporations love to pretend that 'anonymization' of the data they collect protects consumers. Studies keep showing that's not really true.

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The New York Times

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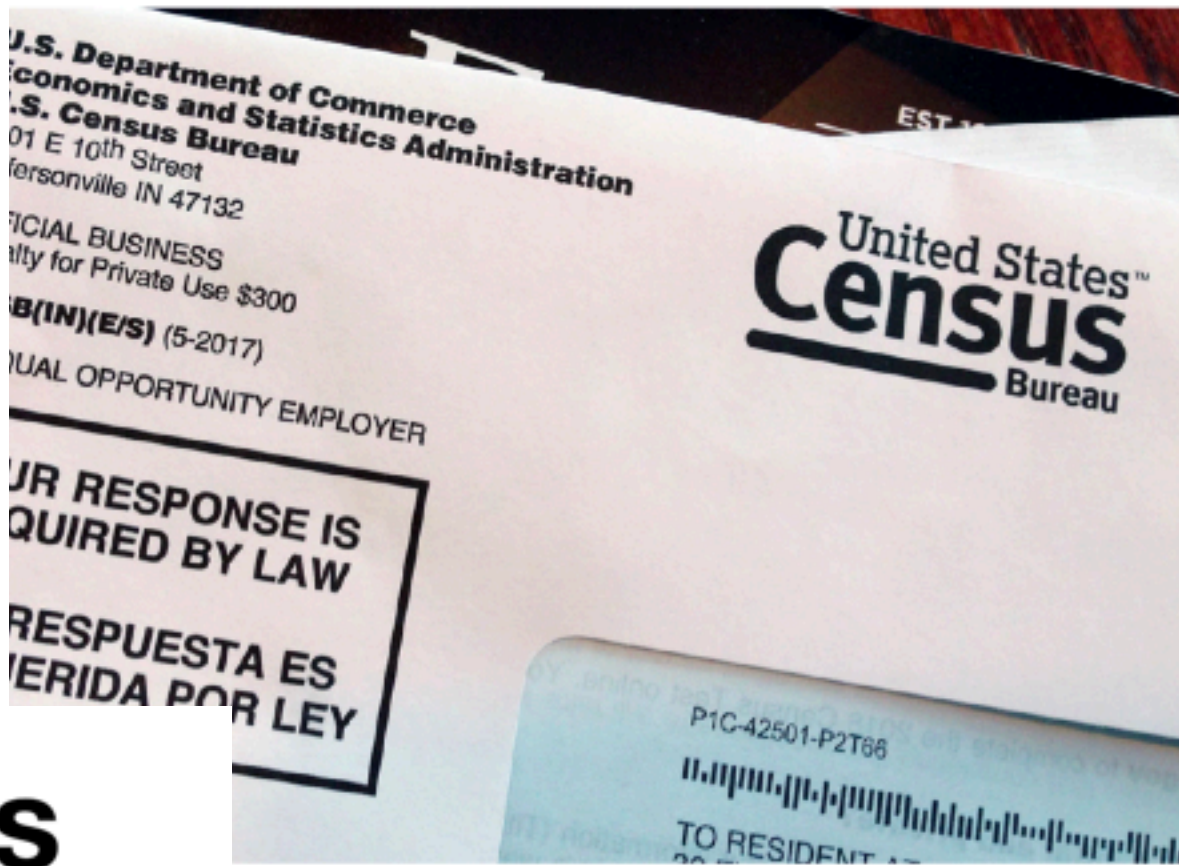
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Officials Contest After Concerns About Privacy

Upshot

Reduce Privacy Risks, the Census Plans Report Less Accurate Data

Guaranteeing people's confidentiality has become more of a challenge, but some scholars worry that the new system will degrade research.



A resident in Providence, R.I. The nation's test run of the 2020 Census. Photo by Associated Press

Synthetic Data