

# HOW YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Census Data's Impact on Funding for Education Programs

## WHO CARES ABOUT THE CENSUS?

YOU should!

The federal government uses the data from the U.S. Census to determine how much funding a state will receive for social service programs as well as how much representation your area will have in the government.

If you are not counted in the Census, your community and neighborhood could be negatively impacted!

## WHY IS THE CENSUS IMPORTANT?

In 2015, Pennsylvania received more than \$26.7 billion from 16 federal programs that base ten years of funding off census data. If your community is undercounted, this funding could decrease.

How would this affect the education programs in the state?

Using Census data, the government provides funding for education programs such as:

- Title I Grants to Local Education Agencies – financial assistance to local schools with low-income children, and helps ensure that all children reach state academic standards
- Special Education Grants – provide students who have disabilities with resources designed for their specific needs
- Head Start/Early Head Start Programs – child development services for low-income children, and particular focus on equipping preschoolers with reading and math skills that will help them succeed in school
- Child Care and Development Fund – assists low-income households with child care so parents and caregivers can work or attend training/education

**Do any of these programs affect you, your children, your family, or your community?**

Make sure you and your family are counted in the 2020 Census. Participate in the brief survey so that the government can properly fund these important programs.

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*“2020 Census: Counting Everyone Once, Only Once, and in the Right Place”*

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## THE CENSUS AFFECTS LOCAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

Census data can be used to measure school district and preschool characteristics, high school graduation and dropout rates, higher education performance of students, immigrant student and bilingual programming, and special education programming. This data directly impacts your local educational programming. Without a proper count of the population, the government does not know where assistance is needed most. *That is why it is important for you to participate!*

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