

HOW YOUR VOICE MATTERS

Census Data's Impact on Funding for Housing Programs

WHO CARES ABOUT THE CENSUS?

YOU should!

The federal government uses 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 receive 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 this census data. If your community is undercounted, this funding could decrease.

How would this affect the housing programs in the state?

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

- Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers – assistance for low-income individuals and families, to ensure that they receive safe and affordable rental housing
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program – rental assistance for low-income households, enabling them to continue living in these safe and affordable homes
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) – assistance for low-income households to satisfy the costs of home heating and cooling

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 survey so that the government can fund programs in your community.

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



THE CENSUS AFFECTS LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS

Census data can be used to identify certain areas as ‘rural,’ which helps the government provide these low-income areas with housing assistance. Interest rates are also determined using census data. This information directly impacts the funding for all your local housing programs. Without a proper count of the population, the government does not know where the aid is needed.

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