



A NALEO CAMPAIGN

KENTUCKIANS RELY UPON ACCURATE CENSUS DATA

ACCURATE CENSUS DATA ARE KEY for federal funding allocations to state and localities. Federal resources are divided up between jurisdictions according to what Census data tell us about various communities' demographic characteristics, needs, and assets. In order for Kentucky to receive its fair share, the Census Bureau must master the difficult task of accurately counting the state's population.

Historically, certain hard-to-reach populations are more difficult to count than others. Kentucky is home to disproportionate shares of populations that are most frequently undercounted, such as lower-income Americans, people with disabilities, and Americans living in rural areas. For example, the 2010 Census designated over 40 percent of Kentucky's population as living in rural areas, compared to the 21 percent national average.



Federal Census-directed programs that are particularly important to Kentuckians include:

Rural Utilities and Telecommunication

Some of Kentucky's rural areas, which are home to many of its residents, are underdeveloped with insufficient infrastructure. Census data have ensured that the state receives significant shares of federal Rural Electrification and Rural Broadband Access loans to help Kentucky's more isolated communities stay safe, healthy, and connected. In May 2016 the East Kentucky Power Cooperative was selected to receive a \$131.8 million USDA loan to acquire the Bluegrass Generating Facility, a natural gas-fired power plant.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides vital support to families struggling to pay for heating and cooling throughout the year. Thanks to Census data, from FY2013 through FY16, Kentucky received over \$178 million in federal funding for this program, and served 129,657 households in FY14 alone.

Highway Planning and Construction

Kentucky's many rural spaces and the important industries located within them mean that it is crucial that the state maintain its significant number of miles of roads. In FY17, thanks to Census data, Kentucky received more than \$683 million in funding authorized by the 2015 Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, the largest portion of it designated for maintenance of national highways and construction and repair of bridges and other highway facilities.

When it is adequately funded, the Census Bureau produces highly accurate, detailed data that enable us to direct a total of over \$15.8 billion to the Kentucky communities where those resources are most needed.

But if the Census Bureau's hands are tied by declining appropriations or limitations that prevent it from conducting a sound decennial enumeration and accurate surveys, the quality of Census data similarly will decline, and many fewer Kentuckians will benefit from these and many other Census-directed federal programs.

Congress must adequately fund the Census Bureau by providing it with no less than \$8 billion for the decennial Census in FY20. It is critical that Congress secure this funding by the start of the fiscal year, when address canvassing, advertising, and other key activities will already be underway. Any funding delay or uncertainty would disrupt the conduct of the survey and imperil the accuracy of Census data for a decade to come.