



A NALEO CAMPAIGN

NEW HAMPSHIRITES 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 New Hampshireites to receive their fair share, the Census Bureau must master the difficult task of accurately counting the state's dynamic, diverse population.

Historically, certain hard-to-reach populations are more difficult to count than others. New Hampshire is home to disproportionate shares of populations that are most frequently undercounted such as lower-income individuals and those living in rural areas. Currently, at around 40 percent, the percentage of New Hampshire's population that lives in rural area significantly exceeds the national average.



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

Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment

Unfortunately, parts of New Hampshire have been as severely and negatively affected as any place in the country by recent increases in opioid-related addiction and deaths. Thanks to Census data, New Hampshire's efforts to turn the tide against addiction were bolstered nearly \$7 million in funding from Block Grants for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse in FY16 for the prevention and treatment of substance abuse.

Medicare Part B

New Hampshire has a growing elderly population that depends on Medicare, a program into which seniors have paid throughout their lives. Census data ensure that elderly residents receive the support they have earned through their hard work by allocating federal funding for senior health services to states in accordance with the size and needs of their populations. As a result of Census data, Iowa received over \$294 million in FY16 to distribute to medical providers to ensure seniors' continued access to healthcare and other vital services.

Head Start

New Hampshire is home to a number of children who face educational challenges related to their families' lower incomes. These young people benefit from access to Head Start classes. Thank to Census data, New Hampshire received more than \$17 million from the federal government to support this effort in FY16.

When it is adequately funded, the Census Bureau produces highly accurate, detailed data that enable us to direct a total of over \$3.7 billion to New Hampshire 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 New Hampshireites 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.