



# Census 2020

August 2019

## Why It Should Matter to You

A complete count is vital to ensure that federal funds return to Florida to support community needs and improve living conditions for all. More than \$44 billion dollars came back to Florida in FY2016 from the federal government for programs including Medicaid and CHIP (\$14.2 billion), Foster Care and Adoption Assistance (\$348.1 million), HeadStart and Early HeadStart (\$399.7 million), and child care assistance (\$292.5 million). These allocations are calculated using Census data.

**Census data drive infrastructure planning.** State and local agencies use Census data to plan new roads, emergency response, school locations and more. Businesses use these data to understand their market and customer base.

**Your community deserves a full voice in policy decision making.** Census data are used to determine state legislative districts, voting precincts and congressional districts. In 2010, Florida gained two additional Representatives because of the increased population.

## Will Your Children Count?

### Help Keep Them from Being Left Out of the 2020 Census & Ensure Florida Receives All of Its Federal Funding

#### Florida Receives \$67 Million Fewer Federal Dollars Annually Because so Many Young Children Were Not Counted in the Last Census.

- 6.2% (71,307) of Florida's young children ages 0-4 were not counted in 2010.
- Undercount rates for young children were more than twice as high as the undercount rate for any other age group.
- Young Black and Hispanic children were missed twice as often as White children.

#### Why Are So Many Children Missed?

Young children often live in circumstances that make them hard-to-count, due to:

- Young parents.
- Modern family structures like blended households.
  - » Living with grandparents.
  - » In homes headed by single head of household.
  - » Living with unrelated people, including foster families.
- Households living in rental properties.
- Families with large numbers of people in the household.

#### What Stops People from Completing the Census?

- Worries that their data won't be kept confidential.
- Worries that the information they provide will be used against them.
- Distrust of government.
- People think it doesn't matter.
- People don't know that the Census helps them personally.

#### What Can Child Welfare Agencies and Providers Do?

- Understand the importance of the 2020 Census and how it directly benefits the families they serve.
- Get involved with their local Complete Count Committees and other Census 2020 activities.
- Increase awareness and engagement by:
  - » Educating staff to ensure they complete the Census themselves.
  - » Training staff in public facing parts of your organization to be Census Ambassadors.
  - » Ensuring foster parents and group home providers count the children in their homes on their Census, if the children live there most of the time.