

The 2010 Census will be one of the largest civil projects in the history of the US, employing hundreds of thousands of census workers, all in attempt to make sure that everyone is counted. Unfortunately, the Census Bureau estimates that it missed over 3 million people, or the equivalent of the entire state of Mississippi.

Census 2000 Undercount



The Census Matters

Census counts are directly tied to the federal dollars communities receive for important services such as education funding, affordable housing support, job training, social services, roads, bridges, and other community development opportunities.

Census counts also directly impact a community's political voice because the numbers inform voting districts and determine how communities are represented. The 2010 Census will trigger a new round of revisions in elected districts across the country. State and local governments throughout the country will be using Census data to shape and reshape districts for partisan political gain. These revisions will have a direct impact on the reservation of and the expansion of underrepresented peoples electoral opportunities and representation for the next decade.

Who doesn't get counted?

Careful studies of past census counts demonstrate that certain communities are at higher risk of not being counted accurately. These communities include:

- Communities and People of Color
- People and families that live in rental property
- Transient communities, such as the homeless and migrant workers
- Native Americans and poor, rural communities
- Immigrants (census counts are for everyone, regardless of citizenship status)
- The elderly and people who live in group housing