



N.J. Census 2020 – Better Future & Stronger Communities Week (May 25-31)

Talking/Posting Points for Partners

- We're calling this week **Better Future & Stronger Communities** and highlighting the importance of New Jersey's roads, public transportation and all infrastructure, and how all of it is impacted by Census.
- Census data helps determine where more than \$45 billion in annual federal funding goes in New Jersey. So having an accurate count of our population and what their needs are is important for road improvements and funding for buses, trains and other transit systems.
- Federal programs such as the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Highway Planning and Construction program and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grants are tied to Census statistics. This data informs funding for maintenance and construction on public roads throughout the state.
 - In 2015 alone, the DOT distributed more than \$38 billion nationally through the Highway Planning and Construction program, the fourth largest amount of federal assistance informed by Census statistics that year.
 - The annual HUD grants provide billions in discretionary funding that local governments can choose to use to improve their infrastructure.
 - Both programs support construction and maintenance of the country's **4.1 million miles of public roads**, which the American Society of Civil Engineers has said are in such poor shape that they earned a "D" in its 2017 nationwide Infrastructure Report Card.
- So think of your morning commute: Census results influence highway planning and construction, as well as grants for buses, trains, and other public transit systems.
- Census data also helps inform bus routes, and determines if they need to be changed or added based on where people live and work.
- Nationwide, Federal Transit Administration (FTA)'s formula-based funding for transit operating and capital assistance break down amongst population cohorts in FY 2020:
 - Large-urbanized areas (populations greater than 200,000) are authorized to receive about 84% of all FTA formula-based transit funding
 - Small-urbanized areas (50,000-200,000) are authorized to receive slightly less than 8%
 - Non-urbanized areas (those areas that are not part of any urbanized area) are authorized receive slightly less than 8%
 - The Census helps determine these urbanized areas.

- Many transportation providers also deliver or arrange transportation through health and human services programs like Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) and the Older Americans Act. This means that the Census can ultimately impact the reimbursement you receive for providing transportation through a Medicaid program.
Source: <https://www.nadtc.org/news/blog/act-now-the-census-and-transportation/>
- In New Jersey in Fiscal Year 2016:
 - \$762,823,698 was spent on Highway Planning and Construction
 - \$770,682,000 was spent on Federal Transit Formula Grants
 - \$54,868,200 was spent on Federal Transit – Capital Investment Grants
 - \$15,579,900 was spent on Community Facilities Loans/Grants
 - \$60,868,131 was spent on Crime Victim Assistance
 - \$17,202,000 was spent on Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities
 - *Source: https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/IPP-1819-3%20CountingforDollars_NJ.pdf*
- We invite you to share our posts about the infrastructure, transportation and ***building a better future in New Jersey!*** Share Secretary Way’s video, share one of our posts, or share your own post about why residents should complete the Census.
- Complete the Census at [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov) or over the phone at 844-330-2020 (English), 844-468-2020 (Spanish) or any of the other language numbers listed at [CENSUS.NJ.GOV](https://census.nj.gov).