



Every Hoosier Child Counts! The Importance of the Census 2020 Count

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On April 1, 2020, the nation will recognize Census Day to earmark the commencement of the new decennial census count of total residing population as of this date. The U.S. Constitution requires that the federal government count all persons living in the country every 10 years, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, and citizenship status. The 2020 Census survey, for the first time, will be available to complete online, as well as by phone or paper form to be returned by mail. Residents should expect correspondence on how to complete the survey in March of 2020.

Why is this important to Indiana residents and the K-12 school community? First, the Census will determine the apportionment to the states of the number of congressional seats. The survey information will be used for redistricting of congressional and state legislative districts. The count also is used by the federal government to determine allocation of approximately \$883 billion in federal funds, with \$160 billion for programs targeting children. This year Indiana will receive about \$18 billion in federal funding, with approximately \$1 billion for K-12 programs (or about 8 percent of all K-12 education revenues when including all sources: local, state, and federal). It is estimated that for every person missed in the count, Indiana will lose about \$10,000 in

federal funds over the next decade. It is important that all persons residing in the state are counted to ensure we maintain our congressional seats and receive our “fair share” of federal funds.

Unfortunately, children from birth to age 4 and those ages 5-9 are the two age groups most likely to be undercounted in the Census, as was the case in 2010; with Black and Hispanic young children having a higher net undercount than other children. To read more about the impact of this and to see Region 3 director Steve Corona quoted, click [here](#).

What can we do? The Indiana School Boards Association has convened a leadership group of representatives from 17 state agencies and statewide associations to discuss a collective action plan that will include a campaign toolkit. This coalition will be meeting monthly to complete these tasks. Since educators and school board members are highly-trusted sources of information, we hope to identify strategies, communication methods and messaging that you can use in your school community to promote participation in the 2020 Census. We hope to have the toolkit ready for your use locally beginning this fall through the spring of 2020. Stay tuned for more information on this!

***REMINDER* RE: Indiana Secured School Safety Grant Program**

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security is soliciting schools to complete the System Administrator form in the IntelliGrants system, as preparations are made for the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Indiana Secured School Safety Grant. The System Administrator form must be completed by noon on June 24. More information is available [here](#). We anticipate a shorter grant application window this summer given the later date of its opening. Be ready!

In this e-Dition:

Every Hoosier Child Counts! The Importance of the Census 2020 Count—Terry Spradlin (**page 1**)

Professional Development: Necessary or Not?—Dr. Michael Adamson (**page 2**)

Changes to the Public Access Laws—Lisa Tanselle, Esq. (**bottom of page 3**)

New School Bus Safety Requirements—Julie Slavens, Esq. (**top of page 3**)

ISBA News and Notes (**page 4**)