Who gets affected and how by a miscount?
Historically the census has missed disproportionate numbers of people of color, young children and the rural and urban poor, leading to inequality in political power and in access to public funding and private investment for these communities. Being hard-to-count can lead to unequal political representation and unequal access to vital public and private resources for these groups and their communities. Going into 2020 additional communities, including immigrants and refugees, unmarried women, and the LGBTQ community are at risk of being missed.

Kids
Did you know that children under age five are the most likely of all age groups to be undercounted? In 2010, the undercount rate for young children was 4.6 percent, and more than 2.2 million in this age group were not included in the census results. Of that $600 billion, census data guide the distribution of billions for programs focused on children - $69 billion to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), $14 billion to Title I grants to local education agencies, $11 billion to the National School Lunch Program, $11 billion to the State Children’s Health Insurance Programs (S-CHIP), $11 billion to the National School Lunch Program, and $11 billion to special education grants (IDEA), among others.

Latinos
In 2010, Hispanic children under age five were overlooked at twice the rate of young non-Hispanic White children, and up to 400,000 young Latino children were missed. Young Latino men are also at risk of being undercounted, in part because they are overrepresented in the criminal justice system and also have lower rates of citizenship.

African Americans
Did you know that African Americans have been undercounted for decades, disadvantaging their families, communities, and neighborhoods? The 2010 Census undercounted the African American population by more than 2 percent, and approximately 6.5 percent of young African American children were overlooked, roughly twice the rate for young non-Hispanic white children. Also startling, the net undercount of Black men between the ages of 30-49 was more than 10 percent. Today, more than one in three African Americans live in hard-to-count census tracts.

Healthy Communities
Of that $600 billion, census data guide the distribution of billions for programs focused on ensuring healthy communities - $312 billion in Medicaid dollars, $69 billion to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), $64 billion in Medicare Part B dollars, $11 billion to the National School Lunch Program, and $11 billion to the State Children’s Health Insurance Programs (S-CHIP), among others.

Education
Of that $600 billion, census data guide the distribution of billions for educational programs - $14 billion to Title I grants to local education agencies, $11 billion to the National School Lunch Program, and $11 billion to special education grants (IDEA), among others.

Housing
Of that $600 billion, census data guide the distribution of billions for housing programs - $1 billion to Section 8 housing choice vouchers and $9 billion to Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Programs, among others.