How does the Census impact Minnesotans?

“My three children and I live in Shakopee. LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) impacted my family tremendously. LIHEAP helped me keep an affordable, and realistic payment plan. The application process was simple and I received help right away, they really understood the sense of urgency. I am grateful for being able to have access to a program like LIHEAP.”

– ALEXANDRA BASSETT, Shakopee Resident

“Cities with a population above 5,000 receive more funding from the state of Minnesota to maintain state aid roads. Circle Pines population in the 2010 Census was 4,918 but the city was granted an exemption to receive funding as if we were a city above 5,000. This exemption provides us roughly $150,000 each year for state aid road projects. Getting an accurate count in 2020 will be important to securing needed state funds to keep our roads in good shape. State Aid roads in Circle Pines include some of our most used roads including Canterbury, School, West Golden Lake, East, Pine, West, and Center.”

– DEAN GOLDBERG, City Council Member, Circle Pines

“Most students cannot afford to attend college, at least not without receiving aid from the government. I am not any different, I happen to fall in this bracket of students who need assistance to go through college. With a Pell Grant, choosing to go to college became less intimidating. I was more confident to make the choice of going to college as the first step towards financial stability. I eventually intend to go to law school and become a lawyer dealing in international law. All these dreams and aspirations can seem to be unattainable especially if one is to bear all these financial burden without receiving any aid. Even though a Pell Grant does not completely eliminate this burden, it goes a long way in making it manageable. A Pell Grant has enabled me to confidently pursue what I am passionate about and made the realization of my dreams a possible reality in the near future.”

– JOB OKERI, Student at Normandale Community College,
  Hometown: Savage, MN
Each year, Minnesota communities receive 15 billion dollars from the federal government on the basis of the census count. That’s

$15,459,175,947

• $2,796 per Minnesotan per year
• $27,960 per Minnesotan per decade

- $6,660,375,000 Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
- $3,043,012,113 Federal Direct Student Loans
- $602,563,639 Supplemental Nutrition Program (SNAP)
- $113,774,946 Low Income Home Energy Assistance
- $659,896,484 Highway Planning and Construction

Data Source: GW Institute of Public Policy. Counting for Dollars 2020: The Role of the Decennial Census in the Geographic Distribution of Federal Funds. Andrew Reamer, Research Professor. These numbers show the potential misallocation of Federal funds that may occur with a Census undercount.