

CREATING  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR STUDENTS TO  
KEEP WYOMING  
STRONG

## MEMORANDUM NO. 2020-027

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Principals

**FROM:** Shelley Hamel, Chief Academic Officer

**DATE:** February 24, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Families Urged to Participate in the 2020 Census



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# FAMILIES URGED TO TAKE PART IN THE 2020 CENSUS

April 1, 2020 is when the Census will be observed nationwide. By this date, households will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. The Wyoming Department of Education asks school districts to encourage families in your communities to participate in the census. Millions in federal funds are distributed to Wyoming based on census data. Many of these funds go toward education and other local needs.

Funding is allocated according to the total share of population or the share of a targeted population residing in each state and district, as determined by each decennial census count. If a group is undercounted, a school district will receive less funding and students could lose access to critical programming and services as soon as the 2021-22 school year and continue for the next decade. The programs impacted include:

- Title I funding to districts with a high percentage of low-income students.
- Special education grants.
- National School Lunch Program.
- Child Care and Development Block Grants.
- TANF funded child development programs.
- Head Start programs.
- Title IV-A School Support and Academic Enrichment.
- Title II Class size reduction and teacher training.
- 21st Century Community Learning for after-school programs.

Funds for services that affect student readiness for learning also are affected, such as child health programs and assistance with housing, health care (Medicaid), heating, and food costs (SNAP and WIC).

Resources are available to help school districts communicate the importance of the 2020 Census:

- The Count All Kids, countallkids.org, [informational document](#).
- Census Partnership Education Poster in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

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*For more information on the census and additional resources for educators, visit the [2020 Census website](#).*