2020 Census and the Current Immigration Landscape: Lasting Implications for Young Children in New York

February 6, 2019
2:00pm – 3:00pm
Today’s Presenters

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Counting Young Children in the 2020 Census

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Why We Need To Count All Young Children in the 2020 Census
Key Points

- Counting young children in the Census helps them thrive
- We need to count young children differently than adults
- State and local efforts can improve the young child count
- The work is urgent
- Foundations have several possible roles
Being Counted Helps Young Children Thrive

- **Stronger political representation**: federal, state, county and school Board districts

- **More funding for key kids programs**: more complete Census data can increase overall federal funding for some programs—for many states (not NY) its important for Medicaid, CHIP, foster care.

- **More equitable distribution of funds**: Census data often determines how much states get and sometimes how much communities get. Key early learning programs include Title 1, Special Ed (including Part C early intervention), CCDBG, Head Start expansion funds.

- **Better planning**: school size, health facilities, private enterprise

- **Better information on child well being**: Census data provides 10 of 16 indicators used in yearly KIDS COUNT report

- **Stronger advocacy**
The 2020 Decennial Census Is In Trouble

- The first Internet Census (only 20% of households will get paper form initially)
- Severely underfinanced until 2018; funding at risk for FY 2020
  - Had to cancel four out of five major 2018 tests,
  - Planning fewer offices and fewer visits to homes by enumerators
  - Limited print budget
- Tight labor market makes it hard to hire enumerators
- Lack of leadership for over a year
- General distrust of government
- Fear in immigrant communities (1 in 4 young children lives in an immigrant household)
Census Undercount of Young Children Is Large and Growing
Net Undercount and Omissions

Net Undercounts and Omissions
Population Numbers for Age 0 to 4

- Net Undercount: 970,000
- Omissions: 2,200,000

Net Undercounts and Omissions
Rates for Age 0 to 4

- Net Undercount: 4.6%
- Omissions: 10.3%

Source: Hogan and Griffin 2016
Young Children Had a Higher Net Undercount (by far) Than Any Other Age Group in the 2010 Census

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2012 DA release
Net Undercount Rates* for Age 0 to 4 are Higher in Larger Counties

* Rate = Census counts minus Vintage 2010 population estimates

Source: O'Hare 2017, International Journal of Social Science Studies
## 2010 Net Undercounts in Large New York Counties (more than 250,000 people)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5% to 8.6%</th>
<th>2% to 5%</th>
<th>Under 2%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Orange</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suffolk</td>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
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<td>Bronx</td>
<td>Dutchess</td>
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<td>Kings</td>
<td>Westchester</td>
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<td>Nassau</td>
<td>Richmond</td>
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2010 Census Net Undercount Rates for Population Age 0 to 4 by Race and Hispanic Origin

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, May 2012 DA Release
Since 1980, the Net Undercount of Young Children in the Census has Worsened While the Coverage of Adults has Improved

Source: O’Hare 2015, Chapter4
Why Are Young Children Missed In The Census?
Family Structure: Left Off the Form In a Complex Household

• Missed kids:
  • 16% living in an address that wasn’t included in the census
  • 16% the only person missing in a housing unit that was “enumerated” (counted)
  • 68% missed along with some other members of a household

• Much more likely to be missed when the person filling out the form isn’t their biological or adopted parent

• Complex households can be
  • Multi-generation households
  • Extended families
  • Multi-family households
Fear and Confusion: People Are Uncertain Whether They Should Count Young Children

15 percent of people in a NALEO study said they would not include their young child or didn’t know if they would.

1. Some respondents may not want to report their child to the government
   - Don’t trust government
   - 1.8 million children age 0-4 (6.4 million age 0 to 17) are living with at least one undocumented parent and the addition of citizenship question may be a problem
   - Some young children are living with a grandparent in restricted housing unit

2. Some respondents think the Census Bureau does not want children included in the Census
Young Children Are More Concentrated in Hard-to-Count Situations Than Older Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Age 0-4</th>
<th>Age 10-17</th>
<th>Difference (0 to 4 minus 10 to 17)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age of householder is 18-29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living in rental housing unit</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living in a multi-unit structure</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Different address one year ago</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living in a complex household</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below poverty</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enumerator completed response</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparent responsible for grandchild</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with one parent or two unmarried parents</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Source: U. S. Census Bureau
National Efforts to Count All Kids

Count All Kids Committee
Count All Kids Campaign
Counting Young Children: What Works

• Young children are missed for different reasons than adults
• We need to count young children differently than we count adults
• Census assumes adults are usually missed because they don’t return the form
  • Census Bureau targets low response areas
  • Messaging around returning the form
• Young children are usually missed when they are left off the form
  • How do we find them?
  • Why are they left off?
  • What messages work to get them included?
  • How do we get nonparents to count young kids?
Count All Kids Plan

Count All Kids and its partners are developing and will disseminate

- A metric to locate areas where many young children may be missed (Population Reference Bureau and Bill O’Hare)
- Message research to learn
  - Why families leave their children off
  - What messages work to get families, especially in complex households, to count young children
  - Who families will trust about the census
  - Where they get their news
- Outreach materials to persuade families to count their young children
Count All Kids Committee: National Complete Count Committee For Young Children

- Working with the Census Bureau to make counting young children a priority and improve their strategies

- Coordinating national awareness efforts

- Engaging national networks that work with families of young children

- Supporting efforts to secure funding and oppose the citizenship question
Funding

The Decennial Census needs adequate funding

• Underfunded for past several years
  • Eliminated most end-to-end testing, reduced numbers of offices and Census takers

• FY2018 funding significantly better

• FY2019 funding level is being negotiated

• FY2020 funding level also critical, and may be a harder and drawn-out fight
Count All Kids Campaign

Supports state and local advocacy efforts to

• Form Complete Count Committees in states and communities, including priority on counting young children

• Work with Complete Count Committees to keep young children a priority and build effective plans,
  • Target areas with lots of kids who may be missed
  • Use outreach materials specifically for families with young children

• Encourage providers to use our outreach materials with families with young children
What is A Complete Count Committee?

Committees established by tribal, state, and local governments and community leaders or organizations to increase awareness and motivate residents to respond to the 2020 Census.
What Can Committees Do?

• Allocate/obtain funds for the CCC and assign a staff person to work with the committee.
• Identify geographic areas and population groups that may need extra efforts
• Work with community-based organizations that have direct contact with households that may be hard to count.
• Create promotional materials customized for the local area.
• Implement special events
• Build awareness of the census and its benefits and motivate response through social media, newsletters, and other communications.
Direct Outreach to Families

- Schools
- Child care centers
- Faith communities
- Medical providers (and hospitals)
- Government agencies
- Services such as WIC
- Libraries
- Businesses
- Sesame Street
- ?
The Work is Urgent

- State (and many local) committees must be formed and funded now
- 2019 is when
  - Target areas and groups must be identified
  - Community stakeholders must be educated
  - Plans for outreach activities must be created
  - Materials must be created
  - Fall 2019 is when outreach to hard to count groups starts
- January 2020 is when outreach to general community starts
- March 2020 is when first Census forms are mailed
- April 1, 2020 is Census Day
- June 2020 all follow up activities are complete and data begins to be tabulated
What Can Regional and Local Foundations Do

- Convene local stakeholders to set the table for Complete Count Committees, and for focusing on the young child undercount
- Bring in experts or provide information to extant Committees
- Fund committees and outreach
- Educate grantees and share outreach materials
Need Help?

The Funders Committee for Civic Participation is supporting state and local funders that need technical assistance with Census grants.

• Jocelyn Bissonette, jbsissonette@funderscommittee.org

• Funders can request to join the FCI Working Group, which gives them access to the listserv, https://funderscommittee.org/join-group/?group=Funders+Census+Initiative+%28FCI%29+2020&groupid=4.

• Key census milestones are at https://funderscommittee.org/resource/key-2020-census-milestones/

• Key census funder milestones are at https://funderscommittee.org/resource/key-2020-census-funder-milestones/
Resources

• Sign up at www.CountAllKids.org
• Follow us on Facebook and on Twitter at @countallkids
• https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2020-census/research-testing/undercount-of-young-children.html
Implications for Immigrant Families in New York

Wendy Cervantes
Senior Policy Analyst, Immigration & Immigrant Families
Citizenship Question

• Administration announced plan to include citizenship question on the 2020 Census in March

• Met with immediate opposition from advocates, researchers, and policymakers
  • Several organizations and state governments filed suit
Contributing to a Climate of Fear

- Heightened enforcement
- Removal of legal protections
- Undercut access to public benefits
More than 1 in 3 Young Children in New York are Members of an Immigrant Family

State average 36%
New York Families are Harmed by Anti-Immigrant Policies and Rhetoric

- Heightened social isolation
- Employment instability
- Loss of publicly funded health, nutrition, and early care and education services
Implications for an Accurate Count

- Children in immigrant families are already more likely to be “hard to count”
  - Language barriers
  - Large, multi-generational households
  - Concerns about interacting with government
- Many immigrants may be afraid to identify themselves as noncitizens, choose not to fill out the census
A Temporary Victory in the Courts, but Challenges Remain

- A federal judge recently blocked the Commerce Department from including the citizenship question on the survey
  - Administration asking the Supreme Court to rule on the inclusion of the question
- Administration moving forward with testing the question this summer
- Challenge of mitigating/overcoming climate of fear remains
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Preparation for the 2020 Census Count

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Census Preparation in NYS

- Council on Children and Families - Annie E. Casey
- Lead plaintiff in citizenship question litigation
- NY Counts 2020 Coalition
- 2018 State Budget language to establish complete count committee - announced Jan 2019
State Complete Count Committee

- Has yet to convene
Funds Commitment

NO state funds committed to complete count efforts

$0.00
California vs. New York

2019-2020 Executive Budget proposal: CA Governor has proposed $50M more for census preparation.
NYC Census Preparations

- January 2019: Mayor appointed a citywide census coordinator, has indicated there may be funding in NYC’s 2019-2020 budget
- NYC Council Speaker appointed a census task force
To our knowledge, only two of upstate New York’s 53 counties have announced a local complete count committee.
91.3% of counties have not announced a complete count committee

These counties represent over 10.5 million people
Next Steps for New York

- NYS Budget Advocacy
  - *New York Counts 2020* requests $40 million in state budget for community-based organizations to do outreach
  - Seek additional funding to support work of state complete count committee and other state efforts; translation and multilingual outreach; media ad buys and targeting, among other activities
  - Ensure already established committees have early childhood representation and focus
  - Engage child-based advocacy organizations - and support their efforts
What Can Regional and Local Foundations Do?

- Support state budget advocacy
- Convene local stakeholders to set the table for Complete Count Committees, and for focusing on the young child undercount
- Bring in experts or provide information to extant Committees
- Fund committees and outreach
- Educate grantees and share outreach materials
Open Discussion

Please use the chat box to ask a question!
Thank you!