



HOW ARE CENSUS DATA USED?

Census data are widely and wisely used.

Determining congressional seats and federal funding is just a hint of the many important uses of census data. Take a look at examples below and refer to the appendix for even more uses of census data. (See Appendix A: 50 Ways Census Data Are Used.)

- The federal government uses population data to allocate funds in a number of areas:
 - Title I grants to educational agencies (school districts across the nation)
 - Head Start programs
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) (food grants)
 - Public transportation
 - Road rehabilitation and construction
 - Programs for the elderly
 - Emergency food and shelter
 - Empowerment zones
- The data help the private sector as well as state and federal governments determine where jobs and job programs are needed.
- Census data help potential homeowners research property values, median income, and other demographic information about a particular community.
- Corporations use population data for market research to determine locations for commercial enterprises, such as food stores, pharmacies, and other essential services.