

# TENNESSEE

In FY2016, Tennessee received

## \$17,298,449,635

through 55 federal spending programs guided by data derived from the 2010 Census.



The **Counting for Dollars 2020 Project** aims to understand 1) the extent to which the federal government will rely on data from the 2020 Census to guide the distribution of federal funding to states, localities, and households across the nation and 2) the impact of the accuracy of the 2020 Census on the fair, equitable distribution of these funds.

The project has analyzed spending by state for 55 federal programs (\$883,094,826,042 in FY2016). Three types of programs are analyzed:

- **Domestic financial assistance programs** provide financial assistance – including direct payments to individuals, grants, loans, and loan guarantees – to non-federal entities within the U.S. – such as individuals and families, state and local governments, companies, and nonprofits – in order to fulfill a public purpose.
- **Tax credit programs** allow a special exclusion, exemption, or deduction from gross income or provide a special credit, a preferential rate of tax, or a deferral of tax liability.
- **Procurement programs** award a portion of Federal prime contract dollars to small businesses located in areas selected on the basis of census-derived data.

The four uses of census-derived datasets to geographically allocate funding are:

- **Define eligibility criteria** – that is, identify which organizations or individuals can receive funds.
- **Compute formulas** that geographically allocate funds to eligible recipients.
- **Rank project applications** based on priorities (e.g., smaller towns, poorer neighborhoods).
- **Set interest rates** for federal loan programs.

The two categories of census-derived datasets are:

- **Geographic classifications** – the characterization (e.g., rural), delineation (e.g., Metropolitan Areas), or designation (e.g., Opportunity Zones) of specific geographic areas.
- **Variable datasets**
  - **Annual updates** of population and housing variables collected in the Decennial Census.
  - **Household surveys** collecting new data elements (e.g., income, occupation) by using the Decennial Census to design representative samples and interpret results.



### Reports of the Counting for Dollars 2020 Project:

- > **Report #1:** Initial Analysis: 16 Large Census-guided Financial Assistance Programs (August 2017)\*
- > **Report #2:** Estimating Fiscal Costs of a Census Undercount to States (March 2018)\*
- > **Report #3:** Role of the Decennial Census in Distributing Federal Funds to Rural America (December 2018)\*
- > **Report #4:** Census-derived Datasets Used to Distribute Federal Funds (December 2018)
- > **Report #5:** Analysis of 55 Large Census-guided Federal Spending Programs (forthcoming)\*†
- > **Report #6:** An Inventory of 320 Census-guided Federal Spending Programs (forthcoming)

\* Data available by state

† Source for this state sheet

# Counting for Dollars 2020

## The Role of the Decennial Census in the Geographic Distribution of Federal Funds

REPORT

COUNTING FOR DOLLARS 2020:

# TENNESSEE

**Allocation of Funds from 55 Large Federal Spending Programs  
Guided by Data Derived from the 2010 Census (Fiscal Year 2016)**

**Total Program Obligations: \$17,298,449,635**

| Program   | Dept. | Obligations             | Program   | Dept. | Obligations          |
|---|-------|-------------------------|---|-------|----------------------|
| <b>Financial Assistance Programs</b>            |       | <b>\$16,928,469,418</b> |   |       |                      |
| Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)           | HHS   | \$6,523,606,000         | Community Facilities Loans/Grants                                     | USDA  | \$87,064,937         |
| Federal Direct Student Loans                    | ED    | \$1,789,940,718         | Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants                         | ED    | \$38,128,704         |
| Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program       | USDA  | \$1,672,282,240         | Crime Victim Assistance   | DOJ   | \$44,979,475         |
| Medicare Suppl. Medical Insurance (Part B)      | HHS   | \$1,438,748,356         | CDBG Entitlement Grants   | HUD   | \$20,291,193         |
| Highway Planning and Construction               | DOT   | \$825,266,381           | Public Housing Capital Fund   | HUD   | \$51,813,000         |
| Federal Pell Grant Program                      | ED    | \$492,500,000           | Block Grants for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse      | HHS   | \$31,978,247         |
| Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers               | HUD   | \$224,524,000           | Water and Waste Disposal Systems for Rural Communities                | USDA  | \$35,351,979         |
| Temporary Assistance for Needy Families         | HHS   | \$210,333,124           | Social Services Block Grant   | HHS   | \$32,361,886         |
| Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans       | USDA  | \$824,129,062           | Rural Rental Assistance Payments                                      | USDA  | \$33,291,146         |
| Title I Grants to LEAs                          | ED    | \$295,105,695           | Business and Industry Loans   | USDA  | \$20,642,000         |
| State Children's Health Insurance Program       | HHS   | \$213,273,000           | Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States               | ED    | \$23,156,626         |
| National School Lunch Program                   | USDA  | \$278,804,000           | Homeland Security Grant Program                                       | DHS   | \$3,963,744          |
| Special Education Grants                        | ED    | \$243,342,101           | WIOA Dislocated Worker Grants   | DOL   | \$21,862,291         |
| Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program   | HUD   | \$172,583,229           | HOME  | HUD   | \$17,420,167         |
| Federal Transit Formula Grants                  | DOT   | \$88,321,000            | State CDBG  | HUD   | \$25,265,266         |
| Head Start                                      | HHS   | \$161,432,932           | WIOA Youth Activities   | DOL   | \$18,853,852         |
| WIC   | USDA  | \$128,617,000           | WIOA Adult Activities   | DOL   | \$17,905,239         |
| Title IV-E Foster Care                          | HHS   | \$42,769,956            | Employment Service/Wagner-Peyser                                      | DOL   | \$13,253,132         |
| Health Care Centers                             | HHS   | \$80,307,481            | Community Services Block Grant  | HHS   | \$14,021,238         |
| School Breakfast Program                        | USDA  | \$110,632,000           | Special Programs for the Aging, Title III, Part C, Nutrition Services | HHS   | \$13,443,155         |
| Rural Electrification Loans and Loan Guarantees | USDA  | \$17,000,000            | Cooperative Extension Service   | USDA  | \$16,701,163         |
| Public and Indian Housing                       | HUD   | \$101,947,000           | Native Amer. Employment & Training                                    | DOL   | \$212,625            |
| Low Income Home Energy Assistance               | HHS   | \$55,844,854            |   |       |                      |
| Child and Adult Care Food Program               | USDA  | \$69,526,000            | <b>Federal Tax Expenditures</b>                                       |       | <b>\$222,052,848</b> |
| Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to the States  | ED    | \$59,971,149            | Low Income Housing Tax Credit   | Treas | \$177,167,935        |
| Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds         | HHS   | \$71,427,000            | New Markets Tax Credit  | Treas | \$44,884,912         |
| Unemployment Insurance Administration           | DOL   | \$36,511,000            |   |       |                      |
| Federal Transit - Capital Investment Grants     | DOT   | \$5,770,950             | <b>Federal Procurement Programs</b>                                   |       | <b>\$147,927,369</b> |
| Child Care and Development Block Grant          | HHS   | \$62,216,000            | HUBZones Program  | SBA   | \$147,927,369        |
| Adoption Assistance                             | HHS   | \$49,776,125            |   |       |                      |

Prepared by Andrew Reamer, the George Washington Institute of Public Policy, the George Washington University. Spending data analysis provided by Sean Moulton, Open Government Program Manager, Project on Government Oversight. | January 30, 2019

**Note:** The sequence of the above programs is consistent with U.S. rank order by program expenditures. (See U.S. sheet in series.)

Counting for Dollars 2020 publications and spreadsheet with above data available at <https://gwipp.gwu.edu/counting-dollars-2020-role-decennial-census-geographic-distribution-federal-funds>

**GW Institute  
of Public Policy**

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

For further information:

**Andrew Reamer**, Research Professor  
The George Washington University  
[areamer@gwu.edu](mailto:areamer@gwu.edu)