THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

Counting for Dollars 2020

16 Large Federal Assistance Programs that Distribute Funds on Basis of Decennial Census-derived Statistics (Fiscal Year 2015)

#10: Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program (Project-based)

The first report of the Counting for Dollars Project examines 16 large federal financial assistance programs that use Decennial Census-derived data to geographically distribute funds. This fact sheet describes the *Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program (Project-based)*, its reliance on Census-derived data, and funds distribution by state.

Objective: Provide rental assistance to very low income individuals and families, enabling them to live in affordable decent, safe and sanitary housing.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) #: 14.195

Legal basis: 42 USC Chapter 8 (Low-income Housing)

Applicant eligibility: Public housing agencies (PHAs)

Beneficiary eligibility: Families whose income does not exceed 80 percent of the area median income, with adjustments by family size

Type of assistance: Direct payments to housing owners. A PHA enters into an assistance contract with the owner for specified units and a specified term.

Allocation of vouchers: Based on determination of housing needs, annually adjusted for inflation. PHAs can use up to 20 percent of annual voucher allocation for project-based vouchers. The remainder are used as housing choice vouchers under 14.871.

Determination of housing assistance payments: Generally, the difference between the contract rent and 30 percent of the family's adjusted income

Primary Census-derived data sources: American Community Survey (Census) and Renewal Funding Inflation Factors (HUD) for allocation of vouchers; Median Family Income (HUD) for household eligibility; Fair Market Rent and Annual Adjustment Factors (HUD) to set and adjust contract rents.

Relation to accuracy of local Decennial Census: Positive

A local Decennial Census miscount would increase the likelihood of less accurate estimates of local area housing needs, median income, and market-appropriate contract rents by size of unit.

Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program (Project-based)
Obligations – U.S. and States, FY2015

United States	$9,238,092,008		
Alabama	$101,312,400	Montana	$19,218,551
Alaska	$8,421,352	Nebraska	$27,819,412
Arizona	$55,722,792	Nevada	$21,623,654
Arkansas	$59,593,688	New Hampshire	$48,994,971
California	$981,354,224	New Jersey	$486,109,219
Colorado	$106,299,097	New Mexico	$30,028,385
Connecticut	$219,845,261	New York	$1,265,756,712
Delaware	$33,255,445	North Carolina	$148,057,234
District of Columbia	$127,602,875	North Dakota	$10,648,622
Florida	$303,572,466	Ohio	$459,769,266
Georgia	$197,103,835	Oklahoma	$70,877,567
Hawaii	$29,562,853	Oregon	$55,959,613
Idaho	$21,350,185	Pennsylvania	$371,741,214
Illinois	$528,163,084	Rhode Island	$138,890,398
Indiana	$182,941,758	South Carolina	$123,622,766
Iowa	$56,461,735	South Dakota	$17,414,851
Kansas	$55,801,183	Tennessee	$166,486,051
Kentucky	$124,945,396	Texas	$330,585,412
Louisiana	$93,348,272	Utah	$25,039,984
Maine	$64,808,208	Vermont	$27,754,627
Maryland	$202,307,420	Virginia	$202,616,225
Massachusetts	$664,456,535	Washington	$93,906,920
Michigan	$263,237,746	West Virginia	$57,086,119
Minnesota	$154,342,214	Wisconsin	$146,116,730
Mississippi	$106,615,134	Wyoming	$11,655,333
Missouri	$137,887,014		

Source: USASpending.gov