

Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada:

Hard To Count Census Tracts + Federal Grant Dollars Sensitive to Census Count

THE CENSUS BUREAU COUNTS THE PEOPLE EVERY 10 YEARS. THE NEXT CENSUS COUNT IS 2010. IN SOME COUNTIES IT IS HARDER TO COUNT THE PEOPLE BECAUSE SOME PEOPLE ARE AFRAID TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO CENSUS WORKERS, SOME CENSUS WORKERS ARE AFRAID TO TALK WITH PEOPLE IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS, AND SOME PEOPLE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES LIVE IN HARD TO FIND LOCATIONS.

THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS PROVIDED DATA TO SHOW IN WHICH AREAS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HARD TO COUNT. THIS DATA IS SHOWN BY CENSUS TRACTS WITHIN EACH COUNTY. THE CENSUS BUREAU RANKS EACH CENSUS TRACT ON A SCALE FROM 0 TO 125. THE CENSUS BUREAU USES 12 FACTORS TO SET A SCORE FOR EACH TRACT. THE MEAN NUMBER IS 32.8. THE MEAN IS THE AVERAGE SCORE FOR ALL CENSUS TRACTS IN THE US.

THE CENSUS BUREAU REGARDS ALL CENSUS TRACTS THAT SCORE 60 OR ABOVE AS HARD TO COUNT.

THE MAP USES 3 COLOR CODES TO IDENTIFY THE SCORING RANGE FOR EACH CENSUS TRACT. CREAM COLOR REPRESENTS THE LOWEST RANGE AND IS BELOW THE MEAN. GREEN COLOR REPRESENTS THE MID-RANGE AND IS ABOVE THE MEAN. RED COLOR IS THE HIGHEST RANGE ABOVE THE MEAN AND REPRESENTS THE HARD-TO-COUNT TRACTS.

EVERY YEAR THE US GOVERNMENT PROVIDES TO STATES, COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES GRANT FUNDS THAT ARE ALLOCATED ON THE BASIS OF THE CENSUS COUNT. THESE GRANTS ARE SENSITIVE TO THE CENSUS COUNT. WHEN THERE IS AN UNDERCOUNT LOW-WEALTH COMMUNITIES OF COLOR LOSE SUBSTANTIAL FEDERAL FUNDS TO WHICH THEY ARE ENTITLED.

IN 2007 (LATEST DATA AVAILABLE) LAS VEGAS RECEIVED IN FEDERAL GRANTS \$563,053,888, AND RENO RECEIVED \$198,916,093.

