

BENEFITS OF THE CENSUS BUREAU'S AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY TO THE STATE OF IOWA

Source:

Brookings Institution, *Surveying for Dollars: The Role of the American Community Survey in the Geographic Distribution of Federal Funds*, July 2010.
<http://www.brookings.edu/research/reports/2010/07/26-ac-s-reamer>

General:

- In FY2008, 184 federal domestic assistance programs distributed \$416 billion (29 percent of all federal assistance) based on data derived directly or indirectly from the ACS. ACS data guided \$389.2 billion (69 percent of all federal grants) that year.
- The ACS facilitates the distribution of federal assistance largely by serving as the basis for six other federal datasets. Most important of these are the *Bureau of Economic Analysis' per capita income series and the Census Bureau's annual population estimates*. The ACS itself is directly used to guide the distribution of about a fifth of the \$416 billion in assistance.

Iowa:

- In FY2008, Iowa received more than \$3.5 billion (\$3,540,375,859), or \$1,179 per capita, in federal assistance (grants, direct payments, and loans) based on data derived directly or indirectly from the ACS.
- The largest functional categories of such assistance were Health (51.2%, or \$1.8 billion); Transportation (13.4%, or \$475.6 million); Community and Regional Development (11.2%, or \$397.2 million); and Income Security (9.7%, or \$342.6 million).
- **Polk County** received \$768,072,463, or \$1,808 per capita, in federal program funds based on ACS-related data in FY2008, making it the 35th largest county recipient in the U.S. of such aid per capita that year.
- The **Des Moines-West Des Moines Metro Area** received \$829,004,875, or \$1,490 per capita, in federal program funds based on ACS-related data in FY2008, making it the 27th largest recipient of such aid among all metro areas in the U.S. that year. The **Omaha-Council Bluffs (NE/IA) Metro Area** received \$1,147,778,624, or \$1,370 per capita, in federal program funds based on ACS-related data that year.

Decennial Census:

- In FY2008, 215 federal domestic assistance programs distributed \$446.7 billion (31 percent of all federal assistance) based on data derived directly or indirectly from the decennial census. Census-data accounted for \$419.8 billion (75 percent of all federal grants) that year.

- In FY2008, Iowa received more than \$3.8 billion (\$3,805,998,939), or \$1,268 per capita, in federal assistance (grants, direct payments, and loans) based on data derived directly or indirectly from the decennial census.

Source: Brookings Institution, *Counting for Dollars: The Role of the Decennial Census in the Distribution of Federal Funds*, March 2010.

<http://www.brookings.edu/research/reports/2010/03/09-census-dollars>