The most under represented population in the last Census count was children ages 0-4.

Children ages 0-4 are affected by Head Start funding, school funding, and Title 1 funding.

Together, our multi-sector network -- people, businesses, nonprofits, government, and the media -- can help spread the word that a complete count in our region will have a significant impact for the next ten years!

6 REASONS TO COMPLETE THE CENSUS

1. **Apportionment** - State population counts from the decennial census are used to allocate federal funds.

The most undercounted population in the Census 2020 was children ages 0-4.

In 2020, more than mitigating the summer slide, the community will champion reading gains, with partners and children all working toward the same goal -- to help children from birth through 3rd grade, especially those from asset-limited families, succeed in life by ensuring they read on grade level!

Last year, the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge Blast Off was an inspiring and motivational training event for summer providers working with SCGLR. More than 300 individuals experienced outstanding educators presenting replicable lessons designed to inspire team building and a love of learning.

During Summer 2019, to avoid the summer slide, SCGLR engaged our four-county region and partnered with 97 summer camp...
counts from the decennial census are used to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

2. **Redistricting** - State and local officials use decennial census results to help redraw congressional, state, and local district boundaries.

3. **MONEY to States and Localities** - Census totals help determine the amount of funding that state governments and local communities receive from the federal government FOR THE NEXT DECADE.

4. **Planning** - Data from the census inform a wide range of government, business, and nonprofit decision making.

5. **Emergency Response** - Detailed population information is critical for emergency response in the wake of disasters.

6. **A Base for Federal Surveys** - The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program uses census data in combination with birth, death, and migration data to produce annual population and housing unit estimates.

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* In total, 8,709 children participated -- a 60% increase over 2018
* Of 8,709 kids, 6,876 read six or more books -- a 40% increase over 2018
* All together, the children read a total of 198,570 Books -- a 57% increase over 2018!

Be sure to mark your calendars for May 16, 2020!

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**Honoring the Suncoast Campaign**

Take an 8-minute glimpse into how the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading has impacted people, organizations, and communities locally and beyond as we work together toward shared aspirations. Kudos to each of you for creating meaningful change in our world!

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We welcome your thoughts. Contact us at info@GradeLevelReadingSuncoast.net.