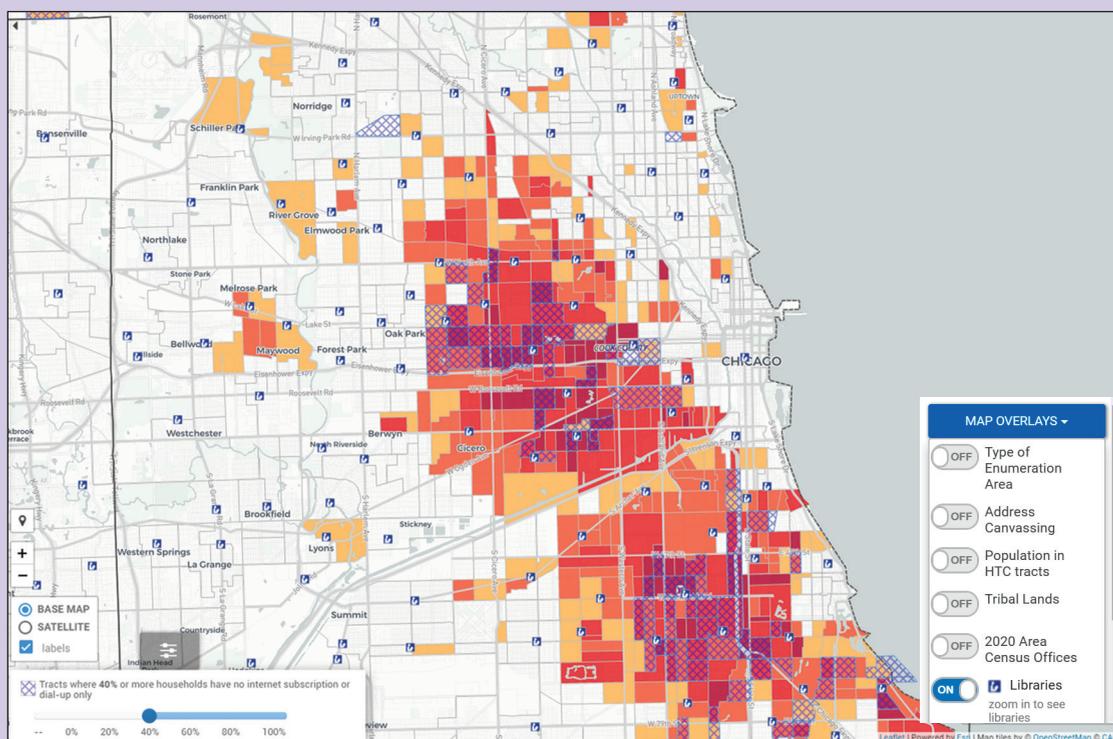


2020 CENSUS

Public libraries often serve as a lifeline between a patron and access to the social services they need. The 2020 Census will determine the annual distribution of more than \$800 billion in federal funds for states and localities for essential services that affect everyone, but particularly the most vulnerable among us—as with school lunch programs, Medicaid, food assistance, and affordable housing.

Public libraries can help ensure every person is counted—using data from IMLS, census, and other public data as collected in a map showing “hard-to-count” areas. Developed by the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY), the map shows where there was a low response in the 2010 Census, along with options to overlay public libraries and show census tracts where households lack internet access. Library locations are marked with blue squares in the map below.



Source: www.censushardtocountmaps2020.us

- **16,557 US public library buildings**—with a public library within five miles of 99% of all hard-to-count census tracts.
- **79 million attendees at public library children’s programs**—and more than 2.2 million children younger than age five were not counted in 2010, the highest undercount of any age group.
- **4.8 public internet computers in public libraries for every 5,000 people**—and 2020 will be the first year that people can complete the census online. [PL](#)

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK AT DATADISCUSSION@ALA.ORG

or discuss this topic with other members of PLA’s Data and Measurement Interest Group on ALA Connect.

LEARN MORE THAT CAN HELP YOU TARGET CENSUS OUTREACH BY VISITING WWW.CENSUSHARDTOCOUNTMAPS2020.US AND GET SPECIFIC RESOURCES TO SUPPORT A FAIR AND ACCURATE CENSUS AT WWW.ALA.ORG/CENSUS. COMPILED BY LARRA CLARK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, ALA OFFICE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY & PLA AND EMILY PLAGMAN, MANAGER, IMPACT & ADVOCACY, PLA.