



California Complete Count – Census 2020 DREDF and CFILC People with Disabilities & Older Adults

While people with disabilities make up 26% of the American public according to figures released by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, they remain largely a neglected, albeit sizeable minority, in terms of recognition and participation in the decennial census.

Most people with disabilities communicate the same way people without disabilities communicate. Those who have disabilities that affect hearing, seeing, speaking, reading, writing, remembering, or understanding may use different methods to communicate. Often referred to as “auxiliary aids and services,” these devices or services enable effective communication. Generally, the requirement to provide an auxiliary aid or service is triggered when a person requests it but providing accessible communications services such as Computer Aided Real-Time Transcription (CART) at public events signals that disabled people are welcome. Similarly, ensuring websites are accessible to people who are blind ensures their participation.

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF), as the prime contractor, and California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) are disability-led organizations with long histories of outreach, communication and networking in California. Their primary audiences are people with disabilities, seniors, local and state government agencies and community-based organizations.

DREDF and CFILC are partnering with and providing resources, training, and materials to 22 Independent Living Centers and five Area Agencies on Aging who network with and provide services to people with disabilities and seniors in all California counties. In addition, they are conducting outreach through cross-disability and parent organizations who serve people with disabilities and through networks that serve seniors. More information about their partners is on their [website](#).

DREDF and CFILC are coordinating with counties, ACBOs, statewide CBOs to ensure that people with disabilities and older adults are included in Census outreach efforts. The www.disabilitycounts2020.org has nine videos, including in American Sign Language, and [resources](#) and a [toolkit](#) to support partners to raise awareness of the importance of the Census.

WEBSITE

www.disabilitycounts2020.org

FUNDING ALLOCATION

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund - \$700,000

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