



Ensuring the Accuracy of Data

Throughout the reauthorization process, SGA maintained that a state’s allotment should be calculated in a manner that accurately reflects both the size of the population it is trying to serve and the economic factors influencing the cost of the service. Unfortunately, there are significant inaccuracies in the Census data for many Southern states, and in the case of Southern territories, there is often no data available at all. These data problems have caused many Southern states to go into shortfall in recent years because there were far more eligible children than Census data suggested.

The Old S-CHIP Statute	The New S-CHIP Statute
Provided an annual allocation of \$10 million to the Census for the collection of data.	Doubles the annual allocation to the Census (from \$10 million to \$20 million) to ensure the development of more accurate state-specific estimates of the number of eligible children. Accounts for the lack of data for territories by using total average U.S. child population growth as a proxy for child population growth in the territories.