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United States®
Census
2020

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

The U.S. Constitution requires that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. Completing the census is mandatory, plus it's your way to participate in our democracy and say **"I COUNT!"**

WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT?

More than **\$675 billion** in federal funds, grants and support is distributed to states, counties, and local communities based on census data, with funds going to schools, roads, public works, housing, aging services, and other vital programs. Residents use it to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy. Local governments use it for public safety and emergency preparedness. It is also used to help determine the number of congressional districts.

HOW DO I GET COUNTED?

Census invitations will be mailed beginning in mid-March. You choose how you want to respond:

Online: with an accessible online questionnaire.

By phone: in English or in 12 other languages. (you can also respond in English by TDD)

Paper form: by mid-April, every household that hasn't already responded will receive a paper questionnaire to fill out and send in.

In person: if necessary, you can respond in person beginning in mid-May. Census takers will visit all households that have not yet responded.

If you live in a group facility, like a nursing home, Census employees will work with a representative from your building to make sure you are counted.

HOW DO I AVOID CENSUS SCAMS?

Watch for Phishing and Online Scams

The Census Bureau **will not** send unsolicited emails (phishing) to request your participation in the Census.

Don't Give Out Too Much Information

During the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau **will never ask for:**

Your Social Security number. Your bank account or credit card numbers. Money or donations.

Staying Safe at Home

If someone visits your home to collect a response for the 2020 Census, **check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge**, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date. If you still have questions, call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census representative.

Reporting Suspected Fraud

If you suspect fraud, call 800-923-8282. If it is determined that the visitor who came to your door does not work for the Census Bureau, contact your local police department.

YOUR RESPONSES ARE SAFE AND SECURE

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect all personal information collected, and to keep it strictly confidential. Every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics; they can't be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your eligibility for government benefits.

For more information, visit www.safeseniors.info or www.mivoicerecounts.org