

CENSUS 2020 NON-RESPONSE FOLLOW UP FAQ

WHAT IS NON-RESPONSE FOLLOW UP?

Starting August 11, 2020 Census Takers or Census Enumerators (someone hired from our local community by the Census Bureau) will be going around to knock on doors and collect responses Census 2020 from households that have not yet responded. For those who haven't responded to Census 2020, prepared for a Census Taker to knock on your door. Remember your census data is confidential, protected, and will shape our civic representation for the next decade.

WHAT WILL A CENSUS TAKER ASK ME?

The census taker will ONLY ask questions that appear on the census form and basic information about each resident.

The Census 2020 Enumerators will **not** ask for:

- Immigration or citizenship status
- Social security number
- Money or donations
- Anything on behalf of a political party
- Bank or credit card account numbers

WHAT IF NO ONE IS HOME?

If a family member is not home when the census taker visits, they will leave a notice of their visit with information about how to respond online or by phone. As necessary, they will make additional visits to collect responses from the household.

HOW CAN I VERIFY THE IDENTITY OF A CENSUS TAKER?

A Census Taker:

- Must present an ID Badge which contains: photograph of field representative, Department of Commerce watermark, and expiration date.
- Will provide you with supervisor contact information and/or the regional office phone number for verification, if asked.
- Will provide you with a letter from the Director of the Census Bureau on U.S. Census Bureau letterhead.
- May be carrying a laptop and/or bag with a Census Bureau log

WHAT LANGUAGES ARE AVAILABLE?

All census takers speak English, and many are bilingual. If a census taker does not speak the householder's language, the household **may request a return visit from a census taker who does**. Census takers will also have materials on hand to help identify the household's language.

WHO COUNTS?

If you are filling out the census for your home, you **count everyone living there as of April 1, 2020**. This includes anyone living and sleeping there most of the time. If someone is staying in your home on April 1 and has no usual residence, you should count them in your response.

WHY DOES CENSUS ASK THESE QUESTIONS?

Information collected by the Census helps determine how **more than one trillion dollars** of federal funding is spent on infrastructure and services. Your answers help federal, state, and local leaders make decisions about: schools, hospitals, emergency services, roads, bridges, job training centers, and many services that affect your community.

WILL MY INFORMATION BE CONFIDENTIAL?

Census Data has some of the **strongest protections in law**. It is against the law for any Census Bureau employee to disclose or publish census information which identifies an individual. Census Bureau employees take a lifelong pledge of confidentiality to handle data responsibly and keep respondents' information private. The penalty for wrongful disclosure is a **fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both**. No law enforcement agency (not the DHS, ICE, FBI, or CIA) can access or use your personal information at any time. Data collected can only be used for statistical purposes to inform decisions, including how much federal funding your community receives. The Census Bureau has robust cybersecurity, incorporating industry best practices and federal security standards for encrypting data.

IS THE CENSUS HAPPENING AMIDST COVID-19?

Yes. Per the Constitution, the country is required to take a Census every ten years. While COVID-19 is impacting operations and dates are being adjusted, the U.S. Census Bureau is still planning to deliver state apportionments to the President by December 31, 2020 as required.

WHAT PRECAUTIONS ARE CENSUS TAKERS TAKING TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?

The Census Bureau will provide face masks to census takers and requires that census takers wear a mask while conducting their work. They will follow CDC and local public health guidelines when they visit. Census takers must complete a virtual COVID-19 training on social distancing protocols and other health and safety guidance before beginning their work in neighborhoods.

Respond to the Census at my2020census.gov

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