

The 2020 Census at a Glance



The U.S. Constitution requires that each decade we take a count—or a census—of America's population. The 2020 Census goal is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place.

The census provides vital information for you and your community.

- It determines how many representatives each state gets in Congress.
- Communities rely on census statistics to plan for a variety of resident needs including new roads, schools, and emergency services.
- Businesses use census data to help provide more local jobs and places to shop.

Each year, the federal government distributes hundreds of billions of dollars to states and communities based on U.S. Census Bureau data.

In 2020, we will introduce new technology to make it easier than ever to respond to the census. For the first time, you will be able to respond online, by phone, or by mail. We will use data that the public has already provided to cut down on household visits. And, we are building a more accurate address list and automating our field operations—all while keeping your information confidential and safe.

The Census Bureau is the leading source of statistical information about the nation's people. We provide snapshots on population size and growth and detailed portraits of our changing communities.

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Foundation of a Successful Census



Establish Where To Count

- Using aerial imagery and in-field work to identify new homes and buildings
- Partner with U.S. Postal Service
- Local governments input through the Boundary Annexation Survey and Local Update of Census Addresses
- Comprehensive review of all addresses



Motivate People To Respond

- Partner with community leaders and trusted voices
- Use tailored messages
- Encourage self-response

4 5 6 7 Count The Population

- Respond online, by phone, or by mail
- Visit households that do not respond
- Online forms in multiple languages
- Mailed Individual Census ID is not required for online response



Release Census Results

- Deliver apportionment counts to the President by December 31, 2020
- Release counts for redistricting by April 1, 2021
- Make it easier for the public to access data

