



United States[®]
Census
2020

The 2020 Census at a Glance

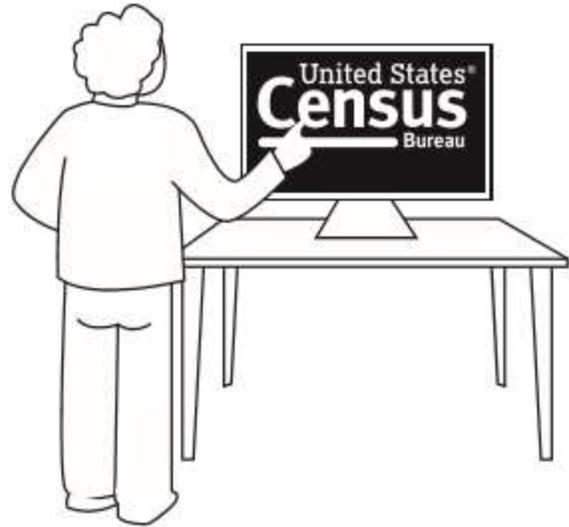
Once every decade, the federal government conducts a census of the entire population to count everyone in the United States and record basic information about them. Our nation's founders believed this data was so important that they mandated the decennial census in the Constitution.

The census is much more than just a head count. It provides a picture of our nation that helps determine where to build new schools, hospitals, and businesses; how over \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed; and how congressional seats are apportioned. It also helps us see how our communities have changed over time. That's why an accurate count is so important.

To see how much federal funding is relying on Census data, please refer to this [study by George Washington University](#). Each program on the list relies on Census data to determine how much funding is distributed to each state.

The Census is safe and simple

The 2020 Census asks a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1, 2020. There are only nine questions on the census. They ask very basic demographic questions: who lives in the household; how they are related; their age, sex, and race; whether they own or rent their house; and their phone number. A question related to citizenship status IS NOT IN the 2020 Census. All personal information recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau is not shared with any other department or branch of the government under federal law. Data is summarized and distributed by census blocks at the smallest scale.



Ways to Respond



Online By Phone By Mail

- The quickest way to respond to the 2020 Census is online at my2020census.gov with your Census ID. This ID can be found on the letter or questionnaire you received in the mail from the Census Bureau. However, you can respond without a Census ID. Please note that if you are responding online, you must complete the census in one sitting, as you don't have the ability to save your progress.

- You have the option of completing the questionnaire by phone. To begin, call **1-844-330-2020**, or call the number associated with your preferred language found on the census website at <https://2020census.gov/en/ways-to-respond/responding-by-phone.html>.
- You can respond to the census online or by phone in 12 non-English languages: Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.
- The Census Bureau began mailing paper questionnaires in mid-April to homes that had not yet responded. If you have not already responded, please complete and mail back your form as soon as you receive it. In addition, if you prefer, you still have the option of responding online or by phone instead.

Who Should Be Counted and Where?

You should be counted where you were living and sleeping most of the time as of April 1, 2020. If you are responding for your home, count everyone who was living and sleeping there most of the time as of April 1, 2020. This includes young children, foster children, roommates, and any family members or friends who are living with you, even temporarily:

- **Completing Your Household's Form.** When responding, count any children, including newborns, who usually live and sleep at your home. If they split time between homes, count them where they are on April 1, 2020.
- **A Recent Mover.** Count yourself at your new address if you moved in by April 1, 2020.
- **A Renter.** Count yourself where you live. Even if you don't own the home, you need to participate. Don't forget your family and roommates.
- **A College Student.** You'll be counted at your dorm since you live there most of the time. Even if you live off-campus, count yourself where you live and sleep the most of the time. This includes international students.
- **A Resident of a Group Facility.** Census Bureau employees will work with representatives of the building to ensure you are counted. This includes nursing homes, group homes, shelters, and correctional facilities.

2020 Census Timeline

- **January 2020:** The Census Bureau begins counting the population in remote Alaska.
- **Mid-March 2020:** The [Response Rates Map](#) will go live and begin reporting 2020 Census responses. Most households will receive their initial invitations to respond, which will be followed by three additional mailings. People can choose to respond to the census in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail.
- **April 1, 2020:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, most homes will have received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Respond based on where you live and sleep most of the time as of April 1, 2020.
- **August 11, 2020:** Census takers begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted. This operation, called "Nonresponse Followup," will last through October. We will still accept self-responses to the census during this time.

Additional Information

- Brochure to provide information on the 2020 Census at a regional level.
 - [Read in English](#)
 - [Leer en español](#)
- Census Bureau: Your Guide to the 2020 Census
 - [Read in English](#)
 - [Leer en español](#)

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the 2020 Census



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