

# 2020 Census FAQ

## What is the census?

The census is a count of every person who lives in the United States and its territories. It happens every 10 years. You are asked to count everyone who was living in your home as of April 1. If you were temporarily staying somewhere else on that date, count yourself where you live and sleep most of the time. Respond to the 2020 Census to shape your future.

## What's in it for me?



Your responses inform where over \$675 billion is distributed each year to communities nationwide for hospitals, clinics, schools, roads, and more.



Census data gives community leaders vital information to make decisions about maintaining public safety, preparing for emergencies, opening businesses, and planning for the future.



Responding also fulfills your civic duty because it's mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The United States has counted its population every 10 years since 1790.



Your responses are used to redraw legislative districts and determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

## Is my information safe?

Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. They cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the FBI, not by the CIA, not by the DHS, and not by ICE.

## When can I respond to the census?

You can respond to the census today—online, by phone, or by mail. Census takers will visit households that do not respond, and they can assist you in completing your form.

## What questions are asked?

You are asked a few simple questions, like age, sex, and the number of people who live in your home, including children.

## What won't be asked?

The census does not ask for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

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