



Shape your community's future.

Every 10 years, the United States counts everyone who lives in the country. The census collects basic information, including age, sex, ethnicity (e.g., Hispanic origin), and race, about every person in every household. Your participation in the 2020 Census will help ensure that programs that are important to you and your community receive accurate federal funding.

How should multiracial individuals respond to the question on race?

When you complete your census form, you may select one or more boxes for the race or races you identify with and print your origins in the write-in space. An individual's response to the race question is based on self-identification. The Census Bureau does not tell individuals which boxes to mark or what heritage to write in.

For more information, visit:

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Since the 2000 Census, individuals have had the option to self-identify with more than one race, and this continues for the 2020 Census. People who identify with more than one race may choose to provide multiple races in response to the race question. For example, if someone identifies as Asian and White, he or she may respond by checking the appropriate boxes that describe their racial identities and/or writing these identities in the spaces provided.

Responding is easy, safe, and important.

Responding to the census takes just a few minutes. Simply answer a handful of questions online, by phone, or by mail. All responses are confidential and protected by law. Your responses can only be used for statistical purposes. They cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits. Census data provides a snapshot of the nation. We ask about a person's racial identity to create statistics about race and to present other statistics by various racial groups.

Your family can help you respond.

The online census form is available in English and 12 additional languages. If you do not speak one of these languages, someone else in your home can complete the form for your household. If the adults in your home do not speak one of these languages, someone can translate for you, including a child or a friend. Census web pages and guides are available in 59 languages other than English, including American Sign Language. Guides are also available in braille and large print.

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