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. In 2020, you will be asked to count everyone who lives in your home as of April 1.

What’s in it for me?
Your responses inform where more than $675 billion in federal funds are distributed each year to communities nationwide for clinics, schools, roads and more. Census data gives community leaders vital information to make decisions about building community centers, 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.

What will I be asked?
You will be asked a few simple questions, like age, gender and the number of people who live in your home, including children.

What won’t be asked?
The census will never ask for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties.

Count Yourself in the Right Place
Children: Count any children who usually live and sleep at your home, even if they are not your own. If they split time evenly between two households, count them where they are on April 1, 2020.

Renters: Count yourself where you live. Even if you don’t own the home, you need to participate.

Recent Move: Count yourself at your new address if you moved in by April 1, 2020.

College Student: If you don’t live in a dorm, count yourself at your off campus address, even if you go to your parents’ home for school breaks.

Military: If you don’t live in military barracks, and you aren’t deployed or stationed outside the United States, count yourself where you live and sleep most of the time, whether on or off base.

Group Facilities: For people in the following living situations on April 1, 2020, Census Bureau employees will work with a representative from your building to ensure you are counted. They may or may not ask you to complete an individual census form.

- College dorms
- Military barracks
- Nursing homes
- Group homes
- Shelters
- Psychiatric facilities
- Correctional facilities
When can I respond to the census?
In early 2020, 95 percent of households will receive their census invitation in the mail. In areas where the majority of households may not receive mail at their home’s physical location, a census taker will drop off the questionnaire. In May, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin following up in person with households that have yet to respond.

What to Expect in the Mail
When it’s time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail. Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone.

Letter Invitation
- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire.
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we’ll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire
Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL</th>
<th>You’ll Receive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On or between March 12–20</td>
<td>An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 16–24</td>
<td>A reminder letter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you haven’t responded yet:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26–April 3</td>
<td>A reminder postcard.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 8–16</td>
<td>A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 20–27</td>
<td>A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn’t already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn’t matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don’t respond.

For more information, visit: 2020CENSUS.GOV

United States Census 2020

COMpletely CONFIDENTIAL