# 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.*

## 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

### 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

United States Census Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

August 2017

## Become a 2020 Census Partner

Your partnership sends a strong message to your community about the importance of the census and the benefits of being counted. By partnering with the Census Bureau, you can help:

- Assure people that it is important—and safe—to respond to the census.
- Ensure accurate census data, which guide funding decisions for your community and affect your community's representation in Congress.
- Spread the word about temporary census jobs in your community.

## Get Involved: What Can You Do Now?

- Create or join a Complete Count Committee and partner with other trusted voices and influential leaders in your area who are committed to increasing census participation. Encourage your peers to get involved too.
- Raise awareness by including census information in newsletters, social media posts, podcasts, mailings, and on Web sites.
- Help recruit census workers when jobs become available.

## You can make a difference

As an influential community, business, or organization leader, you can raise awareness and encourage participation.

## Key Dates

**2017**
- Local Update of Census Addresses—invitations sent to local governments for completion in 2018
- Publish final 2020 residence criteria and situations

**2018**
- Question wording to Congress—March 31, 2018
- 2018 End-to-End Census Test
- Regional Census Centers opening

**2019**
- Opening Field Offices
- Complete Count Committees established

**2020**
- Advertising—begins in early 2020
- Begin self response
- **Census Day**—April 1, 2020
- Nonresponse Followup—early April–late July
- Apportionment counts to the President—December 31, 2020

**2021**
- Redistricting counts to the States—March 31, 2021

**For more information, go to *census.gov*.**

**To get involved in your community, contact us!**

Issued August 2017
Form D-3234 (E)