



How to Self-Respond to the 2020 Census Questionnaire Online

[English: Video Guide to Completing the 2020 Census Online](#)

Call the Census Bureau at (844)330-2020 to complete your questionnaire or ask a question. The list below (left) has different numbers for assistance in many languages. If you have questions, but do not want to call the Census Bureau, the numbers below (right) are available.

A note about COVID-19 and the Census: Public health and safety is absolutely critical at this moment of uncertainty. We must fulfill our constitutional obligation to complete the 2020 Census and count every single person in the United States. Our country's future depends on it. Fortunately, it has never been easier and more accessible to respond to the census on your own -- online, over the phone, or by mail.


Language	Toll-free number
English	844-330-2020
Spanish	844-468-2020
Chinese (Mandarin)	844-391-2020
Chinese (Cantonese)	844-398-2020
Vietnamese	844-461-2020
Korean	844-392-2020
Russian	844-417-2020
Arabic	844-416-2020
Tagalog	844-478-2020
Polish	844-479-2020
French	844-494-2020
Haitian Creole	844-477-2020
Portuguese	844-474-2020
Japanese	844-460-2020
English (Puerto Rico residents)	844-418-2020
Spanish (Puerto Rico residents)	844-426-2020

 LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS UNDER LAW	888-COUNT20 (888-268-6820) English
 NALEO Educational Fund	877-ELCENSO (877-352-3676) English / Español
 ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE	844-2020-API (844-202-0274) English / Asian languages (Mandarin, Cantonese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali/Bangla)
 Arab American Institute	833-3DDOUNI (833-333-6864) English / Arabic

What will I receive from the Census Bureau?

Households will be receiving invitations to fill out the Census from March 12 through the end of April. A copy of what the invitation looks like is included below. You can choose to wait to receive this mailer and get a code for your address, or you can fill it out online or over the phone now. These mailings are currently uninterrupted by COVID-19.

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



United States*
Census 2020

U.S. Census Bureau
 Washington, DC 20233-0001
 Office of the Director

March 12, 2020

Dear Resident:

This is your invitation to respond to the **2020 Census**. We need your help to count everyone in the United States by providing basic information about all adults, children, and babies living or staying at this address.

Results from the 2020 Census will be used to:

- Direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads, and other public services.
- Help your community prepare to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs.
- Determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and your political representation at all levels of government.

Respond by April 1 at
my2020census.gov


Your Census ID is:

The Census Bureau is using the internet to securely collect your information. Responding online helps us conserve natural resources, save taxpayer money, and process data more efficiently. If you are unable to complete your 2020 Census questionnaire online, we will send you a paper questionnaire in a few weeks for you to complete and mail back.

The census is so important that your response is required by law, and your answers are kept completely confidential. If you do not respond, we will need to send a Census Bureau interviewer to your home to collect your answers in person. If you need help completing your 2020 Census questionnaire, please call toll-free 1-844-330-2020.

Thank you for your prompt response.

Sincerely,


 Steven D. Dillingham
 Director

Enclosures

Mensaje importante: Para completar su cuestionario del Censo del 2020, visite **my2020census.gov** o llame gratis al 1-844-468-2020.

census.gov

Why is it important to be counted?

- **Funding:** Distribution of more than \$22.7 billion in federal funds within NJ annually to support important programs and services like Medicaid, Head Start, schools, hospitals, roads, and more.
- **Political Representation:** Helps determine New Jersey's number of seats in the House of Representatives, its number of votes in the Electoral College, and our voting district boundaries. The Census directly effects political power.
- **Resources:** Data are used to know where populations are growing so we can build more schools and highways.
- **Economic Development:** Businesses use Census data to determine if and where they should build in NJ.

I did not receive a mailer; can I still complete my Census online?

Yes! Respondents who have not received a Census mailer may still complete the Census online. This is called Non-ID response. Non-ID responses will later be matched by the Census Bureau using the addresses provided by the respondents.

What will the Census Bureau NEVER ask?

The Census Bureau will never ask you for a social security number, bank or credit card information, money or donations, and political party or beliefs. There will not be a citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

What will happen if I don't self-respond?

If you do not self-respond online or over the phone by the end of May 2020, a Census Bureau enumerator will visit your home to collect the responses in person. If you do not want someone visiting your home, you should self-respond.

Who counts in my household?

Every person living in your household should be counted on Census, even if the situation is temporary or they are unrelated to you. COVID-19 may have resulted in a college student moving back in with their parents. In this unique case, the student should be counted where they would have been living at their college.

Will my data be kept safe?

Under Title 13 of the U.S. code, the Census Bureau is prohibited from sharing personal information with other organizations or federal agencies. Census data are meant to be used for statistical purposes only. Violation of Title 13 could result in a fine of up to \$250,000 and/or up to five years in federal prison.

Should someone who cannot vote still participate in the Census?

Yes. Everyone counts—including children ages 0-17, noncitizens, and those who are incarcerated.

Household Living Scenarios: Who Counts Where?

Remember: Your household's 2020 Census response should count everyone who lives at your address all or most of the time.



Example	Scenario	Who Counts?
Multi-Generational Households	Blanca lives with her partner, adult daughter, and two grandchildren, ages 2 and 4. Her adult daughter pays rent and financially supports her own children.	Blanca should count her partner, adult daughter and her two grandchildren. Even though Blanca's daughter provides support for her own children and pays rent, she and her children are part of Blanca's household and should be included.
Multi-Family Dwellings	George and his wife and son live in a house that they rent. Another unrelated family lives in the home—a couple with a newborn baby.	George should report six total individuals on his Census form—himself, his wife, and his son, as well as the other family residing in his home. Though George may be concerned that he will be penalized for additional residents not disclosed on his lease, Census workers are prohibited from sharing personal, identifiable information with other agencies, including municipal code enforcement and landlords.
Children in Foster Care Families	Since the beginning of January 2020, 12-year-old Jessie has resided in multiple foster homes. She has not been at any placement for a prolonged period, but on April 1, 2020, Jessie live in a foster home located in Middlesex County.	Because Jessie has moved many times and does not have a usual place of residence, she should be counted wherever she lives on April 1, 2020. Jessie's foster parents in Middlesex County should include her on their form.
Living in Group Homes	Anthony's parents live in Burlington County with his two siblings. Anthony lives in a group home in Mercer County. His parents provide all of his financial support. However, his daily care is managed by the staff at the group home.	Because Anthony's usual place of residence is his group home, Anthony should be counted at the group home. Group homes are part of a special count, known as "group quarters enumeration." The staff at Anthony's group home will be responsible for including him on their household response; they will only count themselves and Anthony's siblings.

Child Away at University	Mr. and Mrs. Jones have two children—Corey, who is a high school junior, and Jordan, a sophomore at Stockton University. Jordan lives on Stockton’s campus in a dorm.	Mr. and Mrs. Jones should include themselves and Corey (three people)—not Jordan. Because Jordan’s usual place of residence is his dorm on Stockton’s campus, he should be counted at his dorm. The University will be responsible for ensuring that all students living on campus are counted in the Census. If Jordan is back at home due to COVID-19, he should still be counted at his university.
Newborn Children	Michelle and Darren’s first child was born on March 3, 2020. They received their Census mailer that same month.	Michelle, Darren, and their newborn baby should all be included on their household Census response. Every baby born on April 1, 2020 or before should be included. The next Census count will not occur until 2030—when their “baby” will be 10 years old!
Highly Mobile Families	Cameron and his mother, Janet, lived with Janet’s sister for two months beginning in January. Since then, they have been living at several different family members’ homes, bouncing back and forth between the homes of Janet’s godmother and a close friend. On April 1, 2020, Cameron and Janet stay with Janet’s godmother.	Because Cameron and his mother do not have a usual place of residence, they should be counted wherever they are living on April 1, 2020. This means that Janet and Cameron should be included on the Census response submitted by Janet’s godmother.
Forgot to Include Members of the Household	Maya and her 3-year-old daughter, Chloe, live with her aunt and uncle—Linda and Harold. She believes that Linda and Harold complete their Census online but did not include Maya or Chloe. Maya knows that she and Chloe need to be counted, but is unsure how to complete her Census.	Maya should respond and count everyone living in the household, including Chloe, Linda, and Harold. Maya can respond to the Census online or over the phone using her address, or by using the original code mailed to her address. The Census Bureau will later match Maya’s responses with Linda and Harold’s using their address information and remove any duplicates.
Split Custody Arrangement	Emily is 5 years old and her parents are divorced. Her parents live in separate homes and they split Emily’s time between both homes throughout the year.	Emily should be counted in whichever home she lives in most of the time. If she lives equal amounts of time in both homes, then Emily should be counted where she is staying on April 1, 2020. Emily’s parents, if possible, should make sure she is only counted once.

How do I complete the 2020 Census?

1. Go to my2020census.gov
2. Click 'Start Questionnaire'

United States 2020 Census

FAQ INSTRUCTIONS ENGLISH ▾

Welcome to the 2020 Census

- It's quick and easy. The 2020 Census questionnaire will take about 10 minutes to complete.
- It's safe, secure, and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected.
- Your response helps to direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads, and other public services.
- Results from the 2020 Census will be used to determine the number of seats each state has in Congress and your political representation at all levels of government.

Getting started:

- You must complete your questionnaire once you begin. If you leave the questionnaire and return later, you will have to start over.
- Do not use the web browser buttons (back, forward, or close browser). Use the buttons within the questionnaire to navigate.
- For best results, use the latest version of Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, or Safari. Enable cookies.

**Shape your future
START HERE >**

**United States®
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2020**

[Start Questionnaire](#)

ENGLISH ESPAÑOL 中文(简体) TIẾNG VIỆT 한국어 РУССКИЙ العربية TAGALOG POLSKI FRANÇAIS KREYOL AYISYEN PORTUGUÊS 日本語

3. Households should have received an invitation to complete the questionnaire in the mail. You do not need this mailer to complete your questionnaire. If you have the code for your address, enter it here. If you do not have the code, click 'If you do not have a Census ID, click here'

United States
Census
2020

FAQ INSTRUCTIONS

ENGLISH

Address Verification

Household Questions

People Questions

Final Questions

Please Log In

Use the materials we mailed to you or left at your door.
All the information that you provide will remain confidential.

[Where can I find my 12-digit Census ID?](#)

Please enter the 12-digit Census ID found in the materials we mailed to you or left at your door.

- -

Login


[If you do not have a Census ID, click here.](#)

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4. Verify your address. If you have multiple addresses, use the address in which you reside most of the time. If you truly can't figure out which address you live at the most, count yourself where you are residing on April 1, 2020. If you do not have an address, you can check off 'I do not have a street address.'

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FAQINSTRUCTIONS

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In order to collect your address, we first need to know where you will be living on April 1, 2020. [\(Help\)](#)

Please select where you will be living on April 1, 2020.

☐ A U.S. state or the District of Columbia

☐ Puerto Rico


☐ Somewhere else

Next >

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Where will you be living on April 1, 2020? [\(Help\)](#)

Please provide a complete street address for your residence. Provide the street address you would use to have a package delivered directly to your residence, not a rural route or P.O. Box address used for mailing purposes. A street address is the most helpful for processing your response.

Address Number

Ex: 101

Street Name

Ex: N Main St

Apt/Unit

Ex: Apt 23

City

State

ZIP Code

☐ I do not have a street address

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Please review your address. [\(Help\)](#)

Here is the address you submitted using standard abbreviations and formatting.

If the address is correct, select "Submit". If you would like to make changes, select "Revise".

Revise

Submit

ENGLISH
ESPAÑOL
中文(简体)
TIẾNG VIỆT
한국어
РУССКИЙ
العربية
TAGALOG
POLSKI
FRANÇAIS
KREYÒL AYISYEN
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5. Enter your name and telephone number.

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Final Questions

What is your name and telephone number?

We will only contact you if needed for official Census Bureau business. [\(Help\)](#)

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name(s)

Telephone Number

-
-

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ENGLISH
ESPAÑOL
中文(简体)
TIẾNG VIỆT
한국어
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العربية
TAGALOG
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PORTUGUÊS
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6. Continue with the household and people questions in your household. Be sure to count every person living in your home, even if the situation is temporary or they are unrelated to you.

The screenshot shows the 'Household Questions' screen of the 2020 Census. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the '2020 Census' logo on the left and links for 'FAQ', 'INSTRUCTIONS', a globe icon, and 'ENGLISH' with a dropdown arrow on the right. Below the header is a progress bar with four steps: 'Address Verification', 'Household Questions' (which is highlighted with a blue bar and a white circle), 'People Questions', and 'Final Questions'. The main content area has a white background. It features a house icon on the left, followed by the title 'Household Questions' and the instruction 'Next, you will be asked some questions about your household. Press START to begin.' To the right of this text is a green 'Start' button. Below this section, there is a horizontal line, followed by a group of people icon, the title 'People Questions', and another horizontal line. At the bottom of the screen, there is a row of language options: ENGLISH, ESPAÑOL, 中文(简体), TIẾNG VIỆT, 한국어, РУССКИЙ, العربية, TAGALOG, POLSKI, FRANÇAIS, KREYÒL AYISYEN, PORTUGUÊS, and 日本語.

7. The 2020 Census will ask for the name, age, birthdate, gender (in the binary), race, and ethnicity for each person in the household. It will also ask about the relationships people have with each other in the household and if you or someone else in the household usually live or stay elsewhere.
- If you would rather not answer some of these questions for any reason, you have the option to do so. However, if too many questions on the form are blank, the Census Bureau may follow up with you for clarity.
8. Once you submit the Census questionnaire, you will get a confirmation number and the option to print the confirmation page. If you do not land on this confirmation page, you did not complete the questionnaire unless you completed it over the phone or through mail.