

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**my2020census.gov**

### **What is the 2020 Census?**

The goal of the census is to count every person living in the United States once, only once and in the right place. Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution mandates that this population and housing count occur every 10 years. Census data guide how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year.

### **Am I required to respond to the 2020 Census?**

Yes, you are required by law to respond to the 2020 Census. We are conducting the 2020 Census under the authority of Title 13, U.S. Code, Sections 141, 193 and 221. This collection of information has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number is 0607-1006. If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct the census.

### **How long will my 2020 Census questionnaire take?**

The Census Bureau estimates that completing the questionnaire will take 10 minutes on average.

Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this burden to: Paperwork Reduction Project 0607-1006, U.S. Census Bureau, DCMD-2H174, 4600 Silver Hill Road, Washington, DC 20233. You may email comments to <2020.census.paperwork@census.gov>. Use "Paperwork Reduction Project 0607-1006" as the subject.

### **How do I respond?**

Go to **my2020census.gov** to complete your 2020 Census questionnaire online. You will need the 12-digit Census ID found on the other side.

### **How will the Census Bureau use the information I provide?**

By law, the Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics.

### **Are my answers confidential and private?**

Yes. The Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you or your household. Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data. All web data submissions are encrypted in order to protect your privacy.

Title 13 of the U.S. Code protects the confidentiality of all your information. Violating the confidentiality of a respondent is a federal crime with serious penalties, including a federal prison sentence of up to five years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both. Only authorized individuals have access to the stored data, and the information you provide to the Census Bureau may only be used by a restricted number of authorized individuals who are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of your individual responses. Your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

For more information about how we protect your information, please visit our Web site at [census.gov](https://www.census.gov) and click on "Data Protection and Privacy Policy" at the bottom of the home page. This page also includes information about the collection, storage, and use of these records. Click on "System of Records Notices (SORN)" and look for Privacy Act System of Records Notice COMMERCE/CENSUS-5, Decennial Census Program.