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2020

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## The Internet Response Option in the 2020 Census

Factsheet Updated August 2020

**Questions? Call our census hotline at 844-2020-API for support in English and other languages. Visit [www.CountUsIn2020.org/hotline](http://www.CountUsIn2020.org/hotline) for more information. See census guidance on COVID-19 [www.CountUsIn2020.org/covid-19](http://www.CountUsIn2020.org/covid-19).**

The 2020 Census will count every person living in the U.S. The census occurs every 10 years and informs how over \$1.5 trillion in federal funding is allocated annually. There are a few ways that the 2020 Census will differ from the 2010 Census.

### You Can Respond to the 2020 Census Online!

The 2020 Census will be the first census that will allow every person to fill out the census form online. You will receive an invitation to respond in mid-March. Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you will receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

Most households will receive a letter in the mail inviting them to respond online, with a unique household ID and the web address of the official Census Bureau website.

- Make sure you go to the official 2020 Census website to respond.
- This ID should be used to fill out one online form, where you should list every person living at your address. If you lose your household ID, you can still fill out the census online by providing your address.

You will be able to fill out the form using a computer, tablet, or a smartphone.

- The best browsers to use when responding online are Internet Explorer, Safari, Chrome, or Firefox.
- The best devices for responding online are PCs, iPhone version 5 and later, most iPad versions, and Samsung Galaxy phones and tablets.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can still participate in the 2020 Census.

- If you do not respond to the census online, the Census Bureau will send you a paper version of the form in the mail during their 4th mailing. This 4th mailing is part of their process for sending you instructions and reminders to respond to the census.
- Some libraries and community organizations will set up computers or tablets where people can go to fill out the census. There will not be a limit to the number of responses that can be made from a single device.

## Language Support for 12 Non-English Languages Online and By Phone



The *online form* is available in 12 non-English languages: Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.

You can also call the Bureau to complete the census on the *phone* or to ask questions. Phone support is offered in 12 non-English languages: Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.

The *paper form* is only available in English and Spanish.

Language guides, which are translated reference tools that people can use to help fill out their English form, and glossaries for 59 non-English languages are available on the Census Bureau website at [www.2020census.gov/en/languages.html](http://www.2020census.gov/en/languages.html). See our factsheets at [www.CountUsIn2020.org/resources](http://www.CountUsIn2020.org/resources) for more information on what the census form asks, how to respond, and how to get assistance.

### Keeping Your Online Responses Safe

The Census Bureau is working to keep your online responses safe. The Census Bureau will encrypt your data into a format that is hard to understand. The Census Bureau will encrypt response data twice. The first encryption occurs when you hit the submit button. The second set of encryption happens when the responses reach the Census Bureau's database. The Census Bureau will also monitor to make sure scammers, hackers, or other bad actors cannot access responses submitted through the online form.

In addition, the Census Bureau is not allowed to share your individual information with other government agencies, immigration officials, or the public. Strong laws protect your response from being shared! Census responses can only be used for statistical purposes.


*You can find more information about the census at [www.CountUsIn2020.org/resources](http://www.CountUsIn2020.org/resources).*

# The Internet Response Option in the 2020 Census

You can respond to the census:

- Online
- By phone
- Through the paper form


The Census Bureau will send you an invitation to respond in the mail with a household ID and a link to the official 2020 Census website

If you do not respond online or by phone, the Census Bureau will mail you a paper form 

Go to the official Census 2020 website to respond 

The Census Bureau's notice will contain a 2020 Census phone number

If you lose your household ID, you can still respond to the census online by providing your address

You can call that phone number to respond to the census 

*Be sure to include every person that lives at your address when you fill out the form!*

Language support for 12 non-English languages is available online and by phone