Frequently Asked Questions About the 2020 Census

Why is it important to complete the Census?

Census data is important to our democracy – this data determines apportionment of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and how district lines are drawn at all levels of government.

Census data also guide the allocation of more than $800 billion in federal funding to programs that are crucial to the well-being of families and communities.

Will my responses remain confidential?

Yes. The law prevents the Census Bureau from sharing your information with law enforcement. Your answers cannot be used to impact your eligibility for government benefits. Your answers are only used to create statistics about our country. The Census Bureau is bound by Title 13 of the U.S. Code to protect your personal information and keep it strictly confidential. That’s every answer, to every question.

How do I receive a paper form??

If you have not already responded to the 2020 Census online or by phone, you may receive a paper questionnaire. Paper questionnaires will be mailed in April. However, if you don’t want to wait, you can respond online or by phone.

I received a paper questionnaire in the mail. Can I still respond online?

Yes, you still have the option of responding online. Visit the online questionnaire to begin.

How do I correct a mistake on the online form?

If you feel you have made a mistake, you can return to the online questionnaire and resubmit your information. The Census Bureau has procedures in place to resolve duplicate submissions. If you’ve already responded using your Census ID, select the link that reads "If you do not have a Census ID, click here" to submit a corrected response for your address. Be sure to respond for everyone who was living at your address on April 1.

What do I do if I can't find my Census ID?

Your Census ID is the 12-digit number that can be found on your questionnaire, letter, and postcard. You can still respond online to the 2020 Census even if you did not receive a letter or paper questionnaire. Go to my2020census.gov and select the link that says, "If you do not have a Census ID, click here." It is located below the Census ID login field.

I did not receive anything in the mail. How do I respond?

You can still respond online to the 2020 Census even if you did not receive a letter or paper questionnaire. Go to my2020census.gov. Select the link that says, "If you do not have a Census ID, click here." It is located below the Census ID login field.

I completed the Census already, why am I still receiving mail?

Thank you for responding. We send invitations and reminders through the mail. If you already responded, the reminder may have been sent before we received your response.

For more information, visit www.2020census.gov/en/help or call 1-877-352-3676

Sources: US Census Bureau and Naleo Educational Fund