

# U.S. CENSUS FIELD WORK & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS GUIDANCE FOR BOARDS & MANAGERS

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

<u>JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 3 FIELD WORK</u>: Census takers will conduct field work to visit homes to collect data from households. Community associations; including gated communities and condominiums must allow access to census employees.

<u>ACCESS TO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS/FURNISH INFORMATION:</u> Community association boards and/or managers must furnish the names of the occupants of such premises, or to give free ingress thereto and egress therefrom to any duly accredited representative of such Department or bureau or agency thereof, so as to permit the collection of statistics with respect to any census.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM CENSUS WORKERS: Here is what you can expect from census workers regarding masks, authorization, and more.

**HOW THE CENSUS BUREAU PROTECTS YOUR DATA:** The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. In fact, every employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life.

**REFERENCE:** The activity of the U.S. Census is governed by Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Title 13 – Census: USC 233: Refusal, by owners, proprietors, etc.. to assist census employees

Web Site Reference: https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title13/chapter7&edition=prelim

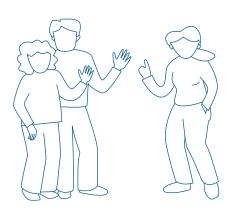
#### From Title 13-CENSUS

CHAPTER 7-OFFENSES AND PENALTIESSUBCHAPTER II-OTHER PERSONS

#### §223. Refusal, by owners, proprietors, etc., to assist census employees

Whoever, being the owner, proprietor, manager, superintendent, or agent of any hotel, apartment house, boarding or lodging house, tenement, or other building, refuses or willfully neglects, when requested by the Secretary or by any other officer or employee of the Department of Commerce or bureau or agency thereof, acting under the instructions of the Secretary, to furnish the names of the occupants of such premises, or to give free ingress thereto and egress therefrom to any duly accredited representative of such Department or bureau or agency thereof, so as to permit the collection of statistics with respect to any census provided for in subchapters I and II of chapter 5 of this title, or any survey authorized by subchapter IV or V of such chapter insofar as such survey relates to any of the subjects for which censuses are provided by such subchapters I and II, including, when relevant to the census or survey being taken or made, the proper and correct enumeration of all persons having their usual place of abode in such premises, shall be fined not more than \$500.

Census data are being used all around you.

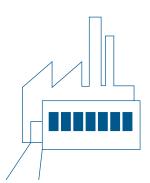


Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.



Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



# Your data are confidential.

Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

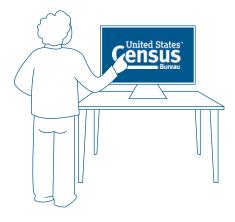
By law we cannot share your information with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.



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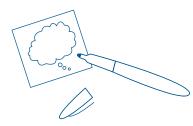
# 2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



# You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.







# 2020 Census: Census Taker Visits

# What Your Community Needs to Know

To ensure everyone is counted, census takers visit households that haven't responded yet to the 2020 Census to collect their responses in person.

# **Health and Safety**

Census takers will follow public health guidelines when they visit.

Census takers are trained to:

- Wear a mask.
- Conduct the interview outside a home in an open, well-ventilated space, when possible.
- Allow 6 feet of space between them and the person they are interviewing.
- Not allow anyone else to handle Census Bureau equipment.

 Follow healthy hygiene habits for frequent hand-washing, avoiding contact with hightouch surfaces, avoiding touching their face, etc.

If a household does not want to conduct the interview in person, they can provide the census taker with their phone number to complete it over the phone.

## Confidentiality

By law:

- · Interviews are confidential.
- Answers cannot be shared with immigration or law enforcement agencies.
- Census takers must keep answers confidential for life. They face stiff fines and jail time if they break that law.

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## **Identifying a Census Taker**

Households can identify the census takers by their:

- ID badge with their photograph, a
   U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- · Census Bureau-issued phone.

Many census takers will also carry a bag with the Census Bureau logo.

## What to Expect During the Interview

The interview is quick and easy. The census taker will ask the household the 2020 Census questions and enter the answers in their secure Census Bureau phone. You can expect:

- A few questions like name, age, race, and sex.
- No questions regarding Social Security numbers, bank information, or citizenship status.
- Availability of a census taker who speaks your language. Households can request a return visit if needed.
- A visit between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. local time, including on weekends when people are likely to be home. If no one is home when the census taker visits, the census taker will leave a notice of the visit with information about how to respond online or by phone. If necessary, a census taker will return several times to ensure the household is accurately included in the census.

### **Responding Is Important**

Census takers are from your community. They know that a complete and accurate count will benefit your area. By answering a few questions, you'll help shape the future of your community for the next 10 years.

The 2020 Census results determine how many seats your state gets in Congress and how public funds are spent on schools, roads, fire and emergency services, hospitals, and more in your community.

### Now Is the Time to Respond

Please encourage your community to respond now instead of waiting for a census taker to visit and to talk with the census taker if they do receive a visit.

Even after census takers begin visiting your area, households can still respond online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by mail until September 30.

Households can respond online or by phone in one of 13 languages and find assistance in many more at <a href="http://2020census.gov/languages">http://2020census.gov/languages</a>>.

Note: Some households that have already responded may still get a call or visit from a census taker conducting quality checks.

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