

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

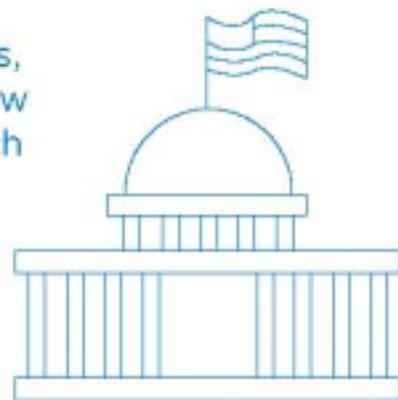
Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



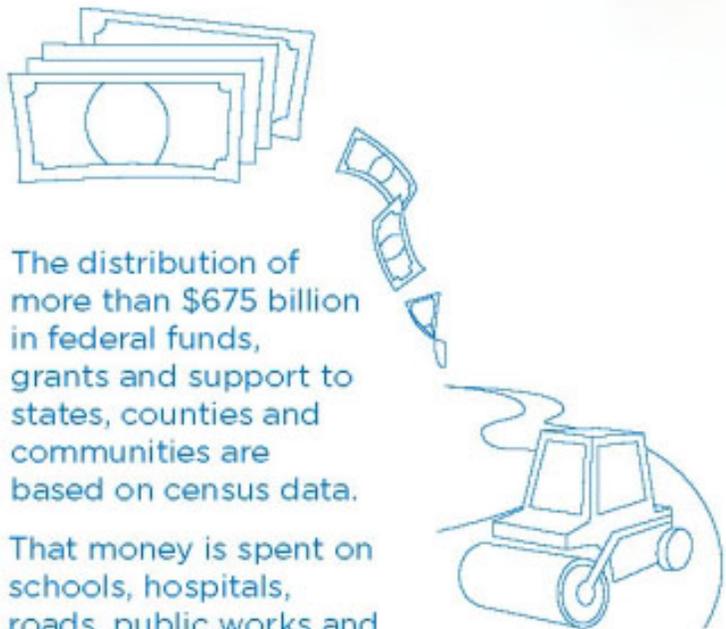
It's about fair representation.

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



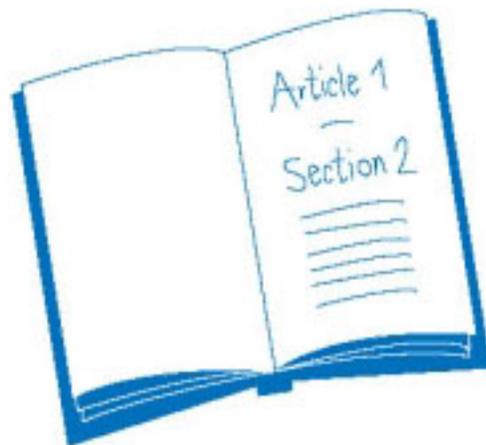
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**It's about
\$675 billion.**



The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on census data.

That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

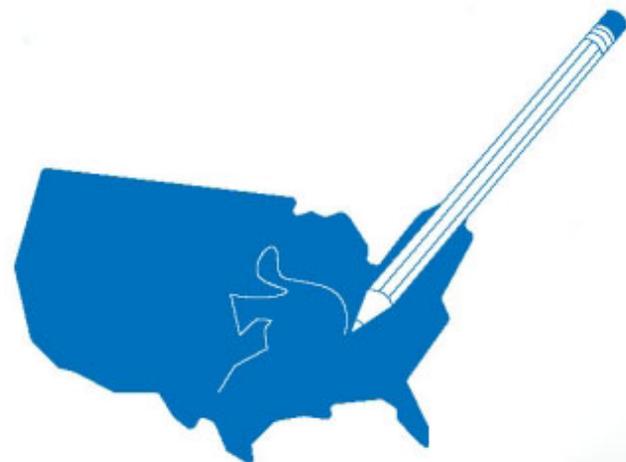


**It's in the
constitution.**

The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

**It's about
redistricting.**

After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.



Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

 **95%** of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.



How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



Almost 5% of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home's physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).



Less than 1% of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don't live in households, such as students living in university housing or people experiencing homelessness.

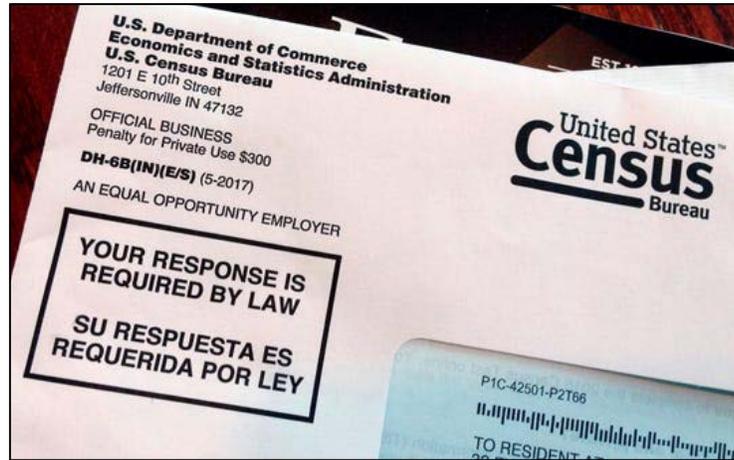
WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL

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.

We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn't matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don't respond.

Invitation to respond to the 2020 Census



Return address of letter is Jeffersonville, Indiana



United States
**Census
2020**

U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233-0001
Office of the Director

March 12, 2020

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau

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 1st at:
XXXX.XXXX.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.

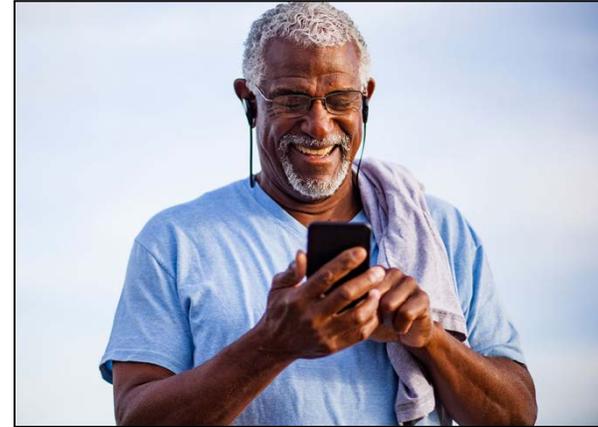
The census is so important that your response is required by law, and your answers are kept completely confidential. If you do not respond, we will need to send a Census Bureau interviewer to your home to collect your answers in person. If you need help completing your 2020 Census questionnaire, please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

Thank you in advance for your prompt response.

Enclosures

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

Responding to the 2020 Census online



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.

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Login

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

The 2020 Census and Confidentiality

Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics—they cannot be used against you in any way. By law, all responses to U.S. Census Bureau household and business surveys are kept completely confidential.

Respond to the 2020 Census to shape the future.

Responding to the census helps communities get the funding they need and helps businesses make data-driven decisions that grow the economy. Census data impact our daily lives, informing important decisions about funding for services and infrastructure in your community, including health care, senior centers, jobs, political representation, roads, schools, and businesses. More than \$675 billion in federal funding flows back to states and local communities each year based on census data.



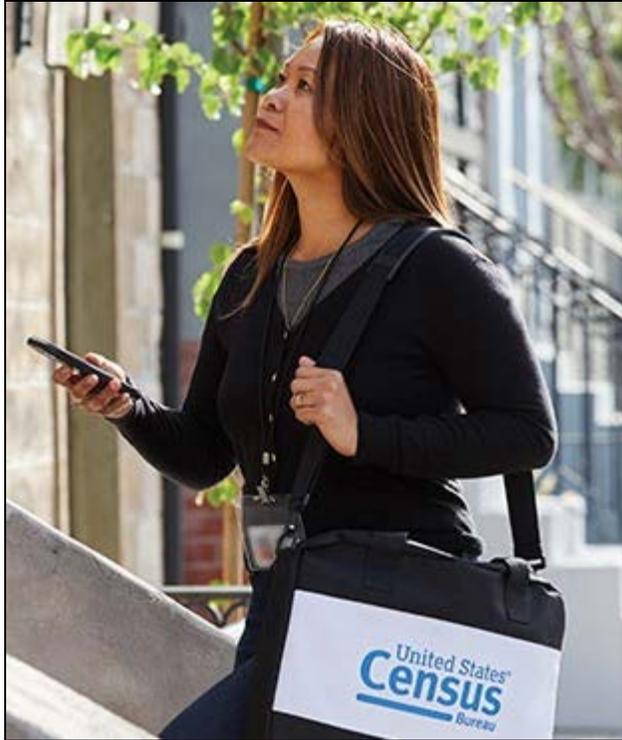
Your census responses are safe and secure.

The Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information we collect and keep it strictly confidential. The Census Bureau can only use your answers to produce statistics. In fact, every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life. Your answers cannot be used for law enforcement purposes or to determine your personal eligibility for government benefits.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you.

By law, your census responses cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), not by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), not by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and not by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The law requires the Census Bureau to keep your information confidential and use your responses only to produce statistics.

What to do if someone knocks on your door



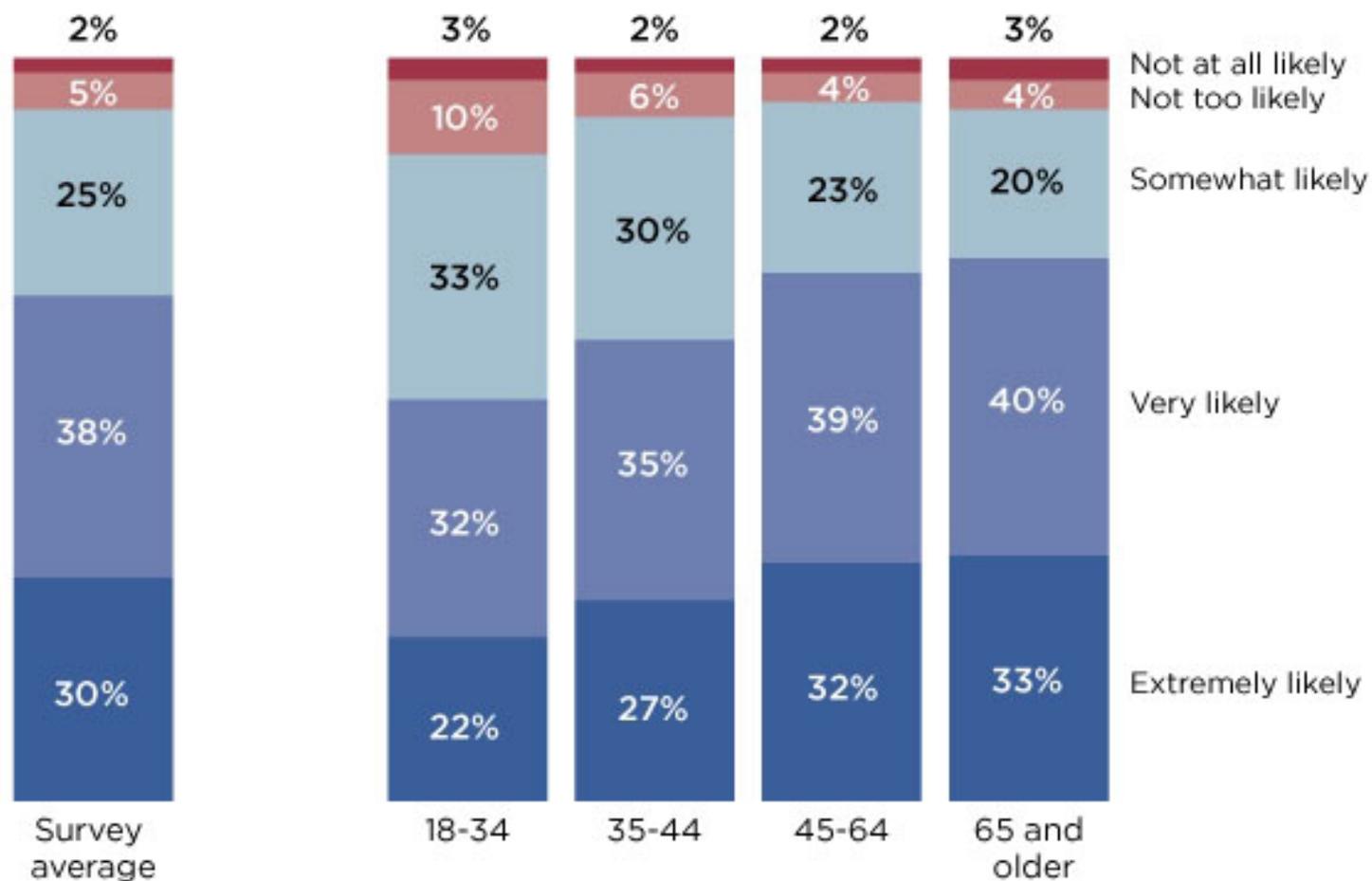
- **Census takers will work between 9am and 9pm, including weekends**
- **They have an ID badge that includes**
 - their name
 - their photograph
 - Department of Commerce watermark
 - an expiration date
- **They will carry a Census logo bag**
- **They will provide you with a letter on Census Bureau letterhead**

What you should never be asked

- **The Census Bureau will not request**
 - **Bank account numbers**
 - **Credit card numbers**
 - **Social security numbers**
 - **Taxpayer identification numbers**
 - **Gift cards**
 - **Identification**
 - **Passwords**
 - **To enter your home**



How Likely Would You Be to Fill Out the Census Form?



United States[®]
Census
Bureau

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)

Source: 2020 Census Barriers, Attitudes,
and Motivators Study (CBAMS)
Public Use Microdata Sample

Notes: All estimates were rounded so that the sum of estimates equals 100 percent.

Dutchess County 2020 Census Complete Count Committee

John Penney, Chairperson

Jonathan Bix, Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson

Brian Doyle, Family Services, Inc.

Jennifer Drake, The Dyson Foundation

Danny Hairston, Family Services SNUG program

Mario Johnson, Poughkeepsie City School District

Tom Lawrence, Poughkeepsie Public Library District

Maffy Malaver, ABClatino

Gabriela Vega-Matthews, Latino organizer

Eva Woods Peiró, Vassar College

Brian Riddell, Dutchess Outreach

Seema Rizvi, Dutchess County Human Rights Commission

Christine Sergent, North East Community Center

L'Quette Taylor, Community Matters 2

For more information

Website:

www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/Planning/Census-Complete-Count-Committee.htm

Email: completecount@dutchessny.gov

