

[2020 Census: What is the Census](#)

# The 2020 Census



## The League of Women Voters

Nonpartisan, but political

Established: 1920

1972: Men accepted

Educate & Advocate



## What We're Going to Cover

**What is the census?  
Why it is important?  
Ways to respond**

**What questions will you be asked?  
Privacy and confidentiality  
What you can do?**

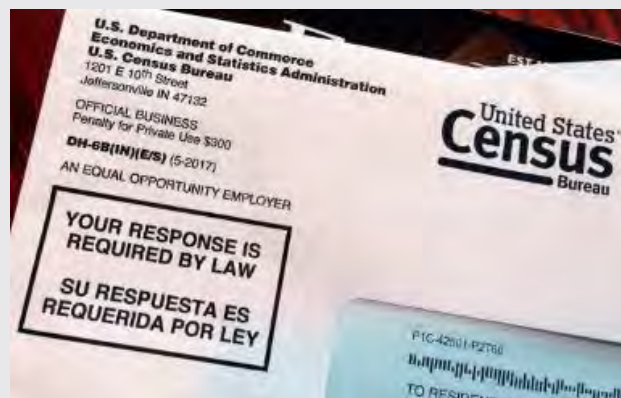



## What is the Census?

**Counts entire U. S. population**

**Every 10 years**

**Required by the U.S. Constitution**





## History of the Census

**Ancient civilizations conducted censuses**

- Babylon in 3,800 BC
- Egypt in 2,500 BC
- China in 2 AD (Han Dynasty)
- In ancient Rome

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FLORIDA

## U.S. Census Then & Now

**1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Census in 1790:**

about  
**4**  
million people

**Current U.S. population (est):**

over **330** million

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FLORIDA

## Censuses in the United States

**Before 1906**

**Door-to-door  
census takers**

**Since 1970**

**Mail out,  
mail back**

**2020 Census**

**Internet,  
Telephone,  
U.S. mail,  
or a personal  
visit by census  
taker**



## Census in Florida

**Federal government  
distributes \$1.5 trillion to  
governments and individuals  
each year using Census-  
derived formulas**

**Amounts follow population**

**The census is a competition  
between the states for money  
and representation**



## Census in Florida



### National level

House of  
Representatives



### State level

Florida Senate  
and House of  
Representatives



### Local level

County  
Commissioners and  
School Board  
Members



## Why is it Important?

Census results affect funding for:

Hospitals  
Schools  
Emergency Services  
Bridges, Tunnels, and Roads





## Why is it Important?

**Funding for community resources such as:**

**Job Training Centers  
Child Care Centers  
Head Start  
Senior Centers**



## Why is it Important?

**Businesses use U. S. Census Bureau data to:**

**Locate facilities like supermarkets  
Develop new housing  
Locate offices**



Response Goal			
	2000	2010	2020
<b>Florida</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>&gt;82% goal</b>
<b>National</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>74%</b>	



## Options to Respond


Every household will have these options to respond

The Census starts March 12<sup>th</sup>


April 1<sup>st</sup> is National Census Day



online




by phone



by mail



in person





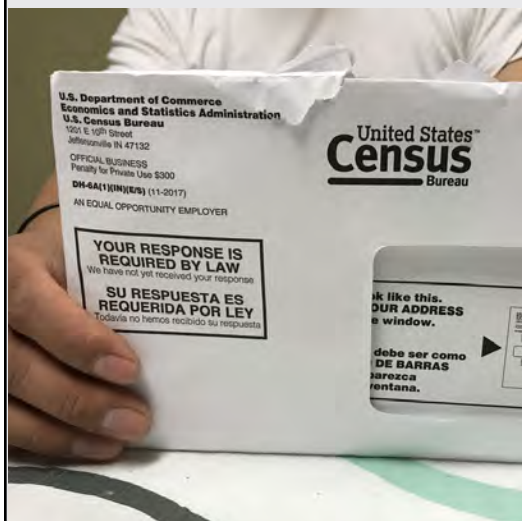
## Census Timeline

March 12-17, 2020 – invitation letters and key codes mailed to every address

If no response, reminders sent

If no response, paper questionnaire sent around mid-April,

If no response by May 2020, a census worker will come to your home at least twice



## The Census Form

The 2020 U.S. Census Bureau Form was finalized this summer. In the past, it has posed questions regarding:

- ✓ Name
- ✓ Age
- ✓ Race
- ✓ Phone Number
- ✓ Sex
- ✓ Date of Birth
- ✓ Hispanic Origin
- ✓ If you Own or Rent



*The decennial U.S. Census is a short form*



## The Census Form

Does not ask for:

Citizenship

Immigration status



## What to Expect

Invitation includes unique key code

Takes about 10 minutes

You may ask for a paper form. Paper forms will not be sent until late April.

If no response by May 2020, census worker will visit in person



## Privacy and Confidentiality

It is important to note that the U. S. Census Bureau:



- ◆ Never asks for your complete Social Security number
- ◆ Never asks for money or a donation
- ◆ Never requests PIN codes, passwords, etc.
- ◆ Never sends requests on behalf of a political party

## Privacy and Confidentiality

**Personal information protected by Federal Law**



## Many People Will Be Hard to Count

Seniors  
Young children  
Renters  
Immigrants  
Minorities  
Non-English speakers  
Homeless Populations

Snowbirds  
People with physical or mental  
disabilities  
Low income populations  
Those who distrust Government  
Rural residents  
LGBTQ persons



## Young Children

**All children who live in the home:  
grandchildren, nieces and  
nephews, children of friends**

**Children who split their time  
evenly between homes are  
counted where they are living on  
April 1, 2020**

**Newborn babies, even those still  
in the hospital on April 1, 2020**



## Residence Situations



**Snowbirds**  
counted where they live and sleep most of the time

**Healthcare Facilities**  
Short-term patients will be counted at their residence, rather than at the facility.

**U. S. Military Staff**  
Military stationed outside the US will be counted by military staff

Long-term Care patients will be count at the health care facility.



## Residence Situations

### Students

**Boarding school students**  
counted at the home of their parents or guardians

**U.S. college students**  
attending college abroad are not counted in the census

**College students count**  
themselves at the on- or off-campus residence where they live and sleep most of the time

**Foreign students: counted at**  
their on- or off-campus residence





## Residence Situations



### Shelters

People in emergency and transitional shelters: counted at the shelter

### Displaced People

People displaced by natural disasters: counted where they live and sleep most of the time

### Prisoners

People who are imprisoned on April 1, 2020: counted at the facility



## How You Can Help

Tell others and distribute materials

Dispel myths

Encourage your community organizations to help local Complete Count Committees

Put Census links and information on web pages, newsletters and social media

[lwfvl.org/census](http://lwfvl.org/census)



United States  
**Census**  
Bureau







A CAMPAIGN OF NALEO  
Educational Fund

## Complete Count Committees

**Consist of:**  
 Trusted, well-known local leaders  
 Knowledgeable about their community  
 Organized to encourage census participation  
 by residents

**To find a local committee:**  
 Go online to Google.com and type:  
*"Find a Complete Count Committee  
 in my community"*



## Complete Count Committees Okaloosa County



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Educational Fund

- Board of County Commissioners
  - Point of Contact: John Hofstad
  - (850) 651-7515
  - [managerinfo@co.Okaloosa.fl.us](mailto:managerinfo@co.Okaloosa.fl.us)
- New Hope Christian Center
  - Point of Contact: Stephanie Duenas
  - (850) 461-3757
  - [newhopefwb@gmail.com](mailto:newhopefwb@gmail.com)



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## Complete Count Committees Walton County



- Board of County Commissioners
  - 76 N 6<sup>th</sup> St, DeFuniak Springs 32433
- City of Freeport
  - Point of Contact: Williams Boots McCormick
  - (850) 835-2822
  - [wmccormick@freeportflorida.gov](mailto:wmccormick@freeportflorida.gov)



## Make a difference!



- Spread the word at your
  - Church or synagogue
  - Homeowner or renters' association
  - Social Club, other organizations
- Get *free* materials at
  - <https://www.census.gov/library/visualizations.html>
  - <https://2020census.gov/en/partners/outreach-materials.html>
- Follow @uscensusbureau on Twitter
- Become a partner at <https://www.census.gov/partners/join.html>
- Become a census taker! Apply on-line at <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>



**Everyone  
Counts!**

**The Census is:**

**Easy  
Safe  
Important**



**Thank you!**

**Questions?**



## Acknowledgement

**We thank Miami-Dade County and  
the U.S. Census Bureau for providing  
material for this presentation**

