

# Census 101: What You Need to Know



### **Everyone Counts**

The census counts every person living in the United States.



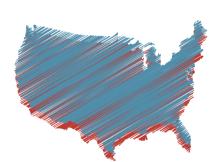


#### It's About Fair Representation:

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

#### It's in the Constitution:

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





### It's About Redistricting:

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

#### It's About \$675 Billion:

The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants and support to states, counties &communities are based on census data. This money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works & other vital programs.









### It's About Civic Duty:

Completing the census is mandatory. It's our way to participate in our democracy and say "I count!"

## **Confidentiality:**

- Extremely strong laws protect the confidentiality of your census response.
- The Census Bureau is not allowed to share your personal information with anyone, including ICE, police, or any other government agencies.
- The Census Bureau can only use your response to create general information about the population, like how many people live in your city, and statistics about age, gender, and race.





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## WHAT DOES THE CENSUS MEAN FOR ALAMEDA COUNTY?

Alameda County gets billions of dollars from the federal government for essential services — healthcare, school programs, housing, transportation, social services and more — based solely on the census count

- Approximately 60% of Alameda County's revenue comes from federal and state resources.
- For every person not counted, our community loses \$1,000 in funding per year for ten years for items including:
  - Medi-Cal
  - CalFresh
  - Medicare Part B
  - Section 8 Vouchers
- An undercount of only 6% means our community would lose \$1 billion over the next decade.

## WHEN CAN YOU TAKE THE CENSUS?

March 12, 2020 Information on how to take census mailed out March-August 2020 Conduct selfresponse

April 1, 2020 Census Day May-July 2020 Conduct nonresponse follow-up

## HOW CAN YOU TAKE THE CENSUS?

All addresses will receive a letter in the mail with instructions about how to take the Census through the following options:



Online
By computer, tablet, or smart phone



Phone
The Census Bureau's
1–800 numbers



Paper Residents can request a paper form for an address

## WHERE CAN YOU TAKE THE CENSUS?









At your child's school

At a Senior Center