



MAKING SENSE OF THE CENSUS



WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

The Census is a headcount of every person in the United States. It has been required by law to be completed every 10 years since its inception in 1790. Census results determine how many seats each state receives in the U.S. House of Representatives.



But the data that comes from the count also helps drive decisions on how more than \$675 billion is allocated within our communities for roads, schools, health-care, emergency response, and more.

HOW DOES IT AFFECT SCHOOLS?

The 2020 Census count impacts the federal funds that communities receive each year for programs and services that are critical for schools, students, and younger children, such as:



- Special education
- Head Start
- After-school programs
- Classroom technology
- Teacher training
- Food assistance (free and reduced school lunches)
- Maternal and child health programs

SO, HOW CAN WE GET INVOLVED?

In addition to the standard tabulations by mail or telephone, for the first time ever, the 2020 Census can be completed online. It is now easier than ever to take part in such a vital data process for the country, the state, and our community.

Census invitations will be sent via U.S. Mail to each household with directions on how to access the 2020 survey, including the online location.

Be aware that:

- The survey is available in 13 languages.
- All responses are completely confidential.
- Personal information cannot be shared with law enforcement agencies.
- If you live in the United States, you are required by law to complete the 2020 Census.

NEED MORE INFO?

The national Census website has answers to any questions you may have. Access it at:

[CENSUS.GOV](https://www.census.gov)

NO FOOLING!

