2020 Census: Make sure you count!

Everyone counts.
The census counts every person living in the United States regardless of citizenship or immigration status. Make sure you include everyone, including your children, in your household.

It’s about fair representation.
The results of the Census are used to reapportion the U.S. House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets. Florida picked up two seats after the 2010 Census and is expected to gain two more seats this year.

It’s about $675 billion.
Census data is used to determine the distribution of more than $675 billion in federal funds every year for the next 10 years. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, clinics, roads, bridges, disaster assistance, affordable housing and many other vital programs.

It’s about redistricting.
After each Census, officials redraw the boundaries of congressional, state and local districts to account for population shifts.

It’s easy.
Look for your invitation in the mail in mid-March. You can complete your Census form online or by phone by April 1.

If you miss the deadline, the U.S. Census Bureau will send you a paper form. If you still don’t complete your form, you’ll be getting a knock on your door.

Your privacy is protected.
It’s against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you. They can be used only to produce statistics. Individual results will be released after 72 years for genealogy searches.

Make sure your family counts!
Shape your family’s future by completing your 2020 Census questionnaire.

For additional information, visit Volusia.org/Census or 2020Census.gov.
Why do we have a Census?

The U.S. Constitution requires a count every 10 years of everyone living in the United States. Citizens and noncitizens will be counted.

When will I receive my form?

In mid-March, every household will receive an invitation to participate in the Census. There will be a unique code on the postcard, and you must use this code to complete your questionnaire.

How can I respond?

This year, you can respond online or by phone. If you do not respond by April 1, the U.S. Census Bureau will send you a paper form. If you still don’t respond, a census taker will knock on your door.

Where should I be counted?

You should be counted where you live or sleep at least six months of the year.

What about college students?

College students living away from their parental home are counted at the on-campus or off-campus residence where they live or sleep most of the time. If you live on campus, you will be counted with the help of campus housing officials through the U.S. Census Bureau’s group quarters program. If you live off campus, you must complete the form on your own. Each household will receive one invitation to participate in the Census. One person should take charge and complete the form for each person in the household by April 1.

Are my answers secure?

Your information is confidential. The Census Bureau collects data for statistical purposes only. They combine your responses with information from other households or businesses to produce statistics, which never identify your household, any person in your household, or business.

How can I identify scams?

The Census Bureau will never ask for a complete Social Security number, money or donations, anything on behalf of a political party, your bank’s name or your credit card number.

When visiting a home, census workers must:

- Present an ID badge that contains a photo, expiration date and Department of Commerce watermark.
- Provide supervisor contact information for verification, if asked.
- Provide you with a letter from the Director of the U.S. Census Bureau on Census Bureau letterhead.

What if I am away on April 1?

People away from their usual residence on Census Day are counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time. This includes people who are on vacation or a business trip, traveling outside the United States, or working elsewhere without a usual residence there.