

## Why the 2020 Census Matters

As mandated by the U.S. Constitution Article I, Section 2, our nation gets just one chance each decade to count every resident in the United States. The framers of the Constitution of the United States chose population to be the basis for sharing political power, not wealth or land.

Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, race and other factors. When you respond to the census, you help your community gets its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives and are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

When you respond to the census and allow all members of your household to be counted, your community and state benefit both by receiving a fair distribution of federal taxes (paid by you) returned to the states and by determining how much political representation is warranted for the next generation.

Several members have been overheard saying that they were reluctant to share their information with the government stemming from a fear that this information could be used by another agency against them. This never happens! There exists a constitutional firewall preventing any such abuse.

So please do the responsible thing for your community and state and participate fully in the 2020 Census by responding to this urgent inquiry by phone, mail, internet or personal visitation.

IT MATTERS!