

# Counting People Without A Permanent Residence In The 2020 Census

## **What is the 2020 Census?**

Every 10 years everyone living in the United States gets counted in the census. In March of 2020 all households across the country will receive an invitation to respond to the 2020 Census. Accurate responses to the census help make sure that more than \$675 billion in federal funds is directed each year to the right places to support education, health care, firefighting services and more.

## **Who is included in the census?**

The census counts every person living in the United States regardless of their age, immigration status, or residential living situation. When households respond to the census they should include all persons living or staying with them as of April 1, 2020. It is important to remember that everyone living in a household, temporarily or permanently, relative or friend, needs to be included in the 2020 Census. When a person or family does not have a permanent place to live and are staying temporarily at a specific address on April 1, 2020, they should be counted there. When everyone is counted in the census, our communities are accurately funded and represented for the next decade.

## **Does the census really count children?**

Yes, it is critical to count all children living in the United States. Babies, infants and the very youngest children are often missed in the census. Some people think the census is only for adults. But census numbers determine which areas qualify for critical resources that children and their families need including food assistance programs, Head Start, childcare, housing support, public schools, early intervention services for children with special needs, children's health insurance, and more. Knowing how many children there are and where they live is essential to getting those services and programs to them.

## **What about persons without a permanent residence?**

It is also very important for the census to count persons without a permanent residence. Census workers count people living in shelters and attempt to count persons experiencing homelessness. Research found that a high proportion of young children living temporarily with another family on April 1, 2010 were missed in the 2010 Census. If you are living temporarily with a household on April 1, 2020 you should remind the person responding to the census to include you and any children living with you in their census count. If you are completing the census and have persons without a permanent residence staying with you temporarily, include them in your response.

## **What if someone filled out the census and left me and my child off?**

You can go online at [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov) and fill out a separate form, using the address where you were living (this is called a non-ID response form). Or you can call the census and give the response by phone. You should include the address and as much information as possible about everyone in the household, so that the Census Bureau can compare the two responses from the same address to make sure that everyone is counted, and no one is counted twice.

## **Where can I learn more about the 2020 Census?**

You can learn more about the 2020 Census by visiting [2020census.gov](http://2020census.gov).