

2020 CENSUS

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

Once every ten years the United States is mandated by the Constitution to count every resident. The data collected determines how many seats in the U.S. House of Representatives each state has. It is also used to decide how to distribute billions of dollars of federal funds locally.

WHEN IS THE CENSUS?

The 2020 Census will take place between March and July 2020. Self-reporting will be on-going during this time. Census Day is April 1, 2020 where official Census takers will go door-to-door to help people take the census.

WHY IS THE CENSUS IMPORTANT?

[Census 2020 – Stand Up for the Count](#)

California receives funding based on how many people live in our state, which is roughly \$76 billion dollars. That money is then divided between counties, programs and projects. Each person that is not counted equals a loss of \$1,000 in funding per year.

Programs that would be impacted by an undercount are numerous:

- Head Start
- School Lunch
- Medicare Part B
- Medi-Cal
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Highway Repairs
- Foster Care
- Special Education
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

WHAT PREVENTS AN ACCURATE POPULATION COUNT?

Residents are being asked to take the 2020 Census online for the first time. Some residents do not trust their data is secure.

Hard-to-count populations have been identified throughout the State. Alameda County has 413,000 residents who are hard-to-count. Hard-to-count populations include:

- Foreign born residents/Immigrants

- Young Children
- Linguistically isolated households
- Unhoused individuals
- Senior citizens
- People with disabilities
- People who distrust government authority and/or have been or could be targets of law enforcement
- People of color
- Renters/frequent movers
- Low-income households
- Large or overcrowded households
- People without high school degrees
- Households without a computer or internet access

Distrust in government is an issue. People can be worried about keeping their data private and the possible citizenship question.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Residents can help make sure our state and county count every resident.

Become a **Messenger** for the Census through Alameda County. Messengers work with Alameda County to help get the word out about important census information. The county will provide you with content for emails, social media, or newsletters for you to share. You can sign up to be a messenger at –

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdggikX5W19bfS9lx_vUKPkXQwwQic95GnlQoAhKlnjm6xHbQ/viewform

Attend a Census Solutions **Workshop**. Alameda County is hosting several meetings and workshops about the 2020 Census. Alameda County meeting and workshop information can be found at –

https://www.acgov.org/calendar_app/DisplayListServlet?site=Internet&ag=COUNTY&ty=ACCCC

FOR MORE INFORMATION check out the Alameda County and State websites on the 2020 Census.

Alameda County Census 2020 Website – <https://www.acgov.org/census2020/>

California Census 2020 Website – <https://census.ca.gov/about/>