



# Respond When You Receive Your 2020 Census Invitation

If your area hasn't received census materials yet, we will deliver them soon. Please respond when you receive yours.

## Why haven't I received a census invitation yet?

Census workers drop off census materials to some communities that don't generally receive mail at their home using a city-style address like "101 Main Street." COVID-19 delayed delivery to some communities.

## What areas are affected?

Census workers will deliver census materials soon to areas that:

- Have homes without city-style addresses.

- Have city-style addresses for emergency services, but they are not used for mail.
- Receive mail at PO Boxes.
- Have had homes or mail delivery significantly affected by major disasters (for example, parts of California affected by recent wildfires).
- Have high concentrations of seasonally vacant housing.
- Have a mixture of the above examples.

## Can I respond now?

Please wait to respond until you receive your census materials.

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For more information:  
[2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov)  
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In your area, the best way to respond is with the unique Census ID we provide. When you receive your materials, you can choose to:

- Complete and mail back the enclosed paper questionnaire.
- Call to respond using your Census ID.
- Respond online using your Census ID.

### **What if I've already responded?**

We're working to match the address you provided to our address list, but we may need to visit you later.

If we can't match your address, census takers may visit to verify the address you provided and may visit to collect your responses in person. We want to ensure we count everyone.

### **Will I have time to respond before the census ends?**

We've extended the deadline to respond. Census workers will drop off census materials soon, and you'll have plenty of time to respond with your Census ID.

If you don't respond when you receive your Census ID, a census taker will visit later to collect your responses in person.

### **Why can't you mail me the census information?**

The census counts people where they live. Many households in your area don't receive mail at their home's physical location.

To make sure we reach everyone, census workers will:

- Canvass the area for places people might live.

- Use a laptop to update our address list.
- Link a census questionnaire to your home's physical location and leave it at your front door.

### **Why can't I respond now without my Census ID?**

Responding with your Census ID ensures you are counted in the right place.

For 95 percent of the country, we can link responses to the right place by using a mailing address. This doesn't work in some communities. For example:

- If the post office delivers your mail to a PO Box, we can't count you at the post office or follow up with you there if you don't respond.
- Rural route addresses (e.g., RR5, Box 9) may represent a mailbox along a road-side, not necessarily your home's location, making it harder to count you in the right place.

### **How can I track my community's response?**

View our interactive 2020 Census Response Rate map at <https://2020census.gov/en/response-rates.html>.

### **When will you drop off the materials?**

The Census Bureau is resuming dropping off materials on a phased schedule across the country. This effort does not require interaction with households, and census workers will follow the most current federal, state, and local guidance.

Find the latest updates at <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>.

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