



## WHAT IS THE 2020 US CENSUS?

The decennial U.S. Census is a constitutionally mandated count of every person in the United States and where they live on the designated Census Day, April 1, 2020. Everyone is required to respond by law. And **everyone is counted**, including foreign citizens regardless of their status. Citizenship is not a question on the 2020 census.

### The Census count informs:

**Congressional Representation** - Illinois will likely lose one seat in Congress after the 2020 Census due to population loss. There is a risk of losing a second seat if there is a serious undercount.

**Data-driven Business and Research Decisions** - The data collected by the Census is the single best population resource available anywhere. It will be used by businesses, school districts, local government and researchers to plan for the future of our communities over the next 10 years.

**Appropriations and Federal Funding Allocations** - The information the Census collects helps determine how more than \$675 billion of federal funding is distributed to states and communities each year. (In 2015, more than \$34 billion was sent to Illinois.)

### Top 20 Federally Funded Programs determined by census count

- Medicare
- Federal Direct Student Loans
- SNAP
- Medicare Suppl. Medical Insurance (Part B)
- Highway Planning and Construction
- Federal Pell Grant Program
- Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers
- TANF
- Very Low to Moderate Income Housing Loans
- Title I Grants to LEAs
- State Children's Health Insurance Program
- National School Lunch Program
- Special Education Grants
- Section 8 Housing Assistance Payments Program
- Federal Transit Formula Grants
- Head Start Programs
- WIC
- Title IV-E Foster Care
- Health Care Centers
- School Breakfast Program

## WHEN DOES THE CENSUS START AND END?

### Census Timeline

- **Between March 12 - April 27:** The Census Bureau will mail at least 5 notices to each household on record across the country.
- **March 12:** Households can start responding online and via telephone.
- **April 1, 2020 Census Day**
- **May 2020:** The Census Bureau begins visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted.
- Households can continue to self-respond online, by phone or by mail through **July 31**.
- **If Households respond before May 1**, there is almost no chance they will be visited by a Census worker. This may be important for those who are fearful of home visits.

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## IS THE CENSUS HARD?

The census is simple and asks only a few questions: How many live in the home, is it owned or rented; phone number; and then name, sex, age, date of birth, are you Hispanic or Latino and what race are you? It then asks similar questions for each other person living at that address.

## SAFE FOR EVERYONE?

The census is safe and secure. Title 13 U.S.C. provides protections to individuals' data:

- Data is used for statistical purposes only.
- It is against the law to disclose personal information to anyone that can identify an individual, including to any law enforcement or immigration agencies.
- Every Census Bureau employee takes an oath to protect your personal information for life.

Violating the law is a serious federal crime. Anyone who violates this law will face severe penalties, including a federal prison sentence of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both.

## WHY IS UNITED WAY OF ILLINOIS CONCERNED ABOUT THE CENSUS?

Many groups that United Way of Lake County and our community partners serve are traditionally undercounted in the Census.

After comparing birth and death records between 1995 and 2010 with the official 2010 count, the U.S. Census Department estimated that **more than a million children under age 5 were not counted in 2010.**

The Urban Institute predicts undercounts in Illinois as high as **6%** for Children under 5, **3.7%** for African Americans and **3.5%** for Latinos.

## WHAT DOES AN UNDERCOUNT MEAN FOR EVERY RESIDENT LIVING IN ILLINOIS?

**According to the Illinois Department of Human Services**, in 2015, Illinois received more than \$19 Billion (or approximately \$1,535 per capita) in federal assistance for sixteen programs.

Even a 1% undercount would mean that Illinois could **lose almost \$20 million** in federal funding for those 16 program alone EACH YEAR over the next 10 years.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO FIND LOCAL ASSISTANCE IN FILLING OUT THE CENSUS

- Call **211** or log onto **211lakecounty.org**  
211 can direct people to the closest local resource for census assistance like libraries that provide census assistance or community organizations like Mano a Mano that can provide language assistance or answer questions of concern for immigrant families.
- log onto **2020census.gov**  
The Census Bureau has help, including questionnaire instruction in more than 50 languages and information on how to respond to the census on line or by phone.

If you have any question about this fact sheet or want help in reaching out to your community, please call or email **David McDowell at United Way of Lake County at 847-775-1043** or [david.mcdowell@uwlakeco.org](mailto:david.mcdowell@uwlakeco.org)

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# Census 2020

**Make everyone count in Lake County!**



United Way of Lake County



Everyone Counts!

The 2020 Census will take place this spring. The goal is to count every person living in the country, including young children, and it is done every 10 years. Everyone who lives in the United States is required to participate.

## **A full census count is very important to the future of our children in Lake County.**

The Census helps determine which areas qualify for the critical resources that children and families depend on for the next 10 years—basically an entire childhood! Accurate census data means our local communities will be more likely to get the roads, schools, child and senior centers, hospitals, and other services our families need. It will also decide how much money Illinois will get to help pay for All Kids health insurance, school breakfast and lunch programs, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (also known as SNAP or food stamps), financial aid for college, and many other programs that are important to keeping our children healthy, strong and well educated.

## **More than 1 million children under 5 were not counted in the 2010 U.S. Census.**

It is important that you count everyone who is living in your house on April 1, 2020. This includes you, all the children living with you whether they are yours or someone else's, and anyone else like grandparents, cousins or even friends who are living in your home. You should count everyone, even if they are not U.S. citizens (the Census Bureau will not ask about citizenship in the 2020 Census). The information you provide to the U.S. Census Bureau is safe and secure, and cannot be shared with anyone else by law, including any other government agencies.

Responding to the 2020 Census is an easy, safe and very important way to help provide resources for our children and communities over the next 10 years.

## **How to make sure your family is counted.**

In March and April, you will get information in the mail from the U.S. Census Bureau on how to respond by phone, online or with a mail-in paper questionnaire. You can answer the census questions anytime between March and July.

Starting in May, Census takers will begin visiting homes that have not responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted. The best way to avoid a visit is to respond by phone, online or with the mail-in questionnaire before the end of April.

### **KEY DATES 2020**

**March - July:** Respond via phone, online or mail-in paper questionnaire.

**May - July:** Census takers will visit homes that have not responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

**If you need help responding to the census or have questions, call 211 or text your zip code to 898211. You can also contact United Way of Lake County at (847) 775-1000.**

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# Censo del 2020



United Way of Lake County



**¡Hacer que cada persona cuente en el Condado de Lake!**

El Censo del 2020 tendrá lugar esta primavera. La meta es contar a cada persona viviendo en el país, incluyendo niños pequeños, y se lleva a cabo cada 10 años. Cada persona que vive en los Estados Unidos es requerida a participar.

## **Una cuenta exacta del censo es muy importante para el futuro de nuestros niños en el Condado de Lake.**

El Censo ayuda a determinar cuáles áreas califican para recursos críticos que niños y familias dependerán por los siguientes 10 años – ¡básicamente una infancia completa! Datos precisos del censo significa que será más probable que las comunidades locales tengan carreteras, escuelas, centros para niños y adultos mayores, hospitales y otros servicios que nuestras familias necesitan. Al igual decidirá cuánto dinero el Estado de Illinois dará para ayudar a pagar por el seguro de salud All Kids, programas de desayuno y almuerzo en las escuelas, el Programa de Asistencia y Nutrición Suplementaria (SNAP por sus siglas en Inglés o estampillas de comida), ayuda financiera para el colegio, y muchos otros programas que son importantes para mantener sanos, fuertes y mejor educados a nuestros niños.

## **Más de un millón de niños menores de 5 años no fueron contados en el CENSO de los EE.UU. del 2010.**

Es importante que cuente a cada persona que vive en su casa el 1 de Abril del 2020. Esto lo incluye a usted, todos los niños viviendo con usted sin importar si son suyos o de alguien más, y cualquier persona, así como abuelos, primos, o incluso amigos que vivan en su casa. Tiene que contar a todos, aunque no sean ciudadanos de U.S. (la Oficina del Censo no preguntará acerca de ciudadanía en el Censo del 2020). Por ley la información que usted de a la Oficina del Censo de los EE.UU. se mantendrá segura y confidencial, y no será compartida con nadie más incluyendo agencias federales de gobierno.

Responder al Censo del 2020 es una manera fácil, segura, y muy importante de ayudar a proveer recursos para nuestros niños y comunidades en los próximos 10 años.

## **Como estar seguro de que su familia es contada.**

En Marzo y Abril, usted recibirá información en el correo de la Oficina del Censo de los EE.UU. de cómo responder por teléfono, por internet o por correo con un cuestionario. Usted puede responder las preguntas del censo entre Marzo y Julio.

Comenzando en Mayo, los censistas comenzarán a visitar hogares que no han respondido al Censo del 2020 para asegurarse que todos sean contados. La mejor manera de evitar una visita es responder por teléfono, por internet, o con el cuestionario por correo antes que termine Abril.

**FECHAS  
CLAVE DEL  
2020**

**Marzo - Julio:** Responder por teléfono, internet o por el cuestionario por correo.

**Mayo - Julio:** Los censistas visitarán los hogares que no han respondido al Censo del 2020 para asegurarse que todos sean contados.

**Si usted necesita ayuda para responder el censo o tiene preguntas, llame al 211 o mande su código postal al 898211. Usted también puede contactar a United Way del Condado de Lake al (847) 775-1000.**

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