

# Complete Count Committees

## GET INVOLVED

Do you...

...have ideas on how to spread the word about the importance of the 2020 Federal Census?

...think you know what your community needs?

...want to volunteer?

Then you should be part of a Complete Count Committee!

## WHAT?

Complete Count Committees are partnerships between state and local governments, community based organizations, faith-based groups, schools, businesses, the media and others that will work together to promote the 2020 Federal Census. Complete Count Committees will be able to incorporate local knowledge, influence and resources to educate residents on the importance of getting a complete count in the 2020 Federal Census.

## WHO?

Local Complete Count Committees are usually formed by the highest elected official in that municipality. They should be representative of a cross section of the community and help implement a creative outreach campaign in areas that may pose a challenge in 2020. Members could include persons from the areas of education, media, business, religion, and community groups.

## WHEN?

**Now!** It's never too early. The immediate formation will ensure a better understanding of the census process thus increasing community willingness to be a part of the successful Census count in 2020.

## WHERE?

We are forming Complete Count Committees throughout the state to work with community groups within their municipality to encourage participation in the 2020 Federal Census. The goal is to work with community leaders and activists to inform, educate and encourage residents to complete the 2020 Federal Census form in areas that could be under-counted, such as:

- Not speaking English,
- Having limited English proficiency,
- Renting a residence,
- Being young and mobile (e.g., young adults who move frequently),
- Residency in rural or geographically isolated areas.

## WHY?

The primary focus of a Complete Count Committee is to promote the 2020 Federal Census in a particular community to ensure that every resident in that area is counted. Local community members are most qualified to understand the best way to reach all populations that reside in their area.

**Massachusetts  
needs your help to  
make the  
2020 Federal Census  
a success!**

## HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

### 2020 Federal Census

US Census Customer Service Center:  
1-800-923-8282  
Web: [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)

### Secretary of the Commonwealth Census Division

Phone: 617-727-0420  
Email: [ma2020census@sec.state.ma.us](mailto:ma2020census@sec.state.ma.us)  
Web: [www.ma2020census.org](http://www.ma2020census.org)

### Call Our Office Toll Free

**1-833-MA1-2020**  
(1-833-621-2020)



Secretary of the Commonwealth  
**William Francis Galvin**  
is designated the Commonwealth's liaison with  
the U.S. Census Bureau for the  
2020 Federal Census.

# United States 2020 Census

## Why it Matters to You and Massachusetts!



## A Clear Vision for Massachusetts



**William Francis Galvin**  
Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts 2020 Census Liaison  
[www.ma2020census.org](http://www.ma2020census.org)

# Questions and Answers About the 2020 Census

## WHAT?

**Count** • The census is a count of everyone living in the United States. This mandatory count is required by the United States Constitution.

## WHO?

**Everyone** • The population of the United States must be counted. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens. The Census Bureau is bound by Title 13 of the United States Code. Federal law protects the personal information you provide during the census.

## WHEN?

**Every 10 years** • The Federal Census is conducted every 10 years. The next Federal Census will occur in 2020. You will receive census correspondence prior to Census Day (April 1), 2020. The Federal Census is different than your annual street listing, which is sent every year by the city or town in which you reside.

## WHERE?

**Everywhere in the U.S.** • The Federal Census counts everyone living in the United States, including all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories.

## HOW?

**Online, phone or mail** • The U.S. Census Bureau will send a letter inviting you to go online and complete your census form if you can. Don't worry if you don't have internet access — you can respond by phone or paper, too. It takes approximately 10 minutes to complete the questionnaire. The online questionnaire will be available in 13 languages (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese and Japanese). Help will also be available by phone in these languages.

If the U.S. Census Bureau does not receive a response from your household, they will mail a form. Households that require follow-up will be called or visited by a census worker (census workers can be identified by a census badge).

## WHY?

**It's important** • The data collected during the Federal Census determines federal funding for your community, your community's representation in Congress and planning decisions made in your community.

**It's required by law** • The information you provide is combined with responses provided by your neighbors and other households across the country, to provide statistical data that are used by various local, state and federal agencies.

## IS CENSUS DATA CONFIDENTIAL?

**ABSOLUTELY!** • Your answers are protected by law (Title 13 of the U.S. Code, Section 9) and are strictly confidential. It is illegal for the Census Bureau, or its employees, to share your personal information with any other government agency, local law enforcement, IRS, Health and Human Services (HHS), FBI, ICE, etc.

Not even the President of the United States can access your individual responses.

## HOW DOES THE CENSUS AFFECT ME?

**Census data affects funding in your community** • Census data directly affects how more than **\$675 billion per year** in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. Spending just a few minutes to fill out your census form will help ensure your community gets its fair share of federal and state funding.

**Census data affects your voice in Congress** • The number of representatives in Congress is determined by the number of residents in Massachusetts in relation to the number of residents in the United States. Currently we have 9 U.S. Representatives - in order to preserve our representation, we must ensure that everyone is counted so Massachusetts maintains its strong voice in Congress.

**Census data affects your representation in state and local government** • Federal Census data is

## Ways Census Data is Used

- Determining amounts of federal funding for Massachusetts.
- Drawing federal, state, and local legislative districts.
- Assisting the elderly, the disabled and veterans.
- Distributing federal grants to educational agencies.
- Attracting new businesses to state and local areas.
- Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population.
- Planning for public transportation services.
- Forecasting future housing needs for all segments of the population.
- Directing funds for services for people in poverty.
- Designing public safety strategies.
- Providing funds for road rehabilitation and construction.
- Helping potential homeowners research property values, median income and other demographic information about a particular community.
- Determining where jobs and job programs are needed.
- Planning health and educational services for people with disabilities.
- Estimating the number of people displaced by natural disasters.
- Developing assistance programs for American Indians.
- Creating maps to speed services to households in need of assistance.
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, or children.
- Facilitating scientific research.
- Drawing school district boundaries.
- Planning budgets for government at all levels.
- Establishing fair market rents and enforcing fair lending practices.
- Directing services to children and adults with limited English-language proficiency.
- Planning for hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, and the location of other health services.
- Forecasting development of rural and urban areas.
- Assessing the potential for the spread of communicable diseases.
- Planning for faith-based organizations.
- Locating factory sites and distribution centers.
- Providing genealogical research.
- Planning for school projects.
- Developing adult education programs.
- Researching historical subject areas.
- Determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans.

used to define legislative districts, school district assignment areas and other important areas of government.

**Census data provides important information used for local decision-making** • The Federal

Census is a snapshot that helps define who we are as a nation. Data about changes in your community are crucial to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools, or where to locate job training centers.