Census 2020
Make yourself count: April 1, 2020

What is the census?
The census is a self-portrait of the nation. The U.S. Constitution requires the federal government count everyone living in the country every 10 years. The tally must include people of all ages, races, and ethnic groups; all citizens and non-citizens. Every household should complete a census form (either online, or by mail or phone) by April 1, 2020. Participating in the census is our right and responsibility.

Why does the census matter?
Census data shape the future of our community and define our voice in Congress.

- The 2020 Census will determine how more than $700 billion in federal government resources will be distributed each year for the next decade to states and localities.
- Census data is used to determine where schools, roads, hospitals, child care centers, senior centers and other services should be built.
- Key federal programs rely on data and allocations derived from the census, including:
  - Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicare Part B, Highway Planning and Construction, Section 8, Title I Grants, Special Education Grants (IDEA), State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and Head Start.
- Census data are also used for apportionment of Congressional seats and redistricting at all levels of government.
- Census data are indispensable for monitoring discrimination and the enforcement of a broad range of civil rights laws.