

CENSUS 2020

WHAT IS IT?

The census is a tool used every ten years by the federal government to count each person living in the United States. Information from the census shapes our communities and influences our voice in Congress. The census tells us who we are as a nation—and as a city—and what we need. Participation in the census is our right and responsibility.

WHO NEEDS TO DO IT?

EVERYONE! And we are especially focused on the 48% of Chicagoans who have been historically-undercounted, including:

- Households below the poverty line
- Racial and ethnic minority groups
- Children under five
- Aging population
- Non-English speakers
- Renters
- Racial and ethnic minority groups
- Individuals experiencing homelessness
- Immigrants and refugees
- Undocumented individuals
- LGBTQ+
- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals with limited digital access
- Returning residents
- Veterans

WHEN DO YOU DO IT?

March 2020: Beginning March 12, you will receive a series of mailings from the U.S. Census Bureau inviting you to respond to the census online or by phone in 13 languages.

April 2020: Throughout April you will receive additional mailed reminders to complete the census online or by phone. If you haven't completed the census by mid-April, you will receive a paper form in the mail. Census Bureau staff called "enumerators" will conduct counts in nursing homes, hospitals, colleges, shelters, and other group living locations.

May 2020: If you have not responded to the census by May 13, enumerators will visit your home up to six times to help you complete the census in person. You are still able to complete the census independently online, by phone, or by mail.

July 2020: In-person enumeration will continue through the end of July.

WHY DO WE NEED TO DO IT?

- **In 2010, the City of Chicago's census response rate was only 66 percent**—among the lowest in the country. For *every one percent* of Chicagoans missed, we lose out on an estimated \$35 million every year.
- The stakes are higher than ever for the 2020 Census. More than \$800 billion in federal funding is at stake for everything from education and healthcare to infrastructure and social safety net programs.
- Funding for Head Start, SNAP, WIC, Section 8, TANF, and Medicaid is determined using census data. The State of Illinois receives \$35 billion through 55 spending programs derived from the census count. An accurate census also ensures equitable political representation.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT?

- Fill out your census on April 1, 2020
- Post on social media to remind others to complete their Census forms
- Tell your community why the census is easy, safe, and important!

WHO DO I CONTACT TO GET INVOLVED?

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MAKE YOURSELF COUNT.