



You Count!

2020

CensusFrederickCounty

Beginning in mid-March, the majority of Frederick County residents will receive a notice in the mail to complete the 2020 Census. Once you receive it, you can respond online. In May, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin following up in person with households that haven't responded to the census.

Responding to the 2020 Census should take less time than it takes to finish your morning coffee!

What is the 2020 Census?

Every 10 years, the federal government conducts a population count of everyone in the United States. Data from the census provide the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to communities like Frederick County across the country to support vital programs—impacting housing, education, transportation, employment, health care, and public policy. They also are used to redraw the boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts and accurately determine the number of congressional seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Why is the Census important to me?

Responding to the census is not only your civic duty; it also affects the amount of funding that Frederick County receives, how our community plans for the future, and our representation in government. Specifically, data from the 2020 Census are used to:

- ✓ **Ensure public services and funding for schools, hospitals, and fire departments.**
- ✓ **Plan new homes and businesses and improve neighborhoods.**
- ✓ **Determine how many seats your state is allocated in the House of Representatives.**

IMPORTANT. EASY. SAFE.

FrederickCountyMD.gov/2020Census

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What information will be requested?

The census will collect basic information about the people living in your household whether you own or rent. When completing the census, you should count everyone (*including all children*) who are living in your household on April 1, 2020.

What information will NOT be requested?

- Social Security numbers
- Bank or credit card account numbers
- Money or donations
- Immigration status
- Anything on behalf of a political party

Is my information kept confidential?

**YES! ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL,
PRIVATE, AND PROTECTED BY LAW!**

Strict federal law protects your census responses. It is against the law for any Census Bureau employee to disclose or publish any census information that identifies an individual. Census Bureau employees take a lifelong pledge of confidentiality to handle data responsibly and keep respondents' information private. The penalty for wrongful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both. **No law enforcement agency (not the DHS, ICE, FBI, or CIA) can access or use your personal information at any time.** Data collected can only be used for statistical purposes that help inform important decisions, including how much federal funding your community receives.

The Census Bureau has a robust cybersecurity program that incorporates industry best practices and federal security standards for encrypting data.

Ways Census Data impacts Frederick County



\$11,000,000 LOST

Due to undercounts in the 2010 Census, Frederick County lost over eleven million dollars! Those funds could have been used for improving our local schools, investing in public infrastructure and serving residents with programs and support to enrich our quality of life.

For each person that is not counted, our community loses \$18,000/person over the next ten years to invest into these and other important community programs and services.

By completing the census, you ensure that Frederick County receives the support we need to ensure that you and our entire community can thrive.

