

United States Census 2020

Please respond to help Wayland!

The US Census is moving forward even though COVID-19 grabs most of the headlines. It is important to Wayland and to Massachusetts that you respond.

The United States Constitution requires every person who lives in the United States to be counted every ten years. An accurate count is very important for each of us.

The primary purpose is to determine how many congressional representatives each state will have for the next decade. In addition, this population count determines the annual allocation of more than \$800 billion in federal money to states, cities, and towns. It is estimated that Massachusetts receives \$2,372 per person for each of the ten years between the Census counts for programs like healthcare and Medicaid, public education, public transportation, childcare/Head Start, and affordable housing.



HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE CENSUS?

- Every household should already have received a letter with a unique ID and a follow-up reminder. If you have not responded to the Census by the end of March, you will get a reminder postcard, followed by a reminder letter and a paper questionnaire in mid-April, and a final reminder postcard by the end of April. If you STILL have not responded, Census workers will follow-up in person.
- You can respond to the Census online (<https://my2020census.gov/>), by mail, or by phone. If you do not respond in one of these three ways, a census taker will visit to collect the information.
- You can choose from 13 different languages online and others are available, if needed.
- If you misplaced or never received a unique ID, you can still respond but will need to include your home address in the questionnaire.

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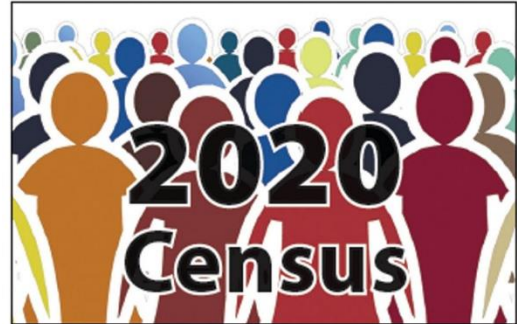
WHAT DOES THE CENSUS ASK?

For each household:

- How many people live at this address as of April 1, 2020? (including adults and children, immigrants and citizen, family members and friends)
- Do you own or rent your home?
- What is your phone number?

For each resident:

- Name and relationship
- Birth date
- Age and sex
- Race and ethnicity



WHAT ABOUT SECURITY?

- The Census Bureau is required by law to protect any personal information it collects. It cannot be used against you by any government agency or court—not the FBI, CIA, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Individual household data cannot be shared with anyone for 72 years. The Census Bureau takes strong precautions to keep online responses secure. All data submitted online are encrypted, and once received, they are no longer online.
- Census workers will wear identification badges that contain a photograph of the representative, a Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.



They will provide you with a letter from the Director of the Census Bureau on Census Bureau letterhead, and will provide you with supervisor contact information, if asked.

They will never ask for your Social Security number, your bank account or credit card numbers, anything on behalf of a political party, or money or donations.