What You Need to Know About the Census

Every 10 years, people across the country and in California fill out the Census in order to have an accurate count of all people in the United States. The Census determines California's federal funding for important community services that help support our families and fair share of representation in California and Washington D.C.

The next Census is in Spring 2020. Let's ensure all Californians are counted so we can put those resources to good use here at home!

Census Key Dates

Starting in mid-March 2020, each household will get a letter in the mail. It will explain the different ways you can fill out the Census. If you don't receive a letter, you can still go online or call to fill it out. Be sure you include any person living in your household, family or not.

Date	Event
March 12–20	Invitations to the 2020 Census mailed
March 16–24	Reminder letters mailed
March 26–April 3	Reminder postcard mailed
April 1	CENSUS DAY!
April 8–16	Second reminder & hard copy Census mailed
April 20–27	Final postcards mailed before an in-person follow-up

Why All Californians Should Take the Census

The Census is safe, protected and confidential. The Census helps determine how much money California receives for important programs and services. When you fill out the Census, you help your community get its fair share of money.

BUILD BETTER ROADS AND SCHOOLS

FUND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CREATE JOBS

IMPROVE HOUSING

Information collected as part of the 2020 Census cannot be shared by other governmental agencies or used against you in any way. California is different and diverse. ALL Californians count. Take the Census.

How to Complete

Every person in the country is required to fill out the 2020 Census form. Luckily, you have three ways to respond.

MAIL: Request a paper Census form in English or Spanish that can be mailed back to the U.S. Census Bureau.

PHONE: The Census can be completed by phone in 13 languages.

ONLINE: For the first time, the Census form will be available to complete online in 13 languages.

Video and printed guides will also be available in 59 non-English languages, and there will be a video in American Sign Language, plus a printed guide in braille. Whichever you choose, just make sure you fill out the form!