How the 2020 Census helps communities

Why is responding to the 2020 Census important?

**Federal funding**
Federal, state, and municipal lawmakers make decisions about how billions of dollars in public funds are allocated for schools, roads and bridges, fire and emergency services, healthcare, and more based on census statistics. Programs informed by census statistics include those for:

- Older people and low-income populations:
  - Medicare
  - Medicaid
  - Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)
  - Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- College students:
  - Federal Pell Grants
  - Career and technical education grants
  - Adult education grants
- Young children:
  - Head Start
  - National School Lunch Program
  - Title IX funding

**Congressional representation**
2020 Census results will determine the number of seats each state receives in the U.S. House of Representatives. Results also impact congressional and state legislative districts.

**Business decisions**
Businesses owners use census statistics to create economic and employment opportunities. The statistics help determine where to hire new employees, open new locations, and more.

**Important dates**
After completing the 2020 Census count, the U.S. Census Bureau must deliver the results by two deadlines:

- **December 31, 2020:** The Census Bureau will announce the total population count for each state. These totals determine the number of seats each state receives in the U.S. House of Representatives.

- **April 1, 2021:** The Census Bureau will release 2020 Census statistics used by state and local officials to redraw boundaries for congressional and state legislative districts and public school districts.

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