



## Important Easy and Safe

The United States is required to perform a national count of all people living in each state every ten years (U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 2).

The 2020 census impacts Maryland in several important ways.  
The census:

- Determines representation in Congress and impacts local legislative districts;
- Is the basis for funding critical programs and services; and
- Assists local decision-making for economic development, school construction and transportation projects, as well as public health, public safety and emergency planning.

**Every Marylander Counts!**

**Get Counted in the 2020 Decennial Census**

### The Census is **Important**

Census data is used to determine the level of federal funding for programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants and Children (SNAP/WIC), Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and highway and transportation projects.

- Every year, the federal government allocates more than **\$675 Billion** in funding based on census data.
- Every Marylander not counted costs the state approximately **\$18,250** over 10 years – this equates to the state losing **\$1 Billion** (based on historical U.S. Census undercount).

**Completing your census form ensures Maryland families, neighbors and communities receive the support they need to live, work, play and grow.**





## The Census is **Easy**

Filling out your census form can be done in three ways – **by mail, phone and online.**

The 2020 census will be the **first online census** in U.S. history.

Answering the demographic questions in the census helps make sure your community receives its **fair share of funding** and that economic development and planning decisions accurately reflect your community on April 1, 2020.

### Some important facts to remember. Don't forget:

- College students should be counted at their college address, either on or off campus. They should be counted at their parents' home only if they live and sleep there.
- All children must be counted **including those under five years old.**

## The Census is **Safe**

The U.S. Census Bureau **must keep all information confidential,** including a resident's citizenship, income and other sensitive personal data.

- Data is collected for statistical purposes only and **personal data is never disclosed.**
- All census information is private and protected by law in Title 13 of the U.S. Code with violations punishable up to five years in federal prison and/or a \$250,000 fine.

**So choose the way that you will be counted – by mail, by phone or online.**

**It is the portrait of us that will last ten years, so let's get everyone in the picture.**



**Census.Maryland.gov**

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