CENSUS 2020: Updated Operations

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments to Census operations were necessary in order to protect the health and safety of both the public and the U.S. Census Bureau workers as well as collect a fair and accurate count.



ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	NEW DATES
Self-Response	Anyone can complete their Census at anytime online or by phone regardless of whether they have received an invitation. If they have received a paper form, it can be completed and mailed at any time.	MARCH 12 - OCTOBER 31
Group Quarters	Residents living in locations such as nursing homes, college campuses, prisons, etc. are counted by that entity through existing records given to the U.S. Census Bureau.	APRIL 2 - SEPTEMBER 3
U.S. Census Bureau Field Offices at Peak Operation	Many Bureau activities to obtain an accurate count were paused. The following will resume: - Hiring and training of enumerators (Census workers) - Deciding utility, locations, and dates for potential Mobile Questionnaire Assistance Centers - Supporting activities such as events, marketing, etc.	JUNE 1
Update-Leave	Hand delivery of Census invitations to locations that do not receive mail. Invitation will include a paper form as well as phone and internet response instructions.	JUNE 15 - JULY 9
Nonresponse Follow-Up (NRFU)	Census Bureau Workers (enumerators) go door to door to collect Census responses from those who have not yet completed their form. This timeframe will also include locations that were supposed to have Early Nonresponse Followup such as college towns, migratory locations, etc.	AUGUST 11 - OCTOBER 31
In-Person Group Quarters	Should locations like nursing homes, college campuses, prisons, etc. not be able to provide existing records, the Census Bureau will provide in-person visit(s) to count residents.	JULY 1 - SEPTEMBER 3
Transitory Enumeration	Census takers count people staying at campgrounds, RV parks, marinas, hotels, etc. if they do not usually live elsewhere	Tentatively SEPTEMBER 3-SEPTEMBER 28
Service Based Enumeration & Homeless Count	Efforts to count the people service providers (like soup kitchens, shelters, and regularly scheduled food vans) serve, as well as those experiencing homelessness outdoors.	To be determined

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