



# We count because community matters.

## Everyone deserves the best our community has to offer.

Census funds impact programs that feed families, provide homes and shelter, support learning, create parks and generate jobs. **That's why we count.**

Census data is used for 10 years to decide local funding. There's a lot of money at stake. **In our area, each person equals about \$1,800 a year in funding.** In Michigan, almost half of our funding comes from the federal government. If you don't get counted, we risk losing vital services in Saginaw County like economic development, public health, political representation, housing, education, food resources, and social services.

That's why we're devoting this issue of *Cornerstone* to focus on the 2020 Census. Inside, you will find information about the Census and we'll debunk some common Census myths.

When you complete the Census, you will help create a brighter future for our community. For good. For ever.

**Complete the Census. It's easy, confidential and takes just 10 minutes.**

### 2020 Census Timeline

On or between	You will receive
March 12–20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census <i>(Some households will also receive paper questionnaires)</i>
March 16–24	A reminder letter
April 1	National Census Day
<b>If you haven't responded yet:</b>	
March 26–April 3	A reminder postcard
April 8–16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire
April 20–27	Final reminder postcard before the Census Bureau follows-up in-person

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# President's Report

FROM RENEÉ S. JOHNSTON

This issue of our Cornerstone newsletter has been dedicated to providing important information about the upcoming 2020 Census. With this information, the Saginaw Community Foundation hopes that you find it informative and appropriate to share with others. It is crucial for Saginaw County, the Great Lakes Bay Region, and the entire state of Michigan that we get a complete count. Did you know that after the 2010 Census, the state of Michigan was the only state to lose population? As a result, Michigan lost a seat in the House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. (a decrease from 15 to 14).

Two years ago, Foundations across Michigan were encouraged to work closely with community organizations and partners to promote and educate the importance of the 2020 Census. The thought was that the positive philanthropic partnerships and relationships of Foundations could help communicate effectively the importance of completing the census along with help combat myths surrounding the census in regards to how information would be collected and used.

In the Great Lakes Bay Region, the Bay Area, Midland Area, Mt. Pleasant Area, and Saginaw Community Foundations established a 2020 Census Hub, with each Foundation providing

financial support to hire a regional Census Coordinator. The Census Coordinator works closely with each of our communities to promote and encourage a complete count. Here in Saginaw County, the Saginaw Community Foundation has provided funding for mini-grants to support the efforts of community organizations who will organize events and activities to encourage residents to complete the Census.

Saginaw Community Foundation is also printing and distributing materials about the 2020 Census to help communicate the importance of completing the census. Information sharing via social media channels is also occurring.

Saginaw Community Foundation is confident that through coordinated communication efforts, a complete count will be achieved. We count because community matters!

Thank you all for your continued support.

**Reneé S. Johnston**, President & CEO

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## Census 2020 Resources

We've compiled this list of online resources as places to find more information regarding the 2020 Census.

### LOCAL RESOURCES

#### Saginaw Community Foundation

[saginawfoundation.org](http://saginawfoundation.org), [facebook.com/saginawcommunityfoundation/](https://facebook.com/saginawcommunityfoundation/),  
or [instagram.com/saginawfoundation/](https://instagram.com/saginawfoundation/)

#### Saginaw NAACP

Facebook: [bit.ly/37MQya6](https://bit.ly/37MQya6)

#### Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute

Facebook: [bit.ly/39VXzb](https://bit.ly/39VXzb)

#### Michigan Nonprofit Association

[mnaonline.org/civic-engagement/census-2020](http://mnaonline.org/civic-engagement/census-2020)

### NATIONAL RESOURCES

#### U.S. Census Bureau

[2020Census.gov](https://2020Census.gov)

#### U.S. Census Bureau YouTube Channel

Features hundreds of videos with valuable information about the 2020 Census:

[bit.ly/32bNpPW](https://bit.ly/32bNpPW)

# Impacting our community

## Shaping Your Future with the Census

School lunches. Plans for highways. Support for firefighters and families in need. Census results affect your community every day.

Your voice is important. The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade. That funding shapes many different aspects of every community, no matter the size, no matter the location.

Think of your morning commute: Census results influence highway planning and construction, as well as grants for buses, subways, and other public transit systems.

Or think of your local schools: Census results help determine how money is allocated for the education programs and for grants that support teachers and special education.

Everyone in our community is affected by the results of the Census. Here are some examples of why an accurate count is important:

### Children

Our kids need vital services like WIC, Medicaid, school lunches, foster care, special education and so much more. Census data directs dollars to all of these important community services.

### Families

Our communities are made up of families. Census dollars help with programs that feed families, provide homes and shelter, support learning of all kinds, create parks and playgrounds, and make our cities and towns better. Census data directs dollars to programs

to help with education, food and nutrition, housing, healthcare, childcare and many other services for families and community. We want the best for our families and getting counted helps.

### Older Adults

Our seniors are our legacy. Census data directs dollars to funding for Medicare, housing assistance, Meals on Wheels and other programs to keep our seniors vibrant into their golden years.

### Disabled

Everyone deserves a bright future. Census funds provide services that help with transportation, special education, housing assistance, Medicaid and more.

### Veterans

Census data directs dollars to healthcare and other programs specifically designed for veterans. We can support our military service members and the community by getting counted.

### Homeless

It is critical to count people experiencing homelessness. Dollars directed by the Census support emergency shelters, food pantries, temporary housing, finding permanent homes and so much more. Everyone deserves a warm place to sleep and food to eat.

### Native Americans

Native Americans are part of the fabric of our community. Census data impacts tribal sovereignty and directs dollars to programs that help with education, food, housing and many other services. The census helps Native Americans be counted and get fair representation.

## Census 101

### Will there be a citizenship question?

No. The Trump administration sought to include a citizenship question on the decennial census for the first time since 1950. Several state and local governments and the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit, arguing the question would undermine the accuracy of the census by discouraging both legal and unauthorized immigrants from filling out the forms. The U.S. Supreme Court agreed and the citizenship question was dropped from the Census.

### Do you have to be a citizen to be counted?

No. The Constitution requires the government to count people living in the U.S. at the time of the census, not citizens. People visiting the country for a short time, on business or vacation, won't be counted, but foreign students or workers who are living here for an extended time are counted. By the same token, American citizens living abroad for an extended time are not counted, with the exception of deployed military and federal employees.

### What if no one in the household is proficient in English?

The printed form will be available in only two languages, English and Spanish. The online form and phone-in option will be available in 13 additional languages.

### How are overseas military personnel counted?

Under new rules, the census will make a distinction between military personnel stationed overseas for long periods of time and those who are on more temporary deployments. Those who are stationed overseas, who are more likely to have established a household on or near a base, are counted in their home states for apportionment purposes but not at a specific address. Those who are deployed, such as sailors on ships at sea or overseas ground troops, will be credited to their address just before the deployment, which means the populations of counties that include military bases could see a higher count than in 2010.

### When will the census data be available?

The Census Bureau is required to deliver the state population numbers to the president and Congress in December. By March 31, 2021, it will deliver the detailed data to the states which will use that information to redraw legislative districts.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau



# Debunking Census myths



## I don't think the Census has any impact on my life.

Nearly 40% of Michigan's funding comes from the federal government. The amount of money our state receives depends on the Census – a survey conducted every 10 years to determine the number of people living in the United States. An accurate count is vital to obtain funding and distribute resources throughout our community. Census funding impacts almost everything that's important to you, like economic development, public health, political

representation, housing, education, food resources, and social services.

For every uncounted person in our area, we stand to lose about \$1,800 per person, per year, for the next 10 years. **Putting this number into a larger perspective, for every 56 people not counted, Saginaw County stands to lose a total of \$1,008,000.00 in federal funding between 2021-2030.**



## I don't feel comfortable sharing my personal information.

### **The Census is completely confidential.**

The Census Bureau releases only statistics, not individual results. Title 13 of the U.S. Code forbids the Census Bureau or any of its employees from disclosing personal information for an individual or a business. And that means the information is not

made available to law enforcement agencies such as the FBI, other government agencies like ICE or IRS, landlords, or child protective services. The questions asked on the Census seek less personal information than most social media profiles.



## I have trouble completing Census forms.

Filling out the census questionnaire will be easier than ever this year, with online and phone options.

Starting in mid-March, people will begin receiving letters that include a unique number they will enter online. **The letter also will have a phone number that people can call to respond to the questions in 13**

**languages** (English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese).

Those in hard-to-reach areas with spotty or no internet access will receive a paper questionnaire in their first mailing to ensure they have plenty of time to respond.



## I don't have time to fill-out the Census.

**Filling out the Census is easy.** It only takes about 10 minutes to complete and it will be limited to basic demographic information about the people living in each household. Detailed questions on subjects

such as housing, commuting or income are now done through annual Census Bureau surveys, like the American Community Survey (ACS).

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Spence Brothers  
Stevens Worldwide Van Lines  
Tri-Star Trust Bank  
Warner Norcross & Judd, LLP  
Wildfire Credit Union  
Wolgast Corporation  
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## WANT TO JOIN THE inner CIRCLE?

There are various levels of public and printed recognition available – including introductions at events, listings in foundation publications and logos on our website – depending upon your membership level. For more information, call (989) 755-0545.

# Census 101: What you need to know

The 2020 Census is closer than you think. Here are answers to some common questions about the Census.

## What is the 2020 Census?

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States and its territories between mid-March – July 2020. A complete national census is done every 10 years; this will be the 24<sup>th</sup> census since the first one in 1790. Through wars, economic depressions and other turmoil, the count has never been missed or delayed.

## Why is the census done?

It is required by the U.S. Constitution, to determine how many representatives each state should have in Congress, and is also used to determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal taxes are distributed among the states. The number of members in the U.S. House of Representatives was increased to 435 in 1911 and then capped at that number in 1929. That means states that are growing quickly, like North Carolina and Texas, get additional seats at the expense of those that are growing more slowly or not at all. North Carolina is expected to gain a 14<sup>th</sup> congressional seat based on the 2020 Census.

## How else is census data used?

The census produces the country's most complete tally of the population, and the data is available to anyone to use. It's the basis for countless government and private studies and research, including other government surveys. Businesses use it for marketing and deciding where to locate retail outlets or other facilities. State and local governments use the data for all sorts of purposes, including how to draw districts for elected officials.

## Will anyone other than the U.S. Census Bureau have access to my data?

No. The Census Bureau releases only statistics, not individual results. Title 13 of the U.S. Code forbids the Census Bureau or any of its employees from disclosing personal information for an individual or a business. And that means the information is not made available to law enforcement agencies, such as the FBI, or other government regulators.

## Is census information shared with immigration authorities?

No. The rules against releasing census data to government agencies extend to ICE, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

## Who fills out a census form?

One person per household completes the form. A household includes everyone who occupies a house, apartment, mobile home or room as their usual place of residence on April 1, whether they're related to each other or not. A friend living in a room over the garage would be included in the household; a daughter away at college would not. People who live in "group quarters," such as military barracks, prisons, homeless shelters, group homes, college dorms or nursing homes, are counted by an administrator for those quarters. Special efforts are made to count people in transitory situations, such as living in hotels or campgrounds or homeless outdoors.

## How will I receive a census form?

This will be the first time everyone will be invited to answer the census via the internet. The forms will be available online starting March 12, and every household will receive a letter in the mail about this time inviting them to complete the Census online or by phone.

## What if I don't have access to the internet or don't want to fill it out online?

About 20% of households in areas with low internet access will also receive a paper census form with this initial mailing. Other households that don't respond online or by telephone will get reminders in the mail, and those that haven't responded by early April will be mailed a paper questionnaire as well.

## What if I don't fill out a form at all?

If a household still hasn't filled out the form online, by phone or by mail by the end of April, the Census Bureau will send someone – a census employee known as an enumerator – to knock on the door and take the census in person. It is illegal to willfully not be counted by the census, punishable by a fine of up to \$100 (giving false information on a census form can result in a fine of up to \$500). But the Census Bureau hasn't sought to have anyone prosecuted since the 1960s, according to John Thompson, a former census director. Thompson says the

bureau believes it's better to persuade people to participate in the census, by showing them how having everyone counted helps their communities get their fair share of federal dollars for transportation, education and health care.

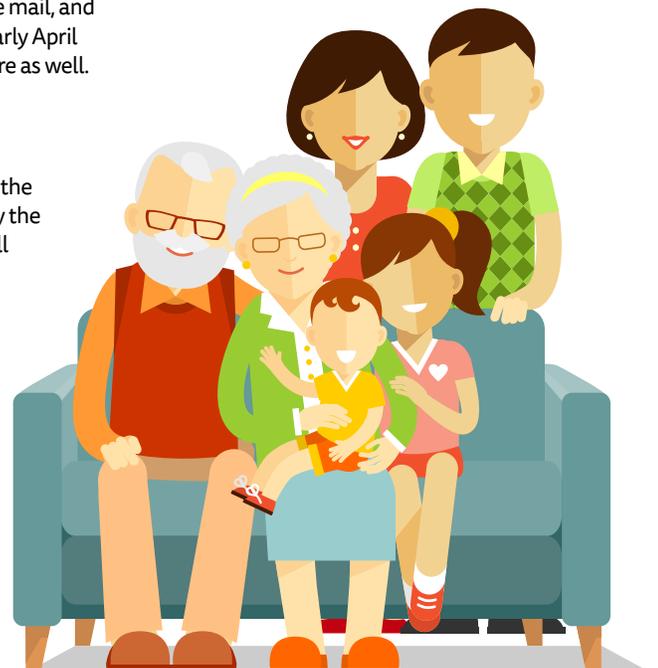
## Will someone come to my door?

Only if you don't fill out the form, either online, by phone or through the mail. Enumerators will make several attempts to find someone at home if a household hasn't responded. That effort will continue through July.

## How does the census know where to send the forms?

Last year, the Census Bureau put together a master address list, derived from various sources, including where the U.S. Postal Service delivers mail but also local government records. The bureau has traditionally walked every street in the country to verify the list and look for homes that might be missing. This time, 70% of that verification work was done by satellite images, with 30% still done in the field. Creating an up-to-date and accurate address list can be a challenge in places where people have been displaced by natural disasters or where new households or subdivisions have been established.

*continued on page 4...*





## Notable Dates

APR  
01

National Census Day

APR  
01

Application deadline for  
Community Improvement  
Initiative (CII) Grant

MAY  
01

Application deadline for  
SCF General Grants

MAY  
15

Spring Into Service/  
Riverfront Beautification Day

MAY  
18

Excellence in Education Event,  
Temple Theatre

MAY  
31

Application deadline for HSC  
Community CARES Grants

JUNE  
01

Application deadline for Nexteer  
Steering the Future Grants

JUNE  
08

SCF Annual Celebration at  
Saginaw Fitness Park



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1 Tuscola St., Suite 100B  
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copies of **Cornerstone**, let us know,  
and please pass one on to a friend.*



it takes a  
**village**

# save the date

SAGINAW COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S  
**ANNUAL CELEBRATION**

**Monday, June 8, 5:30-8 P.M.**  
Saginaw Fitness Park  
Fordney St. between  
Ezra Rust Dr. and Rust Ave.




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