



THE 2020 CENSUS

CIVIC ACADEMY FOR ONE LA- IAF LEADERS AND ALLIES

APRIL 27, 2020

WHAT WE WILL COVER

The US Census - Why it is important

- **The impact on Democracy**
- **The impact on California and Los Angeles County**
- **The impact on our Communities & Neighborhoods**
- **LA is the Hardest County to Count in CA**
- **Responses 2020 vs. 2010**
- **How to be Counted – What questions are asked and what cannot be asked**
- **Census Information is Confidential & Secure**
- **Next Steps**

THE US CENSUS

- **Beginning in 1790, the Constitution mandated that the federal government had to establish the number of people living in the United States every 10 years**
- **The Census counts EVERY person residing in one household regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, citizenship or immigration status**
- **Census 2020 is our one chance to determine how our political power and collective money will be distributed for the next 10 years.**

IMPACT ON OUR VOTE

- **Congress uses census totals to determine how many seats a state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives**
- **State Congressional district boundaries are determined for state legislative seats**
- **Local city councils, school boards, and some municipal offices are also determined**

IMPACT ON CALIFORNIA & LOS ANGELES COUNTY

- **Los Angeles County has 19 of the 53 seats in the House of Representatives – that's about a 1/3 of all seats held by California**
- **After the 2010 Census, California missed an opportunity to gain a seat by 13,000 people for the 1st time since statehood was declared in 1850**
- **All residents need to be counted so California does not lose representation in Congress**

IMPACT ON OUR COMMUNITIES

Over \$7 billion in federal funds are allocated to LA Cty based on Census data

Education Programs

- Head Start
- School lunch
- Pell Grants
- New school construction
- Special Ed grants

Community Programs

- SNAP
- Child Care Centers
- Foster Care

Health Care Services

- Medicaid/Medi-Cal
- Senior programs
- Block grants

Housing & Community Development

- Section 8 housing
- New libraries
- Public transportation systems
- Roads to relieve traffic congestion

Public Support Services

- Location of Police & Fire Depts.
- 911 Emergency systems
- Hospitals

IMPACT ON OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Census data helps companies and businesses decide where to:

- **Locate factories & distribution centers – this means job creation**
- **To expand or locate new stores and shopping center – convenience in obtaining goods/services/groceries**
- **Banks, theatres and offices – community development investment and partnerships, local business sponsorships for sports, clubs, schools**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY HARDEST TO COUNT IN CA

- **10 million residents in LA County – approx. ¼ of California (2018)
Approx. 17% are noncitizens who may be less likely to respond to the Census**
- **A third of LA residents live in areas that are likely to be very hard to count – pockets of low or no internet access**
- **Approx. 54% of LA residents speak a language other than English at home. The Census will not have language assistance for Armenian, Farsi, Hindi, Thai & Khmer households**
- **57% of LA County residents belong to a historically undercounted demographic including African American, Latino and Native American communities**

CENSUS RESPONSE RATES

| | <u>April 2010</u> | <u>April 2020</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| National Response Rate | 69% | 51.6% |

Current Los Angeles County response rate – 48.5%

HOW TO BE COUNTED

- Online <https://my2020census.gov>
- **Phone 1-844-330-2020 Sun-Sat 7am-2pm ET**
Available in English, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin & Cantonese), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, French, Polish, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Japanese
- **Mail – postage paid envelop is included. If envelop is missing, mail to:**
US Census Bureau/National Processing Center
1201 East 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132

Available in English & Spanish only

Due to COVID-19, US Census Bureau is adjusting operations:

The 2020 Census Bureau is asking Congress for an additional 120 days to deliver the final counts. Under this plan, the deadline for self response and field data collection will be **October 31, 2020**

CENSUS QUESTIONS

Will Ask

- # of people living or staying in your household on April 1 2020
- First and last name, age, birth date, race, ethnicity, sex, and relationship to the person responding, for each person living in the household, including non-family members
- Whether you rent or own your house, apartment, or mobile home
- A telephone number

Cannot Ask

- **Citizen status – citizenship is not required to be counted**
- **Your social security #**
- **Your bank account or credit card numbers**
- **Money or donations of any kind**

CENSUS INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL & SECURE

US Law guarantees the information:

- **Will be kept confidential**
- **Cannot be used against you by anyone, or any government agency or court of law**
- **Is secure and protected from cyber-security threats**

NEXT STEPS FOR ACTION

- Make a list of people or institutions you know that need this information.
- Organize a zoom meeting or conference call to train others.
- Work with One LA leaders and organizers to stay up to date
- Join us for our strategy meeting every Monday @7 PM!