

# THE 2020 CENSUS TIPS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS



## Fill out the Census to make sure your loved ones are counted.

**It also helps bring funds directly to programs that affect your friends and family.**

When you respond to the census, you help ensure your community gets its fair share of hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funds. By using Census Bureau statistics, community planners can get a better idea of where older Americans live, and how close they are to the services they need.

For example, the information you give can help provide funding for:

- > Medicaid and Medicare health insurance programs.
- > Supportive housing for the elderly and for people with disabilities, including Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.
- > Enforcing laws against age discrimination.
- > Services including adult day care, community center lunches, and home-delivered meals.
- > Nutrition benefits to supplement the food budget of individuals and families (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)).
- > Intervention services, emergency medical services, emergency shelters, and counseling for older adults suffering from abuse or neglect.



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## How you can help your loved ones fill out the Census:

- > You do not have to fill out the forms online! Between March 12 and 20, the majority of households will receive an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. Those who don't answer will then receive the traditional paper form in the mail. If a household still does not respond, the bureau will send a census taker to knock on that door to collect the household's data.
- > Have a friend or family member who needs help filling out their forms? You can help them respond! The census form is available online in English and 12 additional languages. Online, the Bureau has translated web pages and guides into 59 non-English languages, including American Sign Language, as well as guides in braille and large print.

## Worried about Census scams or fraud?

- > Be especially watchful for impostors in early and mid-spring of 2020 who are looking to gather personal information so they can steal from you.
- > No genuine Census survey or agent can ask for your full Social Security number, for bank, credit card, or account numbers, or for money or donations.
- > Check to make sure that the Census taker has a valid identification badge with their photograph, a Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- > If you still suspect fraud, call the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline at 1-877-908-3360



### Confidentiality

Responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Answers can only be used to produce statistics for resource allocation and the protection of your rights - they cannot be used against you in any way or shared with anyone including the FBI, ICE or local law enforcement.



### Tracking

Answers to the 2020 Census WILL NOT be used to track you or your family. Data are used to help support communities and ensure an equitable allocation of resources, and funding.

To learn more about the 2020 Census visit [AARP.org/Census](https://www.aarp.org/Census)