

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

The 2020 Census is underway and households across America are responding every day. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau has adjusted 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of Census Bureau employees and the American public.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local health authorities.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

The table below summarizes the adjustments to operations. Should any additional adjustment become necessary, the Census Bureau will promptly publish the change in an updated document.

STATUS OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

Activity/Operation	Planned Schedule	Adjustment	Revised Schedule
<p>Self-Response Phase</p> <p>The public is strongly encouraged to respond online. (Options for responding by phone or mail are also available.)</p>	March 12–July 31	Extended	March 12–August 14
<p>Update Leave</p> <p>Census takers will drop off invitations at the front doors of 5 million households. These households can respond online now—even without their invitation—by providing their address.</p>	March 15–April 17	Delayed	March 29–May 1
<p>Update Enumerate</p> <p>Census takers will interview about 2,000 households in remote parts of northern Maine and southeast Alaska. They’re interviewing people outside their home, allowing 6 feet of space between one another.</p>	March 16–April 30	Suspended and extended	March 16–May 14

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STATUS OF CURRENT OPERATIONS—Con.

Activity/Operation	Planned Schedule	Adjustment	Revised Schedule
<p>Mobile Questionnaire Assistance</p> <p>Census Bureau staff will assist people with responding online at places such as grocery stores and community centers.</p>	March 30–July 31	Delayed	April 13–August 14
<p>Early Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)</p> <p>Census takers will follow up with households that haven't responded yet around some colleges and universities.</p>	April 9–July 31	Delayed	May 7–August 14
<p>Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) and NRFU Reinterview</p> <p>Census takers will interview households in person that have not responded online, by phone, or by mail.</p>	May 13–July 31	Delayed	May 28–August 14
<p>Group Quarters Enumeration</p> <p>We're encouraging administrators of facilities like nursing homes, prisons, and student housing to choose an option for counting their residents that requires less in-person contact.</p>	April 2–June 5	Delayed	April 16–June 19
<p>Service-Based Enumeration</p> <p>We're working with service providers at soup kitchens, shelters, and regularly scheduled food vans to count the people they serve.</p>	March 30–April 1	Delayed	April 29–May 1

STATUS OF CURRENT OPERATIONS—Con.

Activity/Operation	Planned Schedule	Adjustment	Revised Schedule
<p>Census counts people experiencing homelessness outdoors</p> <p>Census takers will count people under bridges, in parks, in all-night businesses, etc.</p>	April 1	Delayed	May 1
<p>Enumeration of Transitory Locations</p> <p>Census takers count people staying at campgrounds, RV parks, marinas, and hotels if they do not usually live elsewhere.</p>	April 9–May 4	Delayed	April 23–May 18
<p>Deliver apportionment counts to the President</p> <p>By law, the Census Bureau will deliver each state’s population total, which determines its number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.</p>	By December 31	On schedule	By December 31
<p>Deliver redistricting counts to states</p> <p>By law, the Census Bureau will deliver the local counts each state needs to complete legislative redistricting.</p>	By April 1, 2021	On schedule	By April 1, 2021