

GUIDE TO THE 2020 CENSUS

“Our families count, and our voices matter!”

The purpose of the Census is to count every person in the country, regardless of where you live, how old you are, or your citizenship or immigration status. The results will decide Georgia’s share of billions of federal tax dollars for schools, hospitals, roads and more. Census data are also used to draw lines for state and federal legislative districts for the next 10 years, which impacts the political power of people and families.



ROBERT LIU-TRUJILLO

WHAT WE COULD LOSE

If our families don’t get counted in the Census, Georgia loses out on dollars to support our communities. More than 300 federal programs will use data from the 2020 Census to distribute funding. In Georgia, \$23.8 billion dollars in resources are on the line.

- Every person who gets counted brings over \$2,300¹ to the state for programs like Medicaid, National School Lunch and Head Start, as well as funds for student loans, highway construction, housing, and employment training.²
- An undercount of just 1% in Georgia’s 2010 Census would have lost Georgia more than \$68 million a year.³
- Up to 177,000 Georgia residents are at risk of being miscounted in the 2020 Census—including 136,000 Black residents and nearly 40,000 Latinx residents.⁴

“The decennial Census 2020 is an opportunity for our diverse communities to be a part of the American history and for everyone to advocate for the preparation and funding of healthcare services, schools, services and essential infrastructures for their families.”



VICTORIA HUYNH
Center for Pan Asian
Community Services, Inc.

The more accurate the Census count is in our communities, the more likely we are to get the resources we need and deserve.

1. Census 2020. <https://census.georgia.gov/census-101>

2. Counting for Dollars 2020 Report. The George Washington University. https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/IPP-1819-3%20CountingforDollars_GA.pdf

3. Counting for Dollars 2020: The Role of the Decennial Census in the Geographic Distribution of Federal Funds. <https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/GWIPP%20Reamer%20Fiscal%20Impacts%20of%20Census%20Undercount%20on%20FMAP-based%20Programs%2003-19-18.pdf>

4. 2020 Census: Who’s At Risk of Being Miscounted? <http://apps.urban.org/features/2020-census/?state=GA>

"The Latinx community in Georgia is the fastest growing in the nation. If we are fully counted, we will secure ESL programs in schools, libraries and books for our children, community programs and health services for our families and hard working youth."



GILDA PEDRAZA
Latino Community Fund

WHAT TO EXPECT

2020



In January, ads for the Census will start to air.



In March, you will receive an invitation in the mail to complete the 2020 Census through an online form. A few Georgia households will also receive paper questionnaires.



From March through July, households will respond to the Census online and by mail. You can also respond via phone.



If you haven't responded, you will receive reminders in the mail.



If you haven't responded, someone supporting the Census Bureau in getting an accurate count may come to your home between May and July to offer in-person help with filling out your Census form.



By participating in the Census, we can help Georgia get the **healthcare, housing, schools and other services that our families need to thrive**. For more information on the Census visit gacounts.org.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT



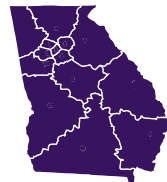
Data for each household are sent back to the U.S. Census Bureau. All Census data are protected by federal law and are confidential.

2020



New counts on population by state are delivered to the president on December 31, 2020. These counts are used to update the number of seats in Congress per state. Georgia gained one additional representative in Congress after the 2010 Census due to updated population counts.

2021

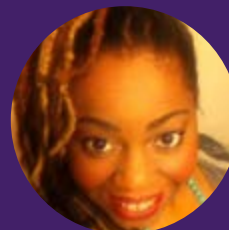


In March 2021, population data will be sent to each state for use in redrawing state and federal legislative districts. In Georgia, the state legislature draws new districts that can be accepted or vetoed by the Governor. Redistricting should keep communities together and ensure their political representation, but that is not possible without a count that accurately tells where people are.



In 2021, the Census Bureau will begin releasing 2020 Census data online. These data sets tell a story about what our communities look like and what they need.

"Completing the Census for me is about the record, the public record, that I am here, my family is here, and we will be acknowledged."



MALIKA REDMOND
Women Engaged

FORWARD TOGETHER unites grassroots leaders to win rights, recognition and resources for all families. **GA COUNTS** is a joint collaboration of over 30 Georgia-based nonprofits committed to a complete count of all Georgians in the 2020 Census, with emphasis on hard-to-count communities.

