

BCIL COUNTS

Q & A

Answers to Your Questions About the

United States®
Census
2020

BOSTON CENTER FOR
INDEPENDENT LIVING

BCIL COUNTS

CAN I TAKE THE CENSUS ONLINE?

Yes. For the first time in history, you can complete the Census online. Your login information and instructions will be mailed to you addressed to the resident of your address.

Visit my2020census.gov once you receive the 12 digit Census ID indicated on the materials you receive. **If you complete the Census online or by phone, no one will come to your home.**

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IS THE CENSUS AVAILABLE IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES?

Yes. The Census is available online in 13 languages.

Trained Census Questionnaire Assistance personnel can assist you via toll-free language dedicated phone numbers.

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ARE MY ANSWERS ACTUALLY CONFIDENTIAL?

Yes. Title 13 protects the confidentiality of individual responses to the Census.

Census Bureau staff face **up to \$250,000 in fines and/or up to five years of imprisonment.**

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SHOULD I COUNT PEOPLE LIVING WITH ME TEMPORARILY?

Yes. To accurately assess the housing crisis, you should indicate the amount of people living in your household even if the situation is temporary.

This includes family members that do not have a permanent address.

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WHAT IF I AM EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

The Census Bureau will devote three days to counting people who are experiencing homelessness in coordination with local census offices, partners, shelter directors, service providers, and other public service organizations.

March 30-31: Counting people who are in shelters, at soup kitchens and at mobile food vans.

April 1: Counting people in non-sheltered, outdoor locations, such as tent encampments and on the streets.

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WILL THERE BE QUESTIONS REGARDING CITIZENSHIP?

No. There will not be any questions regarding citizenship on the Census.

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WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T COMPLETE THE CENSUS?

For every uncounted Massachusetts resident, an estimated \$2,380 of funding is missed. This federal funding powers healthcare, education, nutrition and child care programs for low income families. This includes Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP, Section 8, Head Start and Title 1 Education Grants.

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HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

Please visit the official **Census website:**
www.2020census.gov

Sharon King

Community Outreach and Advocacy Specialist
Boston Center For Independent Living

617-338-6665

sking@bostoncil.org