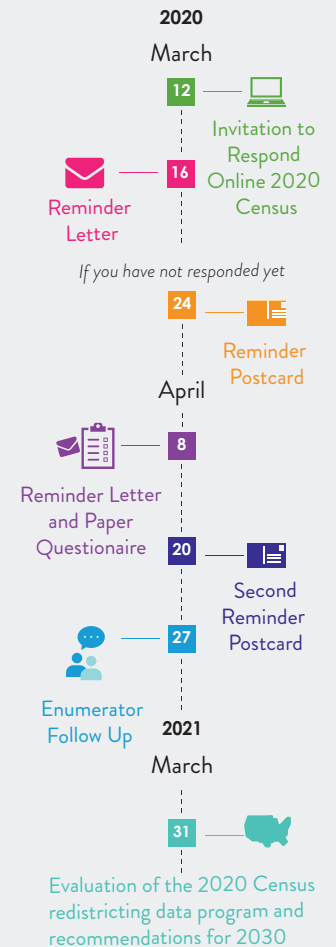


What You Need to Know About the 2020 Census in Fairfax County

The 2020 Census directly impacts how much federal funding the Commonwealth of Virginia will receive over the next decade. It is estimated that Virginia will receive \$17,776,199,831 from 55 federal programs for resources such as schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. Failure to obtain a complete and accurate Census count may result in Virginia losing millions of dollars in federal funding for programs that benefit Fairfax County residents. People of color, low-income populations, young children, immigrants, and undocumented residents are among the groups most likely to be undercounted. Ensuring services for Fairfax County residents in the future requires that we work together to obtain an accurate Census count.

The 2020 Census will include two phases: self-response and non-response follow-up. Self-response is the most accurate way to complete the count and ensure that Census field representatives do not visit Fairfax County households. However, many households are less likely to complete the self-response because of factors such as distrust of government, complex home and living arrangements, and changes in technology that pose challenges for the self-response component. Boosting self-response numbers for the 2020 Census is the most effective way to ensure over \$800 billion in federal funding (according to the George Washington University School of Public Policy) is fairly distributed across the entire U.S. population, allowing residents to thrive, live, learn, and grow.

2020 Census Timeline



The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States every ten years. This information is used by the federal government to allocate resources across the country. The Commonwealth of Virginia can receive close to \$17,776,199,831 in federal dollars to improve schools, transportation, parks, government assistance programs, emergency assistance, etc. Business also use this information to inform their decisions and bring more growth and commerce.

what?
is the
U.S. Census

how?
can you help

- Educate your staff/volunteers/community members about the Census so they can be a resource for clients/consumers and other community members – Visit cfnova.org/count-the-region for local resources.
- Learn more about and support outreach activities and events planned by the [Fairfax County Complete Count Committee](#) (a link is available from the above website).
- Engage trusted messengers in activities such as phone banking, public service announcements, social media messaging, and door-to-door canvassing to ensure we get the word out and increase the 2020 Census response rate.
- Provide opportunities in March and April 2020 for trusted community helpers at accessible neighborhood sites to offer internet access and assistance completing the form.

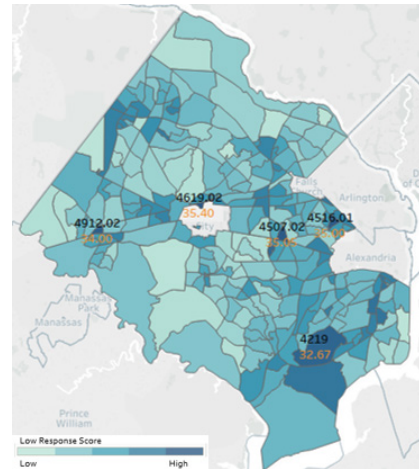
The Census is only 10 or 11 questions. Completing the Census will ensure that Fairfax County is eligible for its fair share of federal funding over the next 10 years. Completing the Census will ensure that Fairfax County receives proper political representation and resources.

why?
should I complete
the Census

Data on Census Tracts and Risk of Undercount in Fairfax County

There are neighborhoods in Fairfax County facing significant challenges that demand we ensure an accurate Census in order to channel needed resources to residents. In 2010, 79.9 percent of the County's households mailed back their Census questionnaire, requiring more costly and difficult in-person follow up to enumerate the remaining 20.1 percent. Approximately 6.1 percent of the County's households had either no internet access or only dial-up access.

The communities most at risk of an undercount include neighborhoods near Culmore and Bailey's Crossroads (Census tract 4516.01), Annandale (tract 4507.02), and along Sully Road (tract 4825.01).



Black labels reference census tracts and orange labels reference the percentage that required in-person follow-up enumeration. Data source: www.census.gov – Census tracts were obtained from the Planning Database that uses selected Census and 2012-2016 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates and the 2010 Census Mail Return Rate for each block group and tract. Last updated June 20, 2018.

Historically, people of color have been undercounted by the Census. Concerns about the “citizenship question” are likely to make immigrant families especially hesitant to participate in the Census. Nearly 6 in 10 Fairfax residents who live in poverty speak a language other than English at home and are foreign-born, and Fairfax has the highest percentage of children living with foreign-born parents (52 percent) in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Given the large foreign-born population, Fairfax County is at high risk of undercounting both citizen and non-citizen immigrants. It is critical to find trusted messengers in the community and conduct extensive outreach within these populations to ensure a complete and accurate count.

Frequently Asked Questions



How can I get help completing the Census or accessing the internet?

Once residents receive an invitation to complete the 2020 Census in the mail or online, there will be a number to call for assistance to complete the form.

What about confidentiality?

All Census responses are protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Under this law, the Census Bureau is required to keep respondent information confidential. The Bureau is prohibited from sharing respondents' personal information with immigration enforcement agencies, like ICE, or law enforcement agencies, like the FBI or police. The law also prohibits the use of Census data to determine or deny eligibility for government benefits. The results from any Census or Census-related survey are reported in aggregate statistical format only.

What happens if I don't complete the 2020 Census?

You will receive several follow-up mailings asking you to complete the Census form. Not completing the Census means Census workers will visit your residence because you are required by law to participate. If you cannot be reached, a Census worker may contact your neighbors for information about your family size.

Will the Census be in my language?

In 2020, the paper form will be available in English and Spanish. People may respond to the Census online and by phone in 13 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, French, Haitian Creole, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, and Tagalog). The Census Bureau will also have a language guide for 59 languages.