



Our Kids Count

In our community, we believe every person counts. And we believe every person should get their fair share — especially little kids.

A big way our community gets money for child and family programs is by participating in the U.S. Census. The state and federal government uses census information to fund programs like child care, free and low-cost school lunches, and Medi-Cal.

Here are just a few reasons why your participation in the census matters:



When you and your kids are part of the census count, the community receives its fair share of money for important programs like Medi-Cal, WIC, Head Start, the National School Lunch Program, CHIP, and child care.



California receives more than \$115 billion every year based on census data. We must count everyone so we don't lose these resources.



The number of people California has in Congress is based on the census count.

Here is how it works:

- (1) In March 2020, you will get a census reminder in the mail.
- (2) Complete the census form online, or over the phone.
- (3) Request a paper form, or wait to receive a paper form in the mail, if you prefer to respond that way. Please complete by end of April to avoid a home visit from a census official.

About one million kids under age 5 in the United States were not counted in the last census.

Please be counted so your community gets the funding and services it deserves.

For information and assistance, call NALEO Educational Fund's toll-free bilingual hotline:
1-877-EL-CENSO (352-3676)

Common Questions about the Census



Are my answers confidential? YES.

By law, your response to the census CANNOT BE SHARED with anyone outside the census. This includes ICE (immigration), police, CPS (Child Protective Services), the IRS, the FBI, your landlord, or anyone else. No one can use your census answers to reduce your benefits, evict you, deport you, fine you, or take your children.

Will there be a question on the census asking if I am a citizen? NO.

Can I skip questions? The best way to avoid a phone call or visit from a census worker is to complete all the questions truthfully. And please make sure everyone in your household is counted — every adult, child, and baby.

How can I complete the census? You have options. You can fill out the census on a computer (at home or at a library), over the phone, or on paper. For help on how to respond using a paper census form, call 1-877-352-3676.

What if my child is a baby — do I list him or her on the census? YES. Please list your baby no matter how old — even if you are still in the hospital!

I am pregnant — how should I fill out the census? Every child born on or before April 1, 2020 should be counted.

I have kids living with me who aren't mine — do I list them? YES. You should count every child who is living at your address, even if only temporarily, on April 1, 2020.

I have more people living with me than my landlord knows. I shouldn't list them, should I? Everyone must be listed, according to the U.S. Constitution. The census will not report your answers to your landlord or anyone else. Please make sure all people living in your household, or property, on April 1st, 2020 are counted.

I am not in the country legally. Should I take the census? YES. By law, the census cannot report your answers to any immigration authorities, law enforcement, or people in charge of government benefits. Everyone living in the U.S. at the time of the census should be counted, no matter their citizenship or immigration status.

My child doesn't live with me all the time — do I list him or her? It depends. Whomever your child lives with most of the time should count your child. If time is split evenly, the adult who has the child on April 1, 2020 should count the child.

How long does it take? About 10 minutes.

Your answers to the census are 100% confidential and are not shared with anyone. Please fill out your census form in 2020!