



# Census 2020 Fraud Alert



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The 2020 Census is an important process that everyone should participate in to ensure their region is properly funded, represented in Congress, and more. It is also critical for participants to understand the process in order to avoid Census scams.

All data collected by the census is protected by federal law under Title 13 of the U.S. code. This means all information collected through the census is kept fully confidential and cannot be shared with anybody- including other federal agencies, law enforcement, private individuals and entities.

## What does the 2020 CENSUS TIMELINE look like?

**March 12:** The online self-response form and telephone response numbers go live

**March 12 - March 20:** Every household will begin receiving letters with their online instructions or their traditional paper forms, as well as information about language services

**End of March:** All households will receive a reminder letter

Beginning of April: If households still have not replied they will receive a reminder postcard

**Mid-April:** Households that have not responded will receive a traditional paper questionnaire

**End of April:** Households that have not responded will receive a final postcard reminder before an in-person follow-up

**Starting July 16:** Federal "Census Takers" will begin going to door to door for "Non-response Follow-up."

**By September 30:** All offices are schedule to complete their work.

## What are some potential scams with the 2020 CENSUS?

Any calls, emails or in-person visits requesting your information for Census 2020 PRIOR to mid-March 2020 is a scam. Beware of PHISING emails that may look real. The Census Bureau will not send unsolicited emails to request participation in Census 2020. The authentic website is: [2020Census.GOV](https://2020Census.GOV)

Phishing emails often direct you to a website that looks real but is fake such as: [2020 Census.Com](https://2020Census.Com)- and may be infected with malware.

### The 2020 Census will NEVER ask for:

- Your social security number or taxpayer ID number
- Income/ Bank account/ credit card numbers/ money or donations
- Immigration or citizenship status
- Your mother's maiden name
- Anything regarding a political party affiliation.

### The 2020 Census WILL ASK for (basic information) about:

- How many people are living or staying at your home.
- What the phone number for the home is the sex, age, race, and ethnicity of each person in your home
- The relationship between the people in your home
- Whether your home is owned or rented.

### Here are some ways you can verify an individual is a Census Bureau employee:

- First, check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, A U.S. Department of Commerce Watermark, and an expiration date.
- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 844-320-2020 to speak with a Census Bureau representative.
- If you determine that someone is at your door pretending to be a census taker, call 911 immediately.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Call the Office of New Americans (ONA): 1-800-566-7636 to report suspicious activity.

The Richmond County District Attorney's Office is dedicated to serve and protect the people of Staten Island.

If you are a victim of this or any other fraud, call our Immigrant Affairs Hotline at: (718) 697-8326.