



United States[®] Census 2020

CENTRAL OHIO COUNTS IN CENSUS 2020

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

The census is a constitutionally mandated count of every person living in the United States. It takes place every ten years and is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

This will be the first time the census has gone digital, although paper forms and telephone options will remain available. Digital access, adoption, and comfort will factor into how everyone is counted.

Once the invitation arrives, people should respond for their home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. The 2020 questionnaire consists of nine questions.

Only Census employees may collect or enumerate data. Responding online is easy! Visit my2020census.gov.

KEY DATES:

February & March 2020

Invitations to participate are distributed.

April 1, 2020

Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.

May - Summer 2020

The Census Bureau will follow up with those who have not responded.

December 2020

Apportionment counts are delivered to the President and Congress.

March 31, 2021

State and local redistricting data is released.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO CENTRAL OHIO?

More than **\$880 billion** in federal funding is allocated annually based on the census counts – including **\$33 billion to Ohio** each year. That equates to \$1,800 per person each year over a ten-year period.

FUNDING EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

- **Infrastructure**
 - Transportation Funding
 - Community Development Block Grants
- **Health Care**
 - Medicaid,
 - Medicare
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) nutrition program
- **Education**
 - Pell Grants
 - Student loans
 - Head Start school readiness program

Congressional seats, state legislature seats, and city council wards are also determined by the census count. Ohio is already projected to lose one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The census provides critical data and feeds other critical census programs.



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HOW CAN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS HELP WITH THE CENSUS?

Providing education, outreach, and promotion

Local governments are key partners when it comes to local knowledge and inclusion of “Hard to Count” populations. Community events make great education and outreach opportunities, and public buildings are ideal locations to make laptops and tablets available for residents to complete their responses. Contact MORPC for 2020 Census promotional materials and fact sheets in multiple languages.

Host a Census Day event

National Census Day is April 1, 2020. To raise awareness and encourage participation, communities will be holding Census Day events throughout Central Ohio and across the country. Consider the following ways to celebrate Census Day:

- Pass a resolution/proclamation designating Census Day
- Organize a Census Day event with local officials, community organizations, & business leaders
- Make equipment available at key locations throughout the community for residents to complete the Census

Share messaging online, on social media, and with local media outlets

Leverage communications channels and distribution lists to amplify messaging to residents. A wide range of materials are available for use:

- Census Bureau PSA toolkit
- Census Bureau promotional videos
- Census Bureau fact sheets
- Columbus Hard-to-Count population fact sheets

Host a Census hiring event

The Census Bureau is hiring thousands of temporary employees to complete the 2020 Census. Local governments can assist by hosting hiring sessions at community centers, municipal buildings, and other public facilities. Find more information at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Aaron Schill

Director of Data & Mapping

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

aschill@morpc.org

