

# 2020 Census Opinion Survey

United States®  
**Census**  
**2020**

**Instructions:** Please use a black or blue pen to complete this form. Mark  to indicate your answer. To change an answer, darken the box  and mark the correct answer.

## Start Here

Complete this form and mail it back as soon as possible.

This form asks you about how you feel about the privacy and confidentiality of the Census. Your participation is voluntary and there is no penalty for not responding. However, it should only take about 10 minutes for you to fill out this short survey and it is important that we hear from as many people as possible to help us plan for the next Census.

**A1** Did you personally complete the 2020 Census for this address?

Yes → GO TO A3

No



If that person is available, please ask them to fill out this questionnaire, if not, please go to the next question

**A2** Were you living or staying here on April 1, 2020?

Yes → GO TO A3

No → GO TO A3

**A3** What is your name?



GO TO Q1

This collection of information has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number 0607-0971 confirms this approval. If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct the census. The approval expires on 02/28/2023. The Census Bureau estimates that completing the questionnaire will take 10 minutes on average. Send comments regarding this estimate or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing the time it takes to complete this survey, to U.S. Department of Commerce.

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**1 Did you respond to the 2020 Census online, on paper, on the telephone, or in person?**

- Online
- On paper
- On the telephone
- In-person

**2 The following questions are about the census. How sensitive do you consider each of the following census questions to be?**

|   | Extremely sensitive      | Very sensitive           | Somewhat sensitive       | A little sensitive       | Not at all sensitive     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Your name  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Your date of birth   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Whether you are of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Your race  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Your household members' name(s)                            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Date(s) of birth for household member(s)                   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin of household member(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| h. Race(s) of your other household members                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| i. How your household member(s) are related to you            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. Whether this home is owned or rented                       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k. The number of people in your household                     | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**3 Thinking about the 2020 Census in general, how important do you think it is for the Census Bureau to ask the questions they do on the census form?**

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- A little important
- Not at all important

**4 Do you believe that answering and submitting your census form could benefit YOU?**

- Yes
- No



**5 Do you believe that answering and submitting your census form could benefit YOUR COMMUNITY?**

- Yes
- No

**6 Do you believe that answering and submitting your census form could harm YOU?**

- Yes
- No

**7 Do you believe that answering and submitting your census form could harm YOUR COMMUNITY?**

- Yes
- No

**The following questions are about your opinions on privacy.**

**8 In general, how concerned would you say you are about your personal privacy?**

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- A little concerned
- Not at all concerned

**9 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

|   | Strongly agree           | Somewhat agree           | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat disagree        | Strongly disagree        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. People's rights to privacy are well protected.                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. People have lost all control over how personal information about them is used. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. I already do enough to protect the privacy of my personal information online.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. The government knows more about me than it needs to.                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Business and private industry have too much information about me.              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**10 Which poses a greater risk to your privacy—businesses and private industry, or the government?**

- Businesses and private industry
- The government



**11 Have you done any of these things to protect your data and avoid intrusion into your privacy?**

|   | Yes                      | No                       |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Signed up for the Do Not Call Registry, which removes your number from marketing call lists                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Blocked a smartphone app or stopped an app from accessing other details on your phone, such as GPS location or your contacts | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Changed the default settings on your computer or browser to increase your privacy  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Stopped or avoided using a social media service so that you can protect your privacy   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Changed the privacy settings on your social media accounts   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Started using more secure methods of communication, such as encrypted emails   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Asked a government department, public service, or private company to delete any information they hold about you              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**12 Because of privacy concerns, how often do you refuse to answer surveys?**

- Very often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

**13 Because of privacy concerns, have you ever skipped a survey question or given a wrong answer to a survey question?**

- Yes
- No

**14 Thinking now about your use of the internet, overall, how often do you use the internet?**

- Several times a day
- Once a day
- At least once a week
- Less often

**15 In general, how concerned are you about your privacy while you are using the internet?**

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- A little concerned
- Not at all concerned



**16** Thinking now about the 2020 Census, were you aware that you could answer the census online?

- Yes
- No

**17** Did the option of responding online to the 2020 Census raise any concerns for you?

- Yes
- No → GO TO Q19

**18** What concerns did you have about responding to the 2020 Census online? ↘

→ **19** Do you think the Census Bureau does a good job of PROVIDING INFORMATION to the public about how census responses are used?

- Yes
- No

**20** Next, a question about the government as a whole. Do you think federal government agencies share a single central database of the name, address, and date of birth of U.S. residents?

- Yes
- No

**21** How concerned are you, if at all, that other government agencies could obtain your individual answers to the 2020 Census?

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- A little concerned
- Not at all concerned

**22** How concerned are you, if at all, that an unauthorized person or hacker might gain access to 2020 Census responses?

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- A little concerned
- Not at all concerned



**23** For the next census in 2030, one proposal is to do away with census forms entirely. No one would be asked to fill out a form. Instead, the Census Bureau would count the entire population by getting information from other government agencies. Would you be in favor of this or against it?

- Strongly in favor of it
- Somewhat in favor of it
- Neither in favor nor against it
- Somewhat against it
- Strongly against it

**24** Would you be in favor of or against the Census Bureau getting the following types of information from other government agencies?

**24a** Your contact information, like phone numbers and email addresses

- Strongly in favor of it
- Somewhat in favor of it
- Neither in favor nor against it
- Somewhat against it
- Strongly against it

**24b** Whether your address was occupied or vacant on a particular date

- Strongly in favor of it
- Somewhat in favor of it
- Neither in favor nor against it
- Somewhat against it
- Strongly against it

**24c** Whether your home is owned or rented

- Strongly in favor of it
- Somewhat in favor of it
- Neither in favor nor against it
- Somewhat against it
- Strongly against it

**25** If you have to choose, for the next census in 2030, would you prefer that the Census Bureau gets your household's information from other government agencies or that the Census Bureau send an interviewer to your home to ask for it?

- Get information from other government agencies
- Get information from interviewer at home



**26** For you **PERSONALLY**, if you did not respond to the next census in 2030, would you rather the Census Bureau get your information from your neighbors or the Census Bureau get your information from other government agencies?

- Get information from neighbors
- Get information from other government agencies

**27** The population count, the crime rate, and the unemployment rate are examples of statistics produced by the federal government. Have you ever used federal statistics for study or work?

- Yes
- No

**28** Personally, how much trust do you have in federal statistics in the United States? Would you say that you tend to trust federal statistics or you tend not to trust them?

- Tend to trust
- Tend not to trust

**29** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Policy makers need federal statistics to make good decisions about things like federal funding.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

**30** How confident are you in each of these institutions in American society?

|                      | Extremely confident      | Very confident           | Somewhat confident       | A little confident       | Not at all confident     |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Newspapers        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. The military      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. The Census Bureau | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Congress          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Universities      | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**31** Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female



**32** Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself?

- Lesbian or gay
- Straight, that is not lesbian or gay
- Bisexual
- Something else, please specify: ↘

**33** What is your age?

**34** Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- Yes
- No

**35** What is your race? Mark (X) one or more boxes.

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Some other race

**36** What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- Less than high school
- Completed high school
- Some college, no degree
- Associate's degree (AA/AS)
- Bachelor's degree (BA/BS)
- Post-Bachelor's Degree

**37** What is your marital status?

- Single
- Married
- Widowed
- Divorced
- Separated

**38** What is your total ANNUAL household income, before taxes? Please include income from wages and salaries, self-employment, retirement income, interest and dividends, unemployment benefits, and any other sources of income received regularly.

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Thank you very much for your time today.  
Your answers will help us plan for the next census in 2030.

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