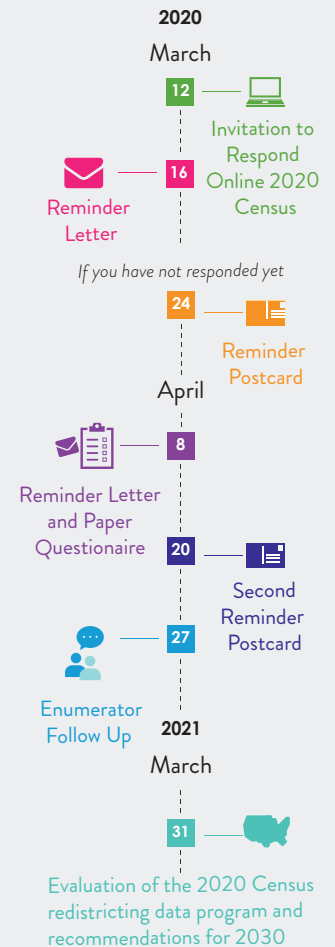


What You Need to Know About the 2020 Census in the City of Alexandria

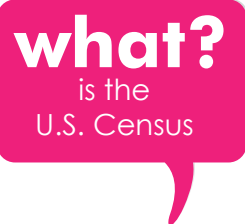
The 2020 Census directly impacts how much federal funding the Commonwealth of Virginia will receive over the next decade. It is estimated that Virginia will receive \$17,776,199,831 from 55 large federal programs for resources such as schools, hospitals, and infrastructure. Failure to obtain a complete and accurate census count may lead to Virginia losing millions of dollars in funding for programs that benefit Alexandria 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 Alexandria 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 Alexandria 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

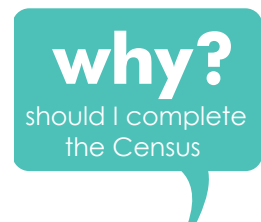


The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States every ten years. This information is used by the federal government to allocate resources across the country. The Commonwealth of Virginia can receive close to \$17,776,199,831 in federal dollars to improve schools, transportation, parks, government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



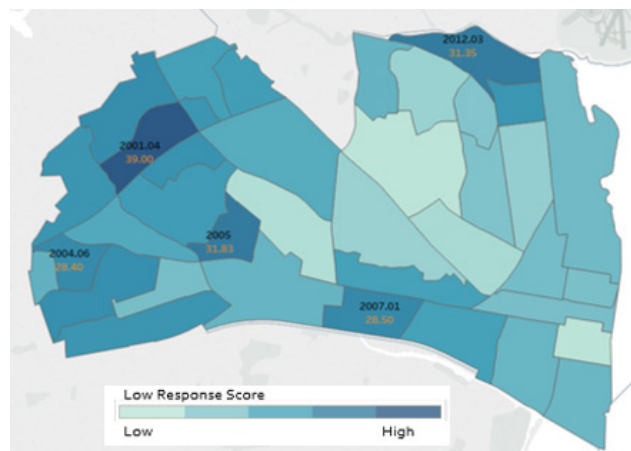
- Educate your staff/volunteers/community members about the Census so they can be a resource for clients/consumers and other community members – Visit cfnova.org/count-the-region for local resources.
- Learn more about and support outreach activities and events planned by the [Alexandria Complete Count 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.
- Strategize ways to 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 the City of Alexandria is eligible for its fair share of federal funding over the next 10 years. Completing the Census will ensure the City of Alexandria receives proper political representation and resources.



Data on Census Tracts and Risk of Undercount in the City of Alexandria

There are neighborhoods in Alexandria facing significant challenges that demand we ensure an accurate Census in order to channel needed resources to its residents. Nearly two-thirds (61 percent) of Alexandria's public school students qualify for Free and Reduced Price Meals (FARM); five of the city's schools are considered racially and economically segregated; in some Census tracts the rate of 15 to 17-year-olds not enrolled in school is more than 45 percent. In addition, the City has lost more than 16,000 market-affordable housing units (88 percent of the stock) since 2000, and the public housing authority currently has over 9,000 households on its waitlist.



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.

Based on the latest Census estimates, approximately 28 percent of the city's population lives in hard-to-count neighborhoods. The communities most at risk of an undercount include the residential communities around the Mark Center, from Holmes Run to Seminary Road (Census tract 2001.04), Arlandria (tract 2012.03), the residential buildings south of Landmark (tract 2004.06), and Brookville-Seminary Valley (tract 2003.02). It is critical to engage trusted messengers in the community and conduct extensive outreach within key populations to encourage participation in the 2020 Census to ensure resources are available to address inequities.

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.