

Census Timeline

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Completing the Census Form

Date	Activity
January 21	Enumeration kicks off in remote Alaska
March 10	Start of field supervisor training
March 27	Start of enumerator training
March 12 - April 30	Self-Response Operation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mailing 1: March 12-20• Mailing 2: Reminder letter, March 16-24• Mailing 3: Reminder postcard, March 26 - April 3• Mailing 4: Reminder letter plus paper questionnaire, April 8-16• Mailing 5: "It's not too late" postcard, April 20-27
May 13 - July 31	Non-Response Follow-Up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• April 9: "Early Non-Response Follow-Up" starts in neighborhoods with large off-campus college student populations
July 31	Last day for households to self-respond online, by phone or by mail

Important Clarifications

- The first mailing is **not a postcard**.
- People **cannot** obtain a paper questionnaire by calling the Census Bureau.
- The daily self-response progress reports will represent **percent of all known housing units** (occupied, vacant, or nonexistent), **not people**, that have self-responded via internet, telephone, or paper questionnaire. The projected national 2020 Census self-response rate is 60.5%.
- The Census Bureau **will not email or text people** for the 2020 Census. Beware of scams!

Self-Response Operation (March 12 - April 30)

- This includes approximately 95% of all housing units.
- Approximately 80% of these units will receive a letter with a unique ID, inviting an internet response. This is the "Internet First" mailing.
- The remaining 20% of these units will receive a similar letter plus a paper questionnaire in their initial mailing. This is the "Internet Choice" mailing.
- All homes will receive a Language Assistance sheet with toll-free numbers for 13 languages. Households can call these numbers to ask questions or give their answers over the phone in the language of their choice.

Non-Response Follow-Up Operation (May 13 - July 31):

- If no one answers when an enumerator visits a household, a "Notice of Visit" will be left at the door. This notices will include an online response code to encourage households to self-respond.
- After one unsuccessful attempt to contact a household, the Census Bureau will determine if the household can be counted using high quality federal administrative records. Households that do not meet this standard will receive additional visits from enumerators.
- After the 3rd unsuccessful attempt, enumerators can ask nearby reliable "proxy" (e.g. landlord, neighbor, caregiver, letter carrier, or on-site utility worker) for details about the household. If there is no proxy available, enumerators will continue to visit the household up to 6 times.
- After the 6th unsuccessful attempt, some special case households will still be eligible for additional visits through the end of July.

Update Leave & Update Enumerate Operation

- If no one answers when an enumerator visits a household, a "Notice of Visit" will be left at the door. This notices will include an online response code to encourage households to self-respond.

- After one unsuccessful attempt to contact a household, the Census Bureau will determine if the household can be counted using high quality federal administrative records. Households that do not meet this standard will receive additional visits from enumerators.
- After the 3rd unsuccessful attempt, enumerators can ask nearby reliable "proxy" (e.g. landlord, neighbor, caregiver, letter carrier, or on-site utility worker) for details about the household. If there is no proxy available, enumerators will continue to visit the household up to 6 times.
- After the 6th unsuccessful attempt, some special case households will still be eligible for additional visits through the end of July.

Check the [CUNY Census Hard-To-Count Maps](#) for additional information on how each tract will be initially contacted.

Enumeration of Transitory Locations (April 9 - May 4):

- This includes the count of people at transitory locations who do not have a "usual home elsewhere" (e.g. RV parks, campgrounds, hotels and motels, as well as some migrant worker housing).
- Transitory location residents are counted in person (no self-response) in individual housing units where they live at the time of enumeration.
- Advance contact will occur Feb 24 - March 21.
- Data collection will occur April 9 - May 4.

Group Quarters Operation (April 2 - June 5):

- This includes the count of people in group living arrangements such as college dorms, military barracks, prisons, and skilled nursing homes.
- Advance contact with administrators will occur Feb 3 - March 6.
- Group quarter enumeration will occur April 2 - June 5.
- Service-based enumeration, which is the count of people experiencing homelessness, is considered part of the group quarter operation. This will occur at pre-identified target outdoor locations March 30 - April 1.