

2020 Census Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19

The 2020 Census is underway and more households across America are responding every day. Online, phone, and mailed self-responses will continue throughout the data collection process. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, the U.S. Census Bureau is adjusting 2020 Census operations in order to:

- Protect the health and safety of the American public and Census Bureau employees.
- Implement guidance from federal, state, and local authorities regarding COVID-19.
- Ensure a complete and accurate count of all communities.

Under the adjusted 2020 Census operational plan, field activities would resume after June 1, 2020, as area census offices begin returning to full staff capacity. **In-person activities, including enumeration, office work, and processing activities, will incorporate the most current guidance from authorities to ensure the health and safety of staff and the public.**

Activity/Operation	Original Schedule	NEW SCHEDULE
Self-Response Phase Online, phone, and mailed self-responses continue throughout the data collection process.	March 12–July 31	March 12–October 31
Field Offices at Peak Operations Managers and staff commence administrative, training, deployment, and support activities for peak data collection operations. This includes selecting and hiring field staff.	March 1	June 1
Update Leave—Stateside Census takers drop off invitations to respond and paper questionnaires at the front doors of 5 million households stateside while updating the addresses.	March 15–April 17	June 13 –July 9
Nonresponse Followup (NRFU) Census takers will interview households in person.	May 13–July 31	August 11–October 31

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