

# **U.S.** Bishops on the Census:

"Our country conducts a Census every ten years to count the number of men, women and children residing in the United States. Census data helps direct more than \$800 billion annually to key programs designed to advance the common good, strengthen families and reduce poverty. The Catholic Church and other service providers rely on the national Census to provide an accurate count in order to effectively serve those in need."

### From 2020census.gov:

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data. The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

## **Counting Everyone**

Participating in the census is required by law, even if you recently completed another survey from the Census Bureau. A complete and accurate count is critical for you and your community, because the results of the 2020 Census will affect community funding, congressional representation, and more.

#### From Contra Costa Census:

## It is Important

The Census determines the number of Representatives each state has in Congress and possible redraws of district boundaries. Census data is used to distribute billions of dollars in Federal and State funding. Being counted brings those resources back to your community.

## It is Easy

The Census form includes ten questions about each person's age, gender, race, and relationship to householder. It should take about 10 minutes to fill out, more if there are more people living in the home.

In 2020, you will be able to fill out the census form online, over the phone, by paper, or in person.

### It is Safe

All data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau is confidential and may not be turned over to any other government agency including immigration enforcement or even the President. **No Citizenship Question** 

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