

# A Guide to the 2020 Census

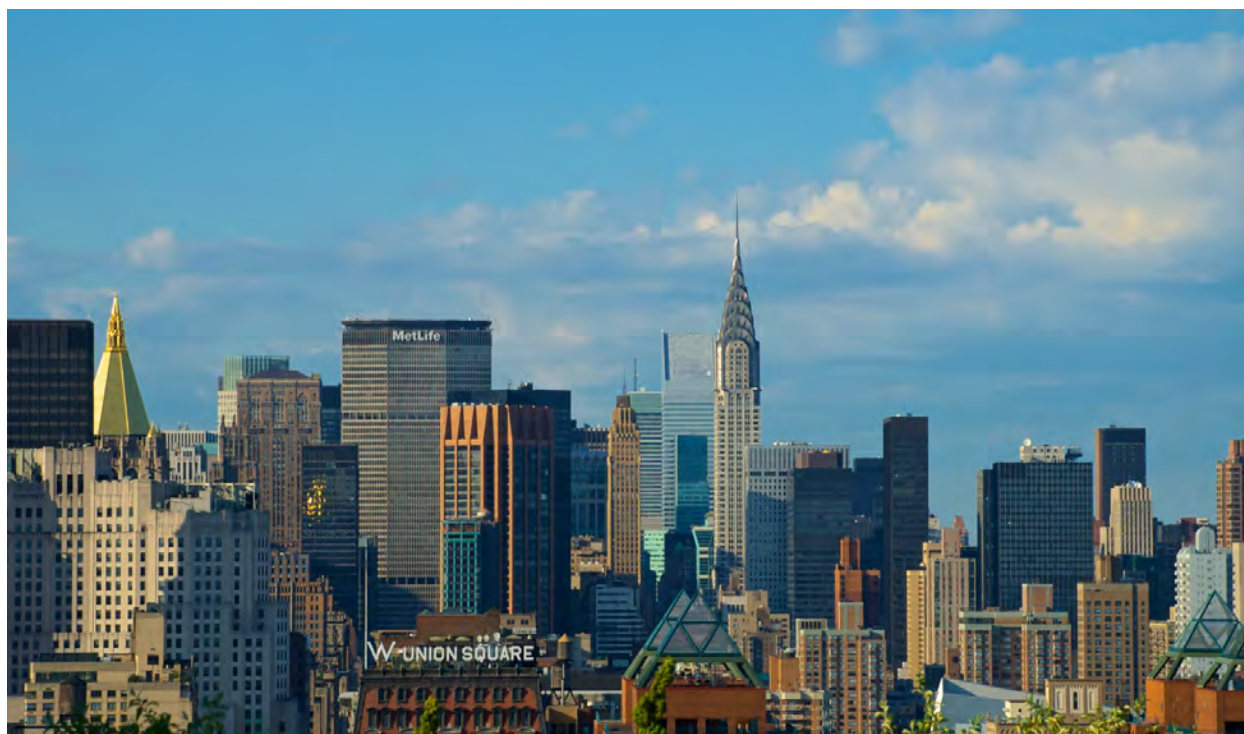
**Help New York City  
get its fair share!**

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# Census 2020: An Overview

**New York City has long had a vibrant and growing population.** It did 10 years ago, when the 2010 Census somehow showed that NYC had barely grown over the previous decade. That's just not possible! But due to the undercount, we in the City lost a lot that we were entitled to: substantial funds and representation. We cannot let that happen again. **We should get every penny and every vote that we deserve.**

Census 2020 starts in March, when each household in the U.S. will receive a mailing that asks for basic information about who lives in the household. Although this is the first time the census will primarily be answered online, many NYC households will receive paper ballots in that first mailing. Organizations that can answer census questions and help you complete the form include public libraries, faith-based organizations, community centers, various government offices and us, the League of Women Voters of the City of New York.

The census has been around as long as the country has existed and was detailed in 1790, in the U.S. Constitution. The once-a-decade census short form is designed to count each U.S. resident: newborns to seniors, citizens and non-citizens, the documented and undocumented. In other words, every baby, student, restaurant worker, nursing home resident, anyone who calls the U.S. their home, even temporarily.

**People Power.** Numbers from the census will determine how many representatives we get in Congress, the Electoral College and certain state offices. The numbers also determine how much money is allocated to our region, since allocation of federal dollars for important local programs is based on how many people the census count says live here. These vital programs include schools, health care, housing, jobs, highways, emergency preparedness and justice, among others. Children often need these services the most, yet have been historically undercounted. In fact, our community will lose about \$4,000 a year for each person not counted, so it's vital that everyone is counted.

**Confidentiality.** The census is confidential, as guaranteed by federal law. No individual information may be shared, only summary statistics that are used to determine representation and money for federal programs, and to plan for local initiatives such as schools, hospitals and fire departments. This information will inform business decisions, policy, community initiatives and consumer advocacy.

**Jobs.** Census 2020 employs thousands of people, many of them from your community. If you'd like to inquire about a census job, visit <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs>

# About the League of Women Voters of the City of New York

Since its founding in 1919, the League of Women Voters of the City of New York (LWVNYC) has led efforts to increase voter participation and improve city government through election reforms and other legislation. For 100 years, its dedicated members have registered voters, lobbied legislators, advocated on issues, and provided vital information to voters and those who want to vote. Even today, other local organizations working to advance voting rights often send their staff members to the LWVNYC, renowned for its excellent training.

## **Mission**

Empowering voters. Educating citizens. Defending democracy.

## **Vision**

We envision a country in which every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge and the confidence to participate in our democracy.

## **History**

The LWVNYC was an outgrowth of the Women's Suffrage movement. It began a century ago as a "mighty political experiment," designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters. It encouraged them to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy.

Even as the League's legislative priorities change to reflect the needs of society, the organization remains true to its original purpose: to ensure that democracy works for everyone. Membership today is open to anyone who supports its causes, regardless of gender or immigration status. The League is supported by membership dues and contributions from public-spirited individuals, businesses and organizations.

From the beginning, the League has been an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believed that each of us should play a critical role in advocacy. It was, and remains, a nonpartisan organization. League founders believed that maintaining a nonpartisan stance would protect the fledgling organization from becoming mired in the party politics of the day. However, League members have always been encouraged to be political themselves, by educating people about, and lobbying for, government and social reform legislation.

This is still true in the 21st century. The League is proud to remain nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

# Census Committee of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York

## **Mission**

The League's Census Committee will increase citywide participation in the 2020 Census in hard-to-count communities by educating and partnering with local leaders and organizations representing these communities. We seek to minimize undercounting, as occurred in 2010, when nearly one million NYC children went uncouned.

## **Vision**

To ensure that every person living in NYC is counted in the upcoming census. If you'd like more information or would like to help, email us at [census@lwvnyc.org](mailto:census@lwvnyc.org)



# What is the Census?

- The census is a head count that has been conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau every ten years since 1790.
- It counts every resident in the U.S., based on where they live and sleep most of the time.
- It counts every baby and nursing home resident, every homemaker and homeless person, every worker and retiree – every individual from every place who resides in the United States.
- It counts citizens and non-citizens alike, and does not ask about citizenship status.
- There are fewer than a dozen questions per person. Data are used for statistical purposes only, and all information is completely confidential.



The United States Census is mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the United States Constitution:

*“Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States...according to their respective Numbers.... The actual Enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States and within every subsequent Term of ten years.”*

Section 2 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment revised Article 1, Section 2 to include that the:

*“respective Numbers” of the “several States” will be determined by “counting the whole number of persons in each State...excluding Indians not taxed...”*

The Census Bureau, overseen by the U.S. Department of Commerce, is responsible for conducting the census.



# How the Census Affects Us

**The census count determines:**

- How many elected officials represent our city in the state and federal government
- The strength of our voice at all levels of government
- How much federal money we receive for our local programs
- The data used to allocate resources for business and government planning, including jobs, schools, infrastructure.

**Census 2020 locks in population numbers for 10 years. And a decade is a long time!**



# The Census Count Determines Our Representation in Government

The Census count determines our representation through reapportionment and redistricting. **Reapportionment** determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. **Redistricting** defines congressional and state legislative districts, school districts and voting precincts.

## **Reapportionment: How many House seats does each state get?**

There are 435 Representatives in the House of Representatives, by law. Each state is apportioned its share of House seats based on its fraction of the U.S. population.

The number of House seats apportioned to New York State has been steadily declining because our population has not been growing as fast as some other parts of the country (in the sunbelt especially) and because our population has been undercounted.

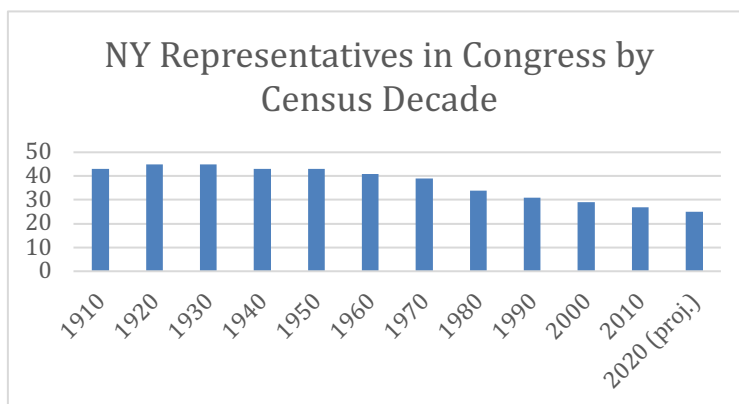
If New York State grows by less than other areas of the country (at least, according to the census), then we lose representation. Just look at these figures:

- In the 1970 Census, NYS had 9.0 percent of the U.S. population and held 39 seats.
- In the 2010 Census, NYS had 6.2 percent of the U.S. population and held 27 seats.
- In the 2020 Census, NYS is projected to have 5.7 percent of the population and may get only 25 seats.

## **This also diminishes NYS's power to elect a president. Here's how:**

- There are a total of 538 Electoral College votes: 435 House seats + 100 Senate seats + 3 votes for D.C. (A presidential candidate needs 270 Electoral College votes to win.)
- NYS now has 27 House seats + 2 Senate seats (2 per state) = 29 Electoral College votes.
- But if the 2020 Census shows that the NYS population rate hasn't increased as quickly as those of other states (as projected), we will lose 1 or 2 of our Electoral College votes.

**Both Reapportionment and Redistricting from 2023 to 2032 will be based on the population count provided by the 2020 Census.**





## Census Projections for 2020 Congressional Reapportionment

Net Change in Total Congressional Seats

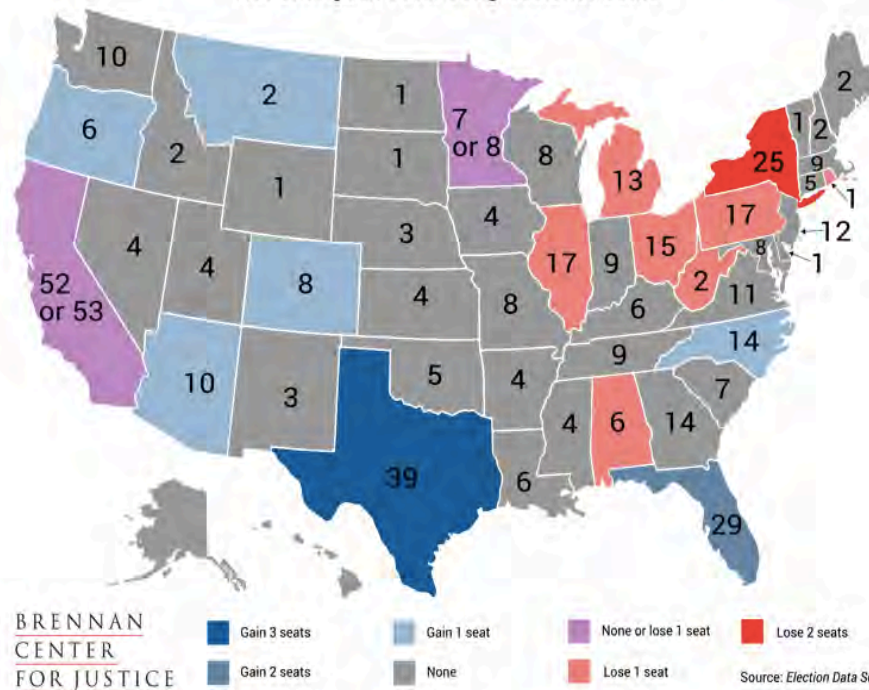
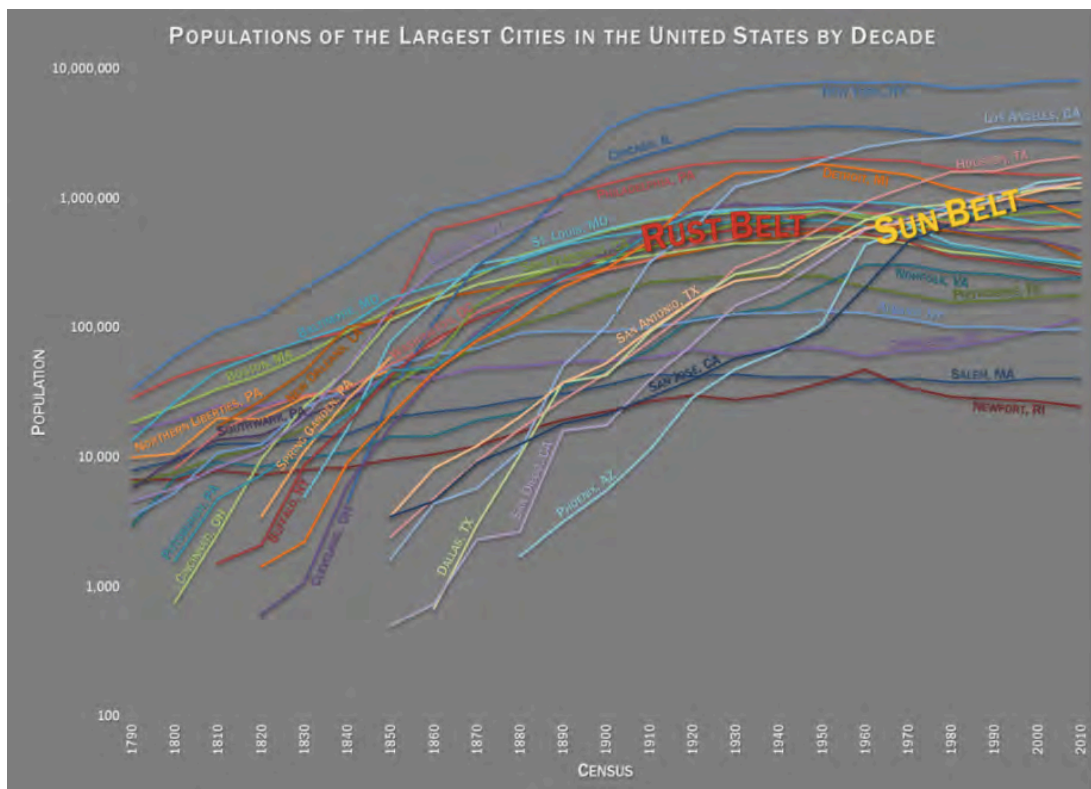


Figure 1: "Census Projections for 2020 Congressional Reapportionment: Net Change in Total Congressional Seats." Election Data Services. December 19, 2018. [https://www.electiondataservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/NR\\_Appor18wTablesMaps-20181219.pdf](https://www.electiondataservices.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/NR_Appor18wTablesMaps-20181219.pdf)



# After the Census, it's Time for Redistricting

**Redistricting** is what happens within a state and determines how districts are drawn.

These include:

- Congressional districts
- State legislative districts
- Local government and special districts

All these districts will be redrawn in 2023, based on the 2020 Census population count:

- New York State, relative to other states
- New York City, relative to the rest of the state
- Parts of New York City, relative to other parts and to the state as a whole.

## Congressional Map of New York State (January 2020)



## Congressional Map of New York City (January 2020)

New York City currently has 12 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. As of January 2020, they are held as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Borough (mostly)</b>
5	Gregory Meeks	Queens
6	Grace Meng	Queens
7	Nydia Velazquez	Brooklyn
8	Hakeem Jeffries	Brooklyn
9	Yvette Clarke	Brooklyn
10	Jerrold Nadler	Manhattan
11	Max Rose	Staten Island
12	Carolyn Maloney	Manhattan
13	Adriano Espaillat	Manhattan
14	Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	Bronx
15	Jose Serrano	Bronx
16	Eliot Engel	Bronx





# Population Data from the Census = Money for the City



Census numbers are **critical to the disbursement of federal funds** to the states.

For every undercounted person or segment of the population, less money will be allocated to their community.

## **Allocated on the basis of the census count:**

- Over \$900 billion in over 132 federal programs nationwide
- More than \$73 billion to NY State
- Over \$8.5 billion to NYC, about 9 percent of the City's total \$95.7 billion budget
- The foundation for other data used to guide the distribution of government funding

Using census data, NY State also provides direct state aid to NYC. This includes funds to spend on children, seniors, education, health and infrastructure.

**Money for Children.** A large fraction of the money allocated by the Federal Government based on census data goes to children, especially young children, who are among the most undercounted populations.

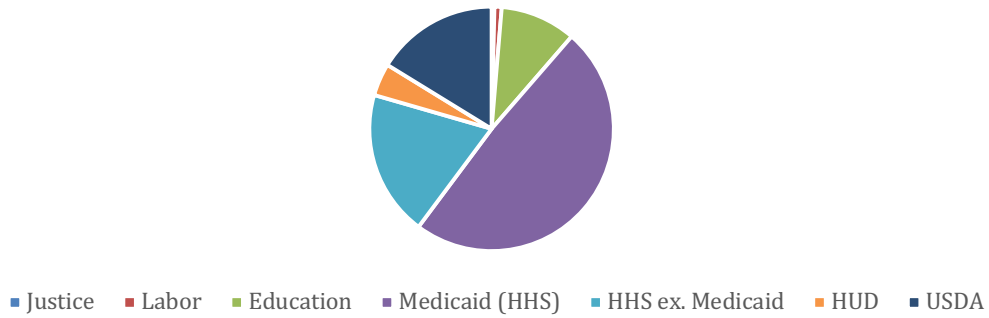
In the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau estimated that a million children ages 1 to 5 were undercounted. Why? In some cases, whole families were missed, largely due to situations related to geography and poverty. In other cases, children were not counted because they were staying with a relative or were otherwise overlooked.

Consider this: a newborn baby in 2020 has ten years to be counted (or not) until the next census rolls around in 2030. Yet **this child may qualify for the very programs** funded by census data.

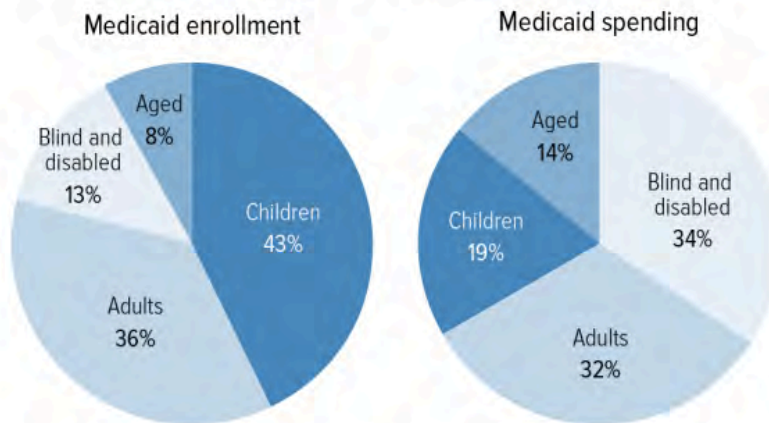
A final note: In the last census, in 2010, the undercount rate was 2.7 percent for white children, 6.3 percent for black children and a staggering 7.5 percent for Latino kids.



## Federal Fund Allocations based on Census Data



## Enrollment and Spending in Medicaid



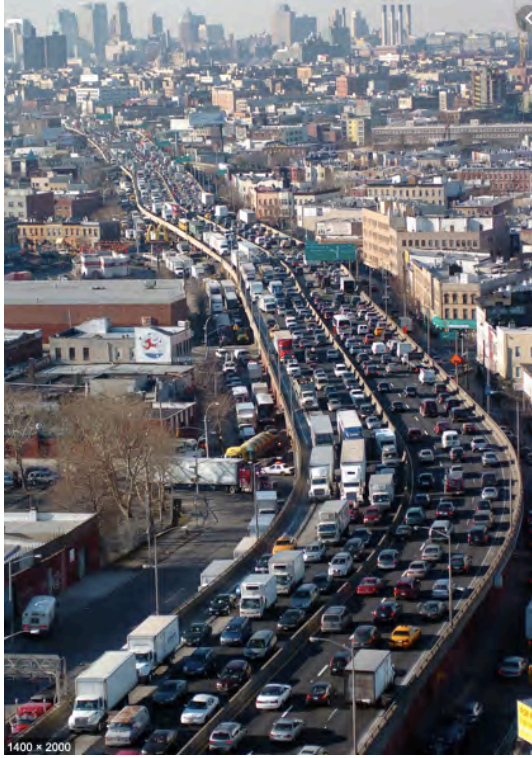
Source: Spending and enrollment estimates for FY2015 from the Congressional Budget Office's March 2016 Medicaid baseline. Figures may not sum to 100 percent due to rounding.

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**Top Federally Funded Programs in New York State,  
based on census data**

- Medicaid and other medical assistance
- Federal Direct Student Loans
- Medicare Part B physician payments
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers and Housing Assistance Payments Program
  
- Highway planning and construction
- Federal Pell Grant Program for students
- Title 1 grants to Local Education Agencies
- State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- Social Services Block Grant
- Public and Indian Housing
  
- Special Education Grants
- National School Lunch Program
- WIOA Dislocated Workers
- Head Start early childhood program
- Federal Transit Capital Investment Grants
- Career and Technical Education
  
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Public Housing Capital Fund
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance
- Foster Care Title IV-E
- Federal Transit Formula Grants
- Child and Adult Food Care Program
- Homeland Security Grant Program
  
- Health Care Centers
- Community Development Block Grants/Entitlement Grants
- School Breakfast Program
- Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants
- Unemployment Insurance
- Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and Development Fund
  
- Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants
- Crime Victim Assistance
- Child Care and Development Block Grant
- Adoption Assistance
- Block Grants for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse



# Census 2020: The Process

*“Count everyone once, only once, and in the right place.”*

– the U.S. Census Bureau

**Filling out the census form is required by law.** All people living in the United States, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are required by law to be counted in the 2020 Census.

## Who should be counted?

The census is supposed to count every resident of the United States, whether documented or undocumented – **not** just citizens. Tourists and temporary visitors are not considered residents and therefore should not be counted.

The idea is to count where you reside on Census Day, which is April 1, 2020.

### Special circumstances:

**Newborn babies.** Babies born on or before April 1, 2020, should be counted at the residence where they will live or sleep most of the time, even if they are still at the hospital. Babies not yet born by April 1, 2020, should not be counted.

**People who die on Census Day.** People who are alive for any part of the day on April 1, 2020, should be counted in the census. People who die before April 1, 2020, should not be included.

**People in the process of moving.** People who are moving should count themselves just once, in one residence, at the residence where they are living on April 1, 2020.

**Visitors.** Visitors on April 1, 2020, who will return to their usual residence should be counted where they live and sleep most of the time. Citizens of foreign countries who are visiting the United States on vacation or a business trip on April 1, 2020, should not be counted.

**Foreign citizens in the United States.** All persons residing in the U.S. on Census Day should fill out a census form. The form does not include any questions about citizenship or country of origin. Citizens of foreign countries who are living in the United States, including members of the diplomatic community, should be counted at the U.S. residence where they live and sleep most of time. Citizens of foreign countries who are visiting the United States on vacation or a business trip on April 1, 2020, should not be counted.



### **Students.**

- Boarding school students below the college level should be counted at their parental residence.
- College students living at home should also be counted at their parental residence.
- College students who live away from home should count themselves at the on- or off-campus residence where they live and sleep most of the time, even if they are home or on break on Census Day.
- U.S. college students who are living outside the United States while attending college outside the country are not counted in the census.
- Foreign students living in the country while attending college in the United States should be counted at the on- or off-campus residence where they live and sleep most of the time.

**U.S. Military Personnel.** Military personnel assigned to U.S. military ships and vessels with a U.S. homeport on Census Day are counted at the onshore residence where they live and sleep most of the time. If they have no onshore residence, they're counted at their vessel's homeport.

**People in Shelters.** People living in emergency and transitional shelters (with sleeping facilities) for people experiencing homelessness should be counted at the shelter. People displaced by a natural disaster should be counted where they live and sleep most of the time. If they do not have a residence where they usually live and sleep, they should be counted where they are staying on April 1, 2020.

**People in Prisons or Correctional Facilities.** People who are living in any of the following on April 1, 2020, should be counted at the facility:

- Correctional residential facilities.
- Federal detention centers.
- Federal and state prisons.
- Local jails and other municipal confinement facilities.

**People in Health Care Facilities.** The following patients should be counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time, rather than the facility:

- Patients in hospitals for routine stays.
- Patients at Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals (except for psychiatric units).
- Patients at in-patient hospice facilities.
- Newborn babies (who should be counted where they will live).



# Timeline

## **Summer – Fall 2019: Addresses**

During this period the Bureau reviewed and updated address lists using multiple data sources and local government input, including in-field address canvassing. This was just prep work; address checkers are not census takers. In the years leading up to this, the Census Bureau sifted through and organized address lists, working in conjunction with local governments and other parties, including New York City.

## **Fall 2019 – March 2020: Jobs!**

The Census Bureau hires for a variety of temporary jobs, including census takers, recruiting assistants, office and supervisory staff. You must be at least 18 years old, have a valid Social Security number and be a U.S. citizen. <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs>.

The Census Bureau stated that it will offer waivers for non-citizens applying for census jobs, particularly for translators.

## **Late 2019 – Early 2020: Communication and Partnership Campaign**

The Census Bureau and other parties, including elected officials and civic-minded organizations like the LWVNYC, work primarily on education and communication.

## **Spring 2020: Five Pieces of Mail**

- 1) March 12-20: Invitation to respond to the census will be sent by mail to all households.
  - Nationally, about 80 percent will be asked to fill out the census online or by phone.
  - The remainder of the population will be sent a paper census form to fill out. This is determined by data about internet access and likelihood of needing paper. Note that it is not possible to request a paper form.
  - Large sections of NYC will receive paper forms, many in both Spanish and English. Maps with details are shown in Appendix A, starting on page 31. A sample questionnaire starts on page 25. We are not aware of any app that can simulate the experience of responding to the census questionnaire online or by telephone.
- 2) March 16-24: Reminder letter
  - Everyone will automatically receive it.

### **If the household has still not responded:**

- 3) March 26 – April 3: Reminder postcard
- 4) April 8-16: Reminder letter and paper questionnaire
  - Anyone who doesn't respond will eventually receive a paper form.
- 5) April 20-27: A final reminder postcard sent
  - Before a census taker shows up in person
  - Household can still respond online or by phone even after census takers have been dispatched.

### **December 31, 2020**

The census takers deliver their apportionment counts to the Census Bureau.

### **April 1, 2021**

Deadline for Census Bureau to release counts for redistricting.

### **Using real-time data**

The U.S. Census Bureau developed a tool called the Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM), which shows significant data for each census tract and is used to fashion approaches to these areas. The data for a representative census tract is shown in Appendix B. The ROAM website can be found at: <https://www.census.gov/roam>. The application is available to monitor response rates and identify where additional effort is needed.



## **Language Assistance**

New York City's population is nearly 40 percent immigrants. Across New York State there are more than 200 languages spoken, according to the New York State Complete Count Commission.

Many parts of NYC will receive a bilingual paper questionnaire and mailing in Spanish and English. (Maps with details are shown in Appendix A.) Spanish is the only alternative language offered in the paper mailing, in the online questionnaire and by phone. Other language assistance details are shown in Appendix C.

The challenges posed by our multilingual city are widely acknowledged, and translation services have been the focus of much of the city's and community's efforts. Public libraries, hospitals and other places will have translators available to help our residents fill out the census forms.



## What Will I Be Asked, and Why?

The 2020 Census is a decennial census (conducted every ten years). The questions asked are few, so it's been called the "short form." At various times additional questions were added, causing the response rate to dip. The Census Bureau now tries to keep the form as short as possible to enhance the response rate.

The decennial census does not use sampling. It's an actual count, so it requires a massive mobilization effort to tally the entire population.

The Census Bureau also conducts another kind of census, called the American Community Survey (ACS), known as the "long form." Unlike the decennial census, the ACS is conducted every year and uses sampling methods. Only a small segment of the population is asked to fill that out.

The Census Bureau's goal is to collect data, count the country's population, and ensure that they count people once, only once, and in the right place based on where they live on Census Day. The data gathered by the decennial census serve as an anchor, which are added to and enhanced by the ACS.

**About the Census** (for more info, see the sample questionnaire beginning on page 25)

- According to the Census Bureau, failure to answer a question will not cause you or your co-residents not to be counted.
- Answers to questions are based on how individuals self-identify.
- The census form does not ask for a signature.
- Households will be provided with a unique census identifier but are not required to use it.
- If people do not have their census ID handy, they can provide their address instead.

### Household Questions

There are a handful of questions asked at the household level. They should be answered by someone who the household designates as Person 1.

*1) How many people are living or staying at your home on April 1, 2020?*

*2) Were there any additional people who you did not include in question 1?*

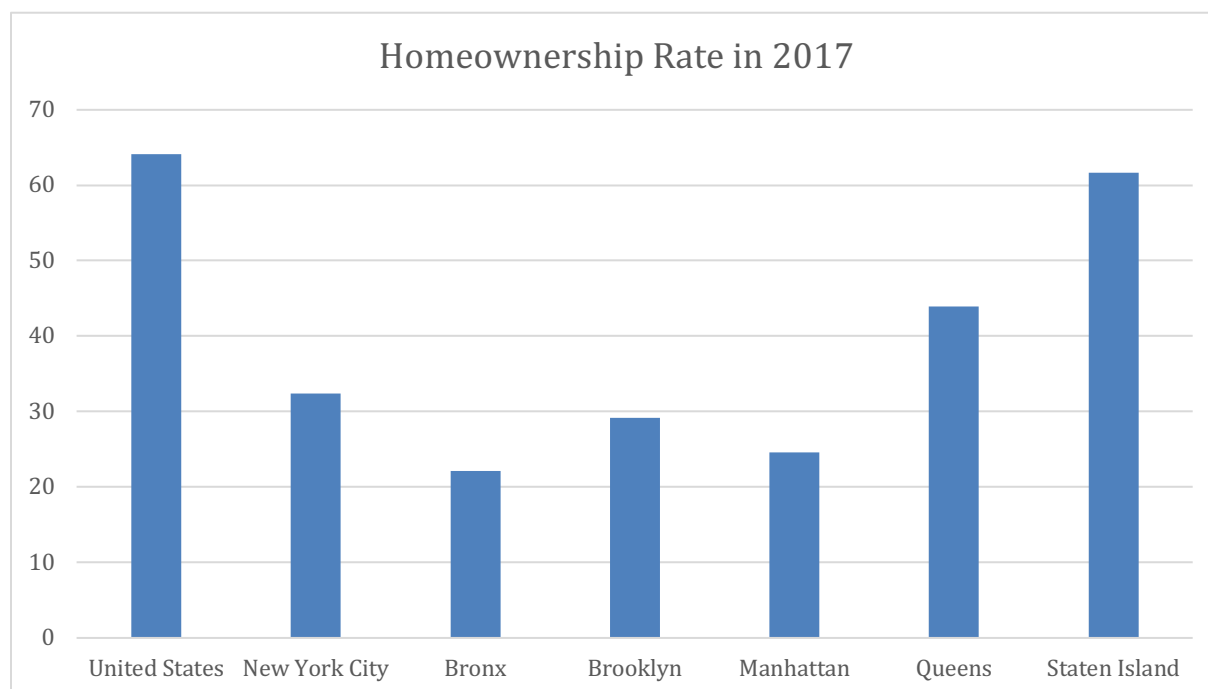
The goal here is not to overcount or undercount.

*3) Is this a house, apartment or mobile home? And is the home owned or rented?*

This helps the Census Bureau produce statistics about homeownership and renters. Economists and businesses use the data, as do demographers and government planners. For example, the national homeownership rate has ranged from 62-69 percent since 1960, but in NYC it's around 30 percent. This figure averages lower rates in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan (below 30 percent), higher rates in Queens and Staten Island. Costs are one reason, but information about age, race and ethnicity might provide additional insights. The Census Bureau also wants to know about mortgage debt.

*4) Telephone number?*

This is used to contact households only if some information needs clarification.



### Questions Specifically for Person 1

#### 5) Name?

According to the Census Bureau, this information is asked for the benefit of the household, so the household member(s) designated Person 1 can keep track as they fill out the form. Individuals may use the names by which they self-identify.

#### 6) Sex (*Female or Male*)?

In the U.S. Census, each individual is asked to identify as either female or male, despite efforts lobbying the Bureau to include more expansive definitions of gender. The data is used to allocate federal funding for education under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and to enforce rules against gender-based discrimination. Individuals should answer the question based on how they self-identify, and may choose to skip the question.

#### 7) Age and date of birth?

The Bureau asks for both age and date of birth, to make sure each person is reported accurately and counted only once. Babies' ages are sometimes misreported.

Agencies use these data to plan and fund government programs that support specific age groups, including children and older populations, and to enforce laws against age discrimination.

#### 8) *Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin?*

Since 1970, the census questionnaire asks residents whether they are of Hispanic origin, considered separately from race.

These responses help create statistics about this ethnic group. This is needed by federal agencies to monitor compliance with anti-discrimination provisions, such as those under the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act, and to monitor equal employment opportunities. Individuals should mark these boxes based on how they self-identify.

#### 9) *Race?*

Data on race are used to help ensure equal opportunity and enforce rules against race-based discrimination.

The 2020 questionnaire includes 15 racial categories to choose from. There are also options to select more than one race and write in races not listed on the form. Individuals should choose the race(s) by which they self-identify.

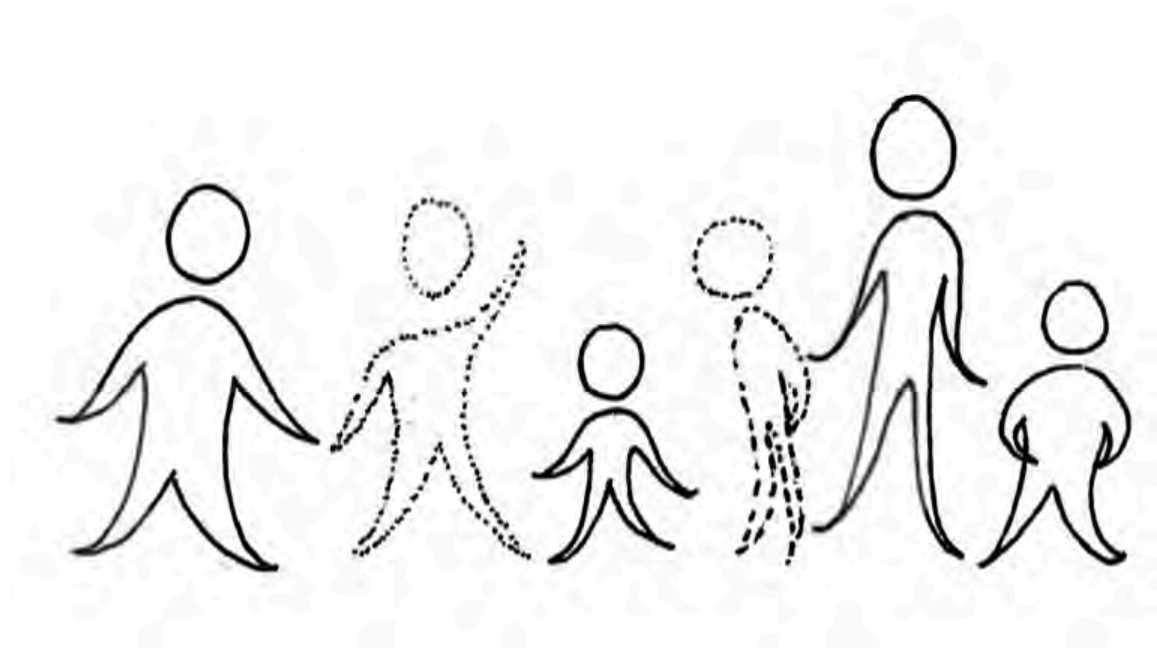
### **Two Additional Questions for Others in the Household**

- *Does this person usually live or stay somewhere else?*

The Census Bureau is trying not to double-count people inadvertently.

- *Relationship to Person 1?*

This allows the Census Bureau to create estimates about families, households and other groups. Relationship data are used in planning and funding government programs that support families, including people raising children alone and other households that qualify for additional assistance.





# Confidentiality of Your Census Response

**Census questionnaire responses are completely confidential and are only used to produce statistics.**

Some households may express concern about sharing information with the government, but there are strict laws in place to protect the data that households provide.

The Census Bureau is bound by the Census Act (Title 13) and many other laws and court cases, all of which provide strong protection for the information collected. These protections offer a solid guarantee to individuals filling out the census.

The laws that safeguard the confidentiality of census data make clear that:

- Private information is never published. In fact, it is against the law to disclose or publish any private information that identifies an individual or household, including names, phone numbers or addresses – not even GPS coordinates.
- The Census Bureau collects information to produce statistics only. Personal information cannot be used against respondents by any government agency or court.
- Census Bureau employees are sworn to protect confidentiality. Every person with access to your data is sworn for life to protect your information and understands that the penalties for violating this law are applicable for a lifetime.
- Violating the law is a serious federal crime. Anyone who violates this law will face severe penalties, including a federal prison sentence of up to five years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both.
- It is illegal for the Census Bureau to disclose census responses to other government agencies.
- It is illegal for data collected for the census to be used for any non-statistical purpose, such as immigration regulation or other law enforcement.

In addition, the Census Bureau has implemented a cybersecurity program that meets the highest and most recent standards. Data is encrypted to protect privacy with restricted access, with responses kept on a private, internal network behind firewalls.



Here's an article that explains how federal law protects responses to the 2020 Census.

<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/federal-laws-protect-census-confidentiality>

# Census 2020: the Challenges

Both nationally and here in New York City, the census faces numerous obstacles in getting a complete count. Many have expressed concern that Census 2020 has been underfunded (<https://www.brennancenter.org/funding-census>), although the Census Bureau insists that technology has produced efficiency gains to compensate.

Nevertheless, the following challenges persist:

## **\* For the first time, the Census will largely be conducted online**

When households across the country receive the first mailing in March, most will only have the option to respond to the census form either online or by phone. For those without internet access or who don't feel comfortable responding by internet or phone, volunteers can help allay their concerns and walk them through the process. By mid-April, every household that has not yet responded will receive a paper form. Ultimately, every non-respondent will be visited by a census taker.

## **• Logistical challenges**

New Yorkers tend to live in apartments rather than houses, with levels of security that make them less accessible to census takers. Many live in informal and complex living arrangements. They move a lot. Their children don't necessarily go to the "neighborhood school." They are often less visible and therefore are harder to count. The more that community groups reach these harder-to-count people and help them fill out their census forms, the more resources our community will receive.

## **• Trust issues**

As a trusted voice, and in partnership with other trusted voices, LWVNYC seeks to inform city residents of the importance of the census for representation and funding, and overcome as much as possible the distrust and wariness many segments of the population may have toward the government.

**Getting counted is vital to our community.  
It determines a large part of our future  
for the decade to come.**

# Sample Census Questionnaire

- **Link to the Census Bureau's Informational (Sample) 2020 Questionnaire**  
<https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/partners/materials/july/2020-informational-questionnaire.pdf>

- **Sample 2020 Questionnaire below**

Don't be put off that the questionnaire is five pages long. Each person in a household is responsible for fewer than a dozen questions. And remember, all information is strictly confidential.

**Start here** OR go online at [url removed] to complete your 2020 Census questionnaire.  
Use a blue or black pen.

Before you answer Question 1, count the people living in this house, apartment, or mobile home using our guidelines.

- Count all people, including babies, who live and sleep here most of the time.
- If no one lives and sleeps at this address most of the time, go online at [url removed] or call the number on page 8.

The census must also include people without a permanent place to live, so:

- If someone who does not have a permanent place to live is staying here on April 1, 2020, count that person.

The Census Bureau also conducts counts in institutions and other places, so:

- Do not count anyone living away from here, either at college or in the Armed Forces.
- Do not count anyone in a nursing home, jail, prison, detention facility, etc., on April 1, 2020.
- Leave these people off your questionnaire, even if they will return to live here after they leave college, the nursing home, the military, jail, etc. Otherwise, they may be counted twice.

**1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2020?**

Number of people =

**2. Were there any additional people staying here on April 1, 2020 that you did not include in Question 1?**  
Mark ☒ all that apply.

- ☐ Children, related or unrelated, such as newborn babies, grandchildren, or foster children
- ☐ Relatives, such as adult children, cousins, or in-laws
- ☐ Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in babysitters
- ☐ People staying here temporarily
- ☐ No additional people

**3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home — Mark ☒ ONE box.**

- ☐ Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? *Include home equity loans.*
- ☐ Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
- ☐ Rented?
- ☐ Occupied without payment of rent?

**4. What is your telephone number?**  
*We will only contact you if needed for official Census Bureau business.*

Telephone Number

-

[Form number removed]



## Person 1

5. Please provide information for each person living here. If there is someone living here who pays the rent or owns this residence, start by listing him or her as Person 1. If the owner or the person who pays the rent does not live here, start by listing any adult living here as Person 1.

What is Person 1's name? *Print name below.*

First Name MI

Last Name(s)

6. What is Person 1's sex? Mark ☒ ONE box.

☐ Male ☐ Female

7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? For babies less than 1 year old, do not write the age in months. Write 0 as the age.

Age on April 1, 2020 *Print numbers in boxes.* Month Day Year of birth  
 years

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- ☐ No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin  
☐ Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano  
☐ Yes, Puerto Rican  
☐ Yes, Cuban  
☐ Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – *Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.*

9. What is Person 1's race?

Mark ☒ one or more boxes AND print origins.

- ☐ White – *Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.*

- ☐ Black or African Am. – *Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.*

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native – *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow, Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.*

- ☐ Chinese ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Native Hawaiian

- ☐ Filipino ☐ Korean ☐ Samoan

- ☐ Asian Indian ☐ Japanese ☐ Chamorro

- ☐ Other Asian – *Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.* ☐ Other Pacific Islander – *Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.*

- ☐ Some other race – *Print race or origin.*

→ If more people were counted in Question 1 on the front page, continue with Person 2 on the next page.

## 1. Print name of

Person 2

First Name

MI

Last Name(s)

## 2. Does this person usually live or stay somewhere else?

Mark ☒ all that apply.☐ No☐ Yes, for college☐ Yes, for a military assignment☐ Yes, for a job or business☐ Yes, in a nursing home☐ Yes, with a parent or other relative☐ Yes, at a seasonal or second residence☐ Yes, in a jail or prison☐ Yes, for another reason3. How is this person related to Person 1? Mark ☒ ONE box.☐ Opposite-sex husband/wife/spouse☐ Opposite-sex unmarried partner☐ Same-sex husband/wife/spouse☐ Same-sex unmarried partner☐ Biological son or daughter☐ Adopted son or daughter☐ Stepson or stepdaughter☐ Brother or sister☐ Father or mother☐ Grandchild☐ Parent-in-law☐ Son-in-law or daughter-in-law☐ Other relative☐ Roommate or housemate☐ Foster child☐ Other nonrelative4. What is this person's sex? Mark ☒ ONE box.☐ Male ☐ Female

## 5. What is this person's age and what is this person's date of birth? For babies less than 1 year old, do not write the age in months. Write 0 as the age.

Print numbers in boxes.

Age on April 1, 2020

Month

Day

Year of birth

 years   

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 6 about Hispanic origin and Question 7 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

## 6. Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

☐ No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin☐ Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano☐ Yes, Puerto Rican☐ Yes, Cuban
☐ Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.

## 7. What is this person's race?

Mark ☒ one or more boxes AND print origins.
☐ White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.

☐ Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.
☐ Chinese☐ Filipino☐ Asian Indian
☐ Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.
☐ Vietnamese☐ Korean☐ Japanese☐ Native Hawaiian☐ Samoan☐ Chamorro
☐ Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.

☐ Some other race – Print race or origin.

→ If more people were counted in Question 1 on the front page, continue with Person 3 on the next page.



**1. Print name of Person 3**

First Name MI

\_\_\_\_\_

Last Name(s)

\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Does this person usually live or stay somewhere else?**  
 Mark ☒ all that apply.

☐ No

☐ Yes, for college ☐ Yes, with a parent or other relative

☐ Yes, for a military assignment ☐ Yes, at a seasonal or second residence

☐ Yes, for a job or business ☐ Yes, in a jail or prison

☐ Yes, in a nursing home ☐ Yes, for another reason

**3. How is this person related to Person 1? Mark ☒ ONE box.**

☐ Opposite-sex husband/wife/spouse ☐ Father or mother

☐ Opposite-sex unmarried partner ☐ Grandchild

☐ Same-sex husband/wife/spouse ☐ Parent-in-law

☐ Same-sex unmarried partner ☐ Son-in-law or daughter-in-law

☐ Biological son or daughter ☐ Other relative

☐ Adopted son or daughter ☐ Roommate or housemate

☐ Stepson or stepdaughter ☐ Foster child

☐ Brother or sister ☐ Other nonrelative

**4. What is this person's sex? Mark ☒ ONE box.**

☐ Male ☐ Female

**5. What is this person's age and what is this person's date of birth? For babies less than 1 year old, do not write the age in months. Write 0 as the age.**

Print numbers in boxes.

Age on April 1, 2020 Month Day Year of birth

\_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

→ **NOTE:** Please answer BOTH Question 6 about Hispanic origin and Question 7 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

**6. Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?**

☐ No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin

☐ Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano

☐ Yes, Puerto Rican

☐ Yes, Cuban

☐ Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

**7. What is this person's race?**  
 Mark ☒ one or more boxes AND print origins.

☐ White – Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Black or African Am. – Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native – Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Chinese ☐ Vietnamese ☐ Native Hawaiian

☐ Filipino ☐ Korean ☐ Samoan

☐ Asian Indian ☐ Japanese ☐ Chamorro

☐ Other Asian – Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc. ↴ ☐ Other Pacific Islander – Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Some other race – Print race or origin. ↴

\_\_\_\_\_

→ If more people were counted in Question 1 on the front page, continue with Person 4 on the next page.

Use this section to complete information for the rest of the people you counted in Question 1 on the front page.  
We may call for additional information about them.

### Person 7

First Name MI Last Name(s)

Sex Age on April 1, 2020 Date of Birth Related to Person 1?

☐ Male ☐ Female  years  Month  Day  Year of birth ☐ Yes ☐ No

### Person 8

First Name MI Last Name(s)

Sex Age on April 1, 2020 Date of Birth Related to Person 1?

☐ Male ☐ Female  years  Month  Day  Year of birth ☐ Yes ☐ No

### Person 9

First Name MI Last Name(s)

Sex Age on April 1, 2020 Date of Birth Related to Person 1?

☐ Male ☐ Female  years  Month  Day  Year of birth ☐ Yes ☐ No

### Person 10

First Name MI Last Name(s)

Sex Age on April 1, 2020 Date of Birth Related to Person 1?

☐ Male ☐ Female  years  Month  Day  Year of birth ☐ Yes ☐ No

Thank you for completing your 2020 Census questionnaire.

#### FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

JIC1 JIC2

If your enclosed postage-paid envelope is missing,  
please mail your completed questionnaire to:

U.S. Census Bureau  
National Processing Center  
[address removed]

If you need help completing this questionnaire, call [toll-free number removed], Sunday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. ET.

TDD — Telephone display device for the hearing impaired. Call [toll-free number removed], Sunday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. ET.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that completing the questionnaire will take 10 minutes on average. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this burden to: Paperwork Reduction Project 0607-1006, U.S. Census Bureau, [address removed] Washington, DC 20233. You may email comments to <[email address removed]>. Use "Paperwork Reduction Project 0607-1006" as the subject.

This collection of information has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The eight-digit OMB approval number 0607-1006 confirms this approval. If this number were not displayed, we could not conduct the census.



# Appendix A: Who gets a Paper Ballot? Who gets a Spanish Language Ballot?

## Nationally

### **How does the Census Bureau determine where to send paper questionnaires?**

In the first mailing, in March, most of the nation's households will be invited to fill out the census online or over the phone. Just a fifth of the households will receive a paper questionnaire along with the invitation. These will be in areas with a low response rate to the ongoing American Community Survey (ACS), and those with low internet response rates, a low rate of internet subscriptions or a large population over age 65.

In New York City, however, a much greater number of households will receive a paper questionnaire in the first mailing. Maps on the following pages show the breakout, by borough, of the NYC areas slated to receive paper. For example, residents in the Bronx will receive paper forms in greater numbers than any other borough.

**Here is a link to the Census Department's "Mail Contact Strategies Viewer."** That's a fancy name for an interactive map of the country, on which you can zoom in as much as you like, and which shows the areas that will receive a paper ballot and which will receive an online, internet version.

<https://gis-portal.data.census.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7ef5c37c68a64ef3b2f1b17eb9287427>

### **How did the Census Bureau determine where to send bilingual mailings?**

For the purpose of organizing the data they collect, the Census Bureau divides cities and states into neighborhoods or other geographic areas. These are called "census tracts" and each is assigned a number.

Census tracts will receive bilingual Spanish and English mailings if 20 percent or more of the households are recognized as needing "Spanish Assistance." This is defined as having at least one person age 15 or older who speaks Spanish but does not speak English very well. This was determined using 2013–2017 American Community Survey (ACS) five-year estimates, and is the same criteria used to send bilingual questionnaires in the 2010 Census.

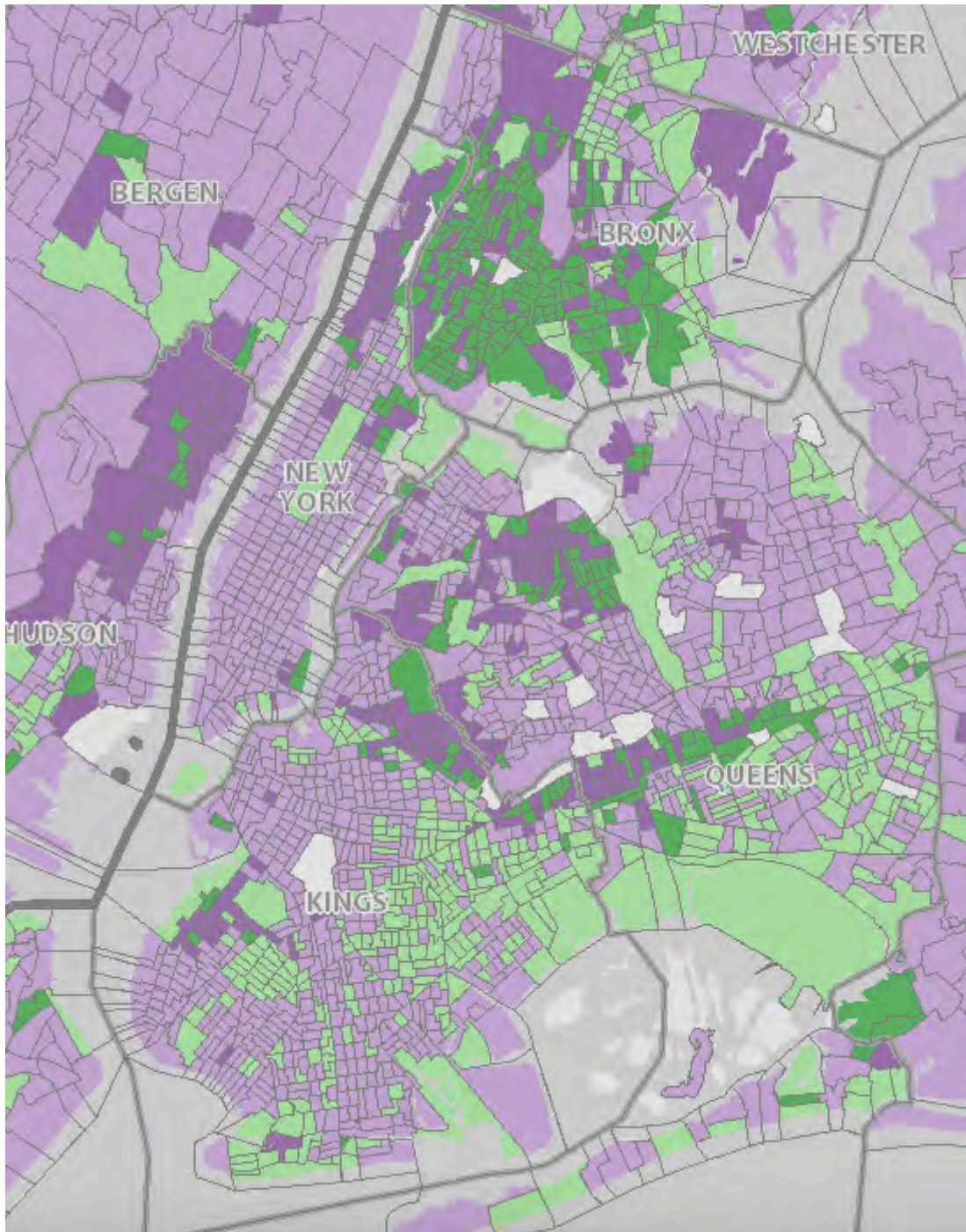
**Here is a link to the Census Bureau's press release**, explaining which regions will receive a paper ballot versus an internet version, and which regions will receive a Spanish language ballot.

[https://census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2019/contact-strategies-viewer.html?utm\\_campaign=20191118msc20s1ccnwsrs&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://census.gov/newsroom/press-releases/2019/contact-strategies-viewer.html?utm_campaign=20191118msc20s1ccnwsrs&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

# Locally

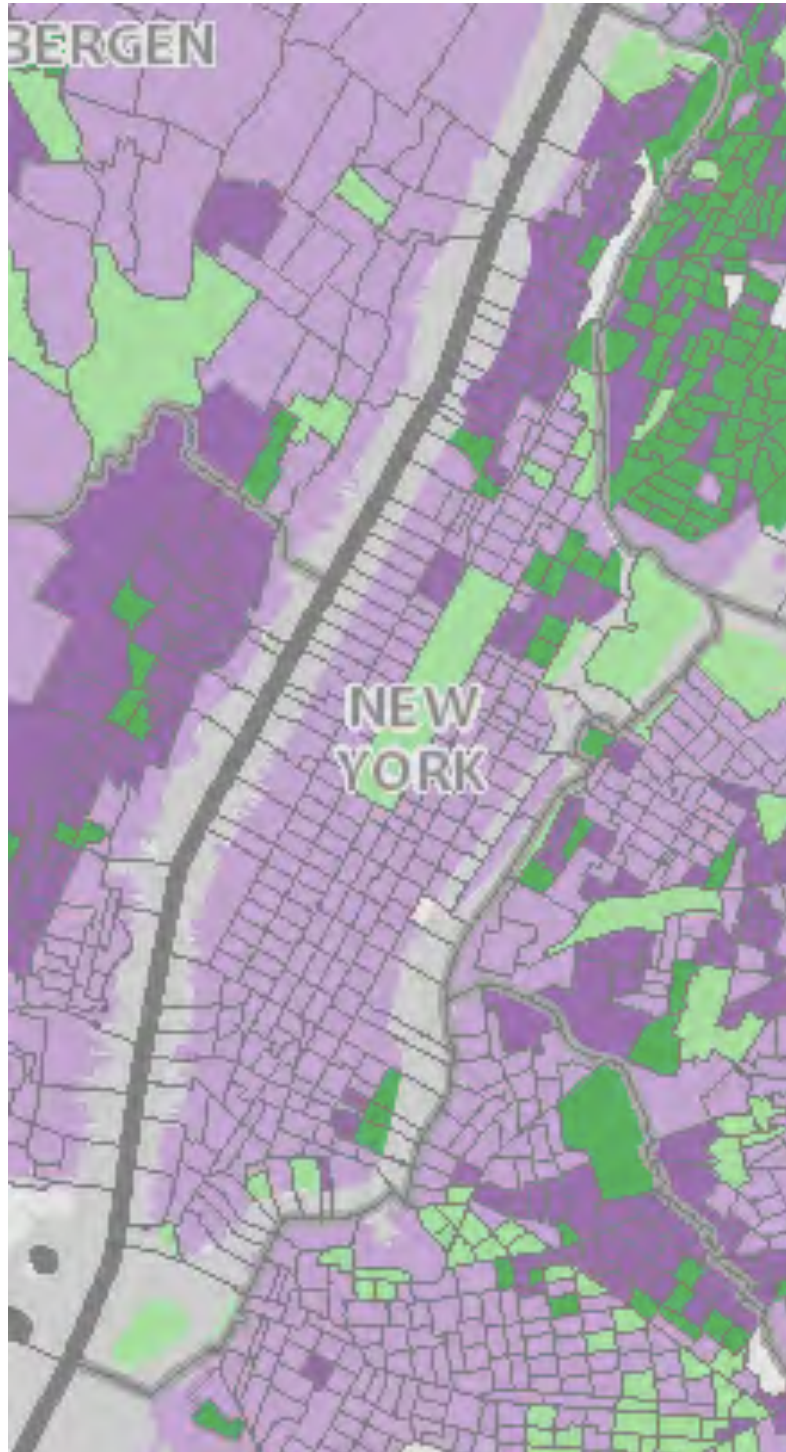
## New York City, overall

Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English.



## Manhattan (New York County)

Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English. Only parts of upper Manhattan and the Lower East Side will receive paper or bilingual questionnaires.





## Brooklyn (Kings County)

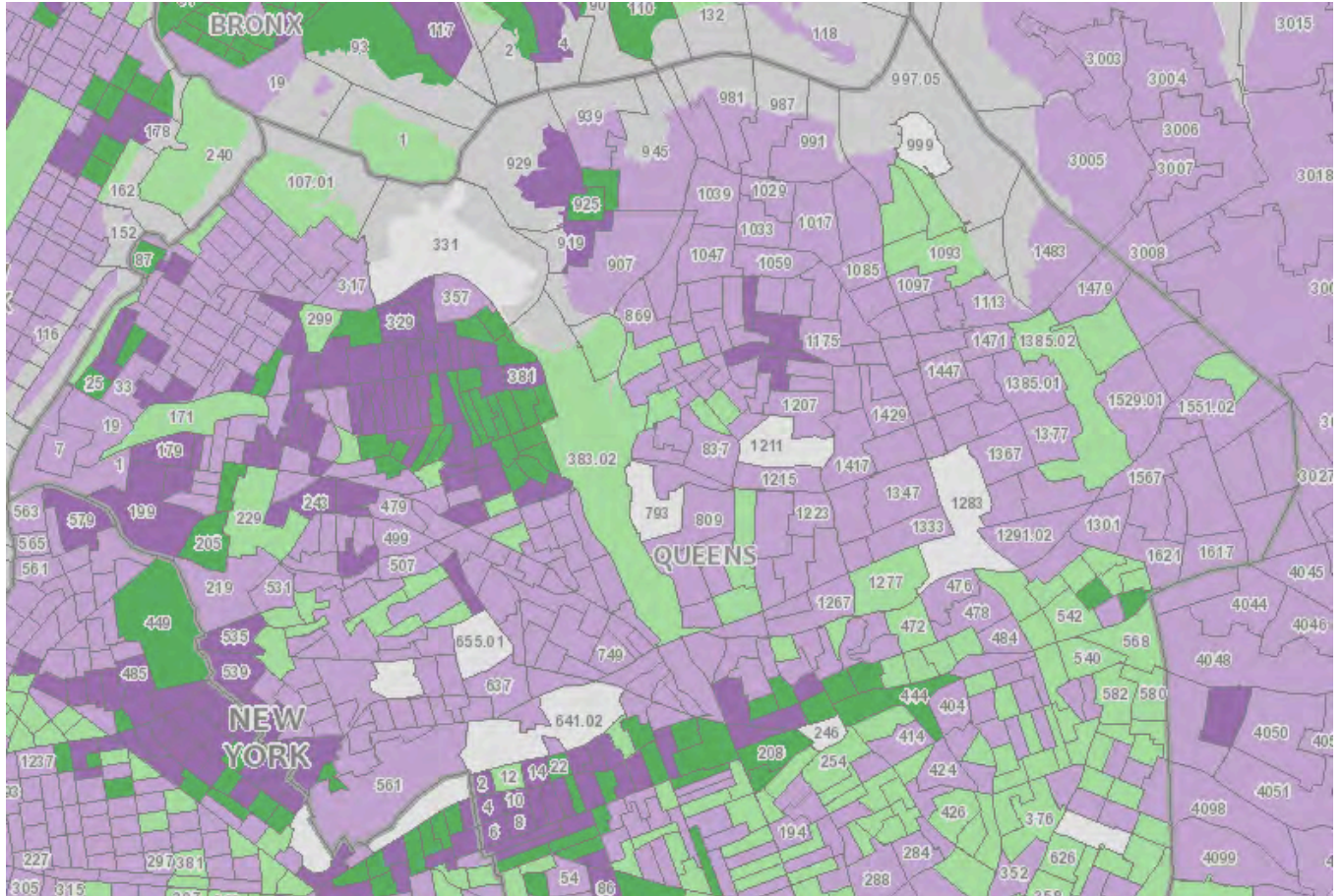
Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English. Much of Brooklyn will receive paper forms in English only.





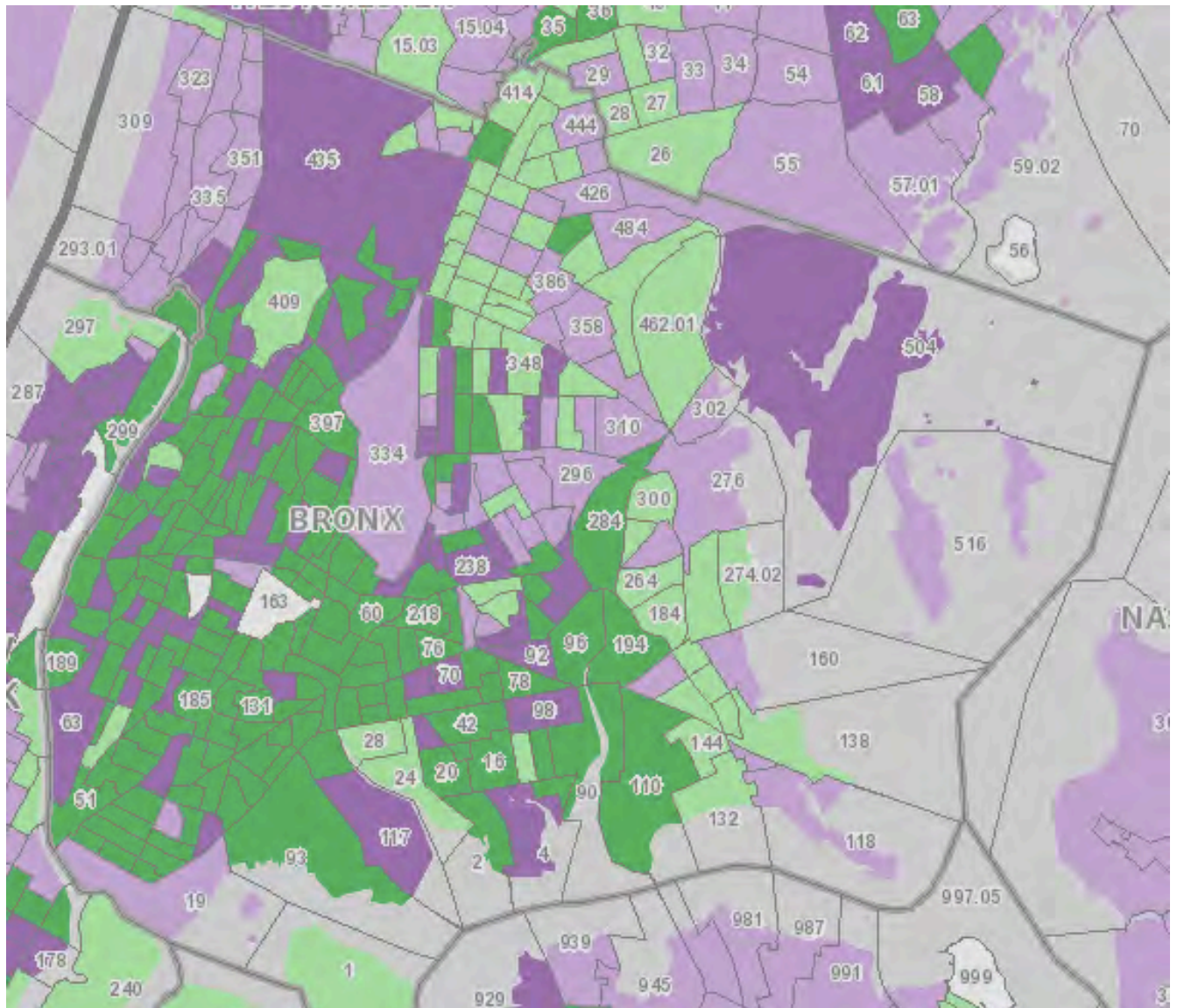
## Queens (Queens County)

Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English. Queens is very mixed.



## The Bronx (Bronx County)

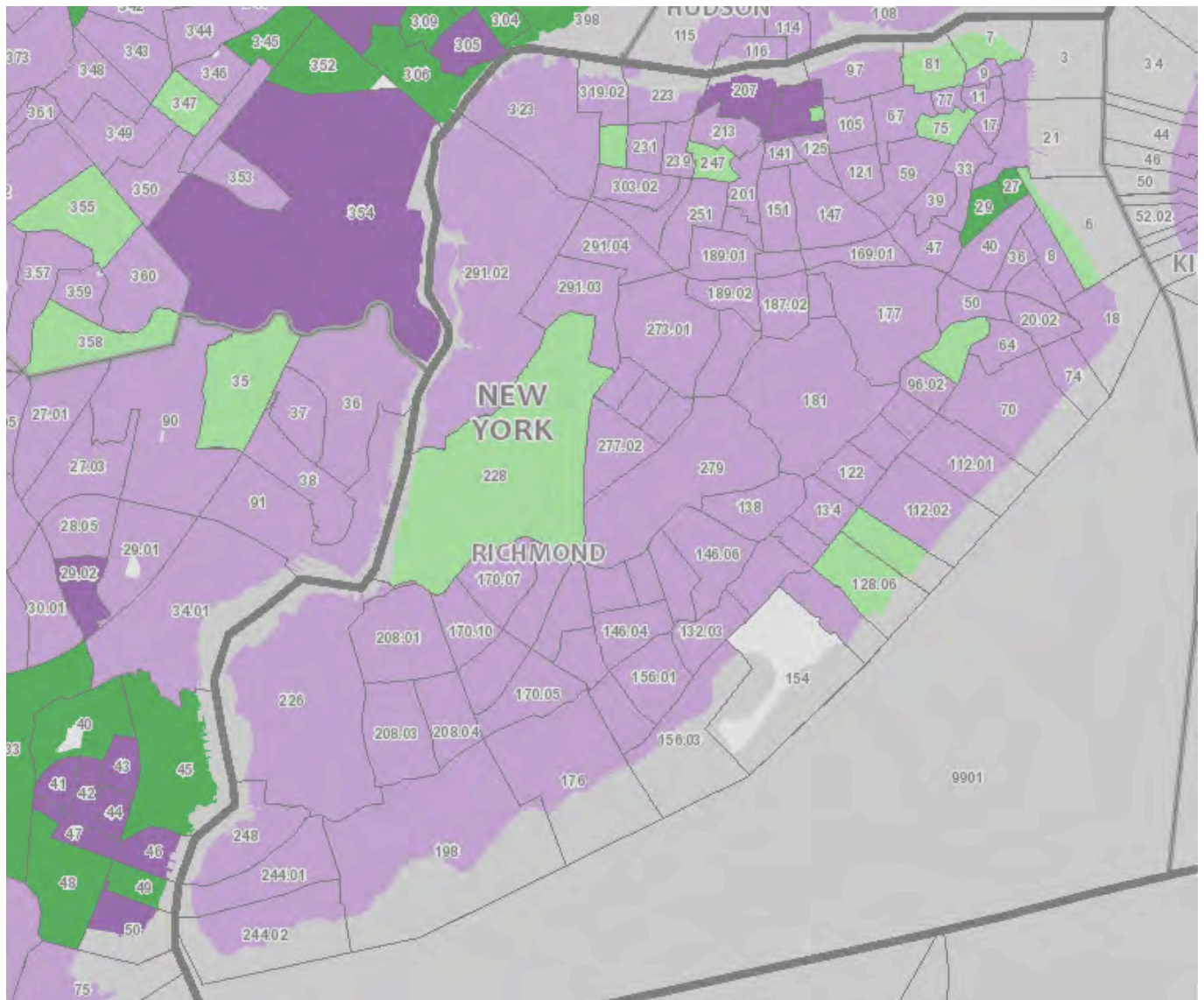
Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English. Residents in the Bronx will receive paper forms in greater numbers than any other borough.





## Staten Island (Richmond County)

Purple is internet first, green is paper copy first. Darker shades mean that households will receive materials in both Spanish and English. Most of Staten Island will be asked to fill out the questionnaire on line.



## Appendix B: Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM) Sample Data

ROAM is a tool used by the Census Bureau to determine mailing and outreach strategies. It also will provide information on census response rates in real time as Census 2020 goes live.

<https://gis-portal.data.census.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3d16177a12b34c938adcf8c78e8b9699>

Census Tract 83  
Astoria, Queens County, New York

Low Response Score (%): 30.1  
2013- 2017 ACS 5-year estimates

ACS Self-Response Rate: 49.2  
Total Population: 2,935  
Median Household Income (\$): 50,417  
Median Age: 31.9  
Population Under 5 (%): 4.70  
Population 18-24 (%): 14.11  
Population 65 and Over (%): 4.87  
Persons Below Poverty Level (%): 16.90  
Children Under 18 Living in Poverty (%): 22.00  
School Enrolled Children Age 3 and 4 (%):  
Not High School Graduate (%): 17.6  
No Health Insurance Under 19 (%): 0.00  
No Health Insurance Age 19-64 (%): 25.22  
No Health Insurance Age 65 and Over (%): 0.00  
Non-Hispanic, Black (%): 7.50  
Non-Hispanic, White (%): 30.46  
Hispanic (%): 34.99  
American Indian or Alaska Native (%): 0.00  
Asian (%): 24.57  
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (%): 0.00  
Some Other Race (%): 0.00  
Foreign Born (%): 49.06  
No One in Household Age 14+ Speaks English "Very Well" (%): 17.02  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Spanish (%): 17.30  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Russian (%): 0.72  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Chinese (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Korean (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Vietnamese (%): 0.82  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Tagalog (%): 0.00



Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Arabic (%): 1.61  
Total Housing Units: 1,207  
Total Occupied Housing Units: 987  
Renter Occupied Housing Units (%): 85.51  
Married Couple Households with Child Under 18 (%): 47.00  
Family Occupied Housing Units with Related Children Under 6 (%): 18.23  
Population 1+ Who Moved From Another Residence Within the Last Year (%): 16.78  
Vacant Housing Units (%): 18.23  
Multi-Unit (10+) Housing (%): 47.97  
Households with No Computing Device (%): 4.56  
Households with Computer (%): 83.18  
Households with Only Smartphone (%): 7.19  
Households with No Internet Access (%): 15.81  
Households with Broadband Internet Access (%): 71.94  
Population with No Computing Device (%): 2.19  
Population with Broadband Internet and Computing Device (%): 81.14

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FCC Residential High-Speed Connection Over 200 kbps: More than 800 connections

FCC Residential High-Speed Connection at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream: More than 800 connections

---

2020 Census Audience Segment Category: [Downtown Dynamic](#)  
Zoom to

Census Tract 234  
New York County, New York

Low Response Score (%): 34.9  
2013- 2017 ACS 5-year estimates

ACS Self-Response Rate: 38.1  
Total Population: 5,328  
Median Household Income (\$): 34,409  
Median Age: 34.4  
Population Under 5 (%): 5.57  
Population 18-24 (%): 9.23  
Population 65 and Over (%): 6.64  
Persons Below Poverty Level (%): 25.84  
Children Under 18 Living in Poverty (%): 38.54  
School Enrolled Children Age 3 and 4 (%):  
Not High School Graduate (%): 17.90  
No Health Insurance Under 19 (%): 6.98  
No Health Insurance Age 19-64 (%): 19.91  
No Health Insurance Age 65 and Over (%): 0.00  
Non-Hispanic, Black (%): 59.65

Non-Hispanic, White (%): 9.20  
Hispanic (%): 25.53  
American Indian or Alaska Native (%): 1.56  
Asian (%): 2.05  
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (%): 0.00  
Some Other Race (%): 0.00  
Foreign Born (%): 25.98  
No One in Household Age 14+ Speaks English "Very Well" (%): 9.62  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Spanish (%): 6.72  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Russian (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Chinese (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Korean (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Vietnamese (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Tagalog (%): 0.00  
Population 5+ Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well" and Speak Arabic (%): 0.00  
Total Housing Units: 2,460  
Total Occupied Housing Units: 2,349  
Renter Occupied Housing Units (%): 92.38  
Married Couple Households with Child Under 18 (%): 38.08  
Family Occupied Housing Units with Related Children Under 6 (%): 20.20  
Population 1+ Who Moved From Another Residence Within the Last Year (%): 13.71  
Vacant Housing Units (%): 4.51  
Multi-Unit (10+) Housing (%): 92.97  
Households with No Computing Device (%): 17.20  
Households with Computer (%): 72.20  
Households with Only Smartphone (%): 5.02  
Households with No Internet Access (%): 23.93  
Households with Broadband Internet Access (%): 60.03  
Population with No Computing Device (%): 14.77  
Population with Broadband Internet and Computing Device (%): 67.14

---

FCC Residential High-Speed Connection Over 200 kbps: 601 to 800 connections  
FCC Residential High-Speed Connection at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream: 601 to 800 connections

---

2020 Census Audience Segment Category: [Downtown Dynamic](#)

# Appendix C: Language Assistance

**Table 1. Census Bureau Planned Language and Video Guide for 2020 Census**

Spanish	Italian	Khmer	Tamil	Croatian
Chinese	Farsi	Nepali	Navajo	Bulgarian
Vietnamese	German	Urdu	Hungarian	Twi
Korean	Armenian	Romanian	Hebrew	Lithuanian
Russian	Hindi	Telugu	Malayalam	Yoruba
Arabic	Ukrainian	Burmese	Swahili	Czech
Tagalog	Bengali	Punjabi	Yiddish	Igbo
Polish	Greek	Lao	Indonesia	Marathi
French	Amharic	Hmong	Serbian	Sinhala
Haitian Creole	Somali	Albanian	Tigrinya	Slovak
Portuguese	Thai	Turkish	Ilocano	Dutch
Japanese	Gjurati	Bosnian	American Sign Language	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, (Feb. 27, 2018). "2020 Census Program Memoranda Series: 2020 Census Non-English Language Support"<sup>7</sup>

**Table 2. Census Bureau Planned Telephone Questionnaire Assistance and Online Questionnaire Languages**

Spanish	Korean	Tagalog	Haitian Creole
Chinese (Simplified)	Russian	Polish	Portuguese
Vietnamese	Arabic	French	Japanese

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, (Feb. 27, 2018). "2020 Census Program Memoranda Series: 2020 Census Non-English Language Support"<sup>9</sup>



## Appendix D: Links

### **Census Questionnaire**

<https://2020census.gov/content/dam/2020census/partners/materials/july/2020-informational-questionnaire.pdf>

### **Mail Contact Strategy**

<https://gis-portal.data.census.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7ef5c37c68a64ef3b2f1b17eb9287427>

### **ROAM**

<https://gis-portal.data.census.gov/arcgis/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3d16177a12b34c938adcf8c78e8b9699>

### **Uses of Census Bureau Data in Federal Funds Distribution**

<https://www.census.gov/library/working-papers/2017/decennial/census-data-federal-funds.html>

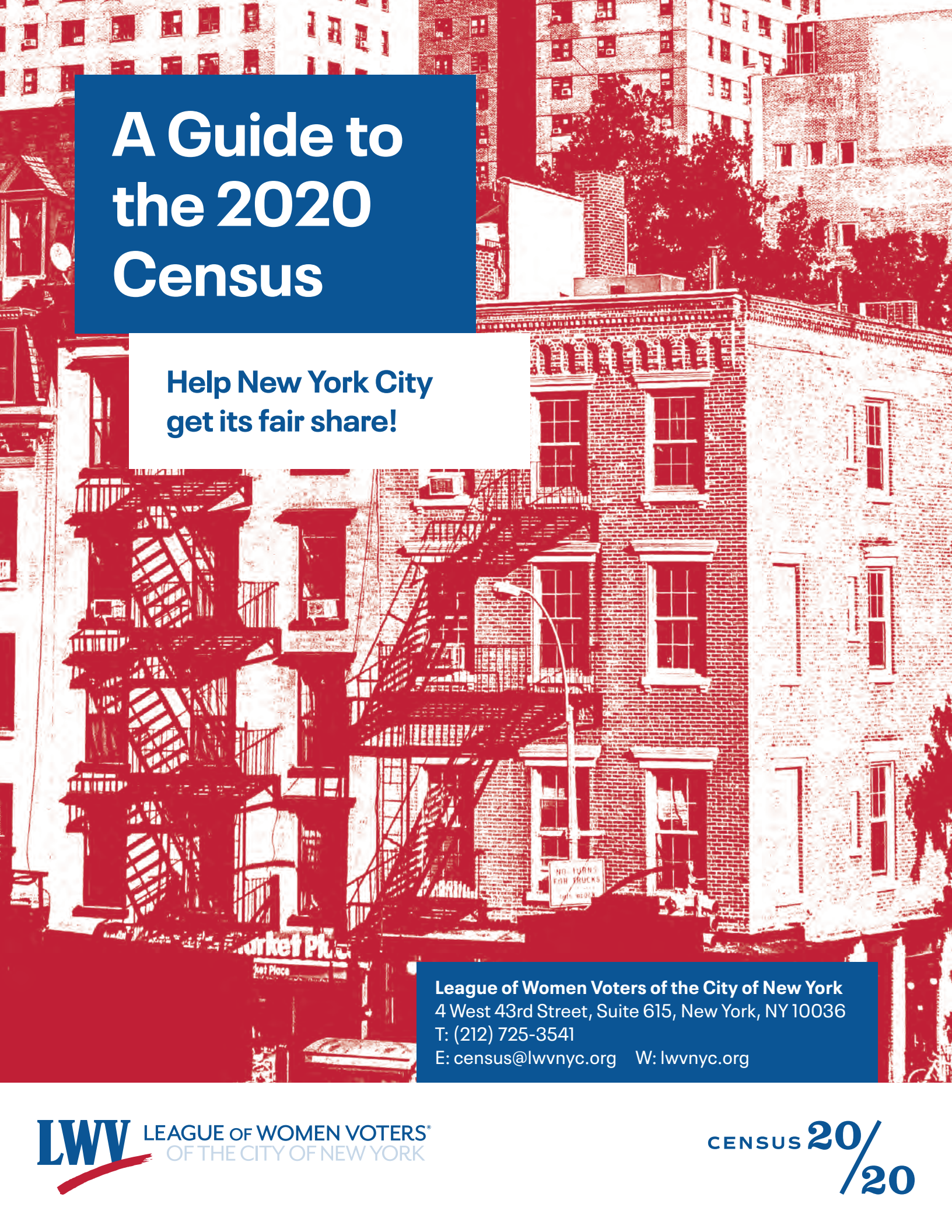
### **Why Are They Asking That? What Everyone Needs to Know About the 2020 Census Questions**

<https://www.prb.org/why-are-they-asking-that-what-everyone-needs-to-know-about-2020-census-questions/>

### **League of Women Voters of the City of New York**

[www.lwvnyc.org](http://www.lwvnyc.org)





# A Guide to the 2020 Census

**Help New York City  
get its fair share!**

**League of Women Voters of the City of New York**  
4 West 43rd Street, Suite 615, New York, NY 10036  
T: (212) 725-3541  
E: [census@lwvnyc.org](mailto:census@lwvnyc.org) W: [lwvnyc.org](http://lwvnyc.org)