



India Association of Minnesota

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I COUNT: Census 2020

2020 Census Day is April 1

What is the Census?

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, regardless of citizenship or age. Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution mandates that this count occur every 10 years.

Why do we have a Census?

The information the Census collects helps determine how over \$675 billion of federal funding is distributed to States and communities each year. The aggregate data is used by business, governments and non-profits for planning and to identify needs and allocate resources.

In 2016, Minnesota received over \$15 billion dollars across over 55 programs.

Most importantly it also determines representation in the U.S. Congress. Currently, we have eight Representatives in the House of Representatives. In 2010, we maintained the 8th congressional seat by a very small margin; we are at risk of losing this seat if we do not count everyone.

Who will be counted?

Anyone who has spent majority (six months and one day) of their time in Minnesota and are not non-citizen visitors is eligible to be counted. They include the citizens of United States and non-citizens regardless of age who reside in Minnesota. **They are counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time.** A resident non-citizen baby is counted just as any eligible adult will be.

What information is collected? Is it Confidential?

Only basic information about all the people living in a household is collected. Census will not require information such as citizenship, social security, financial information, or party preferences.

Title 13 of U.S. Code protects the confidentiality of all your information. Penalty for wrongful disclosure is \$250,000 or 5-year jail or both. No law enforcement agency can access or use your personal information any time. The data can be used only for statistical analysis at an aggregate level.

When does the Census take place?

On or between the following dates you'll receive:

- March 12–20** An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census (some households will also receive paper questionnaires.) You can also request paper questionnaires.
- March 16–24** A reminder letter if you have not responded yet.
- March 26–April 3** A reminder postcard.
- April 8–16** A reminder letter and paper questionnaire
- April 20–27** A final reminder postcard before they follow up with a door knocker.



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Why should I participate in the Census?

For people with Indian heritage, it is important to ensure everyone is counted as we all benefit from the increased Congressional representation and funding that is provided to Minnesota and its communities for education, transportation and social services among other important things that impact the quality of our lives every day.

In 2010 our community was at 38,097, it is now close to 50,000 people. Almost 50% of our community is highly mobile due to their H1B visa and many are apartment dwellers. They may have been missed; we want them counted. Regardless if you have been here for only 6 months and 1 day and are not a visitor, then you are still counted for purposes of our Census. We need to ensure everyone is counted so we don't lose out. Although Census forms are in English, many of the supporting documents are going to be available in Hindi, Punjabi, Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

What will the 2020 Census ask me?

The 2020 Census should take just minutes to complete and asks the questions below. You can take Census on-line, on phone or in paper form.

The 2020 Census will ask about your household.

- **The number of people living or staying at your address on April 1.**
 - Include everyone in your home, even if they are not related to you. The census counts all people in the U.S., including small children, non-citizens, renters – everyone.
- **Do you own or rent your home?**
 - Answer whether you own or rent your home.
- **Telephone number**
 - The Census Bureau will only use your phone number if needed for official Census Bureau business such as calling to clarify questions.

The 2020 Census will ask about each person who lives in your household.

- **Name, age, date of birth, and sex**
 - Enter the name, age, and date of birth of each person. Please note that for sex, the Census Bureau only provides Male and Female as options.
- **Relationship to the person filling out the form**
 - There is a list of relationships that you can choose from, including spouse (same or opposite sex), brother or sister, parent, roommate, or other. Only one individual need to fill the form for the household.
- **Race**
 - You can choose one or more races. If you identify as multiracial, you can check the box or boxes for your racial groups and write in additional detail about your racial background. There is a box for **Asian Indians**.
 - Not all racial groups are listed as check box options. If your racial group is not listed, you can write in additional detail about your racial background.

The 2020 Census will not ask a question about citizenship

- If more than six people live in your home, you only need to provide basic information for persons seven and onward. The basic information is name, age, date of birth, sex, race, and whether the person is related to the person filling out the form.

What won't the 2020 Census ask me?

- The form will not ask you about your immigration or citizenship status.
- The form will also not ask for your social security number.

Do I have to answer all the questions?

- Federal law requires everyone to participate in the census and to answer all the questions. Respondents who provide their name and address, but skip a question or two, will still be counted. If you skip several questions or do not answer the census at all, a census employee might come to your home to obtain the missing information. Answer all questions truthfully; do not lie when responding to the census.

For More Information: <https://mn.gov/admin/2020-census/tools-resources/library/>