A new school to ease overcrowded classrooms. A new road to ease overcrowded commutes. The 2020 Census can deeply impact your community. The results of the census, which is taken once a decade, help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding is distributed to states and communities every year.

January 2020 LWVCA Study Pages

WHAT IS THE CENSUS?

Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution requires a once-a-decade population and housing count of all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico and the Island areas.
National Census Day is April 1, 2020.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- Census Results are used to determine the apportionment of U.S. and State Congressional Districts.

  Originally, there were 65 members in the US House of Representatives. This number grew to 106 members after the 1790 census showed the nation had grown to 4 million people!

- The federal government uses Census data to determine how more than $675 billion in federal funds are distributed to states and communities annually.

  Communities use the information to plan bus routes, draw school district boundaries, and offer community services.

  Businesses use census data to decide where to put a store, office, or plant. These new locations create jobs and support the community’s economy.

  Businesses use the information to determine what to sell in their stores, so communities get what they need.

Find extensive information at: https://2020census.gov/
IS CENSUS DATA SAFE?

- Responses to the 2020 Census are protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code.

  *Answers can only be used to produce statistics. Answers cannot be used against anyone in any way.*

- The Bureau cannot release information about individuals, households, or businesses even to law enforcement officials. Census Bureau Staff take a lifetime oath to protect the personal information of respondents.

DOES CITIZENSHIP MATTER?

- **No.** As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Census Bureau counts every resident in the United States.

  *The current administration proposed adding a question about citizenship. On June 28, the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling suspended the question from being used. The Administration attempted to re-open the issue, but the Census Bureau had already begun printing forms.*

  **There will NOT be a citizenship question on Census.** Spread the word, as there is still fear of participation in some communities.

WHEN DOES THE CENSUS BEGIN?

- **April 1, 2020:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, households will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. There are three options for responding: online, by mail, or by phone.

- April 2020: Census takers begin following up with households around selected colleges and universities. Census takers also begin conducting quality check interviews.

- May 2020: The Census Bureau begins following up with households that have not responded.

- December 2020: The Census Bureau delivers apportionment counts to the president.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What actions can be taken to ensure a Complete Count in the Cincinnati Area?
- What neighborhoods may be reluctant to participate?
- What local partners would be helpful in getting a Complete Count?

*The 2020 Census is more than a count. It’s an opportunity—to get involved and to help shape the future of your community.*