2020 CENSUS: AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVES MAKE MONTANA COUNT

In 2020, the U.S. Census will define who we are as a nation. Taken every 10 years, on a form that can be filled out in 10 minutes, the Census affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding. It is vital to tribal nations, and to American Indian and Alaska Native communities that the 2020 Census is accurate. Achieving a complete and accurate 2020 Census is in our hands.

You can make a difference. You can partner with the U.S. Census Bureau to convey the importance of participating in the next census and to ensure no one is left uncounted. **Achieving a complete and accurate 2020 Census shapes your future. You can make a difference.**

THE CENSUS: A SNAPSHOT FOR MONTANA

- The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and the U.S territories.
- It is estimated that for every Montana resident we count, the state will receive $20,000 back in federal funds over the next decade. Montana is spending $0.09 per resident on promotion so it is critical that our partners spread the word for the state to receive its fair share.
- Every year, more than $675 billion in federal funds are awarded to states and communities annually based on Census data. Montana receives more than $2 billion every year in federal funding based on Census data.
- The 2020 Census will create hundreds of thousands of temporary jobs across the nation. More than 2,000 Montana workers will be hired between spring of 2019 and summer 2020.
- Census data helps tribal communities plan for new buildings and programs and guides local decision-makers in important community planning and construction efforts including roads, hospitals, and schools.
- Census data affect your voice in Congress by determining how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Projections show Montana could gain a second a U.S. House Representative in Congress with an accurate count.

2020 CENSUS TIMELINE: KEY DATES

March 2018	Census provides questions to Congress.
Fall 2018	Recruitment begins for local census jobs for early census operations.
Spring 2019	Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide.
Fall 2019	Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2020.
Fall 2019	Census Offices Open.
February 2020	Group Quarters Operations begins.
March 2020	Update and Leave begins - packets delivered to homes not receiving mail.
March 2020	Internet Self Response begins.
April 1, 2020	**Census Day!**
April – July 2020	Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.
December 2020	By law, Census Bureau delivers population counts to President for apportionment.
March 2021	By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

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COMPLETING THE 2020 CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE: SIMPLE AND SAFE

- The 2020 Census questionnaire will ask only a few simple questions of each person—name, relationship, gender, age and date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail.
- The Census removes all identifiable information (names, phone numbers, and addresses) from data files and uses various computer technologies, statistical methods, and security procedures to protect its files.
- The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their household for 72 years.

HOW DOES THE CENSUS INFORMATION IMPACT INDIAN COUNTRY?

Census is used to allocate federal funding for programs critical to Indian Country. Examples for FY2016 include:

Program	Agency	FACTS	MT Allocation
Title II Supporting Effective Instruction	ED	About 90 percent of Native students nationwide attend Title 1 public schools.	$ 62,200,000
Head Start Program	HHS	3,100+ Head Start and Early Head Start slots are funded in Montana annually.	$ 49,933,828
Native American Employment and Training	DOL	Program provides training and provides funds for daycare and transportation.	$ 974,103
Indian Health Service for MT and WY	DOI	IHS Billings Region serves more than 70,000 American Indians annually.	$ 228,000,000 (FY2013)
Public and Indian Housing	HUD	Program served, helped build, or rehabilitated 4,687 units nationwide in 2014	$ 5,061,000

TAKE ACTION FOR YOUR TRIBAL COMMUNITY

As an American Indian partner, you will play an important role in making the 2020 Census successful by encouraging people in your community to take part in the count. You can:

- Encourage others to get involved in your local Tribal Complete Count Committee (CCC), an organized group of other influential leaders who are committed to increasing participation in the census.
- Encourage tribal members to use the tribe's preferred name when responding to the 'enrolled or principal tribe' question on the 2020 questionnaire.
- Assure people that the census questionnaire is easy, important and safe. Answer questions and help people overcome misconceptions about the 2020 Census. Share the benefits of being counted and reassure your community their questionnaire responses are confidential.
- Spread the word about temporary census jobs in your community. Conduct a meeting or hold an event to encourage participation. Stay informed and include census information in newsletters, mailings and online.
- Work for the 2020 Census or help recruit. The Census Bureau is hiring more than 2,000 employees in Montana. A variety of temporary jobs are available. Census jobs pay competitive wages and the jobs are located in your community. For information about census jobs, visit 2020censusjobs.gov.