

FACT SHEET:

WHY DOES THE 2020 CENSUS MATTER FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES?

April 2020



THE CENSUS MATTERS..., BECAUSE OHIO WOMEN AND FAMILIES MATTER

No matter what we look like or where we are from, everyone should have the resources they need to thrive and the ability to shape their communities. **The census determines how money and power are assigned by counting how many people there are to serve in each community, city, and state.** Every person has the right to make their voice heard and ensure that our families, our neighbors, and our communities have the resources they need.

In Ohio, there is more than **\$33 billion dollars** in federal funding on the line for public program, including many programs that disproportionately serve women and children:

- **Medicaid**
- **Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and the Violence Against Women Act**
- **Child Care Assistance & Head Start**

These programs help to support the health, safety, and economic stability of Ohio women and their families:

- The mother who relies on federal aid to receive quality child care, allowing her to continue to work and provide for her family.
- The young women who receives STI testing and prevention services through access to Medicaid.
- The woman who has turned to Ohio's network of domestic violence shelters to seek the help she needs to get her family on their feet.

GETTING A COMPLETE AND ACCURATE COUNT IS IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE A LOT AT STAKE - AND WOMEN PLAY A KEY ROLE IN ENSURING THIS HAPPENS.

BECAUSE WOMEN AND FAMILIES COUNT!

The 2020 Census will have an outsized impact on women's livelihood and their families. Yet, time and time again, the census has missed millions of us, **including people of color and immigrants, people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness or living in poverty, and young children.**

When we're missed from the census, it means less resources, less representation, and less understanding of our needs. We cannot allow our existence, our needs, and our struggles to be erased - and the census is an important tool to ensure we can boost our collective power.

TAKE ACTION

BECAUSE YOU MATTER, BE COUNTED!: TAKE THE CENSUS

Black or white, rich or poor, urban or rural, every person deserves to be heard, counted, and supported.

Your voice matters, and your participation in the 2020 Census helps to ensure that your community can receive the funding and support it needs to tackle key issues - especially during these uncertain times.

Census participation is power: By taking the census, you help your friends and family get the resources they need. You set the forces in motion for better representation. You have the power to make sure your community counts.

Taking the census is secure, easy, and quick, and you can respond to the census on your own -- online, over the phone, or by mail -- all without having to meet someone in person.

You can complete the census in three ways:

- **Online:** Visit my2020census.gov to respond online in English and in 12 additional languages: Spanish, Chinese (Simplified), Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Japanese.
- **By Phone:** To begin, call 844-330-2020, or visit bit.ly/2xCmuCe to find the number to call associated with your preferred language.
- **Paper (Mail) Response:** Households should have received a paper questionnaire from the U.S. Census Bureau in March. You can complete this form and mail it back to: U.S. Census Bureau National Processing Center, 1201 E 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132

**PLEDGE TO COMPLETE
THE CENSUS:**

Text **PLEDGE**
to **614-295-9592**

BECAUSE YOUR COMMUNITY MATTERS: BE A CENSUS ADVOCATE

Your community matters. Results from the 2020 Census will directly impact the important services that are available for you, your family, and your neighbors.

As a trusted voice in your community, you have the power to help others understand the importance and impact of the census. By ensuring that your friends, family, and neighbors complete the census, **you can help your family and community be stronger, safer, and healthier.**

Visit our Census Advocacy Hub, at www.womenspublicpolicynetwork.org/census, to access resources and support for individuals and organizations to become a Census Advocate!

The Ohio Women's Public Policy Network is a coalition of nearly 40 organizations working collaboratively to advocate for public policy solutions that build economic opportunity for women and families.

For more information, visit our website at
www.womenspublicpolicynetwork.org

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