

The United States Constitution requires the government to conduct a census, a count everyone living in the country, every 10 years. The Census, which will be done this year, counts everyone, including US citizens and other people living in the country, even if they are not citizens. International Students are counted too. Census data is used to distribute federal and state government funds to communities for services that most people use, such as education, transportation, health care and emergency services, among many others.

If you live off campus, your household will receive a letter inviting you to respond to the Census between March 12th and March 24th. This year, people can respond online, over the phone (especially on their smartphones) or, if your household does not respond, on a paper form, which will arrive between April 8th & 16th. One person should fill out the form with information about everyone in the house or apartment. Another option would be to fill out the form together during a party or over dinner.

The Census will ask for the following information for EACH person in the house:

- The number of people living in the household on April 1.
- The type of dwelling (house, apartment, etc.) and whether it is owned by someone in the household or rented.
- A telephone number for the person filling out the form.
- The name, sex, age, date of birth, ethnicity & ancestry of EACH person living in the house or apartment.

All information collected by the Census Bureau is private. It cannot be shared with anyone, including law enforcement agencies.