

## 2020 Census: Protecting Yourself Against Scams

You may have heard of scammers **posing as officials** from the IRS or from law enforcement agencies.

In advance of the 2020 Census, the Census Bureau is warning Americans to be **watchful** of scammers who pretend to be from the Census Bureau as an excuse to ask about **personal or financial information**.

These scammers may mail you **fake paper forms**, send you emails containing **links to fraudulent sites**, call your house asking for money, or go door-to-door posing as an enumerator.

Fortunately, there are **warning signs** that can help **you** detect Census-related scams.

### THE CENSUS BUREAU WILL NOT:

- ✗ Ask for money or donations.
- ✗ Ask for your full Social Security number, credit card number, or bank account number.
- ✗ Ask for your mother's maiden name or other security questions.
- ✗ Promote a political party.
- ✗ Threaten to arrest you. (You can be fined, but not arrested, for refusing to answer the Census.)
- ✗ Send you unsolicited emails. (The Census Bureau will almost always contact you by paper mail.)
- ✗ Use any URL besides census.gov for the online response option.
- ✗ Send you paper forms that have a return address other than Jefferson, Indiana.

### REPORTING SCAMS

If you encounter a scam, report it! Even if you're not entirely sure if a call or email is a scam, contacting a helpline can help you get help from an expert.

If you're concerned you might be dealing with a scammer, call the Census Bureau national phone lines at **1-800-923-8282**, **1-800-642-0469**, **1-800-523-3205**, or **1-800-877-8339** (TDD/TTY), or reach out to your Census Regional Office.

Additionally, you can report scams of any kind by calling the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at **877-382-4357** or by filing a complain with their online tool at **www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov**.

If you receive a suspicious email, forward it to **ois.fraud.reporting@census.gov** and to the FTC at **spam@uce.gov**.

Contact **YallaCountMeIn** if you suspect or know of a scam so we can be sure others are aware as well. Together, we can ensure a safe 2020 Census for all!