2020 CENSUS
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHO
YOU. In order to have an accurate and complete count during the 2020 Census, it is important that everyone living in Virginia completes a Census form.

WHAT
Every 10 years, the federal government conducts a population count of everyone living in the United States of America.

WHERE
In 2020, for the first time ever, the U.S. Census Bureau will accept responses online, but YOU can still respond by phone or mail if you prefer. Responding should take less time than it takes to finish your morning coffee or read your morning newspaper.

WHEN
The next Census will take place in 2020. Beginning in mid-March 2020, YOU will receive a notice in the mail to complete the 2020 Census. Once YOU receive it, YOU can respond online (for the first time ever). In May 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau will begin following up in-person with people in households who haven’t responded to the Census to ensure YOU and YOUR family are counted.

WHY
Data from the Census provides the basis for distributing more than $675 billion each year in federal funding for communities across the country to support vital programs—impacting housing, education, transportation, employment, health care, and public policy. Each person who isn’t counted in the 2020 Census could result in their community losing $2,000 in funding per person; that’s $20,000 per uncounted person over a 10 year period.

HOW
Data collected during the Census is confidential and is ONLY used for the purpose of ensuring the fair allocation of federal resources. Strict federal law protects YOUR Census responses. It is against the law for any U.S. Census Bureau employee to disclose or publish any Census information.

The Census will collect basic information about the people living in YOUR household. The U.S. Census Bureau will NOT collect YOUR social security number, bank or credit card account numbers, money, donations, or anything on behalf of a political party.

CREATED BY
Virginia Complete Count Commission
The goal of the 2020 Census is to count everyone in the United States of America’s diverse and growing population and to paint a full picture of our nation, from our largest cities to our smallest towns and rural communities.

Governor Northam recognizes the importance of the 2020 Census and having a complete and accurate count. He established the Virginia Complete Count Commission to serve as a trusted voice and resource to educate, empower, and engage all Virginians. The Commission is made up of members from all corners of the Commonwealth of Virginia to ensure that all communities are counted and every person who lives in Virginia has equal access to opportunities, resources, and representation.