

2020 Census Talking Points

#2020Census

What is the U.S. Census? The census is a “roll call,” or count of the U.S. population that happens every 10 years, providing a snapshot of population characteristics

Why is the #2020Census important? An accurate census count ensures that our community’s children receive the federal funding they are entitled to. Federally funded programs include: Headstart, Title I funding (which provides programming, teacher support and other services for schools with a high percent of low income families), the national school lunch program and special education grants.

Florida receives **\$67 million** fewer federal dollars annually because so many children were not counted during the last census. 6.2% (71,307) of Florida’s children ages 0 – 4 were not counted in in 2010 census. Undercount rates for young children were more than twice as high as the undercount rate for any other group. Young Black and Hispanic children were missed twice as often as White children.

Alachua County lost approximately **\$390 million** in the last decade because of undercounting in the last census.

For the first time this year, the census will be available **online**. You will have three ways to provide your information: through the mail, phone, or online.

All information provided through the U.S. Census is **confidential**, safe, secure and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to provide statistics. They cannot be used against you in any way.

Key Census 2020 Dates

March 20: all invitations will be mailed

April 1: census day

July 31: last chance to respond

Alachua County Council

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