

July 24, 2020

Dear Village of North Hills Residents:

We are reaching out to you about the **2020 Census** response rates and to ask for your assistance to ensure a full population count.

The Census began gathering information from residents in March. As of July 13, New York State has a response rate of 57.6 percent, which is below the national self-response rate of 62 percent. A low response may have negative impacts on federal and state funding, and representation in government. The Census will have a significant and long-lasting impact on New York's finances and governmental representation.

Starting August 11, Census 2020 will begin a new phase – the follow-up interviews with non-respondents. A strong response before this date best positions New York for a complete final count!

### **What Is the 2020 Census?**

The count is mandated by the Constitution and conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, a nonpartisan government agency. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands). Each home received an invitation to respond to a short questionnaire—online, by phone, or by mail—between March 12-20.

### **Why Conduct This Count**

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding goes to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data.

The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

### **Counting Everyone**

Participating in the census is required by law, even if you recently completed another survey from the Census Bureau. A complete and accurate count is critical for you and your community, because the results of the 2020 Census will affect community funding, congressional representation, and more.

### **How to Respond to the 2020 Census**

The 2020 Census asks a few simple questions about you and everyone who was living with you on April 1, 2020.

Please complete your previously mailed form online, by phone, or by mail, if you have not done so already. You can complete the form online, visit [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) to begin. Please note that if you are responding online, you must complete the census in one sitting, as you don't have the ability to save your progress. You can see the questions the census asked.

## Contact the Census Bureau For Support

There are several ways that you can contact the U.S. Census Bureau for support.

English and Spanish Language Hours of Operation: Customer Service Representatives are available every day from 7am to 2am Eastern Time on the following phone lines:

- English: 844-330-2020
- Spanish: 844-468-2020

Non-English and Non-Spanish Language Hours of Operation: Customer Service Representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8am to 10 pm Eastern Time on the following phone lines:

- Chinese (Mandarin): 844-391-2020
- Chinese (Cantonese): 844-398-2020
- Vietnamese: 844-461-2020
- Korean: 844-392-2020
- Russian: 844-417-2020
- Arabic: 844-416-2020
- Tagalog: 844-478-2020
- Polish: 844-479-2020
- French: 844-494-2020
- Haitian Creole: 844-477-2020
- Portuguese: 844-474-2020
- Japanese: 844-460-2020
- English (for Puerto Rico residents): 844-418-2020
- Spanish (for Puerto Rico residents): 844-426-2020

For information on services for people who are deaf or hard of hearing: Call the TDD number at 844-467-2020.

For general questions: Visit the Census Bureau [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) page.

New Yorkers can also visit <https://newyorkcounts2020.org/> for response rate and other information.

We thank you for your anticipated participation!

Sincerely,

The Village of North Hills