

# Census 2020: *Vocabulary & Definitions*

Article 1 of the United States Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years. To help you better understand this key part of our political process, **Yalla Count Me In!** has created a glossary of common Census terms.

**American Community Survey (ACS):** the American Community Survey, or ACS, is a yearly survey of a portion of the United States population. The ACS asks detailed questions, but only to 1 in 8 households each year.

**Apportionment:** the redistribution of seats per state in the House of Representatives. The Constitution states that this must be done every ten years based on the census population count.

**Census/Decennial Census:** a count of every person living in the United States. By order of the Constitution, it is done every ten years.

**Census Day:** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 is the official reference day for the census. This means that the Census will ask you to complete the form based on what your answers were as of April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Census Information Center (CIC):** local community partners of the Census who provide education, resources, and data to underserved communities.

**Enumerator:** a Census employee who goes door-to-door to collect census data. Enumerators will collect data from households in rural areas and from households that do not respond by Internet, mail, or phone.

**Get Out The Count (GOTC):** a national campaign to educate people about the 2020 census and encourage them to fill out their census form and be counted.

**Household:** a person or any amount of people who live at the same housing unit

**Personally identifiable information (PII):** information that can be used to identify a person, such as name and address. The Census Bureau is legally bound to keep your PII confidential for 72 years.

**Respondent:** the individual who fills out the Census form for their household.

**State Data Center (SDC):** a state agency appointed by the government to help disseminate Census data as well as, help educate and prepare for the 2020 Census.

**Title 13:** Title 13 of the United States Code obligates the Census Bureau to protect your data and keep your information confidential.

**Yalla Count Me In!:** a national, grassroots coalition-led movement to Get Out The Count (GOTC) of Arab Americans for the 2020 Census.