The 2020 Census is still happening, and it’s more critical than ever to respond.

We’re putting extra pressure on resources and support systems — public health, emergency response, medical infrastructure, social and economic benefits — that are funded directly by our census count. Responding to the census helps the whole community . . . without leaving your house.

**What is the Census Bureau doing in response to COVID-19?**
The 2020 Census has paused in-person response gathering to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and delayed or extended many of their original timelines. Online self-response will continue for an extra two weeks through August 14.

**What does that mean for Alaska’s count?**
We know there are some rural Alaska communities, slated to be counted in person, where the count has been paused. The Census Bureau has said they still plan to count those communities in person, though they will rely more on community leaders to help verify counts in order to minimize person-to-person contact. But until it makes sense to make and share a longer-term plan, the census is encouraging everyone, especially in rural Alaska, to respond to the 2020 Census by phone or online.

**Can I respond to the 2020 Census online if I live in rural Alaska?**
Yes. You can and should respond to the census online at 2020census.gov no matter where you live. Not sure if you’ve already been counted? Respond online anyway. The census will remove redundancies so no one is double-counted. Bottom line, respond online no matter where you live if there’s any chance you haven’t been counted.

**Do I need a code to respond to the 2020 Census online?**
Nope, you don’t need a code to respond to the census online. If you received a Census-ID number in the mail, feel free to use it — but not every household will receive one, and it’s not required. To respond without, navigate to my2020census.gov. Click the blue button that says “Start Questionnaire.” Below the entry field for a number, there is a link that reads "If you do not have a Census-ID, click here." Click it, and you’ll be taken straight to the 2020 Census.

**If I’m in a different place than I usually live (or home from college) because of COVID-19, what should I use for my address?**
Put the address where you live and reside most of the time. If you alternate where you live, pick the place you live in more than 50% of the time. If you split time equally, use where you’ll be staying on April 1. College students — use your address at college. If you have a student who attends Mt. Edgecumbe High School in your family, include them in your household count.

**TAKE 3 STEPS**
1. Stay home.
2. Wash hands.
3. Fill out the Census!