



# ALASKA COUNTS COVID-19 FAQs

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

Alaskans are facing serious challenges as the COVID-19 pandemic strains families, communities, our public health system, and our economy. Because the census generates \$3.2 billion in funding each year for essential services like health, safety, and economic recovery, responding to the census is something everyone can do to help Alaska on the road to recovery.

We're putting extra pressure on public support systems — such as SNAP, TANF, housing assistance, unemployment benefits, and health care — that offer a critical boost for tens of thousands of Alaskan families. Because your census responses generate necessary funding for these programs whether you use them or not, answering the census is a way to help the whole community.

## ***How has COVID-19 affected ongoing 2020 Census operations?***

The census restarted operations in Alaska on May 6, out of the Anchorage office. Where it is safe, they have resumed their no-contact, update leave operation delivering 2020 Census packets to Alaska households. Census staff are being instructed not to knock on doors, but only to update addresses and leave census packets behind. Hiring and fingerprinting for census staff is also resuming - the census is looking to hire Alaskans for the non-response follow up operation later this year.

## ***How is the Bureau working to protect the public and 2020 Census staff in Alaska?***

The Bureau says census workers will receive COVID-19 safety training and be social distancing. Field and office staff will be provided with disinfectant wipes, new gloves every day, and new masks every 10 days.

As operations start up again and travel becomes necessary, the census will work with local communities to make sure it is safe. There will be no travel to communities that have not opened to visitors.

## ***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](https://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 2020 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](https://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 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.



**Fill out the Census!**