



NJ Census 2020 – FAITH COMMUNITIES IN NEW JERSEY Week (July 20-26)

Talking/Posting Points for Partners

- We're highlighting **FAITH COMMUNITIES IN NEW JERSEY** and how completing the Census affects our many residents who belong to faith communities!
- This week, we're asking faith-based organizations and faith leaders to help us spread the word to New Jersey residents about the importance of the Census.
- Census data helps determine where more than \$45 billion in annual federal funding goes in New Jersey. So having an accurate count of our population and where their needs are is important.
- Although the U.S. Census Bureau does not collect data on religious affiliation, and the 2020 Census will not ask about religion, religious groups and faith-based organizations are still affected by the Census count, since data helps determine federal funding and the shape of our legislative districts and number of seats we have in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Census data also informs decisions about building community centers, opening businesses and planning – all decisions that affect our residents.
- Faith leaders are trusted voices in their communities who know how to reach their congregation and members: families, individuals and children.
 - We need faith leaders and faith-based organizations to spread the word:
You count in this country. Your work and your contribution to the common good moves beyond the walls of where you worship. Your voice matters.
 - Faith leaders can help explain the important effects of the Census. For example, when you complete the Census, you are making sure that your community has schools, health care, emergency services, housing and food assistance, and more. We must work together to make sure that everyone in our community is counted so we all get the resources we deserve.
- In August 2020, Census workers will begin visiting households that have not responded to the Census to help ensure that everyone is counted.
- Eliminate the need for Census workers to follow up in person, by responding to the Census now – online, by phone or by mail.
- Also, of special importance, **July 24-26, 2020 is Faith Communities Census Weekend of Action:** a coordinated opportunity for faith communities to engage in outreach and support of the 2020 Census.
- Data from the 2020 Census will be used to help enforce anti-discrimination laws, like the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act. #YourVoiceMatters #GetCounted.
- No matter who you are, what you do, or how you worship—we all count! There's still time to complete your #2020Census.

- Remember – our diversity is our strength, and there's #StrengthInNumbers
- Complete the Census at [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov) or over the phone at 844-330-2020 (English), 844-468-2020 (Spanish) or any of the other language numbers listed at [CENSUS.NJ.GOV](https://census.nj.gov).
- We invite you to share our posts about the faith-based community in New Jersey or share your own posts about why your faith-based community is supporting the Census.