

HOW THE 2020 CENSUS WILL IMPACT RURAL ARKANSANS

Arkansas Farm Bureau urges members to complete the 2020 Census. Taking only 10 minutes to complete, the nine-question census is available at 2020Census.gov.

The census is a critical opportunity for Arkansans to step up and be counted to ensure the future growth and prosperity of rural communities. Arkansas currently ranks in the bottom of the best state response rates to date at number 37. For every person who is not counted, it costs your community tens of thousands of dollars.

The census is your opportunity to stand with rural Arkansas.

Completing the 2020 Census is your chance to take pride in the rural way of life. A complete and accurate count of our population will provide a snapshot of who we are, where we live and so much more.

The census helps bring funding to rural communities.

The results from the census help determine how billions of dollars in federal funds flow into states and communities each year for things such as hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads and many other important resources. The census also provides key information to business owners who are making decisions about where to open new stores, where to expand operations and which products and services to offer.

The census influences our representation in Congress and the state Legislature.

Every 10 years, Arkansas legislative district lines are redrawn according to population data from the census. The census responses also determine the number of seats Arkansas has in the U.S. House of Representatives. An accurate count of all rural Arkansas will help ensure it receives the representation it deserves.

It's quick and easy to complete.

For the first time ever, you will have the option to respond to the census online at 2020Census.gov. Though responding by phone or by mail will still be options, the

Census Bureau will be encouraging participants to complete the questionnaire online. The 2020 Census contains only a handful of simple questions including age, sex, race and the number of people living in your home, including children.

It's safe and secure.

When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics. The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court. The census will never ask for your Social Security number, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties

If you haven't already completed the Census, you can head to 2020census.gov, or call 844-330-2020.