



BE COUNTED.  
CENSUS  
2020

# Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz: Don't forget to fill out your census forms!

“The 2020 Census is critically important to New York’s future. The billions we receive in federal funding provide critical services and lift up all communities – we can’t afford to be undercounted.”



New York State Assembly  
Albany, NY 12248

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# BE COUNTED. CENSUS 2020

## Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz: Pledge to Be Counted!

### Why is it important to count everybody?

New York State receives \$53 billion in federal funding each year for hospitals, public schools, transportation, emergency services and more. **Each person not counted costs the state over \$2,600 in federal aid each year.**

Conducted every 10 years, the Census provides information on every person living in the United States. This information helps inform important political, economic, and social decisions.

In previous census counts, New York State has been undercounted, resulting in the loss of billions in federal funding for our communities. Following the 2010 Census, New York also lost two congressional seats. **That's why we must Be Counted!**



### How do I fill out the form?

In March 2020, for the first time ever, the U.S. Census Bureau will send mailings with instructions on how to fill out the form online. People who live in areas with low internet usage will also receive a paper form.

**Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office.

### Is my information protected?

Title 13 of the U.S. Code **ensures all Census Bureau employees swear a lifetime oath to protect respondent data. It is a felony to disclose any confidential information,** and the penalty for wrongful disclosure is up to five years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$250,000. The information collected can't be used to track people, determine eligibility for government benefits, or be shared with immigration or law enforcement. The Census Bureau never asks for your full Social Security number. Additionally, the Supreme Court struck down the federal administration's proposed citizenship question, so it won't be on the form.

**Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz**

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