

## Uses of Census Data

The federal government is the main user of census data. Many federal laws require the use of census data to distribute funding, monitor important programs, and enforce laws against discrimination. Below are some examples of how the data are used:

- School districts use census data about families and children to make long-term building, staffing, and funding decisions.
- Census data help communities and organizations provide programs and services that enable older adults, children, and families to enroll in and be eligible for housing, education, and financial assistance programs designed to assist them.
- States, cities, counties, and American Indian reservations use census data to plan programs, services, and development, and enforce laws, regulations, and policies against discrimination.
- Census data help communities understand whether available housing meets the needs of residents. When housing is not sufficient or affordable, these data can help communities enroll eligible households in programs designed to assist them, and can help communities qualify for grants as well.
- Businesses use census data to plan new sites for warehouses, factories, and storefronts, and recruit and hire workers.
- Governments, communities, and organizations use census data to qualify for many federal grant programs that fund all of these important programs and services.

## Privacy and Confidentiality

The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information. The Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify anyone at your institution. We are conducting this survey under the authority of Title 13, U.S. Code, Sections 141, 193, 221, and 223. Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). By law, the Census Bureau can only use your responses to produce statistics. Per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data. For more information about how we protect your information, please visit our Web site at <[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)>, and click on “Data Protection and Privacy Policy” at the bottom of the page.”

DRAFT

# 2018 Census Test

*Service-Based Enumeration*



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## About Group Quarters Enumeration

The goal of Service-Based Enumeration (SBE) is to include people in the 2018 Census Test who may not be counted when we count people at their homes. During the SBE operation, we count people who receive services at the following types of locations:

### ■ **Emergency and Transitional Shelters for People Experiencing Homelessness**

Where people experiencing homelessness stay overnight. These include shelters that operate on a first-come, first-served basis where people must leave in the morning and have no guaranteed bed for the next night, shelters where people know that they have a bed for a specified period of time, even if they leave the building every day, and places that provide temporary shelter during extremely cold weather (such as churches). Examples: missions, hotels and motels used as shelters, and places for children who are runaways, neglected, or experiencing homelessness.

### ■ **Soup Kitchens**

Offer meals for people experiencing homelessness. These places may use service lines or serve bag or box lunches.

### ■ **Regularly Scheduled Mobile Food Vans**

Regularly scheduled to visit certain locations to provide food to people experiencing homelessness.

### ■ **Targeted Non-Sheltered Outdoor Locations**

Where people experiencing homelessness live without paying to stay.

## How This Operation Works

A Census Bureau worker (enumerator) will count people and collect data from people at each site.

On a set date, census workers will:

- Visit the location or mobile van stops.
- Meet with a staff person.
- Quickly count the people.

## How You Can Help

- ✓ Let your clients and staff know when census enumerators will be coming.
- ✓ Assure residents and staff that all information collected is confidential.
- ✓ Explain the importance of the 2018 Census Test to members of the facility.
- ✓ Remind staff of the upcoming enumeration.
- ✓ Ensure that informed staff is on duty the date of the enumeration.
- ✓ Be sure there is a private area for the enumerators to work.

## About the 2018 Census Test

The Census Bureau is researching modern and cost-efficient methods for everyone to exercise their civic obligation to be counted in the 2020 Census.

The Census Bureau is committed to making the mandatory once-a-decade headcount quick, easy, and safe for all to participate.

The 2018 Census Test supports the goal of the 2020 Census, which is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place. Throughout the decade, the Census Bureau has conducted extensive research and testing to inform the 2020 Census design. The 2018 Census Test is the culmination of that research, providing a rich environment to test all major components of the 2020 Census.

For more information about the 2018 Census Test, visit [census.gov/2018censustest](https://www.census.gov/2018censustest).