

# US Census 2020 & Mississippi: Fast Facts for College Students



- Every 10 years, the government strives to count all people living in the US.
- These counts are used to determine Mississippi's representation in Congress as well as to inform a wide range of policies and programs.
- The next Census will occur April 1, 2020, and people can participate online or by telephone or mail (in-person enumerators will focus on non-respondents).
- There will be additional strategies for promoting Census participation among people living in group quarters, like dormitories.
- The questionnaire asks about 10 questions related to age, sex, race, ethnicity, relationship to householder, and housing.
- Under Title 13, US Code, the US Census Bureau is legally required to keep individual information confidential.
- No personal information provided in response to the Census will be shared with other government agencies.

**College students should be counted in the place they spend the majority of the year – most likely their campus or college town.**

- Student participation in the Census can have a major effect on population counts, impacting funding for a wide range of public services.



Sources: US Census Bureau; MS Kids Count.

Census counts are used to allocate funding for:



Roads,  
highways, and  
bridges



Police  
and fire  
departments



Hospitals  
and health  
insurance



Education (e.g.  
Head Start,  
schools)



Nutrition  
programs (i.e.  
WIC)

