



Georgetown County, South Carolina

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Georgetown County encourages residents to participate in national census

GEORGETOWN COUNTY – April 1 is Census Day and Georgetown County government is using the occasion to encourage all residents to participate in the national 2020 census.

The opportunity comes along only once a decade and it is imperative that every Georgetown County resident be counted, said County Administrator Angela Christian. Participation helps ensure our state and our communities receive the appropriate amount of federal funding and grants to help support schools, public safety resources, infrastructure resources, and more.

Most residents should have already received their census form in the mail, and for those who haven't already completed and returned it, today is a great day to do so, Christian said. April 1 is known as Census Day because it's the day residents should reference when providing information about who lives in their home.

Residents are reminded that information provided in the census, including residency status, is confidential and protected by federal law. This information can only be used to produce statistics, and cannot be shared with law enforcement or immigration enforcement agencies, or to determine eligibility for government benefits.

Why the census matters:

- Results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.
- Census data is used for redistricting efforts, ensuring populations have appropriate state and local representation.

- Census data determines how more than \$675 billion in federal funds are spent and apportioned to states, counties and communities.
- Local governments use census data to ensure public safety and plan for new schools and hospitals.
- Businesses may use census data to determine where to build stores, offices and other operations that create jobs in communities.

Thanks to improving technology, the census is easier to complete this year than ever before. It only takes a few minutes, and for the first time in Census Bureau history, the census can be completed online, as well as by mail or phone. To respond online, you will need the materials each household should have already received in the mail. If you do not have or did not receive these materials, call 1-800-354-7271 to get a user ID.

For those who have not responded, census takers may start going door to door as early as May, depending on the COVID-19 situation. Residents are reminded that the census will be asked only questions about their residence, age, sex and the number of people who live with them. Census documents nor census takers will ever ask for Social Security numbers, bank or credit card numbers, money or donations, or anything related to political parties.

For more information, visit 2020census.gov.

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