

# The 2020 Census



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The Howland Public Library

# Key dates

**March 12 - 20:** Households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail.

**March 30 - April 1:** The Census Bureau will count people who are experiencing homelessness over these three days.

**April 1:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census.

**May - July:** Census takers will begin visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to help make sure everyone is counted.

# Why the libraries?

“Libraries are uniquely positioned to help ensure that communities across the country are accurately counted. Our institutions are trusted and welcoming hubs of public life, and Librarians are respected members of their communities.”

“Libraries are great places for people to fill out the census form online- especially those who lack internet access at home or on their phones- and get accurate information about the census.”

# What is Howland Library doing?

Internet and computer access

Staff training

Bilingual (Spanish) staff assistance

Census information

Social media campaign

Library space for the census

# Internet & Computer Access

Patrons can access free Wi-Fi

A dedicated terminal (laptop) will be available solely for patrons filling out the census

Librarians and staff will be available to assist patrons onto the census website. Staff will NOT be filling out the census for patrons. Anyone who can not navigate the technology will be given the contact number to report by phone.

Wi-Fi and laptop are secure

# Census Support

- Census information sheets (English & Spanish) will be available at the library
- Staff will be given information sheets including frequently asked questions, definitions of census terms, and information on avoiding scams
- Provide information to any community group that has questions
- Bilingual (Spanish/English) staff member will be available Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30am-1:30pm to assist Spanish speaking patrons

# Social Media

- Social media will be used to get accurate information to the public.
- Videos will be posted on different topics
- [Sample video](#)
- Reminders to complete the census will be posted
- Our website [beaconlibrary.org](http://beaconlibrary.org) will have a special section with census 2020 information including links and phone numbers

# Library as a Meeting Space

- On Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm, Assembly member Jonathan Jacobson's office will hold a joint Census forum with the Dutchess Complete Count committee to discuss the importance of the census.



Questions?