



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 24, 2020
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Nonpublic Schools
Route To: Community Outreach/Communications Staff
From: Kevin Dehmer
Interim Commissioner of Education
Deadline: September 30, 2020

Reminder: September 30 is the Deadline for Completing the 2020 Census

As a reminder, Wednesday, September 30, 2020 is the deadline for completing the 2020 Census. I encourage you to share information about the importance of census participation with educators and families in your school community.

The importance of an accurate census count to the well-being of our children and the strength of our public schools cannot be overstated. In the last census in 2010, it was estimated that about 1.3 million children nationally under the age of 5 were not counted. When children are not counted, the consequences can last for most of their childhood and impact critical services like public school funding and healthcare.

Educators are trusted community members that can deliver the message of the importance and benefits of census participation to students and their families. Please make sure that each school in your district sends a reminder to parents in your Back-to-School messages about completing their Census 2020 response.

Facts About the Census

- You can respond online or by phone, and it takes less than 10 minutes on average.
- It's confidential. Your information will not be shared with anyone outside the US Census Bureau – not with the police, FBI, the courts, landlords, employers, or immigration officials.
- It's private and secure. You will *not* be asked for social security numbers, financial/income information, political party affiliation, citizenship status, or for a donation/payment.
- Count everyone in your household, especially toddlers and babies because it is critical for educational funding and planning for the next 10 years.

Completing the Census

Completing the census can be done online at 2020Census.gov or by phone in 14 different languages. In addition, the U.S. Census Bureau has posted [language guides](#) in dozens of different languages on its website, including braille and large print, to help guide residents through the census.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group