Nonprofit Census Info Template

Below is a sample message for you to include in your newsletter or other communications about the census. Please feel free to customize the text to fit your organization’s mission and style.

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Every 10 years, the United States conducts its census with one big task in mind: to count every resident. Census Day is April 1, 2020, with follow-up by census-takers starting in April and continuing through July for those households that have not responded or those living in groups (such as at college campuses and senior centers).

The census is used to determine how federal funds are distributed to communities like ours, how we are represented in Olympia and Washington, DC, and how organizations like ours serve the community. For the first time, the U.S. Census Bureau will be requesting that households respond to the census online. Starting in mid-March, households will receive a notice from the Census Bureau containing instructions for completing the survey. Paper copies will be send in mid- to late April.

You can complete the census online at <https://my2020census.gov/>, respond via phone by calling 844-330-2020, or wait for the paper mail notice. The code on the notice saves time but is not necessary. If you do not have the code, simply answer a few questions to associate your response with your residence.

Federal funds are distributed based on the information the census collects, and there are several key reasons to participate that benefit your community. This is why the League of Women Voters is urging people to complete the 2020 census.

* These funds support local human service organizations, schools, roads, hospitals, and more.
* Businesses and nonprofits also use census data to target growth, create jobs, and offer services.
* Local governments use the data for planning and safety.
* Residents can use census data to support their community through neighborhood projects.
* Policy-makers use the data to set legislative districts that determine how we’re represented in Olympia and Washington, DC.

The census offers a unique opportunity to be counted and shape your community’s future, an opportunity that comes once every 10 years, so make sure to get counted in 2020.

To learn more about how important Census 2020 is for your community and what your community is doing to support a complete count, visit the state list of [Complete Count Committees](https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/decennial-census/2020-census-everyone-counts/complete-count-committees#WACC) on the [Office of Financial Management](https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/decennial-census/2020-census-everyone-counts/complete-count-committees) website.