

# FAQs on Resuming 2020 Census Field Operations

## WHY ARE YOU RESUMING IN SOME AREAS NOW?

The U.S. Census Bureau has consulted with federal, state, and local health officials and the Opening Up America Again guidelines at [www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/) and determined that it is safe to resume 2020 Census operations on a phased approach in some areas of the country. Following a thorough review, Census Bureau operational leadership has assessed it's safe for our employees and the public to restart operations in the selected areas. Employees are being trained and equipped to help keep everyone safe while fulfilling our constitutional mandate to count the U.S. population.

## WHAT OPERATIONS ARE RESUMING?

Where it's safe, census field staff are resuming delivery of census questionnaires and resuming the fingerprinting and hiring process for new staff.

- In selected areas, the Census Bureau is resuming the Update Leave operation. This operation is done in all of Puerto Rico and in stateside areas where the majority of households do not receive mail at their home. Census field staff canvass the area for places people might live and compare what they see to our address list; use a

laptop to verify, correct, delete, or add addresses; and leave a census invitation and questionnaire at the front door.

- In states where we have resumed the Update Leave operation, Census Bureau staff are also resuming fingerprinting for new hires to keep applicants moving through the hiring process.

## WHERE ARE OPERATIONS RESUMING?

2020 Census operations are resuming in areas of the country that meet Census Bureau criteria based on federal, state, and local guidelines. A regularly updated list of locations is available at <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>.

## HOW ARE YOU DETERMINING WHERE TO RESUME?

Census Bureau leadership are deciding where to resume operations based on federal, state, and local public health guidelines, local conditions, and input from local leaders. Career Census Bureau operational leaders are assessing the operating status of state, local, and tribal areas, and the ability of Census Bureau staff to safely resume operations in those areas.

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## HOW ARE YOU PROTECTING EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC?

As 2020 Census operations resume, the Census Bureau is incorporating the most current federal, state, and local guidance to promote the health and safety of the public and our employees. Consistent with federal, state, and local guidance, the Census Bureau is providing face masks and gloves for employees to wear. In addition, we will provide employees with hand sanitizer. Field staff will complete a virtual COVID-19 training to ensure they follow appropriate social distancing protocols and all appropriate health and safety guidance.

## WHEN WILL YOU RESUME IN OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY?

On a weekly basis, the Census Bureau will determine which offices can begin operations again and will keep the public informed at <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>. If conditions change after operations resume, the Census Bureau may stop work in some areas in order to protect the health and safety of our employees and the public.

## HOW WILL THE PUBLIC KNOW CENSUS STAFF WILL BE BACK IN THE AREA?

The Census Bureau plans to alert the public, our staff, elected officials, local law enforcement, key stakeholders, and local media

every Friday about where census staff will resume work in the week to follow. We will update the running list of locations at <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>.

## WHEN WILL YOU RESUME OTHER 2020 CENSUS FIELD OPERATIONS?

Other 2020 Census operations will resume or begin as conditions allow. The Census Bureau continues to monitor the changing conditions at the state and local level and evaluate when other operations can begin on a phased approach. The Census Bureau will continue to provide updates at <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/operational-adjustments-covid-19.html>.

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PEOPLE WHO WERE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING HIRED FOR 2020 CENSUS JOBS?

The Census Bureau is consulting with local officials on resuming fingerprinting to keep applicants moving through the hiring process. More information is available at <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>.

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