

2020 Census Speech Drop

- The fast-approaching, April 1, 2020 Census is North Carolina’s opportunity to ensure that EVERY resident of our state is counted—and that North Carolina brings back its fair share of federal funding dollars.
- The census is required by the U.S. Constitution and the count impacts all North Carolina residents – in both urban and rural communities, big cities and small towns, from Murphy to Manteo.
- The 2020 Census will:
 - Determine the size of North Carolina’s representation in Congress – and our state is likely to gain another seat;
 - It will determine how federal programs will distribute more than \$600 billion in funding to states;
 - It will bring tax dollars back to our North Carolina communities – more than \$16 billion per year in federal funding – or approximately \$1,623 per person, per year to our state (source: George Washington University [“Counting for Dollars 2020”](#) report);
 - Census data will support planning and services in our communities for the next 10 years as local businesses and governments use US Census data to serve the needs of our growing population;
 - The data supports critical infrastructure and planning for roads, housing and schools, as well as other economic and social programs and services; and
 - Census data will also act as a starting point for the State Demographer’s annual population estimates, which the state uses to determine tax revenues with local governments.
- The bottom line is – numbers matter. A complete count matters for our state and its residents.
- The Census is completely confidential. Individual census responses are protected by law for 72 years and there is not a citizenship question included on the 2020 Census.
- Please visit North Carolina’s census website – **census.nc.gov** – for more information on how the census impacts your community and state, how you can partner with North Carolina to help raise awareness, and even how to apply for one of the many census jobs in North Carolina.
- This is your chance to have a voice in shaping your and our community’s future, to help North Carolina bring back its share of federal dollars, and to join together to “make North Carolina count” on April 1, 2020.

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