

# THE 2020 U.S. CENSUS: ALASKA NATIVES COUNT – **APRIL 1 IS CENSUS DAY!**

The 2020 Census is more than a population count. It's an opportunity to shape the future of the Alaska Native community. Please help us ensure Native communities, families, and individuals are accurately counted by following three easy steps. Billions of federal dollars are at stake.

**#AlaskaNativesCount #ThreeSteps**

## **Step 1: Fill out the form at**

**[www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)**

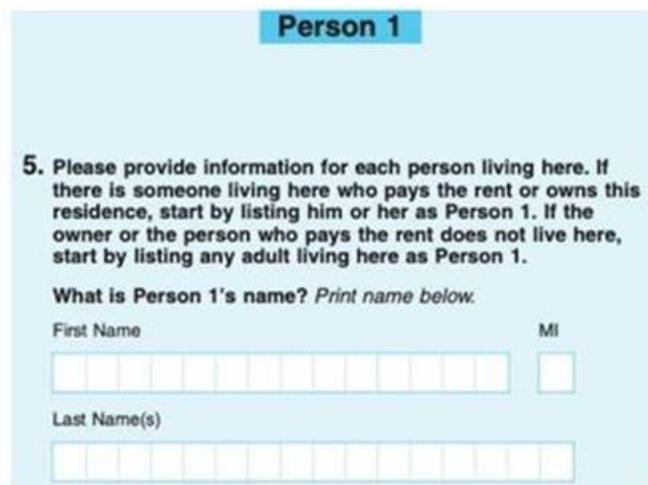
Did you know that the U.S. Constitution requires a census of the population every 10 years? Or that the form has less than **10 questions** (most of which are so basic that it'll take you about **10 minutes** to complete)? Or that by filling out the census form you'll help determine how billions of federal dollars are spent over the next **10 years**? YES, YES, and YES! This is why it's so important for Alaska Natives to participate in the 2020 Census. **Please fill out the form.**

- Alaska receives almost **\$3.5 billion dollars annually** in based on census data.
- If you're Alaska Native, but you're not counted, your community could lose almost **\$3,500 annually** for tribal programs such as Head Start, SNAP, TANF, and WIC.
- If a Native family of four isn't counted, your community could lose about **\$14,000 annually**.

**Did you also know that your answers are strictly confidential?** YES! Federal law prohibits sharing your information with anyone, including the IRS—or using your answers against you (by example, to determine eligibility for government benefits such as SNAP, TANF, or WIC).

## Step Two: Be Strategic About ‘Person 1’

Did you know that question 5 dictates whether your household will be counted as ‘Native’ or not? YES! If ‘Person 1’ says he or she is ‘American Indian or Alaska Native,’ then the entire household is counted as one with a Native head of household. That’s why it’s so important for Alaska Native families to be strategic about who they list as ‘Person 1.’ **If you’re Native, and you live in a mixed Native and non-Native (White) household—whether you’re a spouse or significant other—please list the Native person as ‘Person 1.’**



**Person 1**

**5. Please provide information for each person living here. If there is someone living here who pays the rent or owns this residence, start by listing him or her as Person 1. If the owner or the person who pays the rent does not live here, start by listing any adult living here as Person 1.**

**What is Person 1's name? Print name below.**

First Name  MI

Last Name(s)

- ‘Person 1’ doesn’t have to be male.
- ‘Person 1’ doesn’t have to pay more than half of the household expenses.
- Either spouse or significant other can be listed as ‘Person 1.’

- However, Native families should list the Native spouse or significant other as 'Person 1' to maximize federal funding to tribal communities and programs.

## Three: Know Your 'Tribe'

Did you know that question 9 asks you about your 'race' and 'tribal affiliation?' Or that how you answer these questions determines how much federal funding goes to tribal programs? YES and YES! That's why it's so important for Alaska Native families and individuals to know their tribe(s).

**Please list the name of your federally recognized tribe, as opposed to your regional or village corporation, if you're Native.**

**What is this person's race?**  
Mark  one or more boxes **AND** print origins.

White - Print, for example, *German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.* ↘

Black or African Am - Print, for example, *African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.* ↘

American Indian or Alaska Native - Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, *Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.* ↘

If you can't remember the name for your tribe, you can write in the name of your village. You can even write in more than one tribe (or village) if you associate with more than one.

[Click here to find the name of your tribe or village.](#)

- Each person listed on your family's form can identify as one or more races.
- By example, if one of your parents is non-Native (White) and the other is Native, you can check both the 'White' and 'American Indian or Alaska Native' boxes. If you do this, you'll be counted as **both** White and Native. However, if you only check the box for 'American Indian or Alaska Native,' you will **only** be counted Native.
- Please check the 'American Indian or Alaska Native box' if you're Native, regardless of whether you check any other box.
- **Other Resources**
  - [2020 Census and Confidentiality](#) – fact sheet
  - [Alaska Counts 2020](#) – more information about Census 2020 and helpful resources
  - [Helpful short videos on how to answer Questions 5 and 9 available here.](#) Videos in English and Yup'ik.