

## December, 2019 District Manager's Report

### Agency Reports:

**Office of Emergency Management Reported:** On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 - The New York City Emergency Management Department added a new group of volunteers to Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs). Fifty volunteers graduated Monday from the training program, and will now support the communities in which they live or work by assisting City agencies that prepare for and respond to emergencies.

"Throughout the year, CERT volunteers dedicate their time and energy preparing New Yorkers for emergencies," **New York City Emergency Management Commissioner Deanne Criswell** said. "Today we recognize the fifty graduates who will join more than 1,200 volunteers citywide who are helping their communities through training, education, and response."

This graduation marked the end to the 35th training cycle since the New York City CERT program launched in 2003. Eighteen of the graduates will join Community Emergency Response Teams in Brooklyn, 16 will join teams in Manhattan, nine will join Bronx teams, six will join Queens' teams, and one will join the Staten Island CERT team. The graduates participated in a 10-session training program, which began in October. The disaster preparedness and emergency response sessions included lessons in basic fire safety, search and rescue, traffic management, and first aid and triage.

**Recent CERT graduate Kenneth Leong** has already put his training to good use: "I live in Queens and work at a hotel in Brooklyn and there was a fire at my hotel recently," he said. "After taking the fire safety course with CERT, I gave a presentation at my work on how we can be better prepared should a fire happen again." Leong now feels ready to face any emergency and looks forward to helping others in his community feel the same way.

During the ceremony, the 2019 John D. Solomon Award for Exemplary Service in Emergency Preparedness Education was presented to Susan Flaschenberg from the Brooklyn 13 CERT team. Flaschenberg was recognized for extensive efforts to helping her south Brooklyn neighbors prepare for emergencies in the Coney Island, Brighton Beach, and Sea Gate areas.

This cycle's training classes were held in Brooklyn and Manhattan. NYC Emergency Management First Deputy Commissioner Andrew D'Amora, along with NYPD Deputy Inspector Phylis Byrne and FDNY Deputy Chief James Brosi, presided over the graduation ceremony held in the Emergency Operations Center at NYC Emergency Management headquarters in Brooklyn. Cycle 36 will begin in January in Queens and the Bronx.

To sign up for the training, visit [NYC.gov/EmergencyManagement](https://www.nyc.gov/emergencymanagement).

### Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in New York City

The New York City CERT program started in 2003 with 106 volunteers. The new Cycle 35 CERT graduates will join more than 1,200 credentialed CERT volunteers representing more than 50 teams throughout New York City. The 50 graduates received training from a number of the

city's highly trained emergency responders, including 13 FDNY instructors, 7 FDNY/EMS instructors, 7 NYPD instructors, and 9 NYC Emergency Management liaisons.

For more information about the CERT program, or if you are interested in becoming a CERT volunteer, call 311 or visit [NYC.gov/EmergencyManagement](https://www.nyc.gov/emergencymanagement).

**Department of Sanitation Reported:** In a snow alert, DSNY coordinates with NYC Emergency Management and the Department of Transportation on snow clearing protocol in accordance with each agency's written snow plan. All relevant city agencies have been notified of the snow alert. DSNY will continue to monitor forecasts and will provide updates as the snow event approaches.

All winter weather information and information about the City's response to the storm can be found by visiting the City's Severe Weather website at [www.nyc.gov/severeweather](https://www.nyc.gov/severeweather) or by calling 311. New Yorkers are also encouraged to sign up for Notify NYC, the City's free emergency notification system. Through Notify NYC, New Yorkers can sign up to receive phone calls, text messages, and emails alerts about severe weather events and emergencies.

To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit [www.nyc.gov](https://www.nyc.gov) or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter. The DSNY Snow 101 FAQ is available [online](#).

### **Trash and Recycling Collection Times May Change During the Winter Schedule**

The New York City Department of Sanitation began its annual winter schedule operations on, October 28, 2019. Known as "Night Plow" the winter schedule enables the Department to have pre-scheduled staff on hand to respond promptly and effectively to snow and ice conditions around the clock. When it is not snowing, these Sanitation Workers are generally assigned to collection duties, and residents may notice their trash and recycling collected at a slightly different time during the season. This schedule shift lasts through mid-April.

The Department of Sanitation has a frontline defense of 705 salt spreaders dispatched prior to the start of the impending snowfall. The Department has a storage capacity for more than 300,000 tons of rock salt and 350,000 gallons of calcium chloride solution at facilities throughout the city. Once snow begins to accumulate on the City's streets and highways, the Department can deploy 2,300 plowable trucks to clear snow and ice. The Department is responsible for more than 19,000 lane miles of roadway in the City.

While the first flake of the season has not yet fallen, it's already officially snow season at the NYC Department of Sanitation. The season is starting earlier than ever, to best allow DSNY to prepare for any extra-early storms that may come our way. Moving to a winter schedule allows them to more efficiently transition their workforce, critical first responders, to snow fighting operations. When they are not on snow and ice removal duty, the night shift will collect household trash and recycling, and DSNY advises those crews to work as quietly as possible.

**Human Rights Commission Reported** Complaints with the Commission on Human Rights must be submitted within one year of the last alleged act of discrimination. The Commission's services are provided free of charge. To schedule an appointment, please call 311 or (718) 722-3131. To request a training, or to learn more about the Commission's work, visit [www.NYC.gov/HumanRights](http://www.NYC.gov/HumanRights)

**DEP Reported: Discolored Water** – While it is not harmful, residents should not drink obviously discolored water. If you notice brown or discolored water coming from your tap, call 311 or file a report online with DEP;

**Recurring Brown Water** – Brown or discolored water is often related to plumbing corrosion problems inside buildings and from rusting hot water heaters. If you have an ongoing problem with brown water, it may be due to rusty pipes. You should run your cold water for 2-3 minutes if it has not been used for a long period of time. This will flush the line;

**Sudden Brown Water** – If your water suddenly looks discolored, it might be because of a disturbance to nearby water mains, including breaks or repairs. This can also happen if there is construction near your building. Additionally, the use of the fire hydrants for firefighting can temporarily cause brown water. Because the water mains are pressurized, a disturbance may stir up or resuspend sediments, which causes the water to be discolored. Discoloration is a temporary condition most often from iron and manganese particles that have settled to the bottom of the water pipes buried under the roadways. Any sudden change in the flow of water within the pipes or outside vibration, may loosen or resuspend the brownish/red/orange particles of iron into the water. This temporary problem is generally resolved or reduced when DEP field staff flush water from nearby hydrants.

**DOT Reported:** DOB RELEASED REAL-TIME MAP OF AFTER-HOURS CONSTRUCTION WORK.

The Department of Buildings announced the release of a new, interactive map showing the location of all 1,056 building construction projects across New York City where DOB has issued permits allowing construction work to proceed outside of normal business hours. The map, which is updated daily, includes links to the Department's Buildings Information System (BIS) public database, which has further information about these permits, including what type of work is being performed, the hours of the permitted work, and the reason why the after-hours permits were granted. The new map will give members of the public a tool to confirm whether construction projects on their block have the proper permits to work at nights and on weekends. An after-hours variance (AHV) permit is required to perform any building construction work in New York City before 7:00 am, after 6:00 pm, or on the weekend.

**[Click here to see our new After Hours Variance Map](#)**

After-hours variances are granted primarily when it's safer or less disruptive to a neighborhood to perform the work at night or on weekends. For example, variances are granted for work done near schools or public spaces, for heavy construction work that might require sidewalks to be closed to protect pedestrians, or for work that would cause traffic gridlock if it's done during the day. Certain types of work such as concrete pours and adjustments to cranes need to be

performed when there is minimal pedestrian and vehicular traffic in the area, or when stopping them midstream may pose a hazard to workers and the public.

In addition to the release of this public real-time map, the Department will also be issuing weekly reports on AHV permits to local elected officials and community boards citywide, so that they have relevant data about late night construction going on in their districts. These moves are aimed at bringing an added level of transparency to New York City's construction industry.

DOB issued 18,866 initial AHV permits in 2018, a 24 percent decrease from the 25,005 initial AHV permits issued in 2012. Each of these initial AHV permits is issued for specific dates, usually over a weekend or a week. In 2018, DOB received 3,729 public complaints through the 311 system regarding construction work illegally performed after hours. These complaints were investigated by the Department's After-Hours Variance Enforcement Unit, who handle these specific complaints. Each AHV permit is issued for specific days and times during the week, and must be renewed if contractors wish to continue working outside of normal business hours.

The new map is the latest in a series of interactive dashboards, reports, and data tools released by the Department to give the public access to information about the city's built environment, and builds off the successes of our real-time map series, which show [the location of DOB complaints, inspections and violations from the last 12 months](#), [active major construction projects citywide](#), [Site Safety Training \(SST\) construction sites where city-mandated safety training is required](#), and the [locations of the more-than 9,000 permitted sidewalk sheds](#) around the five boroughs.

**DOT Reported:** Amsterdam Avenue Safety Improvement continues; Bike Share to expand further North of District 9, dates for informational sessions coming soon. Resurfacing season has concluded, DOT is currently accepting locations to repaved in 2020.

**Dept. of Homeless Services Reported:**

On **Monday, January 27, 2020**, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct its Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE), an annual point-in-time survey of New Yorkers sleeping unsheltered on the streets that is required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The HOPE Survey provides valuable information that helps ensure our HOME-STAT outreach teams are providing resources to this vulnerable population in their ongoing year-round outreach efforts.

That day is coming soon, and I am asking for your help to canvass parks, subways, and other public spaces to estimate the number of people who are sleeping on the street on one of the coldest nights of the year. HOPE can only be a success with the assistance of our community partners like you.

Volunteers are needed from approximately 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. on the night of the 27th. Just one night of your time will help us collect critical information to help people move from the streets and into a safe, stable environment. During the past two years, through our HOME-STAT

street outreach program, we have helped more than 2,200 people come off the streets and in to transitional programs or permanent housing.

As we work to address street homelessness across the city, one person at a time, this is a unique opportunity to participate in an extraordinary citywide effort. If you have volunteered before, I encourage you to sign up again. If you have yet to experience how truly rewarding a night of HOPE can be, I invite you to join us for the first time.

Please visit [nyc.gov/hope](http://nyc.gov/hope) to learn more and to register. Your help and support is essential to help DHS address the problem of homelessness that has built up over many years.

Please see attached HOPE COUNT Flyer for distribution purposes below.

It was also reported that the city is ramping up its efforts to get homeless people off the subway and into permanent housing.

The Department of Homeless Services and the NYPD recently announced they are expanding a series of initiatives to convince thousands of homeless people who take refuge on the subway to accept government assistance.

A major part of that expansion builds on a pilot launched earlier this summer, in which DHS staffers and transit cops would offer assistance to homeless subway riders who violate Metropolitan Transportation Authority's rules, like lying down across several train car seats or evading the fare.

The pilot program targeted a handful of key areas in Manhattan — and is **expanding citywide**, with a focus on terminal stations at the ends of subway lines, where many **homeless people** who sleep on trains end up.

**Department of Homeless Services/DSS Reported:** CODE BLUE this alert occurs when the temperature drops to 32<sup>0</sup> F or below, including wind-chill and will result in the activation of the following DHS Code Blue Procedure.

- A Code Blue Weather Emergency notice is issued when the temperature drops to 32 degrees Fahrenheit or less between 4 p.m. and 8 a.m., including National Weather Service calculations for wind chill values. No one who is reasonably believed to be homeless and seeking shelter in New York City during a Code Blue will be denied. Should you see an individual who appears to be homeless and in need out in the cold, please call 311 and an outreach team will be dispatched to offer assistance.
- During Code Blue we focus on helping our most vulnerable neighbors—people currently residing on the streets—by redoubling our efforts citywide—and that includes doubling the size of our outreach teams, making regular, repeated contact with individuals on the streets to offer supports and services, including shelter, and closely coordinating borough-level Code Blue efforts directly with sister City agencies, like NYPD, DSNY, and the Parks Department 24 hours a day during inclement weather, no matter what, to ensure we're meeting all New Yorkers in need with resources where they are.

- During Code Blue weather emergencies, we work 24/7 to connect homeless New Yorkers with the following resources:
- Shelters: During a Code Blue, shelter is available system-wide to accommodate anyone who is reasonably believed to be homeless and is brought to a shelter by outreach teams. Accommodations are also available for walk-ins. During a Code Blue period, families found eligible for shelter are not expected to transition from their conditional placement into their official shelter placement until the following day.
- Drop-in centers: All drop-in centers are open 24-hours per day, including when Code Blue procedures are in effect, and will assist as many people as possible for the duration of the emergency. Drop-in staff and the dedicated outreach teams they work closely with each and every day can also make arrangements for homeless individuals at other citywide facilities, including shelters, safe havens, and stabilization beds.
- Safe havens and stabilization beds: Chronically homeless individuals may be transported directly to these low-threshold housing options.
- Street homeless outreach: Teams will contact vulnerable individuals on their Code Blue Priority Lists a minimum of once every four (4) hours beginning at 8 p.m. during Code Blue Alerts and once every two (2) hours beginning at 8 p.m. for Enhanced Code Blue Alerts to encourage them to accept services, including transport to a safe place and a shelter placement. DHS coordinates borough-level Code Blue efforts directly with partner City agencies, including but not limited to NYPD, DSNY, and the Parks Department.
- Code Blue periods last from 4pm to 8am, but when there are Code Blue periods on successive days, we maintain Code Blue street homeless outreach protocols in the interim daytime hours between 8am and 4pm. No one who is reasonably believed to be homeless and seeking shelter in New York City during a Code Blue will be denied.
- And during Enhanced Code Blue, we increase frequency of contact with vulnerable clients, revisiting them at least every two hours to offer resources and encourage them to accept transport to a safe place—and as long as conditions remain extreme (i.e. wind chill is 20 or conditions are blizzard-like), we operate under Enhanced Code Blue protocols

### **MBPO Reported:**

### **BOARD MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**

MBPO is looking for passionate and engaged New Yorkers who are dedicated to making a difference in their neighborhoods by serving a two-year term on one of the 12 Manhattan Community Boards, playing a vital role in shaping the character of our city. If you live, work, or go to school in Manhattan, you're eligible!

### **MBP Announces their fourth Annual Holiday Diaper Drive!!!**

For many low-income working parents, getting diapers for their children is a struggle. Day care centers often require parents to supply diapers when they drop off their kids, so if the parents don't have diapers to bring every day, they can't work.

MBPO, the Food Bank for New York City, and the Girl Scouts of Greater New York are launching their fourth annual holiday diaper drive to collect these essential items for New Yorkers in need. They'll distribute the diapers collected to emergency food pantries. Here's how you can help:

- Bring new, sealed boxes of diapers in sizes 3 to 6 (sizes 4 and 5 are needed most) to either of my offices: 1 Centre St. (19th Fl. South) or 431 W. 125th St. (storefront).
- If you're an Amazon customer, order from the Food Bank's Amazon Wishlist for delivery straight to their warehouse.
- Share this information with your own network of friends and family!

### **Central Harlem Historic District is granted Protected Status!!**

Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer issued the following statement following the City Council's approval of the Central Harlem Historic District today:

"The blocks that make up the Central Harlem Historic District are a living piece of history, speaking to events from Harlem's 19th-century building boom to the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. I thank Council Member Bill Perkins and the Council's Land Use Committee for supporting the designation of this district, and congratulate the activists who worked to make this victory possible, including Valerie Jo Bradley of Save Harlem Now and the multiple local block associations and residents who made their voices heard.

"Landmarking isn't just for a select group of neighborhoods in mid- and lower Manhattan. We can and should use the Landmarks Law to protect superior architecture and historically significant buildings and spaces in every corner of all five boroughs. I'm glad to see this area in Central Harlem will be granted the protected status it deserves."

### **Who's Hiring:**

**NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agents** potentially earn over \$38,000 after 1<sup>st</sup> year; Competitive benefits; Promotional opportunities; Various assignment levels; and Retirement plan. For further information please visit the following website: [www.nyc.gov/NYPD](http://www.nyc.gov/NYPD) or call 212-RECRUIT;

**2020 CENSUS JOBS:** Are you a U.S. Citizen who is 18 or older? Are you fluent in Japanese, Tagalog and/or Vietnamese? The 2020 Census may have a job for you in one of the five counties of NYC visit [https://2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs;);

**NYPD School Safety Agents** potentially earn over \$30,000 starting salary; Generous medical benefits; various assignment levels; and retirement plans. For further information please visit the following website: [www.nyc.gov/NYPD](http://www.nyc.gov/NYPD) or call 212-RECRUIT.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

**Failure to Remove Canine Waste:** Each person who owns, or controls a dog must remove any feces left by that dog on any sidewalk, gutter, street, or other public area and dispose of it in a legal manner. The person may remove the feces and carry them away with him/her for disposal in a toilet or place them in a non-leaking container or bag and deposit them in a DSNY litter basket. The provisions of this law do not apply to a guide dog accompanying any blind person.  
**Fine: \$250**

**Who is responsible for cleaning snow and ice from the sidewalk?** According to the NYC Administrative Code, every owner, lessee, tenant, occupant or other person having charge of any lot or building must clean snow and ice from the sidewalks adjacent (i.e., in front of, on the side of, in back of) to their properties.

**What is the best way to clean snow from the sidewalk?** Remove snow along the sidewalk adjacent to your property. Do not push snow from the sidewalk into the street. Clear the snow from around the fire hydrant if there is one in front of your property. Do not cover crosswalks with snow. You should move the snow to your front yard, behind the stoop line, or to the grassy curb strip if one exists.

**Who clears fire hydrants and catch basins?** According to the NYC Administrative Code, the person having charge of the adjoining property is responsible for keeping the fire hydrant clear of snow and ice and any other debris or materials to ensure it is accessible during a fire emergency. While there is not specific requirement to clear snow around catch basins, they provide drainage when snow and ice begin to melt. Clearing the catch basins, and placing a channel towards the catch basin, will help prevent flooding when snow and ice begin to melt.

**How can locations that do not clear their sidewalks be reported?** Residents can make a *Failure to Clean Ice/Snow from sidewalk* service request to the NYC 311 Customer Service Center by calling 311 or visiting [www.nyc.gov/311](http://www.nyc.gov/311).

**What happens if I don't clear my sidewalk?** Homeowners, property manager, businesses, or others, who do not comply, can face fines of:

- \$100            1<sup>st</sup> Offense
- \$150            2<sup>nd</sup> Offense
- \$250            3<sup>rd</sup> Offense and subsequent

**Nonmedical exemptions to school vaccination requirements have ended for children attending day care and pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in New York State.** This includes all public, private, and religious schools. Religious exemptions are no longer allowed.



**Children with nonmedical exemptions must now be vaccinated to attend or remain in school.**

Students who already have all required school vaccinations, and students with a valid medical exemption from a physician, are not affected by this change.

A medical exemption is allowed when a child has a medical condition that prevents them from receiving a vaccine.

**Special Restrictions on Parking:** Parking for certain purposes prohibited no person regularly engaged in the repair of vehicles shall park a vehicle upon any roadway or off-street parking facility for the principal purpose of washing, greasing, or repairing such vehicle, except repairs necessitated by an emergency. *This Rule is Enforced by the NYPD*

**TENANTS RIGHTS:** It is illegal for building owners to force tenants to leave their apartments or surrender their rights. If you are a tenant in an apartment, in the City of New York, who is being harassed by your landlord, you can get information and help.

**Harassment of tenants by landlords or owners can include:**

- Not offering leases or lease renewals, or repeatedly trying to pay you to move out;
- Unjustified eviction notices or illegal lockouts;
- Threats and intimidation, such as late-night phone calls;
- Overcharging for a rent-regulated apartment;
- Failure to provide necessary repairs or utilities;
- Deliberately causing construction-related problems for tenants, such as working after hours, blocking entrances, or failing to remove excessive dust or debris.

**Sidewalk Obstruction:** Sidewalk areas must be kept free from any obstruction that could impede pedestrian traffic. Obstructions may include, but are not limited to, refuse, refuse containers, merchandise, bins, racks, coin-operated rides, sandwich or A-frame signs, over-extended sidewalk displays/stands, ATMs, ice machines and acrylic enclosures, etc.

**Littering/Sweeping-Out/Throwing Out:** Littering, sweeping, throwing, or casting any material such as ashes, garbage, paper, dust or other garbage or rubbish into or upon any street or public place, vacant lot, air shaft, areaway, backyard, court or alley is illegal. Throwing garbage out of windows (for example, from buildings or vehicles) is also a violation. In addition, no person may allow anyone under his/her control (agency or employee) to commit a littering, sweep-out, or throw-out violation. Merchants must put all sweepings into suitable garbage receptacles for pickup by a private carter. Residential units must put sweepings into suitable garbage receptacles for pickup by private carter. Residential units must put sweepings into suitable

garbage receptacles for pick-up by DSNY. Sanitation litter basket may not be used for this purpose. **NOTE:** When using a “blower”, grass, leaves, litter, etc., must be blown into a pile and properly disposed of with other sweepings.

Respectfully Submitted,



Eutha Prince  
District Manager  
12/12/19

# CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!  
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

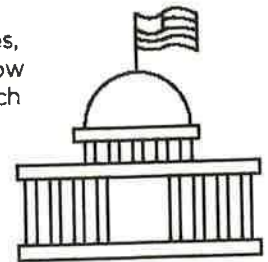
## Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the United States once, only once, and in the right place.



## It's about fair representation.

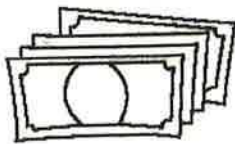
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



## It's in the Constitution.

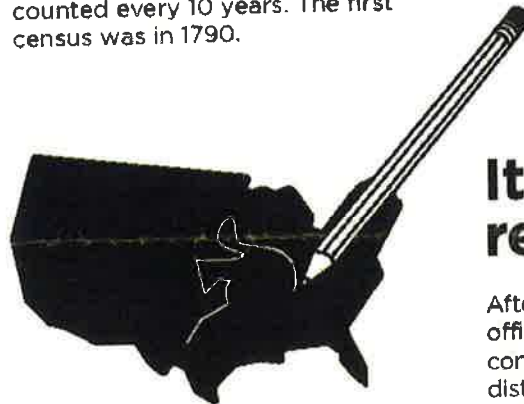
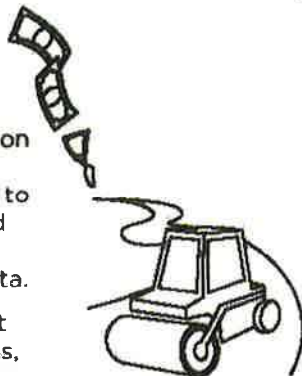
The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

## It's about \$675 billion.



The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants, and support to states, counties, and communities are based on census data.

That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs.

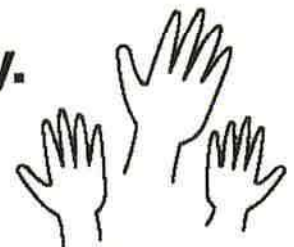


## It's about redistricting.

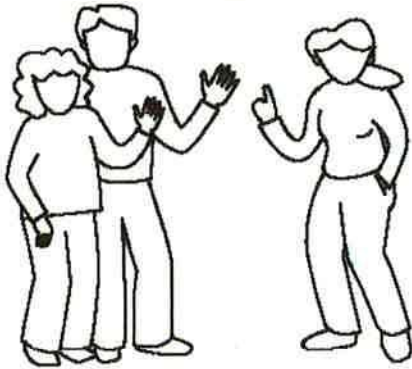
After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

## Taking part is your civic duty.

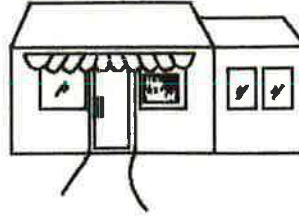
Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



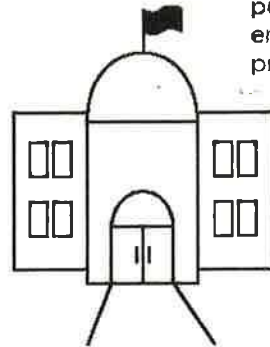
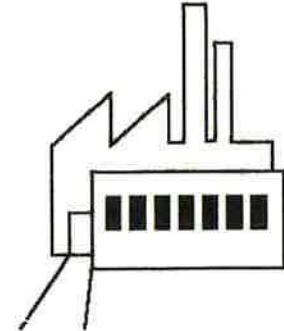
# Census data are being used all around you.



Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life, and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices, and stores, which create jobs.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.

Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



# Your privacy is protected.

It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics.



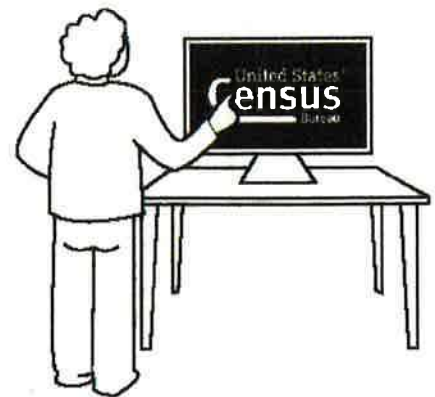
# 2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



# You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



# Volunteer for hope 2020

Do you wish you could do more for New Yorkers sleeping on the streets and subways?

**You can!** By volunteering for HOPE, an annual survey of unsheltered New Yorkers.

**Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
10pm to 4am**

To learn more about HOPE 2020 and to sign up to canvass the streets in the borough of your choice,

visit [nyc.gov/hope](http://nyc.gov/hope) or call 311.

One night makes a difference in helping your fellow New Yorkers come inside.

#HOPE2020  
[nyc.gov/hope](http://nyc.gov/hope)



@nycdhs



@nycdhs



/dhsfny

**NYC**

Department of  
Homeless Services

hope  
2020

