

The Census and the Military

Webinar Series
March 5, 2020

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Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Purpose

The goal of the Decennial Census is to count everyone once, only once, and in the right place.

The Residence Criteria and Residence Situations support the Decennial Census by providing guidance on:

- Who should be counted
- Where they should be counted

Census Act of 1790

The Decennial Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations are rooted in the **Census Act of 1790**, which established the concept of “usual residence” to determine where people were to be counted.

- “Usual Residence” is defined as where a person lives and sleeps most of the time.
- The Act included a provision for counting people who are temporarily absent, which allows for the count of federally affiliated personnel overseas.

Title 13 gives the Census Bureau director the authority to apply the residence criteria for the Decennial Census.

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Apportionment and Redistricting

Apportionment

- Apportionment is the process of dividing the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the 50 states.
- The **apportionment population** consists of the resident population of the 50 states plus overseas federal employees (military and civilian) and their dependents living with them – and only requires state population counts.

Redistricting

- Redistricting is the process of revising the geographic boundaries of congressional, state legislative, or other district boundaries so that residents have a fair and equal share in the way they are governed.
- Public Law 94-171 requires the Census Bureau to provide redistricting data to the 50 states.
- Redistricting data files are based on the **resident population**, which has not included any component of the overseas federal employee population.

2020 Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Residence Criteria for 2020

- Count people at their usual residence, which is the place where they live and sleep most of the time.
- People in certain types of group facilities on Census Day are counted at the group facility.
- People who do not have a usual residence, or who cannot determine a usual residence, are counted where they are on Census Day.

Residence Situations for 2020

- The residence situations show how the residence criteria apply to certain living situations for which people commonly request clarification.

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Military Personnel

- 2020 Census of the United States (50 states and District of Columbia)
- 2020 Census of Puerto Rico
- U.S. Island Areas:
 - 2020 Census of American Samoa
 - 2020 Census of Guam
 - 2020 Census of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
 - 2020 Census of the U.S. Virgin Islands

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Military Personnel: 2020 Census of the United States and 2020 Census of Puerto Rico

- U.S. military personnel assigned to group quarters on a military base in the United States or Puerto Rico on Census Day will be counted at the group quarters.
 - Military group quarters include: Military barracks and dormitories; Military medical treatment facilities; and Military disciplinary barracks and jails.
 - A point of contact on the military base will distribute individual questionnaires to each person assigned to group quarters, collect the completed questionnaires, and return the questionnaires to the Census Bureau.
- U.S. military personnel living in the United States or Puerto Rico (either on base or off base) who are not assigned to military group quarters on Census Day (and dependents living with them) will be counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time.
 - Each separate housing unit will receive a questionnaire or invitation to respond for that household via mail, internet, or phone.
 - If the Census Bureau does not receive a response after a certain amount of time, an enumerator from the Non-Response Follow-Up (NRFU) operation will visit each non-responding housing unit to enumerate the household in person.
- U.S. military personnel assigned to U.S. military vessels with a U.S. or Puerto Rico homeport on Census Day will be counted at the onshore residence where they live and sleep most of the time. If they have no onshore residence in the United States or Puerto Rico, they will be counted at their vessel's homeport.
 - A point of contact on the military vessel will distribute individual questionnaires to each person assigned to the vessel, collect the completed questionnaires, and return the questionnaires to the Census Bureau.

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Overseas Military Personnel: 2020 Census of the United States and 2020 Census of Puerto Rico

- All military personnel living outside the United States, and their dependents living with them outside the United States, will be counted using administrative data provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security.
- For the 2020 Census, there is a distinction between military personnel who are deployed overseas and those who are stationed overseas.
 - “Stationed” refers to a permanent duty station.
 - “Deployed” refers to a temporary assignment to a place other than the permanent duty station.
- U.S. Military personnel who are **deployed** outside the U.S. on Census Day
 - U.S. Military personnel who are stationed in the U.S., but deployed outside the U.S. on Census Day, will be counted at their **usual residence** address in the U.S. and included in the **resident population** (used for redistricting as well as apportionment).
 - U.S. Military personnel who are stationed in Puerto Rico, but deployed outside the U.S. on Census Day, will be counted at their **usual residence** address in Puerto Rico and included in the **resident population** (used for redistricting).
 - Note: If family members of deployed personnel are living in the U.S. or Puerto Rico on Census Day, they should fill out a 2020 Census questionnaire for themselves. They will not be counted using the administrative records for overseas military personnel.
- U.S. Military personnel who are **stationed** outside the U.S. (or assigned to a U.S. military vessel with a homeport outside the U.S.) on Census Day, and their dependents living with them overseas, will be counted in their **home state** in the U.S. for **apportionment purposes only**.

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations

Military Personnel: 2020 Censuses of the U.S. Island Areas

- U.S. military personnel assigned to military group quarters in one of the U.S. Island Areas on Census Day will be counted at the group quarters.
 - A Census Bureau enumerator will visit the military base and interview each person assigned to group quarters.
- U.S. military personnel living in one of the U.S. Island Areas (either on base or off base) who are not assigned to military group quarters on Census Day (and dependents living with them) will be counted at the residence where they live and sleep most of the time.
 - A Census Bureau enumerator will visit each housing unit to interview someone in the household.
- The following people should be counted at their usual residence (or the military group quarters they are assigned to) in the U.S. Island Areas when the enumerator collects the response for that address.
 - U.S. military personnel assigned to U.S. military vessels with a homeport in one of the U.S. Island Areas on Census Day
 - U.S. Military personnel who are **stationed** in one of the U.S. Island Areas, but **deployed** outside that Island Area, on Census Day
- The following people should not be counted in the Census for each U.S. Island Area.
 - U.S. military personnel assigned to U.S. military vessels with a homeport outside that Island Area on Census Day
 - U.S. Military personnel who are **stationed** outside that Island Area on Census Day

Residence Criteria and Residence Situations for 2020

Questions?

Internet Links for Reference

2020 Census Residence Criteria and Residence Situations press kit

<https://census.gov/newsroom/press-kits/2018/residence-criteria.html>

Federal Register Notice

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/02/08/2018-02370/final-2020-census-residence-criteria-and-residence-situations>