

Digitalized Census 2020 to ensure convenience and no missed count

By Han Li (World Journal), 12/24/2019

Q: I heard that everyone is invited to answer the 2020 Census questionnaire online? For the first time?

A: Yes, you can participate in the census by using online questionnaires, or call to participate. If you still want to use the paper questionnaire, you can do so, too.

Q: How can the Census Bureau know which way I prefer?

A: The government will send invitations to home addresses first, starting March 12, inviting residents to participate in the census online or in the paper. If families do not respond online, the government will send a paper questionnaire. If there is still no response from the address, the government will send a census staff in person.

Q: Can I try the online questionnaire now, or can I call now?

A: Not yet. The census website and phone service will be available next March. But now you can preview the questionnaire, and all the questions are the same as those you will see next year. Sample Questionnaire (Traditional Chinese Version) link:

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial/2020/resources/language-materials/guides/Chinese-Traditional-Guide.pdf?#>

Q: What if I don't have a computer and only have a mobile phone? Is there an app?

A: The mobile phone can directly make a call and participate in the census through conversation. There will be Chinese speaking operators. You can also use your browser on your mobile phone to log in to the census website and fill it out. There is no app for Census 2020.

Q: What if I don't really know how to use the computer?

A: The Census Bureau will be partnered with many local public agencies and community organizations to provide residents with computers and online access, and there will be on-site help from trained staff. For example, in San Francisco, many public libraries, public colleges, and community organizations will be open during the census responding time next year to provide computers and the Internet. Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs has launched a map of the census helping centers in San Francisco that can provide help.

Q: Will there be available computers in San Francisco Chinatown?

A: Yes. City College of San Francisco's Chinatown Campus (Address: 808 Kearny St) will provide language translation services and digital devices to the people in need. In addition, the Chinatown branch of the San Francisco Public Library also has computers available to the public. Community organizations such as the Chinatown Community Development Center(CCDC) will also help SRO families to participate. Details will be announced next year.