

City of Wooster

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To Our Community

Re: 2020 Census

Dear Residents and Neighbors,

“Census Day” is just around the corner and we need your support. The U.S. Constitution requires a complete count of our nation’s population every 10 years. The federal government is required to count every single person living in the United States, even babies and immigrants...every single person is counted. This count determines how billions of dollars in federal funds, as well as political representation, will be distributed among states and local communities for the next decade.

Did you know that the 2020 Census will impact how many teachers are hired in our local schools and how many nurses and beds are in our local hospitals? The Census impacts the wellbeing of our neighbors, all emergency services, everything from new roads to food assistance. Even businesses use census data to determine where to open places to shop. Over \$800 BILLION in federal government funding will be determined in the 2020 Census count. The Census will determine how many representatives your state will send to Congress and how your congressional district will be drawn (redrawing district boundaries).

Even though the census count has improved over time, certain populations continue to be “undercounted”. Who is hard to count? Children under 5, people living in poverty, homeless, immigrants, the list goes on. It is so important that we ensure that we count EVERYONE once, only once, and in the right place, including hard-to-count members of our community.

The Census is easy to complete. The Census Bureau provides resources that makes it easy. The 2020 Census will be the FIRST Census to offer an online response option. In fact, **our local Wooster City Hall has a computer set up and available for anyone who chooses to use this option that may not have access to a computer.** However, you can choose how you want to respond... online, by paper through the