2020 Census Activities for Adult Education Classrooms and Programs

January 28, 2020
AGENDA

Program-wide mobilization
Heather Ritchie, Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School

Census Ambassador training
Stephanie Kriebel, San Mateo Adult & Career Education

Preparing Beginning ESOL Students to Participate
Jennifer Gagliardi, Milpitas Unified School District

Stand Up and Be Counted resources for adult educators
Andy Nash, World Education
STAND UP & BE COUNTED
RESOURCES FOR ADULT EDUCATORS

Andy Nash
Senior Project Advisor
World Education, Inc.
Census-contextualized math activities from CUNY instructors Eric Appleton and Mark Traugott are also available at eliteracy.cuny.edu.

- History of the Census:
  - The First Census
  - Slavery and the 1790 Census
  - U.S. Population Growth
- The Census and Political Representation
- Where Does the Money Go?
- Who Participates in the Census?
- How the Census Works

ESOL lessons adapted from material developed by the Campbell Adult and Community Education Center and the Community Action Council of New Hampshire. These activities include practice filling out a sample paper census form.

- Low beginner
  - Census facts
  - Reasons to complete the census
  - Counting a family
- High Beginner
  - Gomez household Q&A
  - Practice Dialogue
- Low Intermediate
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)

How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2020?

*Number of people =* 

2. Were there any *additional* people staying here on April 1, 2020 that you did not *include* in Question 1?

Mark [X] all that apply.

- [ ] Children, related or unrelated, such as newborn babies, grandchildren, or foster children
- [ ] Relatives, such as adult children, cousins, or in-laws
- [ ] Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in babysitters
- [ ] People staying here temporarily
- [ ] No additional people
STUDENT-AUTHORED CONTENT FROM THE CHANGE AGENT
We Count, Count Us!

Jeanette Jimenez

Before you read: Take the true or false quiz below. Then read the article to check your answers.

Statement

True or False

In 2020, the United States will hold a census.

I want to make a call to all people, especially the immigrant community. Please participate without any fear!

The census counts all the people living in the country, and this information tells the federal government how to distribute funds for each state. The federal government provides funds for education, medical care, infrastructure, and other benefits for all people. If we do not participate in the next census, we could lose funds that help create new schools, hospitals, roads, stations, and more.

I want to tell my immigrant peers. U.S. Census Bureau will not share your information with any other government agency or your local police. They ask our neighbors to participate. For this reason, do not fear to participate. If you complete the 2020 Census, you will get a $500 reward.

I want to tell my immigrant peers.

Census is the only way to an accurate count of all people living in the United States. So if you are not counted, you will be left out. It is your right to be counted.

Do not count yourself out of participating because you think you cannot count.

Jeanette Jimenez is an ESL, Native American, and special education student at The Choice Alternative American Public Charter School in Washington, D.C.

Stand Up and Be Counted

1790 Census

1. Look at the chart from the 1790 census above. What do you notice? Categories from left to right are:

   - White males of 16 years and upward, including heads of families
   - White males under 16 years
   - White females, including heads of families
   - All other free persons
   - Slaves
   - Total

2. Make sense of the data in the chart. Go to censustracker.org/stand-up-and-be-counted/census2020 for more lessons based on census data.

3. According to the “Three-Fifths Compromise” in 1827, enslaved people were counted as “three-fifths of a person.” What do you think this “compromise” was about? Research it to learn more.

Learning from History

Andy Nish

Before you read: Share what you know about the Japanese internment camps during World War II. Read and discuss the vocabulary box below.

Many people were worried that the information they provide to the Census Bureau in 2020 will be shared with other government agencies. Here’s how that happened in the past and what’s different now.

How Census Data Was Misused in the Past

In 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawai’i. The attack raised Americans’ fear of war and intensifies racial prejudices against Japanese Americans. In the days after the bombing, the U.S. government arrested more than 1,200 Japanese community leaders and froze all bank accounts in U.S. branches of Japanese banks. The government also imposed nighttime curfews for all Japanese Americans.

Within months, President Roosevelt signed an order that allowed the military to round up 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent (who were mostly native-born U.S. citizens). The government gave Japanese Americans on the West Coast only days to decide what to do with their houses, farms, businesses, and possessions. According to the Manzanar National Historic Site webpage, “Most families sold their property and belongings for much less than they were worth. Some rented their properties to neighbors. Others left possessions...”

Ask Not What the Census...

Can Do for You, But What Can You Do for the Census

Baheme A. Forbes

I have learned that some people in the U.S. do not want to fill out the census form. This news hits me hard. It is totally unacceptable! Think of all the money spent on advertisements promoting things for us to buy. By comparison, not very much money is spent educating the public about the census. I see we will have to make up the difference ourselves.

I am still learning about the census. As I learn about why it matters, all I know is I want to. And I want my community to be counted too.

I will share what I know with others. Here are a few ways you, too, could spread the word about the 2020 Census: You can start by going to your local library to get more information. You can visit the job booth and apply for a job with the Census Bureau. You can also encourage people in your community to share census content with social media with their friends, family, and followers. I will pass on what I learn and encourage others to do the same.

John F. Kennedy said in a famous speech, “Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country.” We want us to contribute to society and take action instead of being passive. It is important that we use our resources to make change.

Baheme A. Forbes lives in Hawaii; he is 23 years old and has lived here his entire life. He is currently attending Atlantic Technical College with his wife. He plans to work and open a new restaurant.

Become a Census Ambassador

If you agree that the census is important, what could you do to spread the word? Consider Baheme’s suggestions and add your own. Use this grid to organize your ideas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ways I could learn more about the census</th>
<th>Friends and family</th>
<th>Community groups I could share information with</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

See <http://bit.ly/TCA_censuspacket> for more ideas about how you, your class, and your program can help spread the word about the 2020 Census.

How Much Money for your State?

The U.S. government gives money to the states based on their population. Let’s say your state gets $2500 per person per year from the federal government. A family of five adds funding to your state:

$2500
× 5 (people)
$12,500
× 10 (years)
$125,000

In the example above, if a family of five were not counted, the state would lose $125,000 over 10 years. Do the math for your family. If you do not count your family, how much will your state lose?

Do Your Own Research: Report Rumors

Conduct a survey of your class. Create a survey that includes questions about the census, such as: What are three things you’ve heard about the 2020 Census? Do you plan on filling out the census? What concerns do you have about the census? Research the answers to the most common questions, and share these answers with your class.

Report rumors! If, in the course of your research, you find misinformation, report it to the Census Bureau, which has opened a website <2020census.gov/en-news-events/rumors.html> for dispelling rumors. There is also a special email address (rumors@census.gov) where you can report misinformation about the census.

For a lesson packet on hoaxes and scams, go to <changeagent.nelrc.org/in-the-classroom/lesson-packets>.

How Would You Respond?

Beginners: use the information on pp. 3-5. Intermediate learners: add information from pp. 7-9. More advanced: add in the article on pp. 14-15. Fill out an organizer modeled on the one below. Then use the information you gathered to write a letter to someone you know who might be feeling afraid to fill out the census. Cite your sources.

True or False

1. The census is a count of all people and pets.
2. I should only count my children because they are citizens, and I am not.
3. The government uses census information to decide how many schools to build.
4. The 2020 Census includes a question about your citizenship status.
5. There is a law that protects your individual data.
6. In 2020, you can only fill out the census questionnaire online.

Go to <changeagent.nelrc.org> to find various ways students might fill out this grid.

1. The Census Questionnaire: A Guided Tour for ESOL Students
2. Why Fill Out the Census? Adult Learners Explain
3. How to Spot Hoaxes and Scams
4. Become a Census Ambassador
Useful Census Links

Complete Count Committee Partners


NCL Pledge To Be Counted! campaign https://national-coalition-literacy.org/research/the-2020-census/pledge-to-be-counted/

San Mateo County Census 2020 Social Media Guide
https://national-coalition-literacy.org/research/the-2020-census/pledge-to-be-counted/

Filling out the Census: Video of the Census Form
https://youtu.be/fXg1_1HHKzA

Census Bureau Materials for Adult Ed
census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/2020census/2020-resources/ell-adult-esl.html
THANKS!

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Slide deck & webinar recording will be posted on the NCL website