The start of the 2020 Census is fast approaching and Illinoisans have much to lose without an accurate count of all our residents. Illinois was historically undercounted in the 2010.

In mid-March, homes will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone or by mail.
Here is wjy the Census is important:

- Loss of representation in Congress. Illinois lost two congressional seats after 2010 Census.
- Loss of appropriation dollars. Financial support that our state, counties and communities receive/need from the federal government for infrastructure and social services is based on census data.
- Loss to the local economy. Companies utilize census data to decide where to build factories, offices and retail stores, which create jobs and influence the local economy.
- Less money for development and revitalization. Census data helps developers to determine where to build new housing and how much to invest to revitalize neighborhoods. Less money for police and fire services o – Local governments use census data for public safety and emergency preparedness. Decline in community support – Local communities use census data to make arguments for legislative and financial support of community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.

For more information, visit www.illinoiscensus2020.com

Apply for a 2020 Census job

The Census Bureau is recruiting of hundreds of thousands of temporary workers for the 2020 Census. This is your opportunity to earn extra income while helping our community.

Applicants can qualify for both field and office positions with a pay rate of $17.50 up to $29.50 an hour.

Applying for one of these jobs is simple. Just visit 2020census/jobs or call 855-JOB-2020 and select option 3 for more information. Pay rates for field and clerical jobs can be found at 2020census.gov/jobs/pay-and-locations.