



## **U.S. CENSUS BUREAU TO END FIELD DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS ON SEPTEMBER 30**

**BRYAN COUNTY, GA – September 21, 2020** – About a week and a half remains for residents across the country to complete the 2020 U.S. Census. The Census Bureau has issued reminders that it will end field data collection by September 30, 2020. Self-response options will also close on that date to permit the commencement of data processing.

Last week, the Bureau began to release daily 2020 Census Nonresponse Followup workload completion rates by area census office. As of Sept. 1, over 60.3% of the Nonresponse Followup workload has been completed nationwide.

Nonresponse Followup is the final 2020 Census data collection operation to count households that have not yet responded to the census online, by phone, or by mail. Census takers also follow up with households that have responded to improve and ensure accuracy of the census.

These rates are being released for the first time during a decennial census in order to help the bureau's partners at state and local levels track their area's progress in completing the 2020 Census.

Over 84.1% of housing units had been counted in the 2020 Census as of Sept. 1, with 19% counted by census takers and other field data collection operations, and 65.1% of housing units responding online, by phone or by mail.

As of Sept. 21, Bryan County's response rate of 65.8 percent is above Georgia's average of 61.7 percent. Richmond Hill is reporting a 66.4 percent response rate, and Pembroke has a rate of 49.1 percent.

Census data is used by 316 programs to direct federal funding. These include Medicare and Medicaid, school lunches, health centers, and programs like WIC and SNAP – programs that thousands of people benefit from. When Census participation rates lag and communities do not

claim their share of federal funds, the cost of these critical services will be borne with state and local resources.

Census data is also used to adjust political boundaries such as congressional districts as well as state house and senate districts. To ensure appropriate representation after Census 2020, residents must be counted to preserve their political voice.

For more information on the Census in Bryan County, please visit [www.bryancountyga.org/residents/united-states-census-2020](http://www.bryancountyga.org/residents/united-states-census-2020). For more information about Bryan County, please visit [www.bryancountyga.org](http://www.bryancountyga.org) or follow the county on their social media accounts, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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