

Census from A1

those who haven't responded. Between April 8-16, paper copies of the census will be distributed. Then from April 20-27, a final reminder postcard will be sent.

If a household still hasn't responded after this, census workers will begin dropping by houses to remind people to reply.

The Census Bureau will publish the first results from the 2020 census — the total population for each state — by Dec. 31 this year.

Why reply?

More than \$675 billion a year in federal funding is distributed based on census data, funding which is funneled to areas such as transportation, housing, education and healthcare.

"Our nonprofits in the community will get funding from county sources and state sources based on the state population as well. So it's not just the city government or school district, but a lot of our nonprofits that use those funds from the state or federal government," said Meyers. "It has a direct local impact."

On top of funding, the data can aid cities in identifying what their focus areas should be.

"The information that is acquired from the census gives us a snapshot of what is going on in the community," said Meyers. "[It] helps us look at what we might need to be looking at. For instance, is our population aging as fast as everywhere else or is it aging faster than other places?"

Certain demographics which have been challenging to count in the past, too, may benefit from increased accuracy.

"The other thing that will be important is what's going on with our Latino population," said Meyers. "What's the number? How is it growing? What's changing? We won't know who it is or those specifics, but that is important information for us to be able to get services to match those needs."

The George Washington Institute of Public Policy reported that in the 2016 fiscal year, Oregon received nearly \$13.5 billion through 55 federal spend-

ing programs which were informed by data derived from the 2010 census.

The census also determines how many representatives each state gets in the United States Congress.

According to Census Bureau estimates, Oregon is among a handful of states whose population has grown significantly since the 2010 census and could therefore gain a sixth seat in the U.S. House of Representatives after the 2020 census.

During the 2010 census, Oregon was estimated to have missed its opportunity to gain another seat by a count of just over 40,000 people.

"A little under 80 percent of Oregon households responded," said Wilson. "So that leaves, we estimate, about 36,000 Oregonians who won't respond in 2020."

Cottage Grove and its surrounding South Lane area has a non-response rate of about 17 to 20 percent, according to data on the Census Bureau website.

"So we're working with these jurisdictions that have low-response census tracks to target our efforts," said Wilson. "There are a variety of methods: outreach, education, information."

Barriers to high responses include highly mobile individuals, complex living arrangements, lack of knowledge about the

census, language barriers, rapidly changing technology causing disuse of USPS mail and distrust of government.

Some of the reticence to respond may be due to the personal nature of the questions.

Questions in the 2020 census will ask participants for their name, age, address, how many people are living or staying at a home, whether the home is owned or rented, about the sex, age and race of each person in the home and whether someone is of Hispanic, Latin or Spanish origin.

The last question has been a point of contention for many who fear the data will be used for persecution.

The Census Bureau has stated that it is asking the question for statistical purposes, which will in turn inform numerous policies such as those regarding civil rights or funding for group-specific government programs.

"ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) isn't going to follow the Census Bureau around. That's another rumor," said Wilson. "Information you provide to the Census Bureau is confidential."

Privacy and Safety

By law, all responses to the census are kept confidential. The law states that the information collected

may only be used for statistical purposes.

Still, the question of access to this data has seen its day in court.

In 1982, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that address lists are protected confidential information and cannot be disclosed through legal discovery or the Freedom of Information Act. More recently, in 2010, the U.S. Justice Department determined that the Patriot Act does not overrule the legal protections of confidentiality.

Legal precedent has essentially established that no court of law can subpoena census responses.

Furthermore, the Census Bureau states that personal data cannot be used by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Central Intelligence Agency, the

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Worship Directory

<p>COTTAGE GROVE: 6th & Gibbs Church of Christ 195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 10:00am Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th Tim Baker, Senior Minister www.6thandgibbs.com</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 3rd and Adams St 541-942-4479 Rev.: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am fpcgrove.com</p>	<p>St. Philip Benizi, Creswell 552 Holbrook Lane Sunday 8:30 AM</p>
<p>Calvary Baptist Church 77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290 Pastor: Riley Hendricks Sunday School: 9:45am Worship: 11:00am The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm</p>	<p>Hope Fellowship United Pentecostal Church 100 S. Gateway Blvd. 541-942-2061 Pastor: Dave Bragg Worship: 11:00am Sunday Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday www.hopefellowshipupc.com "FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"</p>	<p>St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Church with the flags." Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome</p>
<p>Church of Christ 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am</p>	<p>Living Faith Assembly 467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612 Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome) Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)</p>	<p>Seventh-day Adventist Church 820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213 Pastor: Kevin Miller Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00</p>
<p>Cottage Grove Bible Church 1200 East Quincy Avenue 541-942-4771 Pastor: Bob Singer Worship 11am Sunday School: 9:45am AWANA age 3-8th Grade, Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm www.cgbible.org</p>	<p>Non-Denominational Church of Christ 1041 Pennoyer Ave 541-942-8928 Preacher: Tony Martin Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm www.pennoyeravecoc.com</p>	<p>Trinity Lutheran Church 6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: James L. Markus Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups tlccg.com</p>
<p>Cottage Grove Faith Center 33761 Row River Rd. 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Kevin Pruett www.cg4.tv Full Children's Ministry available Services: 9:00am & 10:45am</p>	<p>Old Time Gospel Fellowship 103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999 Pastor: Jim Edwards Sunday Service: 10:00am Join in Traditional Christian Worship</p>	<p>United Methodist Church 334 Washington 541-942-3033 New Pastor Craig Pesti- Strobel Worship 10:30am umcgrove.org</p>
<p>Delight Valley Church of Christ 33087 Saginaw Rd. East 541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend Two Services: 9am - Classic in the Chapel 10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium</p>	<p>Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi Catholic Churches 1025 N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 Father John J. Boyle Holy Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30 PM Sunday - 10:30 PM For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCCG.net Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM Saturdays or by appointment</p>	<p>"VICTORY" Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p>
<p>First Baptist Church 301 S. 6th st • 541-942-8242 Pastor: David Chhangle Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Youth Wednesday 6:30pm cgfirstbaptist.com</p>		<p>CRESWELL: Creswell Presbyterian Church 75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419 Rev. Seth Wheeler Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am website www.creswellpres.org</p>

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