Census Basics:
EVERYONE Counts

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place - including hard-to-count populations such as young children, military personnel, racial and ethnic minorities, non-English speakers, and people experiencing homelessness, among others. So what is all this Census talk about?

It's about $675 billion. The distribution of more than $675 billion in federal funds, grants, and support to states, counties, and communities is based on census data. That money is spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs.

our COMMUNITY Counts

It's about fair representation. The results are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets. It's about redistricting. It's used to redraw the boundaries of the state congressional and state legislative districts to account for population shifts.

our STATE Counts

It's about everyday life. Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life, and consumer advocacy. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness. Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices, and stores - which create jobs. Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.

our FAMILY Counts

It's about the constitution. The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790. It's about our civic duty. Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!" Your privacy is protected. It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household. By law, your responses cannot be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics.

EVERYONE Counts

For more information on Census 2020 activity in Thurston County, visit www.trpc.org/census2020 or email census@trpc.org.