

EVERY ANSWER MATTERS

Information about
the 2026 Census



Census



SAVE THE DATE | TUESDAY 11 AUGUST 2026

When is the Census?

Tuesday 11 August 2026. If you know where you'll be on Census night, you can complete the Census as soon as you get your instructions.

What is the Census?

Every five years, the Census counts every person and household in Australia.

The Census is run by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Why do we have a Census?

The Census helps us understand what Australia needs now, and in the future.

Census data is used to inform decisions about services and support for communities such as where to build schools or hospitals.

Who needs to complete the Census?

We need to hear from everyone in Australia so we can plan for Australia's future. In the Census, every answer matters.

How do I complete the Census?

There are different ways to complete the Census. Most households will receive a letter with instructions on how to complete the Census.



Online

Once you receive your instructions, you can complete the Census online.



Paper form

You can complete the Census on a paper form. To request a paper form, visit census.abs.gov.au/help



Visit from Census staff

Some people in remote areas, and people experiencing homelessness, will be visited by Census staff.



In-person help

We'll be offering Pop-up Hubs in public places, fill in the form sessions and information sessions. Find out more at census.abs.gov.au/find-us

What if I need help to complete the Census?

You can ask a trusted person to help you complete the Census. You can also get support from the ABS.

What support is available?

- Visit census.abs.gov.au/contact to get in touch with Census staff
- Call the Census Contact Centre on **1800 181 227** (available from 6 July)
- **For help in your language** call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on **131 450**
- People who are d/Deaf, hard of hearing or find it hard to speak on the phone can use the **National Relay Service** to contact the Census Contact Centre
- Visit census.abs.gov.au/help for more information

Is the Census compulsory?

Everyone in Australia on Census night **11 August 2026** must be counted.

What questions does the Census ask?

The Census asks questions about your age, ancestry, what languages you use, what you do for work and more.

As Australia changes, so does the Census. This year there are new questions, and changes to previous questions. These changes are based on research and consultation with communities.

For information about why we ask each question, visit census.abs.gov.au/questions

Are my answers private?

Your answers are private and protected by law. They cannot be shared with anyone, including other government agencies.

What is myGov used for in the Census?

In May 2026, myGov users will be able to subscribe to get updates and access the Census through myGov.

If you subscribe to Census updates through myGov, you'll get a link to the online form sent to your myGov Inbox when it's time to complete the Census.



**WE'RE HERE
TO HELP**



For more information
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