



Press

Release



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For Immediate Release

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2020 Census – Everyone Counts in Wichita Falls

Wichita Falls, Texas—As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the census is a once-every-decade count of everyone living in the country. The census informs how billions of dollars are allocated every year to health clinics, schools, affordable housing and hundreds of other critical services and programs that make a difference in our lives every day. In March of 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau will send every household in Wichita Falls an invitation to complete a simple questionnaire. Residents will have the opportunity to respond online, by phone, or by mail and federal law keeps the responses safe and secure.

Locally, the results from the 2020 Census will have a significant economic impact along with determination of future Congressional and House of Representatives district boundaries and number of seats each state receives. It has been estimated that having an undercount of Wichita Falls population could result in a loss per year, per person of \$2,045. Multiplying that estimate over a ten year period until the next decennial Census, could result in \$20,450 per person in lost funding from 55 federal spending programs (e.g. student loans, Medicare, highway construction, school breakfast, WIC, CDBG Grants, Business/Industry loans, Head Start, Sec. 8 Housing Vouchers, CHIP, etc.). Even a minor 1% undercount of the Wichita Falls population can have severe ramifications when multiplied over 10 years. It is crucial that everyone understands the importance of completing their 2020 Census form. It only takes a few minutes but has a major impact on the Wichita Falls community for the next decade.

To kick-off the 2020 Wichita Falls Census Count, the City of Wichita Falls invites all residents to the official census launch on Tuesday, January 7th. The ceremony will begin at noon on the front steps of Memorial Auditorium with brief remarks from the Mayor and community leaders and then an official countdown and ribbon cutting.

What: 2020 Census Count Kick-Off
When: January 7th, 2020 at Noon
Where: Front steps of Memorial Auditorium
1300 7th Street
Wichita Falls, Texas 76301

In order to accommodate the ceremony and event attendees, 7th Street, between Broad and Bluff, will be closed to thru traffic from approximately 7 AM to 1 PM. At the conclusion of the ceremony, 7th Street will be opened back up.

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