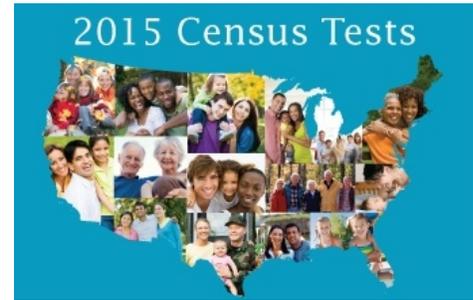


2015 Census Test FAQs



1. What is the 2015 Census?

The Census Bureau is testing new procedures and methods in 2015 designed to significantly improve 2020 Census operations. The goal is to use results from our tests to develop operations for the 2020 Census that save taxpayers money, while maintaining the Census Bureau's commitment to high quality and accuracy.

2. When is the 2015 Census Test being conducted at the Maricopa Site?

We are conducting the test in parts of Maricopa County, Arizona from March to August 2015.

3. Why was Maricopa County chosen for the 2015 Census Test?

The Census Bureau selected Maricopa County as a 2015 Census Test site because it meets the right conditions for the test. These include:

Diversity. The area includes a large Hispanic population, which has been hard to count in past censuses. This is important to gauge the impact of new processes on the response rates and help test the quality of the administrative records that are available.

Mobility. The area has a relatively transient population. The 2015 Census Test will allow the Census Bureau to test how well new methods enable it to accurately identify which of these people should be counted as actual residents of the test area.

Close proximity of urban and suburban areas. The area includes both urban and suburban areas in close proximity that will allow the Census Bureau to test how well real-time caseload reassignments can improve how we assign and manage our staff in the field.

4. What else is the Census Bureau testing in the 2015 Census Test in Maricopa County?

Computer-based training. We are testing the effectiveness of computer-based training for our field staff and comparing that to the traditional classroom-based training.

Real-time caseload management. We are testing new technology that should allow us to more efficiently assign cases (household visits) to our staff in the field based on the most current response status information and the staff's real-time location.

Smartphone data collection. We are testing how to collect data directly by smartphone or other mobile device, rather than on paper, which is a critical component of having a more cost-efficient 2020 Census.

"Bring your own device." We are testing whether allowing some employees to use their own mobile device to capture census responses is cost-efficient and effective, while at the same time ensuring the security and confidentiality of respondent data.

New field management structure. We are testing a new approach to managing field staff, such as those tools used by high volume shipping companies, that allows for more nimble redirecting of staff based on changing needs and comparing it to the approach used in 2010.

Supplementing census data gathered online and in the mail with existing government data. We are testing how well information already provided to the government, such as tax forms or other records, could fill the gaps in our data collection for nonresponding households.

TEMPORARY CENSUS JOBS FOR THE MARICOPA SITE

5. How do I apply for a job to work on the 2015 Census Test in Maricopa County?

During the 2015 Census Test, there will be temporary "full-time" and temporary "part-time" jobs available in the Maricopa Test Site area. Call toll-free (1-800-361-6891) for information on where and how to apply.