

HOW WILL GROUP HOMES BE COUNTED?

Each group home will either be counted through the regular census process or the group quarters process. Group quarters is a term used by the Census Bureau to mean places where people live or stay in a group living arrangement. Common examples of group quarters are some (but not all) group homes, nursing homes, college dorms, homeless shelters, and residential treatment centers for adults.

1. If a household is being counted in the regular process, it will receive a letter sometime in March with instructions on how to complete the census. One person should respond for everyone living in the household. People with disabilities can seek assistance from family members, trusted friends, direct support workers or others to help complete the census.
2. If a household is being counted through the group quarters process, the administrator of the group home will be contacted by a census worker, generally in February or early March, to arrange which option they want to use to complete the census.

If the administrator of a group home does not hear from a census worker about group quarters, they can assume the group home is being counted through the regular process.



COVID-19 UPDATE!

The Group Quarters Enumeration (GQE) Process was originally set to begin **April 2- June 5, 2020.**

The GQE is currently projected to occur **April 16 - June 19, 2020.**

If a facility chose to have their census data collected in-person, the Census Bureau is contacting those facilities to see if they would like to choose one of the other options including e-response or having a paper questionnaire delivered at the facility for pick-up at a later time.

ONCE IT IS DETERMINED THAT A GROUP HOME IS GOING TO BE COUNTED BY THE GROUP QUARTERS PROCESS, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The Census Bureau provides **5 options** for group quarters counting. The group home administrator and census bureau worker will work together to determine the best option:

1. Electronic Response Data Transfer (eResponse)

The group quarters administrator fills in the data for each person living at the facility on and electronically sends information to the Census Bureau.

2. In-Person Interview

A census worker conducts a face-to-face interview with each person staying at the facility.

3. Drop-Off/Pickup of Questionnaire

A census worker leaves census questionnaires to be completed by or for each person who is at the facility. The census worker then picks up the completed questionnaires at an agreed-upon time.

4. Paper Response Data Collection

A census worker meets with the administrator of the facility to obtain a paper listing of census response data for each person who is staying at the facility.

5. Facility Self-Enumeration

A census worker swears in and trains the group quarters facility administrator and then leaves behind census materials so that the administrator can conduct the count for each person who is living or staying at the facility. A census worker then returns to pick up the completed questionnaires at an agreed-upon time. Only military installation group quarters, correctional facilities, and health care facilities can select this option.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For more information about group quarters, visit:

<https://2020census.gov/en/conducting-the-count/gq/gqe.html>.

For more information and resources about the census and people with disabilities, visit <https://thearcofmass.org/census>.

The Arc of Massachusetts is a designated Census Questionnaire Assistance Center and available to answer any of your Census questions. Contact us at (781) 891-6270 or census@arcmass.org.

For more census information, visit arcmass.org/census.