

### Will my personal information be provided to other government departments?

No. The personal information you provide in the Census is not shared with any other government departments or agencies, including the police, Australian Taxation Office or Centrelink.

The ABS is legally bound to protect the privacy of all Australians and will not release your information in a way that will identify any individual or household.

### What will happen to my personal information once the Census is over?

After data collection and processing, the ABS will remove names and addresses from other household information. Names and addresses will be stored separately and securely from other Census data. Names and addresses will be destroyed four years after collection or earlier, once there is no longer any community benefit from their retention.

### Is the Census compulsory?

Yes. Everyone in Australia on Census night must complete the Census.

The information is collected under the authority of the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*. Penalties may apply if you do not complete the Census when directed.

### Key dates

Census key dates:

- **August 1, 2016**  
Delivery of instruction letters and forms begins
- **August 9, 2016**  
Census night
- **August 26, 2016**  
Census Field Officers begin visits
- **April 2017**  
The first results from the 2016 Census released.

### Want to learn more?

For more information, go to [census.abs.gov.au](http://census.abs.gov.au)



AUGUST 9 IS CENSUS NIGHT.

OUR MOMENT TO  
**PAUSE** AND MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE.


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OUR MOMENT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

AUGUST 9 IS CENSUS NIGHT.

# IT'S A MOMENT FOR EVERYONE TO **PAUSE**, AND PLAY A ROLE IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AUSTRALIA.

## What is the Census?

The Census of Population and Housing (Census) is Australia's largest statistical collection and is undertaken by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). For more than 100 years, the Census has provided a snapshot of Australia, helping to shape our nation's education, health, transport and infrastructure.

The next Census will be held on August 9.

## What does the Census mean to Australia?

The Census provides important information about Australia's people and their housing. It helps estimate Australia's population, which is used to distribute government funds and plan services for your community.

In 2016, the Census is expected to count close to 10 million dwellings and approximately 24 million people, the largest to date.

## Completing your Census online

In 2016, more than 15 million people are expected to complete the Census online.

### What should I expect?

From August 1, most households will receive a letter from the ABS, addressed 'To the Resident'.

The letter will include your household's unique Census Login and instructions on how to complete the Census online, as well as directions on how to order a paper form.

### Can I use my hand held device to complete the Census online?

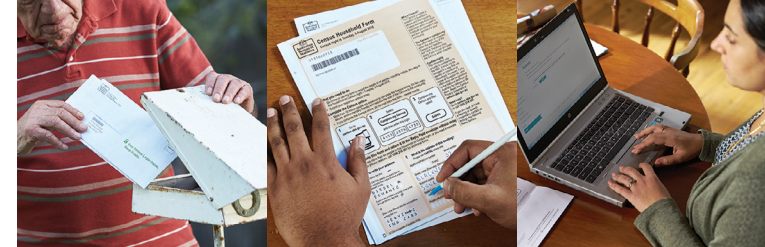
Yes. You can complete the Census wherever you can access the internet, using a desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile device.

### Why go digital?

Completing the Census online is fast, easy, secure, environmentally friendly, and helps to reduce the cost of the Census to the community.

By completing your Census online you can:

- Help the environment - we'll produce approximately 327 tonnes less paper material (that's over 6,000 trees) and we'll travel 230,000 fewer kilometres to deliver household materials than in the 2011 Census (that's more than five trips around the circumference of the Earth).
- Maintain flexibility - you can start, stop and save your responses at any time, returning to complete the form at a time that is convenient to you.



- Save time - we've streamlined the questions on the online form so you only answer the questions that you need to. It will take the average household approximately 30 minutes to complete the Census online.
- Reduce costs - you can contribute to approximately \$100 million savings of taxpayers' money.

### Can I still complete a paper form?

Yes. If you're unable to access the internet or would prefer to fill out a paper form, simply call our automated paper form request service. You will need your 12-digit Census Login from the letter you received.

Paper forms must be completed and returned in the Reply Paid envelope without delay - don't wait for a Census Field Officer to collect it.

### I have received a paper form. Can I complete it online?

In some locations, households will receive a paper form upfront with the option to complete the Census online. If you're able to access the internet, just follow the simple instructions on the front of the form to complete it online.

If you complete it online, do not mail back your paper form - please recycle.