Confidentiality
The 2020 Census & Data Stewardship

We Keep Your Data Safe!

When you trust us with your information, our goal — and legal duty — is to keep it safe. Our mission is to serve as the nation’s leading provider of quality data about its people and economy. We couldn’t produce this information without you.

Employees take an oath for life to safeguard your information. If they break that oath they can be fined up to $250,000 and jailed up to 5 years. All of our employees take a mandatory annual training reminding them of our confidentiality policies.

The Law Protects Your Information

By law, your information is confidential. Your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court. The law is found in Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Anyone who violates this law faces severe penalties.

Our Privacy Principles Guide Our Work

Our privacy principles guide our actions so that we respect your privacy and protect your confidentiality.

- We do not identify individuals in the data
- We publish. We only publish statistics.
- Our Disclosure Review Board verifies that any data product we release meets our confidentiality standards.

Secure Technologies

From the beginning of the data collection process through the final storage of information, we protect your data following industry best practices and federal requirements. We use data encryption and two forms of authentication to secure system access. The security of our systems is a top priority and we continually refine our approach to address emerging threats.