
Frequently Asked Questions...

2003 Census Update Survey

Q How will you protect my confidentiality?

A Under no circumstances will your individual replies be shared with anyone. Your answers will be combined with other responses and reported only as area summaries. The survey database does not contain any addresses or any other information that could identify you or your household. After the results are tabulated the original forms will be destroyed, making the identification of the individual replies impossible.

Q How was I picked to receive this survey?

A Your street address, not you directly, was selected to be a part of this survey. Your street address was randomly picked from all of the addresses in Montgomery County. It is very important that you respond because your household represents many others in your community.

Q How will this information be used?

A The survey results will help us understand how Montgomery County is changing. The data is used for forecasting population and housing, and modeling transportation issues. Many government agencies use the results to plan for schools, libraries, parks, and social services. Results from the 1997 CUS are available in the Research Center section on our website <http://www.mcfacts.org>.

Q Why are the forms numbered?

A The survey form you have received is numbered for mailing purposes. The number on your survey form will enable us to erase your address from our files once your survey is received. Households that do not respond will be contacted again.

Q Who is considered part of my household?

A Every child or adult who shares your house or apartment. These children or adults may or may not be part of your family. Please include persons who work for you that live in your home and persons who are temporarily away on trips. Do NOT include persons who live elsewhere such as college students, military personnel or persons who have recently moved out of your home.

Q Why do you need to know my income?

A By collecting information on income, family size, and housing costs, we can measure how many families in our community are under financial stress and how many families are at risk of becoming financially stressed. Information about all income levels assists us to determine eligibility criteria for programs and services. Many federal and state grants are based on formulas using county-level median income.

Q Why are you asking about foreign-born status and languages?

A Montgomery County's foreign-born population is a major component of the County's growth. The language information enables us to provide products, services and public outreach efforts that are responsive to a diverse community. Individual answers are not shared with any other government agency.

Need Help or Have Questions?

Call Park & Planning's Research & Technology Center: 301-495-4719
Si necesita ayuda llame al TESS, Centro de Servicios para la Comunidad: 301-565-7675