

2020 Census Self-Response Spreadsheet Report

The 2020 Census Response Rate Spreadsheet has three primary report tabs - State Rank, Tribal Response, and Census Tract Report. Each provides information on daily self-response to the 2020 Census. This rate is the percentage of households that have self-responded to the census online, by phone or by mail.

The State Rank Tab

This first worksheet shows four statistics. On the far left is a ranking of the response rates (including D.C. and Puerto Rico) from best to worst for the most current reporting date. The date of the report is shown in the second column ("Response Date").

Next to the state ranking in the top middle is a table showing how Montana compares to the U.S. overall self-response rate and Montana's current ranking. We have been 8th lowest for most of the 2020 Census reporting period. Minnesota has led the nation the entire period – which it also did in 2010.

Below the U.S. table is a daily table showing the response rate for Montana for every day since March 20, 2020. We don't necessarily have rates for each day in the other tables since staff do not process the information on the weekends. The information for this daily table comes directly from the Census self-response map unlike the other table information which is downloaded through the GIS system.

To the far right is self-response reporting by date for the fifty U.S. States, D.C. and Puerto Rico sorted by name. Montana is highlighted in blue.

Tribal Response Tab

The second worksheet shows the response rates for the seven reservation areas in Montana. The table to the far left shows the reservations alphabetically and includes additional information that helps CEIC target outreach.

Column B shows the tracts associated with each reservation and Column C has the zip codes.

Column D has the estimated number of housing units for the reservation areas. The source is the 2018 American Community Survey - 5 Year Average from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Column E has the estimated percentage of housing units that area seasonal, for occasional use, or for migrant workers. This is important since these housing units often have Census packets left at the door which are not returned thus negatively impacting the self-response rate. The number of vacation homes in Montana is near 40,000 and many of these households end up having a Census packet dropped at the door even though they are vacant. The source for the seasonal, occasional, migrant housing data is the 2010 Census since the Decennial Census is the only time seasonal, occasional, migrant housing information is collected.

Column F provides the percentage of the population that is American Indian alone or in combination with another race. Column F provides the median age. The source for both is the 2018 American Community Survey - 5 Year Average from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Columns H-AV show the self-response percentage for each reservation for response dates from April 6, 2020 to May 5, 2020. A number of these columns are hidden so only the more recent dates are shown.

Column AW has a Response Value. This is a value assigned by CEIC staff to show the level of response for this area and used for targeting outreach efforts. The table in Column BB provides the five ranges for the various self-response.

All the reservation areas except the Flathead Reservation have very low self-response rates. Flathead is higher since more households received an invitation to participate in the mail. The households on the other reservations did not receive an invitation because they are predominately update / leave areas. In update / leave areas, U.S. Census workers leave a packet including a 2020 Census questionnaire at the door. These operations were suspended in early March because of the pandemic. The Census workers resumed update / leave operations and started dropping packets at households in Montana on May 9, 2020.

The table in column AY shows the national and Montana's self-response rate for the most recent date for comparison purposes.

The Census Tract Report Tab

The third worksheet provides the self-response rate for each of the 374 Census tracts in Montana. Like the Tribal Response Worksheet, columns D-H provide statistics on each area for outreach targeting purposes.

Column I (“% Update Leave”) provides the percentage of households that receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census by having a packet dropped at the door. Column J is the percentage that receive this information by mail. The correlation between the self-response rate and whether the 2020 Census invitation was delivered by mail or update leave is over 80% - with high responses if received by mail and low responses if received through update / leave operations.

Columns K through AQ show the self-response percentage for each Census tracts for response dates from April 6, 2020 to May 5, 2020. Column AR shows the difference from the previous reported date. Column AS has the assigned response value, Column AT indicates whether the tract includes reservation land.

Column AU has the response scale rating table but includes, in column AX and AY, the percentage of tracts within each range. Below the table in rows 9 and 10 are the national and Montana self-response rates for the most recent reporting date.

In column AU rows 11 and 12 are links to the Montana Tract Map and the US. Census Self-response Map.