# It's time to fill in your census form



This leaflet tells you about the census and how to fill in the form.





#### What is the census?

Every 10 years we collect information about everyone in Northern Ireland.



We do this by asking some questions about:



- where you live
- where you work

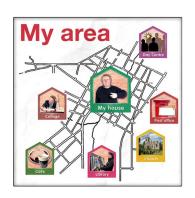


This is called a **census**.



#### Your answers are very important.

It will help tell us how many people live in Northern Ireland and a little bit about them.



Your answers help organisations to decide how best to run services in your local area.



Services like:

hospitals



 council services that help you and the area you live in



 transport. This means things like buses



schools

March 21

The next census is happening on **Sunday 21 March 2021**.

### Who should fill in the census form



Everybody needs to fill in the census.

1 person in your house can fill it in for everyone or you can fill it in yourself.

If 1 person fills it in for everyone they must either:



live there and own the home or pay the rent



live there and pay the bills.
 Things like the gas, electricity and rates



 be a paid support worker or carer for people who live in the house



### What you need to do

You will get a letter in the post.

As soon as you get the letter you can fill in the census.



We will ask you to tell us who is staying at your home on **Sunday 21 March 2021**.



You should include people who usually live there, even if they are away from home on that day.



If someone is staying overnight you can add them as a visitor.

### **Important**



The law says you must fill in the census form.



If you don't fill it in you may have to pay a fine.

The fine can be up to £1000.



### How to fill in your census form

You can fill in the form online or you can fill in a paper form.



You need to phone us if you want a paper form.

Phone0800 328 2021It is free to phone us.



You will get a letter with a code on it. It is called your **access code**.



You need this code to fill in the census. You should keep it safe and only share it with people you trust.



### How to fill in the census online

Go to this website address www.census.gov.uk/ni



Type your access code in the box.



**Answer the census questions.**The questions are not in easy read.



You do not have to answer all the questions at once.



You can save your answers and finish it later or do a little bit at a time.

You will need your access code each time.



When you have answered all the questions click **submit**.

### Help to fill in the census

If you need help to fill in the census you can:



 ask someone you trust to help you fill it in





contact us

#### How to contact us



Go to our website www.census.gov.uk/ni



Phone us
0800 328 2021
It is free to phone us.



If you have a hearing problem you can use our Text Relay service (18001) 0800 328 2021
It is free to phone us.



If you need information in another language telephone
0800 587 2021
It is free to phone us.



## How we will look after the information you give us

We will keep any personal information you tell us confidential and safe.



This means we will not share it with anyone else.



Look at our website to find out how we look after personal information.

Website www.census.gov.uk/ni/privacy

