

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**IN FAR WEST TEXAS EVERYONE COUNTS
RIO GRANDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ANNOUNCES:**

Now, more than ever, it is important to be counted in the 2020 Census

Far West Texas (March 27, 2020) – In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in closures of businesses, schools, and restricting the size of gatherings, many Census outreach events are now postponed for the health and safety of our residents.

New strategies to reach hard-to-count households in our community during this time will include continued and added social media networking and promotion and a bolstered reliance on traditional outlets such as newspapers, radio, bulk mailings, flyers and posters. Information and good swag will also accompany school meals and distributions at regional food pantries.

Counties and municipalities will need federal resources to recover from COVID-19 aftermath, and since funding is based on population, an accurate Census count is essential. As of today, these are the response rates in our area:

This is where we are as of 3/30:

El Paso 27.8%	Jeff Davis 3.8%
Hudspeth 2.6%	Presidio 0.6%
Culberson 1.2%	Brewster 11.6%

We need to get these numbers up!

It has never been easier or more convenient to complete the Census from the comfort of your own home. Everyone who lives in the household must be counted, regardless of immigration status.

If you haven't received your Census survey yet, you can respond either on line at **My2020Census.gov** or over the phone. English speakers can call (844) 330-2020 and Spanish speakers can call (844) 468-2020 to participate.

Stay home! Sanitize! Self-Respond!

Everyone Counts!