What questions will be on the 2020 Census?

In just a few months, Johnson County residents will join the rest of the country in participating in the 2020 Census, which only happens every 10 years. Data collected in this census ensure that Johnson County communities get the appropriate amounts of federal funding dollars and are represented adequately in government, among other important reasons to participate.

As the census gets closer, it is a good time to get informed about the questions that will and won’t be asked. The good news is that the questions are fairly simple.

- How many people are living or staying in the home on April 1, 2020?
- Is the home is owned or rented?
- How many males and females are in the home?
- What is the age and race of each person in the home?
- Are there people in the home who are of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
- What are the relationships of each person in the home?

Governments, businesses, communities, and nonprofits will use this data to, for example, inform decisions about housing programs, plan for and fund government programs that support specific age groups including older adults, and help federal agencies monitor compliance with anti-discrimination provisions.

So, what questions will not be on the U.S. Census?

- What is your social security number?
- What political party do you support?
- Are you and the other members of your household U.S. citizens?
- Requests for donations, money, your bank account or a credit card number.

If you suspect fraud during this process, you can call 1-800-923-8282 and you will get connected with a local Census Bureau representative. The Census Bureau has good information about avoiding frauds and scams at www.2020census.gov/en/avoiding-fraud.html.