

CITY OF LAGO VISTA
5803 Thunderbird Street
Lago Vista, TX 78645
www.lagovistatexas.org

LAGO VISTA VIEWS

www.lagovistatexas.org • August 2020



**Deadline to Respond
October 31**

**Respond Online at
2020Census.gov**

The 2020 Census is Important for Lago Vista *So Why are We Lagging Behind in Response Rates?*

Lago Vista is currently running far behind in the 2020 Census Response Rate compared to that of national, state, county, and neighboring cities. Low response rates for the 2020 Census can spell trouble for us. Let's look quickly at some basic information - what is the Census, why is it important for us, is our information private, and how do we respond?

ONLY 25.4% OF LAGO VISTA RESIDENTS HAVE RESPONDED.

RESPONSE RATE	LAGO VISTA	JONESTOWN	POINT VENTURE	CEDAR PARK	AUSTIN
July 13, 2020	25.40%	56.80%	53.30%	69.90%	53%

City Hall
512-267-1155
info@lago-vista.org

Utility Services
512-267-1155
utilitybilling@lago-vista.org

Municipal Court
512-267-9419
lagocourt@lago-vista.org

Development Services
512-267-5259
development@lago-vista.org

Public Works Department
512-267-1993
publicworks@lago-vista.org

Human Resources
512-267-1155
dmaguire@lago-vista.org

Parks and Recreation
512-267-1155
cmobley@lago-vista.org

Lago Vista Golf Course
512-267-1170
CGodwin@lago-vista.org

Lago Vista Police Department
512-267-7141

Dr. Lila Valencia, a senior demographer in the Texas Demographic Center, explains **that for every Travis County resident who is not counted, the county loses at least \$1,500 per year.**

The census happens every 10 years, and this is the first year you can **fill it out online at 2020Census.gov** or over the phone. In the United States, the census is officially a big deal. Originally, the census was meant to be a way to count everyone so that the members of the House of Representatives could be allocated properly to the states. **Today the federal government allocates billions of dollars to states for all sorts of programs, much of it based on population. The census provides the only official head count. EVERYONE IS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW TO RESPOND.**

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT The Federal Government **dispenses \$6.75 billion annually** among states based on population. With a 1% undercount in the 2010 census, **Texas lost \$3.59 billion in federal funding during a 10-year period**, according to Census Bureau data. **Travis County is estimated to have lost well over \$1 million.** Every City in Travis County is relied upon to correct this trend in our county, including Lago Vista.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT LAGO VISTA? Funding on the local level is also based on **population**. This is funding for our schools, emergency services, disaster relief, roads, infrastructure, education, and more. **Undercounting our population is like leaving money on the table. If only 25% of Lago Vistans respond to the census, then the City would theoretically lose funding for the 75% of us who don't.**

PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF CENSUS DATA By law, the **CENSUS BUREAU CANNOT SHARE CENSUS ANSWERS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**, including welfare agencies, immigration, the police or FBI, the Internal Revenue Service, courts or the military. Under the provisions of Title 13 of the U.S. Code, **census workers who break this law face up to five years in prison or \$250,000 in fines or both** [source: U.S. Census Bureau]. The law works — millions of questionnaires are processed without any breach of trust.

Continued on the next page.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Thursday, 8/6 - 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, 8/20 - 6:30 p.m.
Watch Live Stream & Archived
Meetings & Special Addresses
anytime on the City's
[YouTube Channel](#).

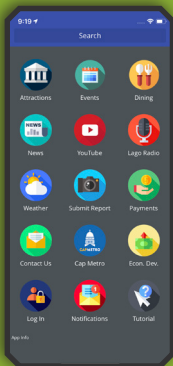
LAGO VISTA GOLF COURSE

4616 Rimrock Drive
Lago Vista, TX 78645
512-267-1170

AREA EVENTS

Visit the [City website](#),
mobile app, [Facebook page](#),
[North Lake Travis Chamber
of Commerce website](#) at
northlaketravischamber.org,
and on [LagoRadio](#).

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for news, happenings and music
from the 60s, 70s, and 80s.
Live streaming at lagoradio.org

HOW DO I RESPOND? Responding to the 2020 Census is secure, easy, and takes only five minutes to do. There is no need to find a Census form letter that may have been mailed to you. Simply go online at [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov) to respond today.

DEADLINE TO RESPOND IS OCTOBER 31, 2020 - Go to: [2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov)

Response Rates Comparison

	Lago Vista	Jonestown	Cedar Park	Austin	Travis	Texas	US
March 9	5.8	n/a	9.1	11.6	10.7	11.2	14.1
March 30	14.9	n/a	37.4	32.3	32.5	31.3	36.2
April 15	20.9	n/a	56.4	48.7	49.0	45.1	49.4
April 30	23.0	n/a	63.1	54.5	54.7	50.3	53.7
May 12	24.2	n/a	66.5	57.4	57.7	53.5	59.0
May 18	24.4	n/a	67.4	58.2	58.5	54.3	59.6
May 25	24.7	n/a	68.0	58.7	59.0	54.8	60.1
June 9	24.9	n/a	68.9	59.6	59.9	55.5	60.8
June 18	25.1	n/a	69.2	59.9	60.2	56.2	61.5
July 6	25.3	n/a	69.7	60.4	60.7	56.7	61.9
July 13	25.4	56.8	69.9	53.0	60.9	56.9	62.1
July 19	25.4	56.8	70.0	60.8	61.1	57.1	62.2

As of July 6, 2020, here's how we ranked:

- National Response Rate = 61.9%
- Out of 52 states - **Texas is #40**
- Out of **254 counties** in Texas - **Travis County is #18**
- **Out of 1,217 cities** in Texas - **Lago Vista is an alarming #1,155**

CENSUS INFORMATION AND RESOURCES FOR HOW YOU CAN ACT AS AN ADVOCATE

City of Lago Vista Facebook posts and Notes: facebook.com/CityOfLagoVistaTexas

City of Lago Vista website: www.lagovistatexas.org for news

2020 Census website: 2020census.gov

Response Rates Data: 2020census.gov/en/response-rates

How You Can Advocate for Others to Respond: 2020census.gov/en/how-to-help

Library News - August 2020

The Lago Vista Public Library's Virtual Summer Reading Program has been going strong and will be wrapping up on Wednesday, August 5. Our outstanding young readers who have tracked their time will be awarded prizes that day, with gift cards from Half Price Books, and every child who participated will receive a bag of goodies!

Although we are still not able to resume our regular story-time sessions at this time, on-line activities for children will be posted on the [Library website](#) and [Facebook](#) page beginning August 12 at 11:00 a.m.

In other exciting news, the library no longer charges fines for ANY late return of Lago Vista Public Library materials. There are lots of new book arrivals that are just waiting for you to check out, including fiction, nonfiction, audiobooks, large print books, and DVDs!

SAFE OPERATIONS:

- The library is still operating with the "Grab & Go" concept.
- Anyone entering the library IS REQUIRED to wear a face covering per the order of Governor Greg Abbott.
- There are a limited number of public computers available for necessary projects only.
- The library's current hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Curbside service is still available.
- Enjoy free downloadable e-books and audiobooks from the comfort of your home.

For more information and updates, visit the library website: www.lagovista.lib.tx.us, [Facebook](#) and other social media pages, email lvlibrary@austin.rr.com, call **512-267-3868**, or find us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Pinterest](#).