

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Eastern Caribbean Center To Conduct V.I. Community Survey

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The Eastern Caribbean Center of the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) will conduct the 2018 Virgin Islands Community Survey (VICS) during the months of November and December 2018, UVI announced today. The scientific survey of a sample of households is a follow-up to the one conducted in 2016, the university said. The information collected is similar to that gathered in the Population and Housing Census of 2010.

Virgin Islands Community Survey (VICS) data for 2018 will be gathered on two topics - population and housing. Population questions cover items such as age, sex, education, ethnic origin, employment, health insurance, veteran status and disability. Housing questions cover items about the housing unit in which respondents live, such as: water

source, internet access, number of rooms, utilities, ownership and rent. "When processed, the 2018 VICCS will provide data for agencies whose jobs are to organize and plan for the social, educational, health, economic and other needs of the community," said Dr. Frank Mills, acting director of the Eastern Caribbean Center. "The data are also used by private-sector individuals for decision making and employed by others to develop important indices of the status of children in the territory," Dr. Mills said.

The University of the Virgin Islands requests the cooperation of the public when interviewers carrying UVI photo IDs visit households on all three islands. Unlike the Census, this is a scientific sample survey and not every household will be interviewed, UVI said.

The public is assured of complete confidentiality of their information gathered, as the data are published in summary form only and individuals cannot be identified. As in the Census, anonymity of respondents is a

cornerstone feature of this survey.

"Each selected household can experience a sense of accomplishment by contributing to data that will greatly assist in the rational development of the Virgin Islands community," Dr. Mills said.

For more information, call the Eastern Caribbean Center at UVI at 693-1020.