



2010 CENSUS: IT'S IN OUR HANDS

What You Need to Know about the 2010 Census

In 2010, the U.S. census will define who we are as a nation. Taken every 10 years, the census affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding. As a 2010 Census partner, you can educate your community about the importance of participating in this historic event and help ensure no one is left uncounted. You can help your community receive the fiscal and social benefits to which it is entitled. **Achieving a complete and accurate 2010 Census is in our hands.**

The Census: A Snapshot

- ▲ The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years.
- ▲ The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens.
- ▲ The 2010 Census will create hundreds of thousands of temporary jobs across the nation.

It's in Our Hands: Your Participation in the 2010 Census Matters

- ▲ Every year, more than \$300 billion in federal funds is awarded to states and communities based on census data. That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period.
- ▲ Census data guide local decision-makers in important community planning efforts, including where to build new roads, hospitals and schools.
- ▲ Census data affect your voice in Congress by determining how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Completing the 2010 Census Questionnaire: Simple and Safe

- ▲ The 2010 Census questionnaire asks only a few simple questions of each person—name, relationship, gender, age and date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to complete and return by mail.
- ▲ The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their household for 72 years.

www.census.gov/2010census



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Become a 2010 Census Partner

CENSUS PARTNERS

FAST FACTS ABOUT THE CENSUS

Safe. The Census Bureau protects information that identifies respondents or their households for 72 years.

Easy. The questionnaire contains only a few simple questions and takes just a few minutes to answer and return by mail.

Everyone counts. The census is a count of everyone living in the United States, including all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens.

Coming soon. Census questionnaires will be mailed in March 2010.

In 2010, the U.S. Census Bureau will issue a call to action for every resident of our nation: "Be Counted."

The 2010 Census is important. It determines the distribution of \$300 billion annually of government funding for critical community services. It generates thousands of jobs across the country. And it impacts your voice in Congress.

Your support of the 2010 Census matters. Your partnership sends a strong message to your community about the importance of the census and the benefits of being counted. A complete and accurate count is in our hands.

Why should you partner with the 2010 Census?

- **Bring jobs to your community.** The Census Bureau will hire hundreds of thousands of people nationwide for temporary census jobs. You can recruit applicants in your community and help boost your local economy.
- **Get the funding your community deserves.** Census data are used to allocate billions of dollars in government funding and guide where to build roads, schools, job training centers and more. An incomplete count could mean your community does not receive its fair share of funding.
- **Ensure your interests are represented.** Census data will determine how many seats each state will have in Congress and impact redistricting of state and local districts.

Take action:

As a partner, you will play an important role in making the 2010 Census successful by encouraging people in your community to take part in the count. As a partner, you can:

- Include census information in newsletters, mailings and online.
- Sponsor meetings or other events to encourage participation in the census.
- Help recruit census workers.
- Provide space for testing and training census employees.
- Issue a proclamation or other public endorsement for the 2010 Census.

For more information about becoming a 2010 Census partner, go to www.census.gov/2010census.