

# 10 QUESTIONS MINUTES

TO DEFINE WHO WE ARE AS A NATION

## The Census: A Snapshot

- ▲ **What:** The census is a count of everyone in the United States.
- ▲ **Who:** Everyone in the United States must be counted—both citizens and noncitizens.
- ▲ **Why:** The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition, census data play a part in guiding funding for essential community services and other important programs.
- ▲ **When:** Households will receive a census form in March 2010 either by U.S. mail or by hand delivery.

## Benefits of Census Data for People with Disabilities:

- ▲ Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments.
- ▲ Census data help guide local planning decisions, including where to provide additional social services, establish senior and child-care centers, build new roads, hospitals and schools, or determine locations for job training centers. That means census data can directly affect the quality of life for people with disabilities and their families by impacting:
  - Planning and construction of facilities for people with disabilities.
  - Transportation services and needs.
  - Community-based health care initiatives and programs.

## People with Disabilities

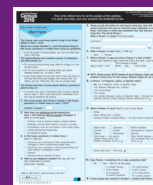
United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census**  
**2010**

**THE 2010 CENSUS IS EASY,  
IMPORTANT AND SAFE, AND  
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS VITAL.**

**It's easy:** The 2010 Census form is one of the shortest census forms in history. With only 10 questions, the form takes about 10 minutes to complete.

**It's important:** Census information helps determine locations for schools, roads, hospitals, job training, child-care and senior centers, and more.

**It's safe:** By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of non-disclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.



**We can't  
move forward  
until you  
mail it back.**

## 2010 CENSUS KEY DATES



### **March 2010:**

Census forms are mailed or delivered to households.



### **April 1, 2010:**

Census Day



### **April - July 2010:**

Census workers visit households that did not return a form by mail.



### **Dec. 31, 2010:**

Final counts are delivered to the President of the United States.

Research shows that people with disabilities are motivated by knowing that completing their census form can improve special services and the quality of life in their communities.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### 1. When will the census forms arrive?

Census forms will be delivered or mailed to households in March 2010. Households should complete their census form and mail it back. Responding promptly to the 2010 Census form is the most efficient way to complete the census. Census workers will visit households that do not return the forms to take a count in person. Census workers can be identified by a census badge and bag.

### 2. Who should fill out the census form?

One person should complete the form on behalf of every person in the residence, including relatives and nonrelatives. Caregivers of people with disabilities can complete census forms for those unable to do so themselves.

### 3. What kind of assistance is available to help people complete the form?

Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) will be available to assist those unable to read or understand the census form. For those with visual impairments, Language Assistance Guides will be available in large print and Braille. Language Assistance Guides also will be available in 59 languages at all QAC locations. Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons who do not have access to Video Relay Service (VRS) can call 1-866-783-2010 via FedRelay, a free and confidential federal government communications service.

### 4. How will the 2010 Census differ from previous censuses?

In 2010, every residence will receive a short form with just 10 questions. The form takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

**For more information about the  
2010 Census, visit [2010census.gov](http://2010census.gov).**