

10 MINUTES

TO DEFINE WHO WE ARE AS A NATION

The Census: A Snapshot

- ▲ **What:** A count of everyone in the United States.
- ▲ **Who:** Everyone in the United States must be counted - both citizens and noncitizens.
- ▲ **When:** 2010 Census forms will be mailed or delivered in March 2010 to students living off campus and April - May 2010 to students living in on-campus housing.
- ▲ **Why:** The U.S. Constitution requires a national census every 10 years to count the population and determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- ▲ **How:** College and university students should complete and return their census form upon receipt.

A Complete Count: The Importance of Census Data

- ▲ The census helps employers understand where the next generation of workers is coming from, which will influence recruitment efforts.
- ▲ Scientific research depends on census data. College and university students and faculty use census information for reports, statistical profiles and other research projects.
- ▲ Census data affect college and university tuition grant and loan programs.
- ▲ Census figures help establish fair-market rents and enforce fair lending practices.
- ▲ Every year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to state, local and tribal governments. Funding is used to build new schools, roads, hospitals and more.

Easy, Important and Confidential

- ▲ **Easy:** Shortest census form in history. It takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.
- ▲ **Important:** Census information helps determine school grant and loan programs, locations for new schools, roads and hospitals, and provides important data for research conducted by students and faculty.
- ▲ **Confidential:** 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 nondisclosure 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.

COLLEGE AND
UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

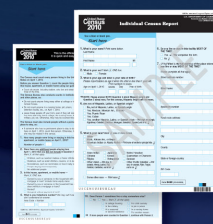
United States®
Census
2010

CENSUS HISTORY

The first census took place in 1790 to determine the number of seats each state would have in the U.S. House of Representatives. The census also was created to gain a better understanding of where people lived and to establish patterns of settlement as the nation grew.

ABOUT THE CENSUS BUREAU

The Census Bureau was established in 1902. Today, in addition to administering the census of population and housing, the Census Bureau conducts more than 200 annual surveys, including the American Community Survey, the Current Population Survey and economic censuses every five years.



**We move
forward
when you
send it back.**

2010 Census Key Dates



March 2010

Census forms are mailed or delivered to students living off campus in a house, apartment, etc.



April - May 2010

Census forms are distributed to students living in on-campus housing.



April 1, 2010

Census Day, the official day of the population count. All 2010 Census responses should represent the household as it exists on this day.



May - July 2010

Census workers will visit households of students living off campus that do not return forms to take a count in person.



Dec. 31, 2010

By law, the Census Bureau presents the 2010 apportionment counts to the President of the United States.



March 2011

By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How are college/university students living on campus counted by the Census Bureau?

If you live in a dormitory, residence hall, sorority or fraternity house, you'll receive a 2010 Census form in April or May 2010. No need to mail the form, simply complete it and turn it in to your school's designated census form return site.

2. How are students living in off-campus housing counted by the Census Bureau?

A 2010 Census form will be delivered or mailed to your house or apartment in March 2010. All students living at the address are considered one household, so only one form should be completed that includes information about all the people living at that address. Return the form in the U.S. mail envelope provided.

3. How are students who live with parents or guardians counted by the Census Bureau?

If you commute to school and reside full-time at your parents' or guardians' household, you should be accounted for on your parents' or guardians' household form.

4. What if I am an international student or not a U.S. citizen? Do I participate in the 2010 Census?

Yes. Everyone in the United States must be counted. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and noncitizens.

5. I will be studying abroad during the 2010 spring semester. How do I participate in the 2010 Census?

The 2010 Census is a count of everyone in the United States on April 1, 2010. If you are studying or living abroad at this time, you will not be counted in the 2010 Census.

6. Will the Census Bureau share my information with anyone?

No. 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 nondisclosure 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.

7. How can I get involved with the 2010 Census?

There are numerous ways to get involved. Participate in on-campus activities, spread the word about the 2010 Census or pursue a temporary census job.

8. Are there temporary 2010 job opportunities?

The Census Bureau is hiring more than a million employees to help execute the 2010 Census. A variety of temporary jobs, which are perfect for college students, are available. Census jobs pay competitive wages based on current pay rates in your area. For information about census jobs, visit 2010censusjobs.gov.

For more information about the 2010 Census, go to 2010census.gov.