

10 QUESTIONS MINUTES

TO DEFINE WHO WE ARE AS A NATION

The Census: A Snapshot

- ▲ **What:** The census is a count of everyone living in the United States.
- ▲ **Who:** Every person living 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 Veterans:

- ▲ Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments.
- ▲ Those who have served in the military have a particular stake in the 2010 Census as it relates to resource distribution.
- ▲ Of interest to veterans, an accurate census count helps to determine:
 - Education opportunities.
 - Job training programs.
 - Housing needs and forecasting.
 - Planning for health programs, clinics and short- and long-term care facilities for people with disabilities.

Veterans

United States®
Census
2010

THE 2010 CENSUS IS EASY, IMPORTANT AND SAFE, AND 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 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.

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.



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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. When will the census forms arrive?

A. 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.

Q. Who should fill out the census form?

A. One person should complete the form on behalf of every person living at that address, including relatives and nonrelatives.

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

A. Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) will be available to assist those unable to read or understand the census form. For those with visual impairments, the Language Assistance Guide will be available in large print and Braille. Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons who do not have access to Video Relay Service (VRS) can call the TDD number, 1-866-783-2010. In addition to these options, a Language Assistance Guide will be available in 59 languages at all QAC locations.

Q. What benefits and programs emerged from Census 2000?

A. Census 2000 data helped with allocating funds for employment and job training programs for veterans under the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program. Additionally, many public transportation services were improved after data showed the difficulties some people, including veterans with disabilities, had in traveling outside their homes.

**For more information about the
2010 Census, visit 2010census.gov.**