



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

# 2010 Census in a Flash

The United States Constitution requires a census every 10 years to determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. But community leaders use the census for everything from planning schools and building roads to providing recreational opportunities and managing health-care services.

## How Big Is It?

- About 310 million U.S. residents
- Approximately 180 million households
- More than 3.8 million job applicants recruited
- More than 1.4 million jobs at peak
- More than 140,000 organizations supported  
Census 2000,

## When is it?

April - June 2009	Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide.
Fall 2009	Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2010.
March 2010	Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.
<b>April 1, 2010</b>	<b>Census Day</b>
May-July 2010	Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.
December 2010	By law, Census Bureau delivers population counts to President for apportionment.
March 2011	By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

## What's on the Census Form?

The 2010 Census questionnaire asks only a few simple questions of each person—name, age, date of birth, race, relationship to the person filling out the form, 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.

## Why Should You Answer the Census?

You can do your part to ensure that your community receives the fiscal and social benefits to which it is entitled. Educate your community about the importance of participating in this historic event and help ensure that no one is left uncounted.

**It's important.** – Census data affect funding for your community, your community's representation in Congress and your community leader's planning decisions.

**It's easy.** – The census questionnaire takes only a few minutes to answer and return by mail.

**It's confidential.** – Your responses are protected by law (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). All Census Bureau employees have taken an oath to protect confidentiality and are subject to a jail term, a fine – or both – for disclosing any information that could identify a respondent or household.

For additional information about Census 2010, go to [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov)

