

10 QUESTIONS MINUTES

TO DEFINE WHO WE ARE AS NATIVE HAWAIIANS
AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

The Census: A Snapshot

- ▲ **What:** The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States and Island Territories.
- ▲ **Who:** All people living in the United States must be counted—people of all races and ethnic groups, both citizens and non-citizens.
- ▲ **When:** Census Day is April 1, 2010. Questionnaire responses should represent the household as it exists on this day.
- ▲ **Why:** The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census provides state population counts and determines representation in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- ▲ **How:** Census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households in March 2010. Census takers will visit households that do not return questionnaires starting in May.

A Complete Count: The Importance of Census Data

- ▲ Every year, the federal government allocates more than \$400 billion annually to states and communities based, in part, on census data.
- ▲ Decision makers use census data to determine the locations of supermarkets, new housing, and other facilities.
- ▲ Census data guide local Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander decision-makers on where to build new roads, hospitals, child-care and senior citizen centers, schools, and more.

2010 Census Questionnaire: It's Easy, It's Important, and It's Safe

- ▲ With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest census questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete for the average household.
- ▲ By law, the Census Bureau cannot share individually identifiable or a household's questionnaire responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

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.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

2010 CENSUS KEY DATES



March 2010

Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.



April 1, 2010 CENSUS DAY



May - July 2010

Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.



December 31, 2010

By law, the Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President for apportionment.



March 2011

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

1. Q. Who should fill out the census questionnaire?

A. The individual in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented should complete the questionnaire on behalf of every person living in the residence, including relatives and non-relatives.

2. Q. How will the 2010 Census differ from previous censuses?

A. In 2010, every household will receive a short questionnaire of just 10 questions. More detailed socioeconomic information previously collected through the decennial census is being asked of a small percentage of the population through the annual American Community Survey. To learn more about the American Community Survey, visit www.census.gov.

3. Q. How are census data used?

A. Census data determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census data also can help determine the allocation of federal funds for community services, such as school lunch programs and senior citizen centers, and new construction, such as highways and hospitals.

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

A. 2010 Census questionnaire language assistance guides are available in Chamorro, Chuukese, Marshallese, Samoan, and Tongan. Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) will also assist those unable to read or understand the questionnaire. Large-print questionnaires are available to the visually impaired upon request, and a Teletext Device for the Deaf (TDD) program will help the hearing impaired.

5. Q. How does the Census Bureau count people without a permanent residence?

A. Census Bureau workers undertake extensive operations to take in-person counts of people living in group quarters, such as college dormitories, military barracks, nursing homes, hotels, and shelters, as well as those who have been displaced by natural disasters.

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