



MAKE SURE YOU'RE COUNTED IN THE 2010 U.S. CENSUS!

First of all, what is the Census? Every 10 years, the U.S. government counts and gathers basic information about the nation's population by mailing a short questionnaire called the Census Form to every household in the country. The law requires every person living in the household to be reported on the form; the law also protects the confidentiality of the information reported on the form. The 2010 Census Form will arrive in your mailbox sometime in March, and it is due back by April 1.

Why is the Census important? Census data is used for Congressional reapportionment and redistricting; for planning transportation, education, health services, housing, and emergency services; and for allocating funds to community organizations. In short, it is used to track changes in the population and to assess the needs of communities. In past Censuses, Asian Americans have been undercounted, so for the upcoming Census, we really need to get the word out and encourage our friends and family members to complete the form.

One of the questions on the Census Form asks about racial identity. For Asian and Pacific Islander Americans, several sub-groups are listed as checkbox categories. If you identify as one of those pre-listed groups, you can simply check off the box next to it. If you don't identify as any of the pre-listed groups, you have another option: you can select "Other Asian" or "Other Pacific Islander" and write in a response by hand (for example, TAIWANESE and HMONG are not offered as pre-listed categories, so you can write them in by hand). The race question allows multiple responses, so you can select as many categories as you identify with.

Thank you so much for your attention to this important effort. Please feel free to consult the attached FAQ for more information about the Census and how it works.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do non-citizens and international students have to complete the Census Form?

Yes. EVERY resident of the United States—citizen and non-citizen alike—must complete the form.

HOW and WHEN will I get the form?

ONE Census Form will be mailed to every household in MARCH 2010. There is a separate section on the form for every person living in the household. Roommates sharing a house or apartment must use the same Census Form even if they are not family members. Be sure to educate your roommates about the Census and make sure they do not throw away the form!

Students living in college dormitories and sorority and fraternity houses will be counted through the use of Individual Census Reports distributed to students by residential assistants and housing staff between April 1 and May 15, 2010.

WHEN is the form DUE?

The completed form must be mailed back to the Census Bureau in the pre-paid, pre-addressed envelope by APRIL 1, 2010.

How do I know that my information will be protected?

Title 13 of the U.S. Code protects the confidentiality of all your information, and violating this law is a crime with severe penalties. In addition, other federal laws, including the Confidential Statistical Efficiency Act and the Privacy Act, reinforce these protections.

Where should I go if I have additional questions?

For more information, visit
<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/how/questions.php>