

Census 2010 & the Asian Pacific Islander American Community



What is the Census?

- Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States requires that the Census Bureau counts the total number of people in the United States, regardless of citizenship, every ten years for the purpose of reapportionment. The next count will occur in 2010, with Census Day on April 1, 2010.
- The form will be sent out in mid-March and must be returned by April 15. For those forms that are not returned, Census officials will go door-to-door trying to collect forms from households who have not responded. This costs the government thousands of dollars thus underscoring the importance of returning the form promptly.

10 questions

10 minutes

For 10 years of benefits!

What does the form look like?

United States
Census 2010

This is the official form for all the people at this address.
It is quick and easy, and your answers are protected by law.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Use a blue or black pen.
Start here

The Census must count every person living in the United States on April 1, 2010.
Before you answer Question 1, count the people living in this house, apartment, or mobile home using our guidelines.

- Count all people, including babies, who live and sleep here most of the time.

The Census Bureau also conducts counts in institutions and other places, so:

- Do not count anyone living away either at college or in the Armed Forces.
- Do not count anyone in a nursing home, jail, prison, detention facility, etc., on April 1, 2010.
- Leave these people off your form, even if they will return to live here after they leave college, the nursing home, the military, jail, etc. Otherwise, they may be counted twice.

The Census must also include people without a permanent place to stay, so:

- If someone who has no permanent place to stay is staying here on April 1, 2010, count that person. Otherwise, he or she may be missed in the census.

1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2010?
Number of people =

2. Were there any additional people staying here April 1, 2010 that you did not include in Question 1? Mark all that apply.

- Children, such as newborn babies or foster children
- Relatives, such as adult children, cousins, or in-laws
- Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in baby sitters
- People staying here temporarily
- No additional people

3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home — Mark ONE box.

- Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Include home equity loans.
- Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
- Rented?
- Occupied without payment of rent?

4. What is your telephone number? We may call if we don't understand an answer.
Area Code + Number
 - -

5. Please provide information for each person living here. Start with a person living here who owns or rents this house, apartment, or mobile home. If the owner or renter lives somewhere else, start with any adult living here. This will be Person 1.
What is Person 1's name? Print name below.
Last Name
First Name MI

6. What is Person 1's sex? Mark ONE box.
 Male Female

7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? Please report babies as age 0 when the child is less than 1 year old. Print numbers in boxes.
Age on April 1, 2010 Month Day Year of birth

→ NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print origin, for example, Argentinian, Colombian, Dominican, Nicaraguan, Salvadoran, Spaniard, and so on. ↗

9. What is Person 1's race? Mark one or more boxes.

- White
- Black, African Am., or Negro
- American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe. ↗
- Asian Indian
- Chinese
- Filipino
- Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on. ↗
- Japanese
- Korean
- Vietnamese
- Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on. ↗
- Native Hawaiian
- Guamanian or Chamorro
- Samoan
- Some other race — Print race. ↗

10. Does Person 1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?
 No Yes — Mark all that apply.

- In college housing
- In the military
- At a seasonal or second residence
- For child custody
- In jail or prison
- In a nursing home
- For another reason

→ If more people were counted in Question 1, continue with Person 2.

OMB No. 0607-0919-C; Approval Expires 12/31/2011.
Form **D-61** (1-15-2009)

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

WHY IS THE CENSUS SO IMPORTANT?



Why is the Census so Important?

- The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:
 - Hospitals
 - Job training centers
 - Schools
 - Senior centers
 - Bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects
 - Emergency services
- The data collected by the Census also help determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- People from many walks of life use census data to advocate for causes, rescue disaster victims, prevent diseases, research markets, locate pools of skilled workers and more.



Why is the Census so Important?

- For each person who does not fill out the form, that district loses approximately \$1,200.
- The state of Michigan stands to lose one district after this coming Census thus giving the state less electoral votes in presidential elections.
- It is required by law that everyone living in the United States fill out the census (*regardless of citizenship*).

Why is the Census so Important for Asian Pacific Islander Americans?

- Completing Census forms:
 - Helps your neighborhood receive benefits, funding and services.
 - Will help empower the community to ensure that our needs are being met.
 - Provides the Asian American community with the only means by which to get quality detailed data, disaggregated for different ethnicities, which is key to our ability to address our communities' needs.

How Census Data Is Utilized

- ***For allocation of funding – Examples:***
 - How much money your community will get for schools and English Language Learning
 - How much money to provide for senior centers, job training programs, and student loans
- ***For planning purposes – Examples:***
 - The government uses census data to determine where hospitals, child care centers, and roads will be built;
 - Community organizations use census data to identify problems to determine policy agenda or type of services;
 - Businesses use census data to determine where to open new stores /offices, leading to job opportunities!
- ***To prevent discrimination*** in the workforce.
- ***To enforce civil rights laws*** like the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

CENSUS AS A CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE



Why is the census an important civil rights issue?

- Ensure equal representation and equal access to important governmental resources
- Low-income people, people of color, children, immigrants, people with disabilities, and people living in urban areas are most likely to be undercounted.
- Despite more resources and better planning, the 2000 census missed about 16 million people.
- Undercount affects a community for the next 10 years in access to health care, education, employment and job training services, veterans' services, economic development, and more.

What is the Relationship of the Census to Voting Rights?

- Undercounting some communities leads to underrepresentation at many levels of government.
- Number of representatives each state gets in U.S. House of Representatives
- Redistricting – Congress to local
- Enforcement of Voting Rights Act



Why are people of color and low-income people disproportionately undercounted?

Lower response rates for mail and door-to-door collection methods in lower-income areas... why?

- Lower education levels, higher rates of illiteracy, and limited English proficiency;
- Lack of understanding about importance;
- Distrust or suspicion of government, especially related to immigration/law enforcement.

The Recession, Economic Hardship and the Census

- Community organizations are particularly important during an economic downturn. State and local governments have less money to invest in getting in accurate count.
 - Eg. California spent about \$25 million to encourage participation in the 2000 census, but because of the state's budget crisis, it will spend less than one-tenth of that money in 2010.
- Millions losing jobs and homes.
- Dealing with debts and creditors may lead to fear that information given to the Census could expose them to collectors.
- Those sharing homes in violation of local ordinances

The Recession, Economic Hardship and the Census contd.

- People who are struggling financially have a big stake in getting counted.
 - Census information is used to direct resources -- like unemployment insurance, job training, adult education programs, and housing loans for people with low and moderate income -- to areas where they are most needed. Examples from 2007:
 - Food stamps – \$30.4 billion
 - Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers – \$16.1 billion
 - National School Lunch Program – \$8.6 billion
 - Head Start – \$6.2 billion
 - State Children’s Insurance Program – \$5.5 billion
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program – \$5.3 billion
 - Foster care – \$4.5 billion
 - Child Care – \$2.9 billion
 - School Breakfast Program – \$2.1 billion
- Communities hit hard by the economic crisis have the most to lose if individuals are not counted and communities miss out on funding for economic development, job training, schools and vocational education, and private business investment

CONFIDENTIALITY




Will participating in the Census be harmful to the respondent?

- By law, all of the individual answers given in the Census are confidential. Responses and information cannot be shared with any person or any government agency such as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Internal Revenue Services (IRS), The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), or any other law enforcement agency.
- ***The form does not ask about immigration status.***

How does the Census Bureau use my personal information?

The Census form only asks the most basic information. The answers you give on the form are grouped with everyone else's answers to produce statistics. They don't report what you said on your individual form. For example, rather than reporting *your* age, the Census Bureau reports the average age of everybody in your neighborhood or city.



Census Data for New York City, NY

Population	Number of People	Percent of the Population
Total Population	8,008,278	
Gender		
Male	3,794,204	47.40%
Female	4,214,074	52.60%
Age		
Under 5 years	540,878	6.80%
18 years and over	6,068,009	75.80%
65 years and over	937,857	11.70%
Race		
One race	7,614,319	95.10%
White	3,576,385	44.70%
Black or African American	2,129,762	26.60%
American Indian and Alaska Native	41,289	0.50%
Asian	787,047	9.80%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	5,430	0.10%
Some other race	1,074,406	13.40%
Two or more races	393,959	4.90%
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	2,160,554	27%
Jobs		
Number of People that are Working	3,626,865	57.80%
Family Size		
Average family size	3.32	

Confidentiality and the Census

- **Individuals' census information is completely confidential.**
 - Government agencies, banks, employers, and credit agencies cannot get access to any person's responses. Individuals' census information is protected by the strongest privacy laws we have.
 - No other government agency can get any person's individual census information for 72 years.
 - No private company – no landlord or employer or debt collector can get any household's census information, even with a court order.
 - No other law or agency can override census privacy protections – not the Patriot Act, the IRS, Homeland Security, or ICE.
 - Every census worker takes an oath to keep information confidential for life or face big fines and jail time.
 - The only thing to fear about the census is not being counted.



AALDEF efforts to ensure confidentiality

- Thorough legal analysis about the strength of the confidentiality protections
- Comprehensive review of compliance efforts, enforcement mechanisms, and past violations
- Freedom of Information Requests about internal memoranda, policies, and sharing of data and special tabulations
- Legal procedures to prosecute census employees who violate confidentiality
- Legal trainings in ten cities including Detroit (March 7)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



The Census and Dorm/Group Housing

- People should be counted where they live and sleep most of the year, so students living in on-campus housing will receive their questionnaires there (April to May 2010).
 - “Group quarters enumeration”
 - Each dorm resident fills out “individual Census report”
- In the decennial census, on-campus college and university residence halls, dorms, fraternities, and sororities are considered “Group Quarters.”
- The Census Bureau works in cooperation with colleges and universities to count students living in Group Quarters.
- Census Bureau has the authority to request administrative record data from your school for those students who do not return their Individual Census Reports.

FAQs

- **What should I do if I don't receive a Census form in the mail?**
 - You can still take part in the Census, even if you don't get the form in the mail. You can drop by one of the Be Counted Centers right here in our area, where you can get a form.
 - You can also call to get a form. You can call the Census Bureau toll free at 1-866-872-6868. If you prefer a Spanish-speaking operator, then dial 1-866-928-2010. For the hearing-impaired, TDD 1-866-783-2010. The lines are open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., EST seven days a week, from February 25 through July 30, 2010.

More FAQs

- What if I don't have a home?
 - Service Based Enumeration (SBE) operation. Counting individuals at service-based locations, such as homeless shelters, soup kitchens, etc.
 - Be Counted forms are census forms that are available at various community locations
- How do I get a form in a different language?
 - Available in 6 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (simplified), Korean, Russian and Vietnamese. English/Spanish bi-lingual forms will be mailed to certain areas.
 - You will be able to request a form in one of the five non-English languages via toll-free numbers that will be available closer to Census Day.
 - Language Assistance Guides in 59 different languages

OUR CENSUS PROJECT

APIAVote-Michigan and American Citizens for Justice Census Project

- *Coordinators:* Samira Ahmed and Barbara Stachowski
- *Launch Event:* January 30, 2010, 3-6 pm @ the Troy Community Center
- *Goal:* Higher Asian American mail return rate for 2010 Census!
- *Outreach:* Community meetings, religious services, and other major gatherings in an effort to reach out to all segments of the APIA community.

Mark Your Calendars!

- **January 30:** APIAVote-Michigan Launch Event, 3-6pm @ Troy Community Center
- **March 7:** AALDEF Census Training, People's Community Services, 3:00 to 4:30 PM, Hamtramck
- **March 13:** APIAVote-Michigan General Body Meeting
- **March 14:** Faith Based Day of Action
- **March 20:** International APIA Women's Day Event
- **March 27:** ACJ Census Outreach Event, 1-4pm Chinese Community Center, Madison Heights, MI
- **April 11:** Census Road Tour, Troy Community Center

You can help!

We welcome you to
volunteer and help in our
efforts to reach out to the
APIA community and make
sure our voice is heard!



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