

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.