



## **What is the Census?**

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years. Everyone is counted, and any personal data you provide is protected under federal law and is not shared with other organizations.

## **Why should I answer the Census?**

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.

## **How does it work?**

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

The majority of the country will receive English-only materials. Households in areas with high concentrations of Spanish-speaking residents may receive a bilingual (English/Spanish) form.

**The U.S. Census – it's in our hands!**