



Media Release from Summit County Government

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The 2010 Census: Making a Difference in Your Community

Summit County, Colorado - Delivery of the 2010 Census forms to all households in Summit County will begin in late-February, 2010. Residents are advised that the 2010 forms will be delivered to each household by United States Census workers, and will not be mailed to post office boxes. Households should complete and mail back their forms as soon as they are received. Census workers will visit households that do not return forms to take a count in person.

When the 2010 Census form arrives for your household in March 2010, you may wonder why the U.S. Census Bureau counts the number of people in our nation every decade. The answers might surprise you.

First and foremost, the Constitution of the United States mandates that every person living in the United States must be counted every 10 years. This includes people of all ages, races, ethnic groups – citizens and noncitizens. The purpose of the census is primarily to reapportion the U.S. House of Representatives based on population, but census data also are used to determine the locations for schools, housing, child-care and senior centers, shopping centers, businesses, roads and more.

Did you know that every year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to state, local and tribal governments based on census data? That means an accurate count of the population can result in significant improvements in the quality of life in communities all across the country.

Completing the census form is easy, important and safe, and everyone's participation is vital. 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.

We move forward when you send it back.

For more information about the 2010 Census, visit <http://2010census.gov> To contact your Regional Census Center, visit <http://2010.census.gov/partners/pdf/censusRegionMap.pdf>.

Additional information may also be obtained by visiting www.co.summit.co.us/census2010