

March 2010

Emergency Services — Education Funding — Programs for Low-Income Families



Data from this year's census will be used in every important decision about children's well-being for the next decade.

Top 5 reasons to be counted in the census:

1. The U.S. Constitution mandates that all people living in the United States - whether citizen or non-citizen, homeless or housed - be counted by the census every 10 years.
2. Census data are used to create maps to speed emergency services to households.
3. School district boundaries are drawn using information from the census.
4. The Census helps in forecasting future transportation projects.
5. Census data helps in the development of assistance programs for low-income families and at-risk children and other vulnerable people

Important Dates:

March 15-17, 2010:

Most residents will receive questionnaires in the mail.

March 22-24, 2010:

Residents will receive a reminder card.

April 1, 2010:

Census Day!

April - July, 2010:

Census takers visit all households that did not return a form by mail.

For Your Information:

- Everyone must answer the census according to where they normally reside during 2010. Therefore, full-time students living at college, either in a dorm or renting in town, should fill out the census there.
- People experiencing homelessness will be counted March 29 at service locations, such as emergency/transitional shelters, soup kitchens, regularly scheduled mobile food vans and targeted non-sheltered outdoor locations.
- Census responses are confidential; all U.S. Census Bureau employees take an oath not to disclose an individual's information, even after they leave the bureau. Those who do face a \$250,000 fine and five years' imprisonment.

For every Hoosier who takes 10 minutes to answer the 10 questions on the census form, the federal government allocates up to \$1,200 to the state.

What are the funds for? Schools, free and reduced fee lunch programs, roads, transportation needs, as well as programs helping the elderly and the poor. Medicaid is the largest source of federal funding tied to census figures, and nearly half of Indiana's children are eligible for Medicaid.

A complete count will ensure that Indiana receives adequate federal funding to ensure its children receive healthcare. Highway and transportation funding is the next largest source of federal dollars tied to census figures, followed by housing programs and education grants.

What if it is April 1 and I still did not receive a census form?

Individuals who have not yet received a census form can call **1-866-872-6868** and the bureau will mail another as soon as possible. Also, Be Counted forms, census forms for people who did not receive a form in the mail, will be available at various community locations throughout the state.

A listing of **Be Counted centers**, questionnaire assistance centers, and phone numbers for call centers will be posted at <http://www.census2010.gov> by the end of March.



For individuals who might have difficulty completing the questionnaire because of language or other barriers, assistance with the Census form will be available both by phone and in person at questionnaire assistance centers around the state.

Working with families who could benefit from language assistance?

Census forms are available in six languages: **English, Spanish, Chinese** (simplified), **Korean, Russian and Vietnamese**. English/Spanish bi-lingual forms will be mailed to areas with large numbers of Spanish-only households. Forms in one of the five non-English languages may be requested by calling a toll-free number that will be made available closer to National Census Day. In addition, Language Assistance Guides are available in 59 different languages to help people fill out the English version of the census form. You may access these Language Assistance Guides as well as large print and Braille guides on the census website: <http://2010.census.gov/partners/materials/inlanguage.php>

Census takers will have a flashcard containing a sentence about the 2010 census written in approximately 50 languages. If a resident doesn't speak English, the census taker shows the flashcard to the resident, and the resident points to the language he/she speaks. A census crew leader will then reassign the case to a person who speaks that language.

For Teachers and Youth Workers

The U.S. Census Bureau has created age-appropriate activity kits to use with children and teens. For example, teachers and youth workers will find maps, worksheets, lesson plans and teaching guides with activities related to the census to use in their programs. Importantly, the activities correlate with national education standards for math, social studies, geography and language arts. The free activity kits also include Family Take Home Pages for kids to give to their parents or guardians.

To access these resources, visit the "Census in Schools" Web site at <http://www.census.gov/schools>

Sources:

- <http://indianacompletecountcommunity.wordpress.com/>

- The specific law that protects our confidentiality is Title 13 of the U.S. Code, Section

UPCOMING: [Register now](#) for our Spring trainings around the state in April and May.

If you would like to sign up to receive IYI Data Products via e-mail, visit www.iyi.org/weekly-update/signup.aspx.

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