



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Navigating the Census: A Guide for Merchant Mariners and Their Onshore Advocates

Our goal for the 2010 Census is to make sure that everyone is counted. To help us in reaching that goal, the Census Bureau worked with the major maritime organizations to identify vessels in operation at the time of the 2010 Census—including factory trawlers, floating processors, tuna boats, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessels.

Where Will You and Your Family Be Counted?

People in the United States will be counted at their usual residence, the place where they live and sleep most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as the person's voting residence or legal residence. Determining usual residence is easy for most people—but it may not be so apparent for those who go to sea. Here are the rules:

- Crews of U.S. flag merchant vessels engaged in inland waterway transportation are counted at their usual onshore residence (the place where they live and sleep most of the time when they are onshore).
- Crews of U.S. flag merchant vessels docked in a U.S. port or sailing from one U.S. port to another U.S. port are counted at their usual onshore residence, if they report one (the place where they live and sleep most of the time when they are onshore) or they are counted on the vessel.

How Will You Receive Your Census Questionnaire?

If you have an onshore home in the United States, your census questionnaire will be delivered to you there **AS WELL AS A SHIPBOARD CENSUS REPORT ON BOARD THE SHIP**. Some of you will receive both an onshore census questionnaire and a Shipboard Census Report. Please complete both the standard census questionnaire and the Shipboard Census Report. When completing the Shipboard Census Report, make sure to write in the full address **OF YOUR ONSHORE RESIDENCE IF you live or stay THERE** most of the time.

The 2010 Census: Quick, Easy, and Confidential.

- 2010 Shipboard Census Reports contain 9 questions and are simple to fill out.
- By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's census questionnaire responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

Your Participation Is Vital.

The U.S. Constitution directs the Census Bureau to conduct a complete count of all people living in the United States every 10 years. Census information helps in determining how federal, state, local, and tribal governments make decisions affecting the people of this country and how over \$400 billion per year of taxpayers' money is allocated by government. Participating in the census is in everyone's best interest. People who answer the census help their communities obtain state and federal funding for neighborhood improvements, such as deciding where to build schools, hospitals, and roads, or about services for the elderly, job training, and more. The best way to make sure people like yourself are counted in the census is to fill out the form and encourage others to do so.

By law, the Census Bureau cannot share individual answers it receives with anyone. Also, we do not share individual answers with welfare agencies, courts, police, or the military. Census workers are sworn to secrecy. The Census Bureau workforce understands the importance of safeguarding confidential data. They know that if they give out any information, they can face a \$250,000 fine and jail time.

For additional information about the 2010 Census, visit the Census Bureau's Internet site at <http://www.census.gov> or call one of our Regional Census Centers across the country:

Regional Census Center	Phone Number
Atlanta	404-335-1555
Boston	617-223-3700
Charlotte	704-936-5300
Chicago	312-454-2700
Dallas	214-267-6900
Denver	720-475-3640
Detroit	313-396-5200
Kansas City	816-994-2000
Los Angeles	818-717-6700
New York City	212-971-8810
Philadelphia	215-717-1020
Seattle	425-908-3000

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