

URGENT: WE NEED YOU!

Take Action! It's your community, do your part and be counted!

Community organizations like the JAACL are particularly important for the census during an economic downturn because state and local governments have less money to invest in getting an accurate count. For example, California spent \$25 million to encourage participation in the 2000 census, but because of the state's budget crisis, it will only spend \$2 million for the 2010 Census.

Ways to take ACTION:

- Phone banking (calling your community members)
- Have the JAACL Staff give a census presentation at a meeting
- Have info at events / make an event
- Write in local newsletters, papers, blogs, etc

See backside for contact info.
We're glad to help!

Late February – early March 2010, you will receive an Advance Letter alerting you to look out for the Census Form in the coming weeks.

Mid-March 2010, Census forms will be mailed to households. You should complete and return your Census 2010 form upon receipt.

April 1-15, 2010 – Census forms DUE! Responses to the census form should include everyone living at your address, regardless of their relationship to you or their status.

April - July 2010, Addresses that still have not responded will be visited in person by a census worker beginning in late April through July. (Census workers can be identified by a census badge and bag.) If you don't want a census worker to visit you, fill out and mail back your census form by **April 1, 2010!**

Why should I fill out my 2010 Census Form?

It's Easy. The 2010 Census will be the easiest and shortest census form ever. There are 10 questions that take about 10 minutes to fill out. They ask for:

- Name, Sex, Age, and Date of birth
- Housing tenure (Is the home owned or rented?)
- Relationship (How are the people in the household related to each other?)
- Hispanic origin (an ethnicity, not a race)
- Race (you may choose one or more races)

It's Safe. Your Information cannot be disclosed by the bureau to anyone including government and law enforcement agencies. Not even the Patriot Act can trump the privacy and confidentiality of census data. This will be enforced by federal prosecution and up to \$250,000 in fines.

It's Important. Census data is crucial for all communities to receive their share of over \$400 billion in federal funds, political representation in Congress, the state legislature, and city council, and services such as transportation, schools, and health care.

United States® Census 2010

Counting the Japanese American Community Produced by the Japanese American Citizens League (JAACL)

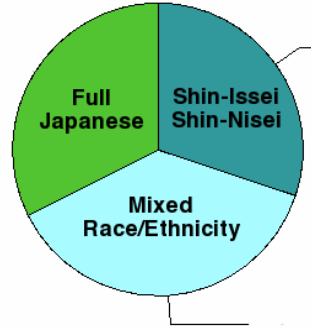


IT'S IN OUR HANDS

2010年国勢調査の詳細については、ウェブサイトをご覧ください：www.fillinourfuture.org

CONCERNS FOR THE JAPANESE & JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

The image of Japanese Americans is usually one of Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei, and beyond who have been in the country for many generations. However, 2000 Census data indicates that only about 1/3 of respondents fit this image. Another 1/3 are mixed race/ethnicity. The last 1/3 are newer immigrants called Shin-Issei and Shin-Nisei.



In order to get a **complete and accurate** count of the Japanese American community, we must make sure that mixed race/ethnicity individuals correctly fill out their forms and that new immigrants have resources to submit them.

CONCERNS FOR JACL

Aside from the above concerns, a 2009 [needs assessment](#) of the JACL helps identify areas of which JACL members should be made aware.

Counting the Elderly

One concern for the elderly is that they might forget to fill out their forms or might forget that it is a census year. Please remind our seniors to fill out their forms and help them fill it out.

Counting College Students

College students living away from home are counted at school and not at home. Their dorm will count them or their household will receive a census form. Also, Students studying abroad are not counted, while foreign students studying in the U.S. will be counted.

The Economy and Transient Housing

With the recession, many families and children may change their living situation. Generally, a person is counted where he or she lives and sleeps most of the time during the year.

NEW IMMIGRANTS

New immigrants may need language assistance or are not aware of the 2010 Census. 2010年国勢調査の詳細については、ウェブサイトをご覧ください：www.fillinourfuture.org.



FILLING OUT RACE

If someone is full Japanese or another Asian group, they can simply check off the correct box or write it in. What if someone is mixed race or ethnicity?

Mixed Race/Ethnicity:

Those of mixed race/ethnicity are able to check more than one category in response to the race question. This allows, for example, a person who has a White parent and a Japanese parent to check both the White box and the Japanese box.

Race and Head of Household:

Counting a household is different from counting all the individuals in it. The census only counts mixed-race households if the person of color completes the form as Person #1. As Asian Americans are historically undercounted, it is important that mixed families report the person of color as the head of household.

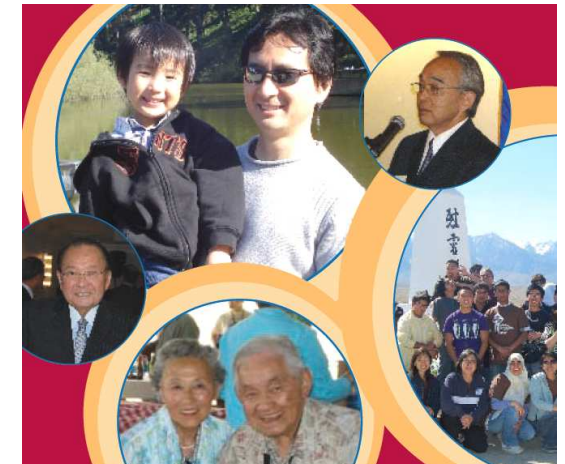
Racial Identity:

Some mixed people may identify more with one part of their race than others and fill out incomplete data. In order to get an accurate portrait of the Japanese and all American community, it is important for mixed people to check off all appropriate boxes even if they do not identify with each category.

CENSUS & CIVIL RIGHTS

Historically, Asian Americans, racial minorities, and immigrants are undercounted, resulting in a huge loss of funding, services, and political representation to these communities. Census data is also used to monitor civil rights issues such as the Voting Rights Act of 1965, hate crimes, and anti-discrimination laws.

For the JACL, the oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization in the nation, the Census is more than a count of everyone; it is a civil rights issue in which justice is served by getting everyone counted. Make sure you, your family, and your community count!



For More Information Please Call

202.223.1240

or email

census@jacl.org

or visit our website

www.jacl.org