



United States®  
**Census  
2010**

## **Why the Census is Important**

*If You're Not Counted in the 2010 Census – You're Invisible*

*And if you're invisible, you and Ka`u both suffer*

Census data is used to allocate and distribute virtually all government aid, assistance, as well as spending on infrastructure, community improvement, and emergency services. This is true at the federal, state and local levels. If Ocean View, Pahala, or Na`alehu get a vitally needed project, it is because the size of their populations justifies that spending. Every year more than \$400 billion in government funds are distributed based on Census data. If one person fails to be counted, it is estimated that \$1200/year is lost to state, county, and local funding--- that's \$12,000 lost over the next 10 years. Multiply that by the number of people in a family that doesn't participate. That equals a huge and significant loss of available money that would be designated for education, transportation, emergency services, and everything else that families and communities will need for the next ten years.

If you want more money available to Ka`u, **BE COUNTED**, and do everything you can to help assure a complete count. This year the census questionnaire is simpler than ever---one page and only 10 questions. It takes 10 minutes to fill out and postage is free. Stand up and be counted---it makes a big difference to the community. All personal information collected by the Census Bureau is protected by law and completely confidential. The Census Bureau does not share information with any other individual or agency.

**The Ka`u Chamber of Commerce strongly supports Census 2010. We have partnered with Census 2010 to assure a complete count of residents in Ka`u. Anything less means that our economy is not getting it's fair share of government funds for services vital to our community.**