

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL CENSUS DATA USERS

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years. It provides information on population by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, households, and housing units.

Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

In 2000, two forms were used to collect data, i.e., the *Short Form* and the *Long Form*. A new approach will be implemented in 2010 whereby two systems will be used to collect similar information: **Census 2010**, and through the **American Community Survey**.

Census 2010 or the “Short Form”

- COUNTS of the TOTAL U.S. population (sex and age, race, and household type) and TOTAL HOUSING UNITS (occupied and vacant)

The American Community Survey (ACS) will replace the “Long Form”

- information about characteristics of the population such as language, education, occupation, income, etc., for all Census area levels (including census tracts, block groups) The survey will be conducted every year from 3 million household across the county.
- average estimates covering 1, 3, or 5 years will be available for specific size of areas:

1-year estimates = for areas with population of 65,000+
(starting 2006)

3-year estimates = for areas with population of 20,000+
(starting 2008)

5-year estimates = for areas with less than 20,000 population
(starting 2010)

Together, **Census 2010** and the **American Community Survey** will show not only *how many* people live here, but *how* we live as a nation — our diversity, education, housing, jobs and more. It also helps community leaders decide where schools, highways, hospitals and other services are needed in a much timelier manner.

Data releases (average estimates) schedule for SRPEDD communities follows.

**PROJECTED DATA RELEASE STRATEGY
FROM THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY
FOR SRPEDD COMMUNITIES
(Less than 20,000 population+)**

<u>Years of Coverage (5-year Average)</u>	<u>Release Date</u>
2005-2009	2010
2006-2010	2011
2007-2011	2012
2008-2012	2013
2009-2013	2014
2010-2014	2015
And so on...	

For more clarification, contact Joy at (508) 824-1367, or via email to info@srpedd.org