



## 2005 CENSUS SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CONGREGATIONS

**This announcement is suggested for use during the week of September 4, 2005.**

As I mentioned last week, the 2005 Census Survey is underway.

If you are one of the people in our community to receive a Census Survey, here are five reasons why you should fill out your census form:

1. This census is unique. It is not conducted nationwide. It is being conducted at the request of our rapidly growing cities and towns to update our 2000 population numbers. The updated count will determine how much state revenue is allocated to our community. When the state of Arizona collects money through taxes and other sources, it returns some of it to cities and towns to help pay for valuable services – about \$1 billion each year. The amount of money each city or town receives is based on the 2005 census population.
2. The census helps our communities to thrive by providing valuable information for planning programs and services, including schools, hospitals and roads.
3. The census makes government more responsive by telling government leaders who we are and what we need.
4. The census helps us get assistance in times of need. When fires, floods or disasters hit, the census tells rescuers how many people will need their help.
5. The Census Survey is completely safe and confidential. By federal law, the U.S. Census Bureau cannot share your answers with others, including welfare agencies, immigration authorities, Internal Revenue Service, courts, police and other law entities. Not even the President of the United States can get this information!

Let's join together in this important effort and make sure that our community is represented in the 2005 Census Survey.

**This announcement is suggested for use during the week of September 11, 2005.**

2

About one out of every 13 of you have received a Census Survey. By being chosen to receive the survey, you have a unique opportunity to represent your neighborhood and help your community receive its fair share of funding.

Please fill it out. It only takes a few minutes. Be sure and include every adult and child living in your home, even if they are not related to you. If you need help filling out the form, please call 1-800-759-4721. Taking part in the 2005 Census Survey is in your best interest. That is why we need to fill out our forms and send them back to get the most accurate count possible.