2008 Census Dress Rehearsal

San Joaquin County, California



The 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal is the last opportunity for the Census Bureau to preview the overall design of the 2010 Census. While we have tested certain parts of the plan, the dress rehearsal will fine-tune methods to see how well all of the pieces fit together.

San Joaquin County was selected as one of only two dress rehearsal sites in the nation primarily because it is an urban area with a multilingual population and has an assortment of group quarters housing.

A nine-county area surrounding Fayetteville, N.C., also was selected by the Census Bureau to participate in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal.

What You Need to Know

- Most households in the dress rehearsal site will receive a census questionnaire in the mail. Some may have questionnaires delivered to their residence by a census worker. Residents are asked to complete the forms and return them by mail.
- Census workers will visit households that do not return a completed questionnaire.
- Keeping answers confidential is the Census Bureau's highest priority — a commitment that is backed by one of the strongest confidentiality laws in the United States.

 No data or population counts will be published for the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal.

"Participating in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal will help the Census Bureau produce more accurate counts of the people and housing units in your community and across the nation in 2010."

—Louis Kincannon, Director of the U.S. Census Bureau **Revised January 2007**

San Joaquin County Quick Facts

Population

San Joaquin 563,598 U.S. 281,421,906

Percentage of Population by Race



*American Indians and Alaska Natives

White

75%

Hispanic Origin: Percentage of Population

San Joaquin 30.5% U.S. 12.5%

Percentage of Population Age 5+ Who Speak Spanish at Home

San Joaquin 19.5% U.S. 10.0%

Housing Units

12%

San Joaquin 189,160 U.S. 115,904,641

Population in Group Quarters

San Joaquin 18,771 U.S. 7,778,633

Source: Census 2000



Census Jobs

A wide variety of temporary positions must be filled in order to conduct a census. Between 1,500 and 2,000 jobs will be filled in San Joaquin County. These employees conduct interviews with community residents and update addresses. Most positions require a driver's license and use of a vehicle.

For census taker jobs, work schedules vary. In the field, some census operations require working during daylight hours. For operations that require interviewing people in their homes, work must be done during hours when people are usually at home. This includes evenings and weekends. For office jobs, hours are less variable but can involve shift work.

Census Jobs

Call to schedule an appointment to take the test and apply for a job. Stockton Census Office 1-866-376-2008 TDD: 1-206-553-5859

 Positions
 Hourly Pay Rates

 Crew Leader
 \$13.75 - \$16.00

 Enumerator
 \$12.25 - \$14.50

 Clerk
 \$ 9.25 - \$11.00

Methods and Operations

- Improved methods for collecting data from respondents who speak a language other than English, including bilingual questionnaire delivery in designated areas.
- Improved data collection procedures that will enhance overall data quality for people and housing units.
- Improved data collection methods in group quarters, such as dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes and other unconventional housing.
- Use of hand-held computers with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology for field data collection and support operations.
- Mailing of replacement questionnaires to increase response rates and minimize the need to conduct personal follow-up visits.
- Improved methods to eliminate duplicate responses.

Fast Fact

Every year, more than \$200 billion in federal funds are awarded to localities based on census data.

Members of U.S. Congress Representing the Test Site

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-California

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-California

Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-California, 11th District

Rep. Dennis Cardoza, D-California, 18th District

Dress Rehearsal Timeline

2006

Recruiting for 1,500 to 2,000 temporary staff begins. Local residents will be recruited to fill these positions.

2007

The Local Census Office opens. It will serve as the hub of local dress rehearsal activity.

Addresses will be verified.

2008

Questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to households.

Census Day is April 1, 2008.

Group quarters will be enumerated. Group quarters include dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes and other unconventional housing.

Nonresponding households will be enumerated in person.

The Local Census Office closes.



