



**CONTACT:**  
Randy Gehl  
Public Information Officer  
563-589-4151 (office)  
563-599-2448 (cell)  
[rgehl@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:rgehl@cityofdubuque.org)  
[www.cityofdubuque.org](http://www.cityofdubuque.org)

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **National Census Day is April 1**

### ***Dubuque Ranked #1 in the Nation for Response Rate***

**DUBUQUE, IA** – Proclaimed by the U.S. Census Bureau as National Census Day, April 1 is a rallying point for communities to encourage their residents to complete their census forms and mail them back.

Dubuque Mayor Roy D. Buol and the City Council also proclaimed April 1 as Census Day in Dubuque. As of 3:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Dubuque was ranked the #1 city in the nation for its Census response rate. The rate is being tracked online at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map>.

Mayor Buol, chair of the local Complete Count Committee, notes that Dubuque and Dubuque County are ahead of the nation in return rates for forms. “We’re pleased to see (through the data on the national web site), that the Dubuque area has responded well to the census mailing by filling out and returning their forms,” said Buol. “April 1<sup>st</sup> is a national day of awareness for the census, especially for those local citizens and non-citizens who haven’t returned their forms yet. We encourage anyone who hasn’t returned their form to do so as soon as possible.”

All information that comes from the forms is strictly confidential. With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. It takes only about 10 minutes for the average household to complete.

For anyone who needs assistance with filling out their form, there are three local Questionnaire Assistance Centers available:

Sunnycrest Manor, 2375 Roosevelt, 563.583.1781  
Assistance Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. until April 15

Crescent Community Health Center, 1789 Elm Street, 563.690.2850  
Assistance Hours: Mon., Tue., Thurs., Fri., 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Wed. 4:00 p.m. - 7:00

p.m. until April 19

Operation New View: Community Action Agency, 1473 Central Ave., 563.556.5130  
Assistance Hours: Mon. - Fri. 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. until April 19

If a household has not received a form by April 12, or has misplaced their form, they can receive assistance at any of the Questionnaire Assistance Centers, or by calling the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance Center at 1-866-872-6868.

For more information, visit the 2010 Census web site at [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov), or our local web site at [www.cityofdubuque.org/census](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/census).

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*Created in 1790 and required by law every 10 years, the census gathers a wide variety of information that is used to disperse funds equitably across the nation for thousands of projects, including health care, education, community infrastructure, business development and more.*

*In order to achieve an accurate assessment of the number and location of the people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years. The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. 2010 Census data will directly affect how more than **\$400 billion** is allocated to local, state and tribal governments over the next 10 years.*