

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Rep. David Price today reminded his constituents of the upcoming Census deadline and encouraged residents of his Triangle-based congressional district to return their 2010 Census forms. Friday, April 16th is the deadline for Americans to mail back their forms.

"It's vitally important that everyone mail back their forms to allow for an accurate Census count. Many federal grant programs distribute funds to states and localities proportionately, so if everyone from our area isn't counted, the whole state will get less until the next Census in 2020," Rep. David Price said. "Mailing Census forms back by the deadline also saves money: If every household met the deadline, it would save taxpayers \$1.5 billion."

Census forms mailed after April 16th will not reach the Census Bureau before door-to-door Census takers are dispatched to visit all the households that did not respond. Sending back mail-in Census forms saves taxpayers money by allowing the Census Bureau to complete the decennial population count with fewer door-to-door Census takers.

According to the Census Bureau, Durham County is lagging behind its 2000 Census response rate. As of Wednesday, 67 percent of residents had responded to the 2010 survey, compared with 70 percent shortly before the deadline in 2000. Census data determines how federal investments in schools, roads, and other projects are divided among the states. The Census also drives the apportionment process, which determines the number of House congressional districts in each state. North Carolina has gained one House seat in each of the last two reapportionments because of robust population growth.

The Constitution mandates a Census of the population every 10 years. All residents should have received a 2010 Census form in the mail. Extra forms, information on where to find local 2010 Census offices and questionnaire assistance are available on the [2010 Census website](#) .

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