

1-2010

January 2010: United States Census

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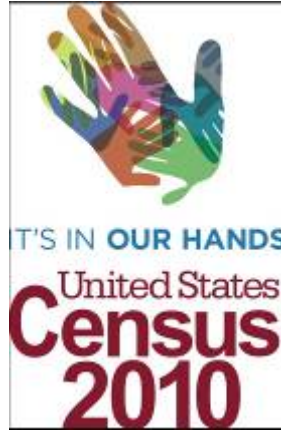
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Government Documents News



United States Census 2010 Get Counted!

It's time for the 23rd decennial census! The United States population is counted every 10 years as mandated by the U.S. Constitution. The count determines Congressional seats, electoral votes, and government funding for programs such as public health, neighborhood improvements, transportation, education, senior services and more.



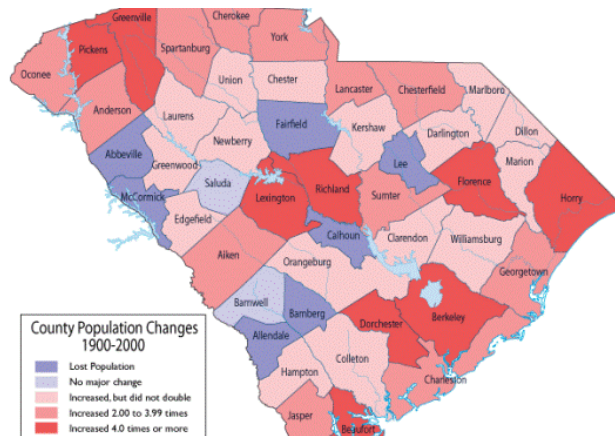
The first census of the population of the United States was taken by U.S. Marshals on horseback in 1790 and resulted in a count of 3.9 million inhabitants. The population result of Census 2000 totaled 281.4 million inhabitants.

Resident students in universities, persons in the military, and persons in jails and prisons are counted in the county where they are housed. Individuals living in the United States who are not legal citizens are counted in the areas in which they reside.

Census responses are confidential and are used for statistical purposes only. Responses cannot be shared with anyone including the IRS, FBI, CIA or any other government agency. Census records and data specific to individual respondents are not available to the public until 72 years have passed.

New for Census 2010

- Census 2010 is one of the shortest questionnaires in history. Items recorded include name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home.
- Same-sex married couples will be counted for the first time.



South Carolina – South Carolina came in second worst in the nation for census response rate after Census 2000. Only 59 percent of the census surveys were returned. It is believed that approximately 48,000 people in South Carolina were not counted. Alaska had the worst response rate at 56 percent. The national rate was 67 percent. Officials estimate that states receive an average of \$1,200 annually per person counted. In a recent interview with the Rock Hill Herald, Mike Sponhour, spokesperson for the State Budget and Control Board, commented on the lack of response stating, “South Carolina has lost out on at least \$60 million per year in federal funding.” Senator Wes Hayes added that a proper 2010 count could possibly help the state regain a seventh seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, a seat that was lost in 1933. The added seat would most likely be located in the Myrtle Beach area.



Jobs – U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers. York County will hire around 1,600 workers for an area covering 11 counties. Workers will earn \$14 an hour for the employment period which usually last between five and ten weeks. Most field positions will be available between April and July. Applications are currently being accepted. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, pass a basic skills test (20 questions multiple choice - approx. 30 mins), and a background check. Training and mileage are paid. Most of the job openings are for enumerators who go door to door looking for individuals who did not respond by mail. To apply, call 866-861-2010, then dial your five digit ZIP code or visit www.2010censusjobs.gov for an online application.

Timetable for Census 2010:

Mid-March 2010 – Postal workers will deliver the 10-question survey.

March 1 – April 30 - Census workers will deliver the form packages to areas not served by the U.S. Postal Service.

April 1 – National Census Day. The official day that census forms are due to the U.S. Census Bureau.

April – July – Census workers, called enumerators, will visit homes that did not return the form to the Census Bureau. The enumerators will visit each household up to six times if necessary before interviewing neighbors for information about occupants. If census workers still receive no response, the occupant is considered an undercount.

December 31 – Population data provided to the President of the United States

March 2011 – Census data provided to the states to enable the states to redistrict their U.S. House of Representatives districts.



U.S. Census Bureau Headquarters in Suitland, Maryland

In Dacus Library –

Dacus Library has a collection of census information from the earliest census in 1790 through the most recent releases of Census 2000 data. Included are the Population and Housing census reports and the Economic Censuses of Agriculture, Business, Governments, Manufactures, and Mineral Industries, as well as a wide assortment of special reports.

Available in the library:

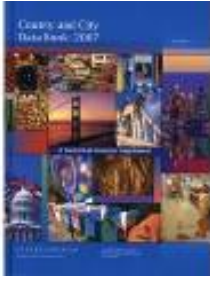


Census Atlas of the United States. C 3.205/8-3:29.

Includes more than 700 full-color maps derived from 210 years of official Census data. The Atlas interprets population and housing data through maps organized by: States, Counties, Cities of more than one million. Major metropolitan areas of more than 4 million.



Statistical Abstract of the United States. C 3.134. (Holdings: LAC microfiche 1878, 1912; Bound: 1913 – present) The authoritative and comprehensive summary of statistics on the social, political, and economic organization of the United States.



County and City Data Book. C 3.134/2:C 83/2 (Holdings: 1947 – present)

The most comprehensive source of information about the individual counties and cities in the United States. It includes data for all U.S. states, counties, and cities with a population of 25,000 or more with additional data for places with a population of 100,000 or more. Also included is a complete set of state maps showing all counties, places of 25,000 or more population, and metropolitan areas. Information includes: age, agriculture, births, business establishments, climate, construction, crime, deaths, earnings, education, elections, employment, finance, government, health, households, housing, income, labor force, manufactures, population, poverty, race and Hispanic origin, social services, and water use.



Available Online

Census.gov <http://www.census.gov>

From the homepage of the census website you can find links to people and households, business and industry, geography, newsroom, and special topics.

The U.S. Census Bureau prints its findings in the following publications:

- *Statistical Abstract of the United States* <http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>
- *State and Metropolitan Data Book* <http://www.census.gov/compendia/smadb/>
- *County and City Data Book* <http://www.census.gov/statab/www/ccdb.html>
- *USA Counties* <http://censtats.census.gov/usa/usa.shtml>
- *The American Community Survey*: <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>
- *U.S. Gazetteer*: <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/gazetteer/gazette.htm>

Compile your own set of census data by using *The American Factfinder*
<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?lang=en>.



Search census subjects from A to Z <http://www.census.gov/main/www/a2z/>.

An assortment of census materials are on display in the Government Documents Department on the second floor of Dacus Library.

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