

1 Description

The United States Census is NOT a sample, but a count of every resident in the United States. Mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the data collected by the decennial census are used to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. The information is also used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities. The first census--conducted in 1790--included questions on gender, race, relationship to the household head, name of the household head, and where applicable, the number of slaves. Due to the implementation of the American Community Survey (ACS), which replaced the Census long-form, the most recent census--conducted in 2010--was one of the shortest in history. Seven questions were asked of everyone in the household; name, gender, race, ethnicity, and whether they sometimes lived somewhere else. Additionally, the household head was asked how many people lived in the residence and what type of residence it was (e.g., house, apartment).

2 Project Websites

[U.S. Census Bureau Home Page](#)

[U.S. Census, 2010](#)

[Census 2000 Gateway](#)

[1990 Census](#)

[1980 Census](#)

[1970 Census](#)

[1960 Census](#)

3 Years Covered

Every ten years from 1790-2010

4 Longitudinal

No

5 Publicly Available

Yes, public data are available in a variety of formats from a variety of sources.

[***Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research \(ICPSR\)***](#)

*Users must belong to a ICPSR member institution to access these data.

Data available for Decennial Censuses, 1790-1970 in SAS, SPSS, and Stata formats.

[***Integrated Public Use Microdata Series \(IPUMS\) USA***](#)

Data available for Decennial Censuses, 1850-2000. Provided as compressed data files with command files needed for reading raw data into SAS, SPSS, and Stata.

[***File Transfer Protocol \(FTTP\) Server***](#)

Data available for Decennial Censuses, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010.

American FactFinder and Legacy American FactFinder

*To specify a dataset in in the New American FactFinder, on the left hand side of the screen click the arrow in the Topics box and then click Dataset.

[1990 Census](#)

[Census, 2000](#)

[2010 Census](#)

6 Restricted access data available

Yes. Decennial Censuses data for 1970, 1980, 1990, and 2000 are available via the Research Data Center (RDC).

<http://www.census.gov/ces/rdcresearch/index.html>

7 Web-Accessible Analysis

[Data Ferrett](#)

- 1990 Census PUMS Files (1% Persons & Housing Records and 5% Persons Records)
- Census, 2000 Summary Files 1 & 3 and PUMS (1%)

[IPUMS Online Data Analysis System](#)

- Multiple samples of Decennial Census data for the years 1850-2000.

8 FAQ Page

<https://ask.census.gov/app/answers/list>

9 Data Specific Bibliography

There is a searchable bibliography of data-related literature available via ICPSR at:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/citations/index.jsp>

10 Data Citation (ICPSR)

Haines, Michael R., and Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. Historical, Demographic, Economic, and Social Data: The United States, 1790-2002 [Computer file]. ICPSR02896-v3. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2010-05-21. doi:10.3886/ICPSR02896

11 List Serv/User Group/Help Line

Census Bureau Call Center (Mon-Fri 8:00AM- 5:00PM ET)

1-800-923-8282

You can also submit a question to the U.S. Census support team at:

<https://ask.census.gov/app/ask>

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Retrieved from
<http://ncfmr.bgsu.edu/pdf/measuresnapshot/Incarceration/Census/file105656.pdf>

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