

## 7 Census Research Tips

**1** Search online census collections (the chart in this guide tells you where to find them). Enter at least a name, birth year, and a place. To account for unexpected spellings and other details, use year ranges for birth dates and don't mark search terms as exact.

**2** If you can't find a person, try searching for a household member or neighbor. Or leave out the name and enter other information you know, such as birth year, birthplace, place of residence and family members' names.

**3** Many people had the same name and age. Look at all the details in the record, particularly other household members, to determine whether this is in fact your ancestor.

**4** When you find a matching record, always look at the census schedule itself to verify the indexed information and gather clues that aren't indexed (use the chart in this guide for help knowing which clues to look for in what year). Also browse adjacent pages for family who lived nearby.

**5** Search for every person in your tree in each census that occurred in his or her lifetime.



The 14th census of the United States, taken in 1920, counted 106,021,537 residents of the country.

**6** Ages in the census are as of the official census date for that enumeration. Official census dates changed (see below), which may account for one- or two-year discrepancies in relatives' ages from census to census.

**7** Expect to see slightly varying details from census to census—see below for why this might happen. Generally, consider the census occurring closest to an event to have the most reliable information regarding that event.

### OFFICIAL CENSUS DATES

Every 10 years, census takers spent weeks gathering data on our ancestors. For each enumeration, household members, ages and other details were supposed to be accurate as of a designated census day:

- **1790:** August 2
- **1800:** August 4
- **1810:** August 6
- **1820:** August 7
- **1830–1880:** June 1
- **1890:** June 2
- **1900:** June 1
- **1910:** April 15
- **1920:** January 1
- **1930:** April 1
- **1940:** April 1

### WHY IS THE RECORD WRONG?

The information about your ancestor in census records doesn't always match what you've learned from other sources, or may be inconsistent from census to census. Here's why:

- Census takers didn't ask for name spellings. What they thought they heard and their spelling may be affected by accents and education levels.
- Census takers didn't ask for proof of name, age, immigration year or other data. This information was subject to the respondent's memory, personal motivations (such as the desire to hide one's age), and the low importance our forebears may have placed on such details.
- If no one was home at your relative's house, the census taker might ask a neighbor or other person less familiar with the family.
- Indexers who transcribe information to make the census searchable may have misinterpreted the handwriting.

# Getting Over the 1890 Census Gap

More than 99 percent of 1890 census records were destroyed after a Jan. 10, 1921, Commerce building fire. Water soaked the 1890 census forms, which then sat, unrestored, in storage. Despite public protests, the records were destroyed sometime between 1933 and 1935. These tips will help you deal with this brick wall:

- Search fragments of the 1890 census with 6,160 names on Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.
- Look for indexes that “reconstruct” the 1890 census with tax records and city directories from the time, or consult these substitutes yourself.
- If your relative was a Union Civil War veteran or his widow, check the 1890 schedules. They survive for half of Kentucky and states alphabetically after. Some enumerators also included Confederate veterans.
- Watch other records for overlooked children who were born and died or left their parents’ home between the 1880 and 1900 censuses.

The 1880 census was the first to use specially hired and trained enumerators instead of US marshals.

## SPECIAL CENSUSES SCHEDULES

Schedule	Years	Who's in it	Where to find it	Tips & tricks
<b>Agricultural</b>	1850, 1860, 1870, 1880	farmers with production above a minimum threshold	Ancestry.com, in its collection US, Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880.	You'll learn the type of livestock or crop grown, annual production, value of equipment and more.
<b>American Indian</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1880: Indians not taxed are listed in a Special Census of Indians.</li> <li>• 1900, 1910: Indians might be on schedules called Inquiries Relating to Indians.</li> </ul>		The 1880 Special Census of Indians is on NARA microfilm. Inquiries Relating to Indians are with the regular population schedules.	You may learn Indian names, tribal status, land ownership status and more.
<b>Defective , Dependent and Delinquent Classes</b>	1880	the sick or disabled, as indicated on lines 15 to 20 of the population census	Ancestry.com has these for 21 states. State and university archives may have microfilmed versions.	Separate “DDD” schedules list the indigent, blind, deaf and “dumb,” and other designations.
<b>Manufacturing</b>	1820, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880	business owners with production above a minimum threshold	1820 schedules are on NARA microfilm. Ancestry.com has 1850 to 1880 schedules.	You'll learn the type of business, number of employees, wages and more.
<b>Mortality</b>	1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1885 (some areas), 1900 (Minnesota only)	those who died in the 12 months preceding the census date	Ancestry.com; FamilySearch has 1850 schedules, as well as some schedules for a few states.	Schedules may give date of death, cause, duration of illness and more.
<b>Slaves</b>	1850, 1860	slaveowners, along with the age and sex (but not the name) of each slave	Ancestry.com and FamilySearch	Find your freedman ancestor's family in the 1870 census and look for nearby white families of the same name. Find these families in 1860 slave schedules and compare their slaves' info to your family's.
<b>Veterans and Military</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1840: Revolutionary pensioners</li> <li>• 1890: Union veterans</li> <li>• 1900, 1910, 1920: military on bases and vessels</li> <li>• 1930: merchant seamen on vessels</li> </ul>		Search the Revolutionary War pensioners census, 1890 veterans schedules and 1930 merchant seamen census on Ancestry.com. 1900-1920 military personnel schedules are with population census records.	In 1890, census takers were supposed to enumerate only Union veterans, but some also recorded Confederate veterans. Schedules might have their names lined out, but still legible.

# DETAILS IN THE CENSUS

Subject	Information/census year	Research tips
<b>Place of residence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>state, county, township, town and/or census ward: <b>1790 forward</b></li> <li>residential institution (if any): generally, <b>1850 forward</b></li> <li>house number and street name for most places: <b>1880 forward</b></li> <li>residence in 1935: <b>1940</b></li> </ul>	Check the top of the form for the county, township, city, ward and other jurisdictions.
<b>Name</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>head-of-household only: <b>1790–1840</b></li> <li>all free household members: <b>1850 forward</b></li> </ul>	Before 1850, censuses count household members within gender and age ranges.
<b>Age</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>age ranges for free white men: <b>1790</b></li> <li>age ranges for free white men and women: <b>1800–1840</b></li> <li>ages of all free household members: <b>1850 forward</b></li> <li>birth month if born within the last year: <b>1870, 1880</b></li> <li>birth month and year: <b>1900</b></li> </ul>	Pre-1850 censuses count enslaved household members, but don't group them by age.
<b>Color/Race</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1850 forward</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Relationship to head of household</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1880 forward</b></li> </ul>	Note that children listed as "son" or "daughter" might be the spouse's stepchildren.
<b>Birthplace</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>person's state or country of birth: <b>1850 forward</b></li> <li>person's parents are "of foreign birth": <b>1870</b></li> <li>person's parents' state or country of birth: <b>1880–1930</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Marriage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>marital status: <b>1880 forward</b></li> <li>whether married within the past year: <b>1850-1880</b></li> <li>number of years of current marriage: <b>1900, 1910</b></li> </ul>	
<b>Child mortality</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>number of children born to a woman/still living: <b>1900, 1910</b></li> </ul>	If these numbers are different, look for children who died.
<b>Immigration and citizenship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>number of aliens in the household: <b>1820–1840</b></li> <li>year of immigration: <b>1890–1930</b></li> <li>whether a citizen (men age 21 or older): <b>1870</b></li> <li>number of years in the United States: <b>1890, 1900</b></li> <li>language spoken: <b>1890</b></li> <li>mother tongue of person and parents: <b>1920</b></li> <li>naturalization status: <b>1890–1940</b></li> <li>year naturalized: <b>1920</b></li> </ul>	If an immigrant is listed as a citizen, naturalized, or "Pa" (in the process of filing for citizenship), search for naturalization records.
<b>Occupation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>number of persons in agriculture, commerce and manufacturing: <b>1820</b></li> <li>type of job: <b>1850 forward</b></li> <li>number of months/weeks unemployed in past year: <b>1890-1910</b></li> <li>whether unemployed April 15, 1910: <b>1910</b></li> <li>whether currently at work: <b>1930</b></li> <li>whether employed/assigned to public employment March 24-30: <b>1940</b></li> <li>whether seeking work: <b>1940</b></li> <li>number of hours worked/duration of unemployment: <b>1940</b></li> <li>wages/salary/other income: <b>1940</b></li> </ul>	If person is unemployed in 1930, check the Census of Unemployment.
<b>Military service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>names and ages of military pensioners: <b>1840</b></li> <li>whether a Civil War veteran or widow: <b>1890</b></li> <li>whether a veteran and which war: <b>1930</b></li> </ul>	In 1890, look for surviving special schedules listing Union Civil War veterans.
<b>Health and education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>school attendance: <b>1850–1940</b></li> <li>highest grade completed: <b>1940</b></li> <li>able to read/write: <b>1850–1930</b></li> <li>number of blind, deaf, and/or "dumb" household members: <b>1830, 1840</b></li> <li>whether disabled/pauper/convict: <b>1850-1890</b></li> </ul>	"Inmate" refers to any inhabitant of an institution, including patients and orphans. In 1880, look for the person in the special census of the "Dependent, Defective, and Delinquent."
<b>Property</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>value of real property owned: <b>1850-1870</b></li> <li>value of personal estate: <b>1870</b></li> <li>whether home/farm is owned or rented: <b>1890–1940</b></li> <li>whether home/farm: is mortgaged: <b>1890–1920</b></li> <li>value of home/amount of rent: <b>1930–1940</b></li> </ul>	Trace home ownership and mortgages through property records in county court collections.

# WHERE TO FIND CENSUSES ONLINE

Website	Description of census collection	Notes and search tips
<b>Ancestry.com</b> \$ <ancestry.com>	Searchable indexes and images of all extant US censuses, 1790 through 1940, including 1890 census fragments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trouble finding an ancestor? Search one census at a time to use a form customized to that census. Then, leave out the name and enter other information about the person.</li> <li>• Search the 1880 &lt;www.ancestry.com/search/collections/6742&gt; and 1940 &lt;www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2442&gt; censuses free with a basic registration.</li> <li>• You'll get hints to possible census matches when you have a family tree here. If you add new people to your tree via a hint, their names will be added as they appear in the index—be sure to correct spellings and use women's maiden names.</li> </ul>
<b>FamilySearch</b> <www.familysearch.org>	Searchable index and images for 1790 through 1940, including 1890 fragments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Searching with a relationship, such as a spouse or parent, can help you narrow your results to the right ancestor.</li> <li>• If you have a family tree here, you'll receive hints to potentially matching census records.</li> </ul>
<b>Findmypast</b> <www.findmypast.com>	Searchable index and images for census 1790 through 1940, including 1890 fragments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 1940 US census is free on this otherwise-subscription website. You'll need a free basic registration to view its records.</li> <li>• Search with name variants and birth year ranges.</li> </ul>
<b>HeritageQuest Online</b> (available through subscribing libraries)	Searchable indexes and images of all extant US censuses, 1790 through 1940, including 1890 census fragments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ancestry.com "powers" (but doesn't own) this data service, so your search options are the same as for that site.</li> <li>• Check your local library's website or ask a librarian if your library offers this database.</li> </ul>
<b>MyHeritage</b> \$ <www.myheritage.com>	Searchable indexes and images for census 1790 through 1940, except for the 1890 census fragments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You'll need a Data subscription to access census records. The advanced search gives you options to designate search terms as "exact," and enter family members' names and keywords.</li> <li>• Keep your family tree on this site to get Record Matches to census records that may name your ancestors.</li> </ul>

## DECIPHERING CENSUS TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

### Household members

- **Ad.:** adopted
- **Ap:** apprentice
- **Bo, Bds, Board:** boarder
- **Bboy, Bgirl:** bound boy, bound girl
- **FI, MI:** father-in-law, mother-in-law
- **HH:** hired hand
- **Hs, Hb:** half-sister, half brother

### Race

- **B:** black
- **Ch:** Chinese (included all East Asians in 1870 and 1880)
- **Fil:** Filipino
- **Hin:** Hindu
- **Jp:** Japanese
- **Kor:** Korean
- **In or I:** American Indian
- **M, Mulatto:** of mixed African ancestry
- **Mex:** Mexican
- **N, Neg, Negro:** Black

- **Octoroon:** one-eighth black
- **Ot:** other races
- **Quadroon:** one-fourth black
- **W** or blank: white

### Marriage

- **D:** divorced
- **S:** single
- **Sep:** separated
- **M:** married
- **M1** or **1:** first marriage
- **M2** or **2:** second marriage
- **W** or **Wd:** widowed

### Immigration

- **Al:** alien
- **Am Cit:** American citizen
- **Na:** naturalized
- **Nr:** not recorded
- **Pa:** first papers filed

### Occupation

- **Dom:** domestic (maid)
- **E:** employee
- **Fa.W:** farm worker
- **Housekeeper:** takes care of a house for pay
- **Keeping house:** takes care of her/his own house full-time
- **Lab:** laborer
- **Meth:** Methodist clergy
- **O:** "own account" (self-employed)
- **O.S.P.:** Old School Presbyterian clergy
- **Por:** porter
- **P.E.:** Protestant Episcopal clergy
- **R.C.:** Roman Catholic clergy
- **Telph:** telephone
- **Trav:** traveling
- **W:** wage or salary worker

### Military

- **Box:** Boxer Rebellion
- **Civ:** Civil War
- **CSA:** Confederate Civil War service
- **Mex:** Mexican expedition
- **Ot:** other war or expedition
- **Phil:** Philippine Insurrection
- **R:** peacetime service only
- **S** or **SP:** Spanish-American War
- **SW:** both Spanish-American War and World War I
- **USA:** Union Civil War service
- **W** or **WW:** World War I

### Property

- **F:** free of mortgage
- **M:** mortgaged
- **O:** owns
- **R:** rents

# US CENSUS, STATE BY STATE

State	First US census	Colonial, territorial, state and other censuses
<b>Alabama</b>	1830	1706–1819 (various years); 1820 (eight counties); 1850, 1855, 1866, 1907 (Confederate veterans); 1921 (Confederate pensioners)
<b>Alaska</b>	1900	1878 (Aleutian Islands); 1879, 1881 (Sitka); 1885 (Cape Smith, Point Barrow); 1890–1895 (Pribiloff Islands); 1904–1907, 1914, 1917 (St. Paul and St. George islands); 1890 (Naval veterans)
<b>Arizona</b>	1870	1801, 1852 (Pimeria Alta); 1831 (Santa Cruz Co.); 1860; 1864; 1866; 1882 (several counties); 1883 (pensioners on the roll)
<b>Arkansas</b>	1830	1686–1804, 1823, 1829 (fragments)
<b>California</b>	1850	1793, 1796, 1797, 1798 (various areas); 1834 (Santa Barbara); 1852; 1870 (San Francisco Co.)
<b>Colorado</b>	1860 (as four territories)	1870 (as Colorado Territory); 1880 (as a state); 1861, 1866 (fragments), 1885; 1898 (volunteers for the Spanish American War); 1904–1908 (Ute census of Navajo Springs)
<b>Connecticut</b>	1790	1917 (males of military service age, some women)
<b>Delaware</b>	1800	1671, 1782
<b>District of Columbia</b>	1800	none known (see listings for Maryland and Virginia)
<b>Florida</b>	1830	1783; 1784–1786; 1790; 1793; 1813; 1814; 1815; 1820 (Pensacola and Escambia River areas); 1824 (fragments); 1825 (Leon Co.); 1837; 1840 (military); 1845; 1855 (Marion Co.); 1867 (several counties); 1875 (Alachua Co.); 1885; 1895 (Nassau Co.); 1945
<b>Georgia</b>	1820	1787–1866 (various years; fragments survive); 1835 (military pensioners); 1864 (Census for Re-organizing the Georgia Militia)
<b>Hawaii</b>	1900	1847 (foreigners); 1866; 1878 (Hawaii, Maui, Oahu); 1890; 1896 (Honolulu)
<b>Idaho</b>	1850 (as Oregon Territory)	none known
<b>Illinois</b>	1820	1810 (Randolph Co., as Indiana Territory); 1818; 1820–1845 (every five years, various counties); 1855; 1865; 1880 (Cook Co.)
<b>Indiana</b>	1820	1807; 1816 (postmasters); 1820-on (various years, males older than 21); 1880 (Clark Co.)
<b>Iowa</b>	1850	1836 (in Wisconsin Territory); 1838–1897 (various years and places); 1851; 1852; 1856; 1885; 1895; 1905; 1915; 1925
<b>Kansas</b>	1860	1857 (Shawnee tribe); 1865–1925 (every 10 years); 1873-on (various years and areas); 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1883 (pensioners); 1941 (veterinarians); 1878–1894 (Institution for the Education of the Blind)
<b>Kentucky</b>	1810	1859 (lawyers)
<b>Louisiana</b>	1810	1699, 1700, 1706, 1711, 1721, 1722, 1724, 1725, 1726, 1727, 1731, 1732, 1766, 1771, 1772, 1774, 1782, 1784–1786, 1788–1790, 1795, 1798, 1799, 1803, 1805 (various communities); 1792–1806, 1809 (Nacogdoches); 1791 (New Orleans); 1812–1815 (War of 1812 pensioners); 1911 (Confederate soldiers and widows)
<b>Maine</b>	1790	1837 (Bangor, Portland, unincorporated towns)
<b>Maryland</b>	1790	1776, 1778
<b>Massachusetts</b>	1790	1855, 1865
<b>Michigan</b>	1820	1710, various through 1792 (Detroit area); 1780 (Fort St. Joseph); 1796 (Wayne Co.); 1827, 1837 (Kalamazoo Co.); 1845, 1854–1894 (every 10 years); 1883 (pensioners); 1894 (veterans)
<b>Minnesota</b>	1820 (in Michigan Territory)	1836 (in Wisconsin Territory); 1849; 1850; 1853 (various areas); 1855 (fragments); 1857, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905
<b>Mississippi</b>	1820	1792 (Natchez); 1784, 1787, 1788, 1794, 1798–1817 (various years); 1831 (Choctaw tribe); 1822–1825, 1837, 1841, 1845, 1853, 1866 (various areas); 1790 (Tobacco growers in Spanish Natchez district); 1792, 1805, 1810, 1813, 1815–1818, 1820, 1830, 1850, 1860

State	First US census	Colonial, territorial, state and other censuses
<b>Missouri</b>	1820	1770–1804 (various areas); 1797, 1803 (New Madrid); 1817, 1819 (St. Charles); 1840, 1844, 1852, 1856, 1857–1858, 1868–1869, 1873, 1876 (fragments); 1880, 1881
<b>Montana</b>	1870	1883 (pensioners); 1897–1898 (Blackfeet tribe)
<b>Nebraska</b>	1860	1854, 1855, 1856, 1860, 1865, 1869, 1885; 1893 (veterans)
<b>Nevada</b>	1850	1776, 1862, 1863, 1875
<b>New Hampshire</b>	1790	1732, 1744, 1767, 1776
<b>New Jersey</b>	1830 (Cumberland Co. only in 1800)	1824–1832 (Paterson); 1855, 1865, 1875, 1885, 1895, 1905, 1915
<b>New Mexico</b>	1850	1600; 1750–1845 (various years and areas); 1790, 1788 and 1790 (El Paso del Norte); 1864, 1885
<b>New York</b>	1790	1693; 1700 (militia); 1774–1776, 1825–1875 (every 10 years); 1892, 1905, 1915, 1925
<b>North Carolina</b>	1790	1784–1787; 1838 (Indian removal); 1793–1840 (black craftsmen); 1852 (pensioners)
<b>North Dakota</b>	1900	1857 (Pembina Co.); 1885–1939 (various Indian reservations); 1855, 1915, 1925
<b>Ohio</b>	1820 (Washington Co. only in 1800 and 1810)	1863 (African-American residents arriving between 1861 and 1863)
<b>Oklahoma</b>	1860	1880, 1890, 1896 (Cherokee tribe); 1890; 1907 (Seminole Co.)
<b>Oregon</b>	1850	1842, 1843, 1845, 1846, 1849; 1853–1859 (every year); 1865–1905 (every 10 years)
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	1790	1680 (residents along the Delaware River); 1902 (children in soldier's orphan schools)
<b>Puerto Rico</b>	1900	1900 (Armed Forces—Foreign Countries), 1910, 1920, 1930
<b>Rhode Island</b>	1790	1730 (fragments); 1740–1743, 1747, 1774, 1777 (men age 16 and older); 1782 (partial); 1865, 1875, 1885, 1905, 1915, 1925, 1935
<b>South Carolina</b>	1790	1770 (Tryon Co.); 1779 (96th district); 1781 (unknown counties); 1829 (Fairfield and Laurens districts); 1839 (Kershaw and Chesterfield districts); 1868, 1869, 1875 (several counties)
<b>South Dakota</b>	1900	1836 (in Wisconsin Territory); 1840 (in Iowa Territory); 1850 (Minnesota Territory); 1860, 1870, 1880 (Dakota Territory); 1885–1945 (every 10 years); 1885–1940 (Indian census, various years)
<b>Tennessee</b>	1830 (fragments for 1810; 26 counties only for 1820)	1770–1790 (Cumberland settlements)
<b>Texas</b>	1850	1783–1836 (various years and areas), 1828
<b>Utah</b>	1850 (actually taken in 1851)	1852, 1856, 1872, 1896
<b>Vermont</b>	1790	1785
<b>Virginia</b>	1810 (partial)	1624, 1625, 1782–1786, 1890 (Union veterans census of southwest Virginia)
<b>Washington</b>	1860	1857–1892 (various years and areas)
<b>West Virginia</b>	1870 (earlier censuses as part of Virginia)	see Virginia listing
<b>Wisconsin</b>	1820	1836–1847 (various years and counties); 1855, 1865 (fragments); 1875–1905 (every 10 years)
<b>Wyoming</b>	1870	1855–1905 (every 10 years); 1869; 1878 (Cheyenne)



# Timeline

- 1787** The newly ratified Constitution requires a population count every 10 years.
- 1790** The first US census counts 3.9 million people.
- 1830** The census is first conducted on pre-printed forms.
- 1850** The census records the names of all free people for the first time. Slave states list slaveholders on a separate schedule, with the age and sex of each enslaved person.
- 1868** The 14th Amendment ends the three-fifths counting rule for African Americans.
- 1870** The census first counts American Indians, excluding those on reservations.
- 1880** Congress establishes a census office in the Department of the Interior.
- 1890** Census officials first use punchcards and electronic tabulation to compile data.
- 1900** The census enumerates military personnel living abroad.
- 1903** The census office is transferred to the Department of Commerce and Labor.
- 1919** Individuals may request copies of census records for genealogical purposes.
- 1921** A fire in the Commerce Department severely damages 1890 census records. Sometime before 1935, they're destroyed.
- 1930** The first post-Black Tuesday census asks about unemployment and income.
- 1960** Census questionnaires are first mailed to urban households, to be completed and returned to the Census Bureau.
- 1999** The US Supreme Court rules that statistical samplings can't be used for congressional apportionment.
- 2000** The Census Bureau runs its first nationwide advertising campaign to encourage census participation.
- 2001** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints releases a searchable, every-name index to the 1880 census on a \$49 set of 56 CD-ROMs.
- 2010** The American Community Survey replaces the census "long form."
- 2012** The 1940 census is the first released only as digital images, not microfilm.
- 2022** The 1950 census is scheduled to be released.

## RESOURCES

### Websites

**Ancestor Search: Census Abbreviations**

<[www.searchforancestors.com/records/censusabbreviations.html](http://www.searchforancestors.com/records/censusabbreviations.html)>

**Census Bureau: Census Instructions**

<[census.gov/history/www/through\\_the\\_decades/census\\_instructions](http://census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/census_instructions)>

**Census Bureau: Index of Questions**

<[www.census.gov/history/www/through\\_the\\_decades/index\\_of\\_questions](http://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/index_of_questions)>

**University of Minnesota, Minnesota Population Center: Transcribed Enumerator Instructions**

<[usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumInstr.shtml](http://usa.ipums.org/usa/voliii/tEnumInstr.shtml)>

**NARA: Census Records**

<[archives.gov/research/census](http://archives.gov/research/census)>

**One-step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse: US Census**

<[stevemorse.org/#us](http://stevemorse.org/#us)>

### Books

***The Census Book: A Genealogist's Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules and Indexes*** by William Thorndale (Heritage Quest)

***Finding Answers in US Census Records*** by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Matthew Wright (Ancestry)

***Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790–1920*** by William Dollarhide and William Thorndale (Genealogical Publishing Co.)

***Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses From 1790 to 2000*** (Census Bureau, free download from <[www.census.gov/history/www/reference/publications/publications\\_-\\_genealogy\\_1.html](http://www.census.gov/history/www/reference/publications/publications_-_genealogy_1.html)>)

***State Census Records*** by Ann Smith Lainhart (Genealogical Publishing Co.)

***Your Guide to the Federal Census*** by Kathleen Hinckley (Betterway)