

# U.S. Census Records

April 2011

# THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

April 27, 1940

5c. the Copy

BEGINNING  
REAP THE  
WILD WIND  
By  
THELMA STRABEL

Illustration  
Maxwell



# Census Facts

- Background
  - A census has been taken every 10 year since 1790
  - Last census take was done in 2010
  - Each census has it own types of questions
  - Answers to the census question relate to the official census date.
  - The census records have a privacy law attached so a census is not available to use for 72 years.

# Census Information

- 1790 – 1840
  - 1790 – (2 August 1790)
    - List's head of household
      - Free White males 16 years and older
      - Free White males 16 years and younger
      - Free White Females
      - All other persons and Slaves
  - 1800 – (4 August 1800)
    - This census break down ages between
    - Under 10 years old, 16 to 26, 26 to 45 years.
    - All other persons and slaves

# 1790 Census Example

64 87

Names of heads of Families

Free white males 16 years of age or more including heads of Families

Free white males under 16 years

Free white females including the heads of families

all other free persons

Slaves

Names of heads of Families	Free white males 16 years of age or more including heads of Families	Free white males under 16 years	Free white females including the heads of families	all other free persons	Slaves
Brought Over	150	168	256		7
William Woody	1		1		
William Woody	1	5	1		
Elizabeth Watkins		1	6		
John Doherty	1				

# Census Information

- 1790 – 1840
  - 1810 – (6 August 1810)
    - The question were exactly the same as those of 1800
  - 1820 – (7 August 1820)
    - This census ask more details about slaves
    - This census ask about citizenship of foreigners
    - Breaks down occupations.
  - 1830 – (1 June 1830) (First census to have an official form)
    - Breaks down ages more
    - Didn't ask about citizenship



# Census Information

- 1790 – 1840
  - 1840 – (1 June 1840)
    - This census ask same question as the 1830 census.
- 1850 – 1900
  - 1850 – (1 June 1850)
    - First census to give names of every person in household.
    - Thirteen Question were asked. They included the following.

# 1850 Census Example

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in

*Waterville*

in the County of

*Kennebec*

State

1850

of *Maine* enumerated by me, on the *1<sup>st</sup>* day of *August* 1850.

Ass't Marshal.

93

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The Name of every Person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1850, was in this family.	DESCRIPTION.			Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each Male Person over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate owned.	PLACE OF BIRTH. Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 yrs of age who cannot read & write.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
			Age.	Sex.	Color. White, black or mulatto.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	26 27	Elijah Winkley	37	M		<i>W</i>		<i>Maine</i>				
2		Rebecca	37	F				<i>Mass</i>				
3		Elijah	10	M				"				
4		Samuel	5	M				"				
5		Sarah	8	F				"				
6		Elihu L. F. Kew	21	F				"				
7		Nichol Manna	24	M				<i>England</i>				
8		Nichol Casey	25	M				<i>Wash</i>				
9		Sharon	37	M				<i>NH</i>				
10		Wm	8	M				<i>Wash</i>				
11		Samuel	6	M				"				
12		Ben	5	M				"				

# Census Information

- 1850 – 1900

- 1850

1. Dwelling number in order of visitation
2. Family Number in order of visitation
3. Name of each person in the household
4. Sex
5. Age
6. Color
7. Occupation
8. Value of Real Estate owned
9. Place of birth
10. Married with in year
11. Attended school
12. 20 years old can not read
13. Deaf, dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, convict.

# Census Information

- 1850 – 1900
  - 1860 – (1 June 1860)
    - Added just one question from the 1850 census
    - Value of personal property
  - 1870 – (1 June 1870)
    - Ask if parents were foreign born
    - Ask for month if born with the year
    - Ask for month if married with in the year
    - Ask status of citizenship for 21 years old and older

# Census Information

- 1850 – 1890
  - 1880 – (1 June 1880)
    - Ask relationship to the head of household
    - Ask details about marriage status
    - Ask details about health
    - First year to ask birth place of father and mother
  - 1890 – (1 June 1890)
    - Census destroyed by fire in 1921
    - Only 1% of the census survived
    - 11 States survive all of them are only partially complete

# Census Information

- 1900 – 1940
  - 1900 – (1 June 1900)
    - Only census to ask month and year of birth
    - Ask number of years married
    - Ask mother of how many children
    - Ask how many children alive
    - Ask similar question to past census
  - 1910 – (15 April 1910)
    - Ask if a survivor of civil war
    - More details concerning employment status



# Census Information

- 1900 – 1940
  - 1910 – cont.
    - Ask what language you speak
  - 1920 – (1 January 1920)
    - Ask standard questions
    - Ask about the year of naturalization
    - Ask what tongue father and mother speak
  - 1930 – (1 April 1930)
    - Ask standard questions

# Census Information

- 1900 – 1940
  - 1930
    - Ask the standard question
    - Ask if household own a radio
    - Ask if family live on family farm
    - Ask age at first marriage
    - Language at home before coming to united states
    - Ask weather a veteran of any war or expedition
  - 1930 is the last one currently open to the public

# Census Information

- 1900 – 1940
  - 1940 – (2 April 1940)
    - The National Archives will release census 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012
    - Ask standard questions
    - New question for this census year
      - Where you lived 5 years before census
      - Highest education level reached
      - Ask information about wages
      - First year sampling is used 1 in 20 were asked more questions

# Other Census Records

- Federal Non-Population Schedules
  - Agricultural
    - Years 1850 thru 1885
    - These schedules detail information about farms
  - Mortality Schedule
    - Years 1850 thru 1885
    - Records those that have died year before the census
  - Industry & Manufacturing
    - 1810, 1820, 1850 thru 1885

# Other Census Records

- Federal Non-Population Schedules
  - Veteran Schedule
    - Only done for the 1890 Census
    - This schedule records veterans of the civil war and widow of a civil war veteran

# 1870 Mortality Schedule Example

Page No. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Persons who Died during the Year ending 1st June, 1870, in \_\_\_\_\_  
 of McLennan, State of Texas, enumerated by me, J. P. Terrell, Ass't Mar.

Name of every person who died during the year ending June 1, 1870, whose place of abode at the time of death was in this family	DESCRIPTION					Place of Birth, naming the State or Territory of the U. S., or the country, if of foreign birth.	PARENTAGE		The Month in which the person died.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade.	Disease or Cause of Death.
	Age last birth-day, or under one year, or months to fullness of it.	Sex—Males (M.), Females (F.).	Color—White (W.), Black (B.), Mulatto (M.), Chinese (Ch.), Indian (I.).	Married (M.) or Widowed (W.).	Father of foreign birth.		Mother of foreign birth.				
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Springblood John J.	59	M	W	M	Mo.	Ga.			May		Inflamation of
Cooper Nancy	2	F	W			Texas			April	Farmer	Pneumonia
Wyatt Texas Atlas	2	Mo	W			La			July		Consumption
Blackman Geo. W.	35	Mo	W	Mo.		Ga.			4	Farmer	Consumption
Edin William	35	Mo	W	Mo.		Mois			March	"	Consumption

# 1870 Agricultural Schedule Exp.

Post Office: *St. Paul, Minnesota*

Name of Agent, Owner, or Manager.	ACRES OF LAND.			PRESENT CASH VALUE.		Total amount of wages paid during the year, including value of board.	LIVE STOCK, JUNE 1, 1870.								PRODUCE DURING THE YEAR.									
	Improved.	UNIMPROVED.		Of farms.	Of farming implements and machinery.		Horses.	Mules and Asses.	Milch Cows.	Working Oxen.	Other Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Value of all live stock.	WHEAT.				Oats.	Barley.	Stock-feed.	Pigs.	Ducks.	
		No.	Woodland.												Other unimproved.	Dolls.	Dolls.	Dolls.						No.
	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1 <i>Gilson Eli</i>	1			2000	180	50	1	2				1	295			25	75	86			122			
2 <i>Wheeler Laura</i>	170	40		7400	200	300	4	7		2	130	2	1025	60		20	120	200						
3 <i>Monte Claudine</i>	42			2000	100	50	2	1					220			100	200	50			16			
4 <i>Reynolds Emery</i>	840	40		12000	200	200	6	25		8		8	1820	50			300	300						
5 <i>Philip Royal</i>	75	25		7000	75	150	1	3		2		1	340				50	100						
6 <i>Labelle Emory</i>	100	70		10000	150	175	3	16		1		2	1100	40			150	300						

# 1890 Veteran Schedule

PAGE

Special Schedule.—Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows, etc.

S. D.: 3; E. D.: 273; Minor Civil Division: Liberty Ohio

From  
Schedule No. 1.

House No.	Family No.	NAMES OF SURVIVING SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES, AND WIDOWS.	Rank.	Company.	Name of Regiment or Vessel.	Date of Enlistment.	Date of Discharge.	Length of Service.			
								Yrs.	Mos.	Days.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
13 24	26	Boston Job V	private	D	73 Ind Vol	6 Aug 1862	16 July 1864	2	11		13
14 28	27	Devo John W. V	sergeant	M	74 B Vol	14 Oct 1861	18 July 1864	3	9	6	14
15 28	100	Brown William V	private	A	74 W Vol	9 Oct 1861	10 July 1864	3	9	1	15
16 36	124	Fincher Joel M V	private	E	12 B Vol	26 July 1862	= Oct 1864	2	9	=	16

# Other Non Federal Census

- State Census Records
  - Were mostly taken between federal census years
  - Census are wide ranging between 1825 – 1925
  - You can find these records in a couple of locations
    - State Archives
    - Family History Library on microfilm
    - Online

# Finding Census Records

- Accessing census records Online
  - Ancestry.com (Free based) Free at FHC's
    - All population schedule 1790 thru 1930
    - Every name searchable
  - FamilySearch.org – Free from home
    - 1850, 1860, 1870, 1900 – Index and Images
    - 1880, 1910, 1920, 1930 – Index only
  - HeritageQuest – Free at FHC's access from Library
    - Index is Head of Household only

# Finding Census Records

- Accessing census records Online – Continued
  - HeritageQuest
    - Head of household indexes for 1790-1820, 1860, 1870, 1890, 1900-1910 and 1920-1930 (partial).
  - Footnote – Fee based , Free at FHC's
    - Has two census online 1860 & 1930
    - These two census are indexed with every name
  - World Vital Records – Fee based, Free at FHC's
    - 1930 and 1860 indexed
    - Have images of number of years no index
    - Working on providing all census and with index

# Finding Census Records

- Accessing census records Online – Continued
  - Internet Archive
    - Images of all 1790 – 1930 census
  - Internet websites
    - [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) – Subscription, or Free at FHC
    - [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) - Free
    - [www.footnote.com](http://www.footnote.com) – Subscription or Free at FHC
    - HeritageQuest – Access through Local Library or at FHC
    - [www.worldvitalrecords.com](http://www.worldvitalrecords.com) – Subscription, or Free at FHC
    - [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org) - Free

# Finding Census Records

- Available on Microfilm Format
  - Family History Library
    - All Census records 1790 thru 1930
    - You can search for the census using the library card catalog
  - National Archives
    - All Census records 1790 thru 1930
    - You can find the film information on [archive.gov](http://archive.gov)

# Key Census Reference

- Map Guide to U.S. federal Census 1790-1920 William Thorndale, and William Dollarhide, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publ., 1987)
- Your Guide To The Federal Census for genealogist, researchers, and family historians, Kathleen W. Hinckley, (Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2002)
- The American Census Handbook, Thomas Jay Kemp, (Wilmington: Scholarly Resources Inc, 2001)
- Availability of Census Records About Individuals (Issued June 2008), (Factfinder of the Nation; Census.gov)
- Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses From 1790 to 2000, (<http://www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/ma.html>)
- William Dollarhide, *The Census Book: a Genealogist's Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules and Indexes: with Master Extraction Forms for Federal Census Schedules, 1790-1930*. (Bountiful, Utah: Heritage Quest, 1999) [http://persi.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/help/census\\_book.html](http://persi.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/help/census_book.html)

# Key Census Reference

- Website for training and reference
  - [Wiki.familysearch.org](http://Wiki.familysearch.org)
  - [learn.familysearch.org](http://learn.familysearch.org)
  - [archive.gov](http://archive.gov) – National Archives
  - [census.gov](http://census.gov)
- Printing Census forms
  - [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com/charts/census.aspx) <http://www.ancestry.com/charts/census.aspx>
  - [Wiki.familysearch.org](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/United_States_Census_Forms) -  
[https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/United\\_States\\_Census\\_Forms](https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/United_States_Census_Forms)



COURTESY OF THE US CENSUS BUREAU

1930 Census Enumeration