



National Archives and Records Administration

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Federal Nonpopulation Census Schedules National Archives and Records Administration www.archives.gov; 202-357-5400

The nonpopulation census schedules cover the 12 months preceding the taking of the census. For example, the 1860 mortality schedules record deaths that occurred between June 1, 1859, and June 1, 1860. The censuses are arranged by year and state. Sometimes the census covers just the county; other times the census breaks down into city, town, and minor civil division. Both arrangements can occur within the same census.

The Bureau distributed the nonpopulation census schedules to the states in the early 20th century. NARA has microfilm copies of many of these nonpopulation censuses, but not all. For a list of NARA's nonpopulation census holdings see www.archives.gov/genealogy/census/nonpopulation; part 3 is a state-by-state list of where copies of the nonpopulation censuses are located. There are no extant nonpopulation schedules available after 1880.

Mortality Census Schedules, 1850-1880

These schedules may be the only record of a person's death as many states did not begin to record deaths until the late 19th or early 20th centuries.

The 1850 and 1860 censuses record the deceased's name, age, sex, color (black, white, mulatto), whether married or widowed, place of birth, occupation, month of death, cause of death, and the number of days sick. The 1870 and 1880 mortality schedules include the above information plus whether the deceased's parents were foreign born, the attending physician's name, and where the person contracted the illness if it were a disease. The race column expanded to include Indians and Chinese.

Agricultural Census Schedules, 1850-1880

Beginning in 1850, enumerators collected information about agricultural production. In 1850 and 1860, the census enumerated farms with \$100 or greater production value. In 1870 and 1880, farms with \$500 or greater production value were enumerated.

The questions include the farmer's name, ownership of the farm, acreage and usage of the farmland, as well as the value and quantity of the produce, livestock, and machinery. In 1850, the census contained 50 questions. By 1880 the number doubled to record more detailed information about livestock and crops.

The names of employees, including farmhands, are not listed. There is no index to the agricultural census schedules.

Manufacturers Schedules, 1810, 1820, 1880 and Industrial Schedules, 1850-1870

Congress authorized the special counting of manufacturing establishments and manufacturers for the first time in 1810. The majority of the 1810 schedules were lost. The 1820 enumeration records 14 items. The surviving schedules are microfilmed as *Records of the 1820 Census of Manufacturers* (National Archives Microfilm Publication M279).

Beginning in 1850, the Bureau recorded information about manufacturing, mining, fisheries, and every mercantile and trading business with an annual gross product of \$500 or more. The schedules include the name and owner of the business, amount of capital invested, quantity and value of material used, labor, machinery, and products.

In 1880, the Bureau again called these schedules manufactures schedules, and included more questions. Enumerators recorded the production of cereals, cotton, forest products, fruit growing, meat, and tobacco. The schedules include the name of the company or owner, and other specific information about the company including the kind, quantity, and value of materials, labor, machinery, and products. The categories of manufacturing include shoe factories, dairy factories, flour and grist mills, lumber and saw mills, brick yards, tile works, paper mills, mines, and quarries.

The names of the employees are not listed. There is no index to these censuses.

Social Statistics, 1850-1870

These schedules do not name individuals, but can provide information at either the county or township level depending on the census. Social statistics note the value of real estate paid in taxes, the number and type of schools, the value of wages paid, the number and types of churches, the number and type of libraries, the types of newspapers and periodicals published in the area, how many paupers, the number of criminals, and the amount of public debt.

Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Classes, 1880 only

Before 1880 questions about mental and physical defects and people living in institutions were included on the regular population census schedule. In 1880, however, enumerators collected additional information on “defective, dependent, and delinquent” inhabitants.

These records are arranged by state, county, and enumeration district (ED). Within each ED, the schedules are divided into seven categories: 1) insane, 2) idiots, 3) deaf-mutes, 4) blind, 5) homeless children (in institutions), 6) prisoners, and 7) paupers and indigents. Within each category, the schedules can include the person’s name, the nature of the affliction, the cause of the affliction, the amount of public support, and specific training received to cope with the affliction.

1885 Territorial Censuses

Colorado, Florida, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Dakota Territory elected to take an 1885 census with federal assistance. The schedules show the same type of information as the 1880 schedules, but also include a mortality schedule. NARA holds the records for Colorado (National Archives Microfilm Publication M158), Florida (National Archives Microfilm Publication M845), Nebraska (National Archives Microfilm Publication M352), and New Mexico (National Archives Microfilm Publication M846). The schedules for Dakota Territory are available online according to whether the person was enumerated in North Dakota or South Dakota.