

HOW TO USE THIS CENSUS REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

Data from the 1990 census are presented in several different report series. These series are published under the following three subject titles:

1. 1990 Census of Population (1990 CP)
2. 1990 Census of Housing (1990 CH)
3. 1990 Census of Population and Housing (1990 CPH)

The types of data and the geographic areas shown in reports differ from one series to another. In most series, there is one report for each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United States (Virgin Islands), plus a United States summary report. Some series include reports for American Indian and Alaska Native areas, metropolitan areas, and urbanized areas. See appendix F for detailed information about the various report series; additional 1990 census data products such as computer tapes, microfiche, and laser disks; other related materials; and sources of assistance.

The data from the 1990 census were derived from a limited number of basic questions asked of the entire population and about every housing unit (referred to as the 100-percent questions), and from additional questions asked of a sample of the population and housing units (referred to as the sample questions). Two primary versions of questionnaires were used: a short form containing only the 100-percent questions and a long form containing both the 100-percent questions and the additional sample questions. Appendix E presents facsimiles of the questionnaire pages and the respondent instructions used to collect the data included in this report. Appendix F lists the subjects that are covered by the 100-percent and sample components of the 1990 census.

Legal provision for this census, which was conducted as of April 1, 1990, was made in the Act of Congress of August 31, 1954 (amended August 1957, December 1975, and October 1976), which is codified in Title 13, United States Code.

HOW TO FIND GEOGRAPHIC AREAS AND SUBJECT-MATTER DATA

This report includes a table finding guide to assist the user in locating those statistical tables that contain the data that are needed. The table finding guide lists alphabetically, by geographic area, the subjects shown in this report. To determine which tables in this report show data for a particular topic, find the subject in the left-hand column of the table finding guide and then look across the columns using the headings at the top for the desired type of geographic area. Below is an example of a table finding guide.

TABLE FINDING GUIDE

Subjects by Type of Geographic Area and Table Number

Subjects covered in this report are shown on the left side, and types of geographic areas are shown at the top. For a description of area classifications, see appendix A. For definitions and explanations of subject characteristics, see appendix B. Table numbers without reference letters in parentheses indicate data for the total population only. Data by race and Hispanic origin are indicated with reference letters in parentheses after the table numbers. Reference letters for population counts and subjects by race and Hispanic origin follow:

- (A) White; Black; American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut; Asian or Pacific Islander; Hispanic origin; White, not of Hispanic origin.
- (B) American Indian, Eskimo, Aleut, All Asian, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Asian Indian, Korean, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, All Pacific Islander, Hawaiian, Samoan, Guamanian.
- (C) Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Other Hispanic origin, Dominican, Central American, Guatemalan, Honduran, Nicaraguan, Panamanian, Salvadoran, South American, Colombian, Ecuadorian, Peruvian.
- (D) Race by Hispanic origin.

Subject	The State		County		Place and (in selected States) county subdivision ²		American Indian and Alaska Native area ³
	Total	Urban, rural, size of place, and rural farm ¹	Total	Rural or rural farm	10,000 or more	2,500 to 9,999	
Age	20, 34, 65(B)	20, 56(A)	95, 106(A)	169, 171	135(A)	151	173(A)
Ancestry ...	17, 31	17	92	...	121	150	...
Disability ...	20, 34, 84(D)	20, 57(A)	95, 107(A)	...	136(A)	152	174(A)
Educational attainment .	22, 36	22, 57(A)	97, 107(A)	169, 171	136(A)	160(A)	174(A)
Household type and relationship	21, 35	21, 56(A)	96, 106(A)	169, 171	135(A)	160(A)	173(A)
Industry	26, 40, 67(B)	26, 58(A)	101, 108(A), 116(B)	170, 172	137(A), 148(C)	161(A), 167(C)	175(A)
Poverty status	29, 43, 72(B)	29, 63(A)	104, 113(A), 117(B)	170, 172	142(A), 149(C)	162(A), 168(C)	180(A)
Residence in 1985 ...	23, 37, 67(B)	23, 60(A)	98, 110(A)	...	139(A)	155	177(A)
Veteran status	23, 37, 69(B)	23, 60(A)	98, 110(A)	...	139(A)	155	177(A)
Work status in 1989 ...	27, 41, 69(B)	27, 60(A)	102, 110(A)	...	139(A)	155	177(A)

... Not applicable.

¹Type of residence categories are less detailed in tables 56-64 (which show characteristics by race and Hispanic origin) than in other tables.

²The selected States are Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

³Characteristics are shown only for the American Indian, Eskimo, or Aleut population.

Tables identified in the table finding guide with a reference letter in parentheses after the table number present characteristics for racial groups or persons of Hispanic origin. The tables without reference letters contain data for the total population only. The table finding guide does not include cross-classifications of subject-matter items, nor does it distinguish among tables presenting data for all persons or housing units and tables presenting data for subgroups (for example, persons under 18 years or renter-occupied housing units) unless it is necessary to locate the subject.

Additional information to locate data within specific reports often is provided in the headnote at the top of the table finding guide and in the footnotes at the bottom of the guide.

HOW TO USE THE STATISTICAL TABLES

Parts of a Statistical Table

The census data included in printed reports are arranged in tables. Each table includes four major parts: (1) heading, (2) boxhead, (3) stub, and (4) data field.

A typical census report table is illustrated below.

The diagram illustrates the structure of a statistical table. At the top left is the 'Table number and title' (Table 67, Labor Force Characteristics: 1990). To its right is the 'Headnote' (Data based on sample of households representing entire population of Alaska, unweighted). Further right is the 'Column head' (Total). Below these is the 'Heading' (Total). The 'Stubhead' (The State) is on the left, and the 'Boxhead' (Total) is on the right. The 'Stub' (Labor force status) is on the left, and the 'Data field' (Total) is on the right. The 'Sidehead' (28 ALASKA) is at the bottom left, and the 'Report title' (SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS) is at the bottom right.

The *heading* consists of the table number, title, and headnote. The table number indicates the position of the table within the report, while the title is a brief statement indicating the classification, nature, and time reference of the data presented in the table. The headnote is enclosed in brackets and is located under the title. It contains statements that qualify, explain, or provide information pertaining to the entire table. In some tables showing racial and Hispanic origin groups, the headnote includes information that data are presented only when certain population-size criteria (thresholds) are met. (For more information on thresholds, see the "User Notes" section.)

The *boxhead* is under the heading. This portion of the table, which contains the individual column heads or captions, describes the data in each vertical column. In the boxhead of many tables, a spanner appears across and above two or more column heads or across two or more lower spanners. The purpose of a spanner is to classify or qualify items below it or separate the table into identifiable blocks in terms of major aspects of the data.

The *stub* is located at the left edge of the table. It includes a listing of line or row captions or descriptions. At the top of the stub is the stubhead. The stubhead is considered to be an extension of the table title and usually shows generic geographic area designations and restrictions.

In the stub, several features are used to help the user better understand the contents of the table. Usually, a block of data lines is preceded by a sidehead. The sidehead, similar to a spanner, describes and classifies the stub entries following it. The use of indentation in a stub indicates the relationship of one data line to another. Indented data lines represent subcategories that in most instances, sum to a total. Occasionally in tables, it is desirable to show one or more single-line subcategories that do not sum to the total. The unit of measure, such as dollars, is shown when it is not clear from the general wording of the data line.

The *data field* is that part of the table that contains the data. It extends from the bottom of the boxhead to the bottom of the table and from the right of the stub to the right-hand edge of the page.

Both geographic and subject-matter terms appear in tables. It is important to read the definitions of the terms used in the tables because census terms often are defined in special ways that reflect the manner in which the questions were asked and the data were tabulated. Definitions of geographic terms are provided in appendix A. Subject-matter terms are defined in appendix B.

Symbols and Geographic Abbreviations

The following symbols are used in the tables and explanations of subjects covered in this report:

- A dash "-" represents zero or a percent that rounds to less than 0.1.

- Three dots “...” mean not applicable.
- (NA) means not available.
- The prefix “r” indicates that the count has been revised since publication of 1980 reports or that the area was erroneously omitted or not shown in the correct geographic relationship in the 1980 census reports. This symbol appears only in the 1990 CPH-2, *Population and Housing Unit Counts* reports.
- A dagger “†” next to the name of a geographic area indicates that there has been a geographic change(s) (for example, an annexation or detachment, a new incorporation, or a name change) since the information published for the 1980 census for that area. This symbol appears only in the 1990 CPH-2, *Population and Housing Unit Counts* reports. The geographic change information for the entities in a State is shown in the “User Notes” section of 1990 CPH-2, *Population and Housing Unit Counts* report, for that State. The information for all States appears in the “User Notes” section of the technical documentation for Summary Tape Files 1 and 3.
- A plus sign “+” or a minus sign “-” following a figure denotes that the median falls in the initial or terminal category of an open-ended distribution. (For more information on medians, see the discussion under “Derived Measures” in appendix B.)
- A minus sign “-” preceding a figure denotes decrease.

The following geographic abbreviations are used in the tables and explanations of subjects covered in this report:

- A “(pt.)” next to the name of a geographic area in a hierarchical presentation indicates that the geographic entity is only partially located in the superior geographic entity. For example, a “(pt.)” next to a place name in a county subdivision-place hierarchy indicates that the place is located in more than one county subdivision. (Places also may be “split” by county, congressional district, urban/rural, metropolitan area, voting district, and other geographic boundaries, depending on the presentation.) Other geographic entities also can be “split” by a higher-level entity. The exception is a tabulation block, which is unique within all geographic entities in census products.
- BG is block group.
- BNA is block numbering area.
- CDP is census designated place.
- CMSA is consolidated metropolitan statistical area.
- MA is metropolitan area.
- MSA is metropolitan statistical area.
- PMSA is primary metropolitan statistical area.
- TDSA is tribal designated statistical area.

- TJSA is tribal jurisdiction statistical area.
- unorg. is unorganized territory.
- VTD is voting district.

Census tables often include derived measures such as medians, means, percents, and ratios. More detailed information about derived measures is provided in appendix B.

GRAPHICS

Charts, statistical maps, and other graphic summaries are included in some 1990 census reports. If graphics are shown in a report, they are presented immediately after the “User Notes” section.

USER NOTES

User notes include corrections, errata, and related explanatory information. This section appears directly before the statistical tables in census reports unless graphics are shown. It presents information about unique characteristics of the report and changes or corrections made too late to be reflected in the text or tables themselves.

CONTENTS OF THE APPENDIXES

Appendix A—Provides definitions of the types of geographic areas and related information used in census reports.

Appendix B—Contains definitions for the subject-matter items used in census reports, including explanations of derived measures, limitations of the data, and comparability with previous censuses. The subjects are listed alphabetically. In reports that contain both population and housing characteristics, the population characteristics are described first, followed by the explanations of the housing subjects.

Appendix C—Provides information on confidentiality of the data, allocations and substitutions, and sources of errors in the data.

Appendix D—Explains the residence rules used in counting the population and housing units, presents a brief overview of data collection operations, and describes processing procedures used to convert data from unedited questionnaires to final 1990 publications and tapes. This appendix also clarifies the procedures used to collect data for persons abroad at the time of the census, where persons on military bases or away at school were counted, how data were collected for persons in institutions, and which citizens of foreign countries were included in the U.S. data.

Appendix E—Presents a facsimile of the 1990 census questionnaire pages and the respondent instructions used to collect the data in this report.

Appendix F—Summarizes the 1990 census data products program by describing the information available in printed reports and in other sources, such as microfiche or computer tape; and provides information on where to obtain assistance.

Appendix G—Contains maps depicting the geographic areas shown in this report.