

Educator Update

Census In Schools

November 2008

2010 Census Countdown

There are only 17 months until Census Day (April 2010)! Visit the 2010 Census Web site for the latest news. Go to www.census.gov and click on “2010 Census” to find information on how to get a job with the census, a timeline of census activities, and how to download fact sheets and other promotional materials to use in the classroom.

Pizza! Pizza! Pizza! Fun Facts on the Radio

Profile America — Ask most youngsters what their favorite food is and chances are they’ll answer “pizza.” An Italian immigrant named Gennaro Lombardi is thought to have opened the first pizzeria in the U.S. around 1900 in New



York City. No one knows exactly when or where pizza originated, but the ancient Greeks ate something very similar. These made their way into Italy, where they were topped with tomatoes.

American soldiers who served in Italy came back from World War II raving about pizza, contributing to its nationwide popularity. Americans eat enough pizza each day to cover 100 acres. Pizza restaurants form a good percentage of the more than half-million eating and drinking places across the U.S.

Profile America is a daily, 60-second feature that uses interesting vignettes from key events, observances or commemorations for that day to highlight information collected by the Census Bureau.

To view or hear more interesting features, visit www.census.gov and Click on “Broadcast and Photo Services.”

What’s the Connection? – Between the Census Bureau and Celebrations

The Public Information Office of the U.S. Census Bureau regularly releases “Facts for Features” featuring collections of statistics from its demographic and economic subject areas. Intended to commemorate anniversaries or observances and to provide background information for topics in the news, this resource is used regularly by the media, and teachers, too, will find Facts for Features useful in creating high interest lessons with current data that relate directly to selected celebratory topics.

Classroom Activity for November — We have attached a fun classroom activity that uses math, reading, and language arts skills. Attached to this newsletter are Thanksgiving facts, a student activity and a teacher’s answer sheet.



Facts for Features for November

American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month —

Presidents have signed proclamations to honor the nation’s 4.5 million American Indian and Alaska Natives each year at this time. This group is

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younger and has larger families than the national population.

4.5 million

As of July 1, 2007, the estimated population of American Indians and Alaska Natives, including those of more than one race. They made up 1.5 percent of the total population.

5

Number of states where American Indians and Alaska Natives were the largest race or ethnic minority group in 2007. These states are Alaska, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

Veterans Day (Nov. 11) — Parades and speeches across the country, as well as a national ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, highlight this federal holiday. Some of the statistics from this day include the number of veterans in the country, their racial and ethnic backgrounds, and the number who vote.

23.6 million

The number of military veterans in the United States in 2007.

358,000

In 2007, number of living veterans who served during both the Vietnam and Gulf War eras.

For more information, visit www.census.gov and click on “Facts for Features.”

Facts for Features Teaching Ideas

Teaching Idea for American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month

To celebrate American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage month, help students increase their

knowledge about these population groups by producing a “Getting to Know You” presentation. Divide the class into six research groups (that are identified in the Facts for Features categories): Population; Families and Children and Housing; Languages and Education; Businesses and Jobs; Caregivers and Veterans; and Income and Poverty.

Hand out copies of the “American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month Facts for Features” and have students prepare bar and line graphs, maps, and other appropriate materials to share.

Instruct students to access the Web site link cited in each entry in the Fact for Features that relates to their subtopic and in their report to indicate specific details. These presentations can be upbeat and audience-friendly, not simply a recitation of factual information.

Contact Census in Schools

If you would like to share any thoughts or ideas about ways to introduce the 2010 Census to your students, please call 1-800-396-1167 or e-mail us at: Census.in.Schools@census.gov. Additional information about Census in Schools can be found at our Web site:

<http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/teachers.html>.

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