

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Charles Sawyer, Secretary

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
Roy V. Peel, Director

*A Report of the Seventeenth Decennial Census
of the United States*

Census of Population: 1950

Volume I

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS



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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Table 1.—POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, URBAN AND RURAL: 1800 TO 1950

[Minus sign (-) denotes decrease]

Census date	The District			Number of urban places	Urban territory			Rural territory			Percent of total	
	Population	Increase over preceding census			Population	Increase over preceding census		Population	Increase over preceding census		Urban	Rural
		Number	Percent			Number	Percent		Number	Percent		
1950 (Apr. 1).....	802,178	139,087	21.0	1	802,178	139,087	21.0			100.0		
1940 (Apr. 1).....	663,091	176,222	36.2	1	663,091	176,222	36.2			100.0		
1930 (Apr. 1).....	486,869	49,298	11.3	1	486,869	49,298	11.3			100.0		
1920 (Jan. 1).....	437,571	106,502	32.2	1	437,571	106,502	32.2			100.0		
1910 (Apr. 15).....	331,069	52,351	18.8	1	331,069	52,351	18.8			100.0		
1900 (June 1).....	278,718	48,326	21.0	1	278,718	48,326	21.0			100.0		
1890 (June 1).....	230,392	52,768	29.7	1	230,392	70,521	44.1		-17,753	100.0		
1880 (June 1).....	177,624	45,924	34.9	2	159,871	59,288	32.6	17,753	6,636	90.0	10.0	
1870 (June 1).....	131,700	56,620	75.4	2	120,583	50,728	72.6	11,117	5,892	91.6	8.4	
1860 (June 1).....	75,080	23,393	45.3	2	69,855	21,488	44.4	5,225	1,905	93.0	7.0	
1850 (June 1).....	51,087	17,942	53.2	2	48,867	17,691	57.7	3,320	251	93.6	6.4	
1840 (June 1).....	33,745	3,484	11.5	2	30,676	3,409	12.5	3,069	75	90.9	9.1	
1830 (June 1).....	30,261	6,925	29.7	2	27,267	6,060	32.3	2,994	265	90.1	9.9	
1820 (Aug. 7).....	25,336	7,865	50.8	2	20,007	7,461	56.6	2,729	414	88.3	11.7	
1810 (Aug. 6).....	15,471	7,327	90.0	2	13,156	6,953	112.1	2,315	374	85.0	15.0	
1800 (Aug. 4).....	8,144			2	6,203			1,941		76.2	23.8	

¹ District of Columbia not considered coextensive with Washington city until 1895 but considered entirely urban in 1890.

² Population of present area of District of Columbia; population of District of Columbia as then constituted: 1840, 43,712; 1830, 39,834; 1820, 33,039; 1810, 24,023; 1800, 14,093.

(Tables 2 and 3 of the standard series are omitted as the only place, Washington, D. C., is considered coextensive with the District of Columbia)

Table 4.—POPULATION OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON: 1800 TO 1950

Census year	Population	Increase over preceding census		Census year	Population	Increase over preceding census		Census year	Population	Increase over preceding census	
		Number	Percent			Number	Percent			Number	Percent
1950.....	802,178	139,087	21.0	1890.....	188,932	41,630	28.3	1840.....	23,364	4,538	24.1
1940.....	663,091	176,222	36.2	1880.....	147,293	38,004	34.0	1830.....	18,826	5,579	42.1
1930.....	486,869	49,298	11.3	1870.....	100,199	48,077	78.7	1820.....	13,247	5,039	61.4
1920.....	437,571	106,502	32.2	1860.....	61,122	21,121	52.8	1810.....	8,208	4,098	155.7
1910.....	331,069	52,351	18.8	1850.....	40,001	16,637	71.2	1800.....	3,210		
1900.....	278,718	89,786	47.5								

¹ Washington city considered coextensive with the District of Columbia since 1895.

² Population prior to incorporation.

(Tables 5 and 6 of the standard series are omitted as there are no counties in the District of Columbia. Table 7 is omitted as the only place, Washington, D. C., is considered coextensive with the District of Columbia)

Table 8.—POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, BY POLICE PRECINCTS AND QUADRANTS: 1950

Precinct	Population	Precinct	Population	Precinct	Population	Quadrant	Population
The District.....	802,178	Precinct 5.....	51,292	Precinct 10.....	82,012	The District ¹	802,178
Precinct 1.....	18,705	Precinct 6.....	62,396	Precinct 11.....	85,344	Northeast.....	187,443
Precinct 2.....	58,850	Precinct 7.....	35,607	Precinct 12.....	53,932	Northwest.....	417,471
Precinct 3.....	49,864	Precinct 8.....	56,030	Precinct 13.....	61,569	Southeast.....	152,738
Precinct 4.....	30,082	Precinct 9.....	89,326	Precinct 14.....	66,169	Southwest.....	44,526

¹ Population of the quadrants in 1940: Northeast, 137,059; Northwest, 406,151; Southeast, 87,931; Southwest, 31,950.