Population Census Items 1790-2000
(Includes only those supplemental schedules still in existence; excludes questions asked on a sample basis only—the long-form questionnaire.)

1790 Name of family head; free white males of 16 years and up; free white males under 16; free white females; slaves; other free persons.

1800 Names of family head; if white, age and sex; race; slaves.

1810 Name of family head; if white, age and sex; race; slaves.

1820 Name of family head; age; sex; race; foreigners not naturalized; slaves; industry (agriculture, commerce, and manufactures).

1830 Name of family head; age; sex; race; foreigners not naturalized; slaves; industry.

1840 Name of family head; age; sex; race; slaves; number of deaf and dumb; number of blind; number of insane and idiotic and whether in public or private charge; number of persons in each family employed in each of six classes of industry and one of occupation; literacy; pensioners for Revolutionary or military service.

1850 Name; age; sex; race; whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic; value of real estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether a pauper or convict.

Supplemental schedules for slaves, and persons who died during the year.

1860 Name; age; sex; race; value of real estate; value of personal estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.

Supplemental schedules for slaves, and persons who died during the year.

1870 Name; age; race; occupation; value of real estate; value of personal estate; birthplace; whether parents were foreign born; month of birth if born within the year; month of marriage if married within the year; school attendance; literacy; whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic; male citizens 21 and over, and number of such persons denied the right to vote for other than rebellion.

Supplemental schedule for persons who died during the year.

1880 Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; month of birth if born within the census year; occupation; months unemployed during the year; sickness or temporary disability; whether blind, deaf and dumb, idiotic, insane, maimed, crippled, bedridden, or otherwise disabled; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents.

Supplemental schedules for persons who died during the year.

1890 General schedules—destroyed.

Supplemental schedules for Union veterans of the Civil War and their widows.

1900 Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years married; for women, number of children born and number now living; birthplace of person and parents; if foreign born, year of immigration and whether naturalized; occupation; months not employed; school attendance; literacy; ability to speak English; whether on a farm; home owned or rented and if owned, whether mortgaged.

1910 Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years of present marriage for women, number of children born and number now living; birthplace and mother tongue of person and parents; if foreign born, year of immigration, whether naturalized, and whether able to speak English, or if not, language spoken; occupation, industry, and class of worker; if an employee, whether out of work during year; literacy; school attendance; home owned or rented; if owned, whether mortgaged; whether farm or house; whether a survivor of Union or Confederate Army or Navy; whether blind or deaf and dumb.

1920 Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; if foreign born, year of immigration to the U.S.; whether naturalized, and year of naturalization; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents; mother tongue of foreign born; ability to speak English; occupation, industry, and class of worker; home owned or rented; if owned, whether free or mortgaged.

1930 Address; name; relationship to family head; home owned or rented; value or monthly rental; radio set; whether on a farm; sex; race; age; marital status; age at first marriage; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents; if foreign born, language spoken in home before coming to U.S.; year of immigration, whether naturalized, and ability to speak English; occupation, industry, and class of worker; whether at work previous day (or last regular working day); veteran status; for Indians, whether of full or mixed blood, and tribal affiliation.

1940 Address; home owned or rented; value or monthly rental; whether on a farm; name; relationship to household head; sex; race; age; marital status; school attendance; educational attainment; birthplace; citizenship of foreign born; location of residence 5 years ago and whether on a farm; employment status; if at work, whether in private or government work; or in public emergency work (WPA, CCC, N.Y.A., etc.); if in private work, hours worked in week; if seeking work or on public emergency work, duration of unemployment; occupation, industry, and class of worker; weeks worked last year, income last year.

1950 Address; whether house is on farm; name; relationship to household head; sex; race; age; marital status; birthplace; if foreign born, whether naturalized; employment status; hours worked in week; occupation, industry, and class of worker.

1960-1970 Address; name; relationship to household head; sex; race; age; marital status.

1980-1990 Address; name; household relationship; sex; race; age; marital status; Spanish/Hispanic origin or descent.

2000 Address; home owned or rented; name; household relationship; sex; age; birth date; race; Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin or descent.

- National Archives and regional branches (see page 4)
- Many social security and post offices have blank forms

Transcripts ordinarily show age (not birth date) at the time of the census, gender, relationship to the household, and—where requested—race. If obtained in the particular census, state or country of birth (but not place), citizenship, or occupation can be listed as well. A “full schedule” showing all of the information collected for one individual in a given census (see above for questions) can be ordered at extra cost.

The records are organized geographically, rather than by name, so except for those censuses that have indexes (see page 1), addresses are necessary to find them. Thus, the Census Bureau’s files cannot be used to locate missing persons, obtain addresses (prohibited by law in any case), or even discover how many people have the same surname. The Census Bureau publication, Age Search Information (Washington, DC, 2000), has details about this service and also discusses other possible sources of data about individuals. You can download this publication at <www.census.gov/prod/ww wa/abs/gen-ref.html>.

Factfinder for the Nation

Inquiries about census data.
The Census Bureau publishes data summarized for various geographic units (as distinguished from information about