

1950 Census Highlights  
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DearMYRTLE's CensusGenie Meetings

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d\\_dDbBIQnec](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_dDbBIQnec)

**U.S. National Archives** – Welcome to the Official 1950 Census Website, lots of information

<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>

Begin Search/Research tabs, scroll down, notice side arrows for moving to next page.

<https://1950census.archives.gov/>

Search Tab – before searching read five tips for searching the census and resources and about links at the top of the page. Notice History Hub and contact information at bottom of the page.

Tip #1: Search for the first and last name of the head of household (plus state and county of residence if known) because the surname was written on the census form only on the line for the head of household and other persons in the household with a different surname.

Tip #2: To narrow your search to find specific records, you can select multiple filters. Or to conduct a broader search, you may choose to select one filter at a time.

Tip #3: You don't have to know the exact spelling of a person's name in order to perform a name search. Enter as much as you know. The search engine will return any close variations or matches.

Tip #4: Once you've found a record of interest, click on the buttons or links labeled "Population Schedules", "ED Maps", or "View Original ED Description" to view a digitized copy of the records.

Tip #5: Use the built-in transcription feature to correct and add names to the site's name index. Your contributions can help make the 1950 Census population schedules more discoverable for everyone.

Resources Tab – key pieces of information.

- [FAQs](#)
- [1950 Census Forms](#)
- [Questions Asked on the 1950 Census](#)

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- [Instructions for Enumerators and the Public](#)
- [External Resources](#)
- [Enumeration District Maps](#)
- [1950 Census Information and Training Videos](#)
- [1950 Census Published Statistical Data](#)
- [Finding Aids](#)
- [Native Americans in the 1950 Census](#)

About Tab -

General Information

The 1950 census will be released digitally on April 1, 2022. The digital images will be accessible online free of charge.

The 1960 and later censuses are not available for public use because of a statutory 72-year restriction on access for privacy reasons. (92 Stat. 915; Public Law 95-416; October 5, 1978). If you need information about yourself or a deceased person from the 1960 or or later censuses, fill out Form BC-600 from the Bureau of the Census Age Search Service or write to: U.S. Census Bureau, National Processing Center, 1201 East 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132.

The census day was April 1, 1950. The Nation was divided into Enumeration Districts (EDs). Enumerators (census takers) in urban EDs were expected to complete the census in their district within two weeks while enumerators of rural areas were expected to finish work within 30 days.

**U.S. Census Bureau** – Read fact sheets. They conduct the U.S. Census and NARA maintains the records. They provide historical context and resources to help the public research their family history.

<https://www.census.gov/library/fact-sheets/2022/dec/1950-census-records-release.html>

**FamilySearch** is one of the partners working with NARA to provide free access to the 1950 U.S. Census records. On the home page, <https://www.familysearch.org/en/> there is some great detailed information about the 1950 Census. There is a tab “Learn How” you can help make history by joining the Community Project. Volunteers are busy ensuring that information indexed by computers is complete and accurate. By participating, you are helping people to discover details about their family that have been hidden for 72 years. Some tools are not yet available so check back in a few days or sign up for updates. They have a short video about the project found at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/info/1950-us-census-ancestry-and-familysearch-innovations-and-collaboration>

2 April 2022: Name Review is now live for Nevada and Oregon.

The project is live! The states of Nevada and Oregon are now available for Name Review at <https://www.familysearch.org/getinvolved/1950>

Periodic errors may result in states not being available for selection during this initial launch phase. You can refresh the page or try back later.

Please jump in and share your experience with others.

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**Stephen P. Morse** Website This site provides the “Unified 1950 Census ED Finder.” You can search by location and by name. You should enter as much of the 1950 location as you know. If you select your city from the list of cities displayed, you will be able to enter street-level information (house number and street.) If you select "other" from the city list, you will be able to type in your city or town name. People have been more successful searching by location.

<https://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>

There is a link for researching records at FamilySearch and Ancestry after you determine the ED number.

NARA allows for the name search. Experiment with first names, last names alone and spelling variations. The name search is a little awkward to use. Click on ED maps for further confirmation that you have the correct ED.

**Ancestry** is another partner working with NARA to provide free access to the 1950 U.S. Census records. On the home page scroll down to U.S. Census and click on 1950 or go to

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62308/>

You can then browse the collection by State, County, Populated Place and Enumeration District.

While Ancestry is busy indexing the census, try the “1950 Census district finder experience” in BETA testing. By entering address and city information you can locate the ED#. <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/district-map/62308>. On this page there is also great census information and reference materials. Sign up to be notified when indexed records are available.

**MyHeritage** - The 1950 U.S. Census images are free on MyHeritage. It was the first commercial company to make the 1950 U.S. Census images available for free!

<https://blog.myheritage.com/2022/01/1950-census-release-is-coming-up-soon/>

There is additional information about how they will provide access to the records following the indexing.

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## Steps for Finding Someone

1. Find the address, look for documents such as city directories, military registration cards, personal letters, address book, or do a search on [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) or [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org) for records for that person/family.
2. Go to the NARA website, <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950>, search by state, then county, and then put in the name. The name index appears to not function well. You may need to scroll down as there may be different enumeration districts that fit your search. You may have to go through many pages of districts if it's a big city with a common name.
3. When the correct results fail to appear then you have to browse through the known ED to find them. Go to [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) 1950 Census District Finder, <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/district-map/62308?fbclid=IwAR2n7y98SQbEkxPEY3FC78bQ9dluJk-GpDQRAAmzCiur2firhyCEIjb2Sv8> and put address in and find the ED. This may result in a long list of ED with various street names. Looking up the address in an online map, create a list of surrounding streets.
4. Or go to [Stevemorse.org](http://Stevemorse.org). <https://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>
5. Be sure to note the actual ED and page you find your people on. Make a copy of the page, look at the maps, look at other people on the page, explore and get to know your family. A census extraction form may help with hard to read pages as you view the online page.
6. FamilySearch at <https://www.familysearch.org/1950census/>  
MyHeritage.com and other websites will be offering more tools to help us in the search. There will opportunities to work as volunteers in the indexing process.

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