

The 2010 Census

New Data, New Decade

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Resources for accessing data in real time
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl>

Every 10 years, the Decennial Census provides the official count of everyone living in the United States.

Detailed data on social, economic, and housing characteristics that were part of earlier Censuses, are now collected through the American Community Survey.

This publication provides an overview of data from the 2010 Decennial Census and total population data for counties in Kentucky.

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What exactly is the Decennial Census?

The Decennial Census is conducted every 10 years and it is the official count of everyone who lives in the United States. Conducting a census is mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution in order to determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Data from the Decennial Census are only one of the many kinds of data that the U.S. Census Bureau provides. Other data include Population Estimates, the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, and the American Community Survey.

Are data from the 2010 Decennial Census available?

Yes. The Census Bureau provides data from the 2010 Census through a variety of data products. Some of the commonly used ones include:

- Demographic Profiles provide data on selected population and housing characteristics including age, race, household types, and housing.
- Quick Tables have data on frequently requested topics.
- Summary File 1 (SF1) contains data for all of the questions asked on the 2010 Census.

Was the 2010 Decennial Census different from the one done in 2000?

Yes. The 2010 Decennial Census was one of the shortest in history - it only asked 10 questions.

Why was the 2010 Census so short?

If you have used detailed data for 2000 or 1990 such as educational attainment or the number of households without a vehicle, then you've seen data that was from the Decennial Census Long Form.

For the 2000 Census (and every one since 1940), a sample of households received what was called the Long Form. This was how detailed data on social, economic, and housing characteristics were collected.

After the 2000 Census, the Long Form was eliminated. It was replaced with the American Community Survey.

One of the implications of the change is that there are less data from the 2010 Census than what we are used to.

What is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey replaced the Decennial Census Long Form as the way to collect detailed data on social, economic, and housing characteristics.

It used to be that, every 10 years, the Decennial Census gave us a detailed snapshot of our communities and counties.

Since the detailed questions are no longer part of the Decennial Census questionnaire, today, we have a new source for those data: the American Community Survey.

The Decennial Census (ie. 2010 Census) is still the source for our [official population counts](#), but data on social, economic, and housing characteristics now come from the American Community Survey (ACS).

If this is your first time learning about the ACS, see [*More than the Top 10: A Resource for Questions about the American Community Survey*](#).

A copy is available on the Kentucky: By The Numbers website at: <http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/>

If the Census is the [official population count](#), do I have to wait 10 years before getting another official count?

No. For the years in between Censuses, you should use the [Population Estimates](#) produced by the Census Bureau.

Every year, the Census Bureau produces estimates for the nation, states, and counties for the total population and for demographic characteristics of age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin.

You can find the more recent ones on the American FactFinder website or you can go directly to the Population Estimates website:

<http://www.census.gov/popest/estimates.html>

How do I compare data from 2010 Census with a previous Census?

If you compare across different Census years, just remember that each Decennial Census produced different kinds of data files. So, always remember:

[compare apples to apples](#).

To compare data from the most recent 2010 Census with earlier Censuses, use the file called [SF1](#) (Summary File 1) or SFT1 (Summary File Tape 1).

To find detailed data from earlier Censuses that were collected through the Long Form, those data

are in files called SF3 (Summary File 3) or SFT 3 (Summary File Tape 3).

Remember, since the 2010 Census did not have a Long Form, **there will not be a corresponding file called SF3 for the 2010 Decennial Census.**

Are data from the 2010 Census different from the American Community Survey?

Yes. Even though the American Community Survey uses questions similar to those that were in the Census Long Form, there also are [important differences](#).

First, instead of providing a head count, the American Community Survey provides a portrait of our population's [characteristics](#).

The American Community Survey is also an [ongoing survey](#). This means that instead of being conducted once every 10 years, questionnaires are sent out every month. As a result, the [wording had to be changed](#) for some of the questions.

Another difference is that the American Community Survey combines data to produce [1-, 3-, and 5-year estimates](#) and [new estimates are released each year](#). Which estimates are available for your county depends on its population size.

Will the numbers in the 2010 Census match as those in the American Community Survey?

No. The numbers in the American Community Survey [do not match](#) those from the 2010 Census. The reason that they do not match is because the two sources collect data in different ways.

For more on comparing the two data sources, see: [*Cautionary Tales: Comparing the American Community Survey with Data from the Decennial Census*](#).

A copy is available on the Kentucky: By The Numbers website at: <http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/>

One difference is that while the 2010 Census provides a head count, data from the American Community Survey are estimates that are based on a sample.

In addition, the American Community Survey counts people differently. The 2010 Census counts people

where they live and sleep *most of the time*. This is called their “usual residence.”

In the American Community Survey, people are counted based on their “current residence.” In general, this means that *anyone who has lived at the residence for more than 2 months* at the time of the survey is counted as living there.

If you are looking for the official counts of your population, such as the number of people in your county, always use the Decennial Census (ie. 2010 Census) or data from the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program.

If this is your first time using data from the ACS, see *New Kid in Town:*

Understanding Data from the American Community Survey.

A copy is available on the Kentucky: By The Numbers website at:
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/>

How can I find data from the 2010 Decennial Census online?

Data from the 2010 Decennial Census are available on the U.S. Census Bureau’s American FactFinder website.

<http://factfinder2.census.gov>

This website provides access to many of the data produced by the U. S. Census Bureau including the American Community Survey.

To help in using the American FactFinder website, Graphical Website Instructions are available on the Kentucky: By The Numbers website at:
<http://www.ca.uky.edu/snarl/>

Some of the online tools that are available include being able to modify a table to show only the data you are interested in.

In addition, you can not only download this shortened table, you can also print it or make it into a pdf file.

Are there other places online where I can find data from the 2010 Decennial Census?

Yes. Every state has a State Data Center. The Kentucky State Data Center provides data

specifically for Kentucky. You can find data from the 2010 Census as well as other data at:

<http://ksdc.louisville.edu/>

Where can I find resources besides just the data?

You can find data and other resources on the U.S. Census Bureau’s 2010 Census website.

<http://www.census.gov/2010census/>

Here, you can get quick access to Census briefs on different topics, profiles and maps for each state, and an interactive population map.

Why is the Census conducted?

Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution requires that a national census be conducted every 10 years in order to determine the number of seats in U.S. House of Representatives.

In addition to representation in Congress, data from the Census are also used to determine political district lines and in allocating state and federal funding for community services including schools and health care.

Since 1790, a census of the United States has been conducted every decade.

To see an overview of the history of the Census, including videos, photographs, and other resources:

<http://www.census.gov/2010census/mediacenter/history/index.php?p,n11>

Why are data from the Decennial Census important?

The Decennial Census is as close as it gets to knowing for sure how many people live in our communities.

While there are other national surveys, they are based on samples, not a complete head count.

The official population counts only come from:

- 1) the Decennial Census
and
- 2) the Annual Population Estimates

Table 1. Population Totals from the 2000 and 2010 Decennial Census for Counties in Kentucky.

Area	2000	2010	Percent Change 2000-2010
Kentucky	4,041,769	4,339,367	7.4%
Adair	17,244	18,656	8.2%
Allen	17,800	19,956	12.1%
Anderson	19,111	21,421	12.1%
Ballard	8,286	8,249	-0.4%
Barren	38,033	42,173	10.9%
Bath	11,085	11,591	4.6%
Bell	30,060	28,691	-4.6%
Boone	85,991	118,811	38.2%
Bourbon	19,360	19,985	3.2%
Boyd	49,752	49,542	-0.4%
Boyle	27,697	28,432	2.7%
Bracken	8,279	8,488	2.5%
Breathitt	16,100	13,878	-13.8%
Breckinridge	18,648	20,059	7.6%
Bullitt	61,236	74,319	21.4%
Butler	13,010	12,690	-2.5%
Caldwell	13,060	12,984	-0.6%
Calloway	34,177	37,191	8.8%
Campbell	88,616	90,336	1.9%
Carlisle	5,351	5,104	-4.6%
Carroll	10,155	10,811	6.5%
Carter	26,889	27,720	3.1%
Casey	15,447	15,955	3.3%
Christian	72,265	73,955	2.3%
Clark	33,144	35,613	7.4%
Clay	24,556	21,730	-11.5%
Clinton	9,634	10,272	6.6%
Crittenden	9,384	9,315	-0.7%
Cumberland	7,147	6,856	-4.1%
Daviess	91,545	96,656	5.6%
Edmonson	11,644	12,161	4.4%
Elliott	6,748	7,852	16.4%
Estill	15,307	14,672	-4.1%
Fayette	260,512	295,803	13.5%
Fleming	13,792	14,348	4.0%
Floyd	42,441	39,451	-7.0%
Franklin	47,687	49,285	3.4%
Fulton	7,752	6,813	-12.1%
Gallatin	7,870	8,589	9.1%
Garrard	14,792	16,912	14.3%
Grant	22,384	24,662	10.2%
Graves	37,028	37,121	0.3%
Grayson	24,053	25,746	7.0%
Green	11,518	11,258	-2.3%
Greenup	36,891	36,910	0.1%
Hancock	8,392	8,565	2.1%
Hardin	94,174	105,543	12.1%
Harlan	33,202	29,278	-11.8%
Harrison	17,983	18,846	4.8%
Hart	17,445	18,199	4.3%
Henderson	44,829	46,250	3.2%
Henry	15,060	15,416	2.4%
Hickman	5,262	4,902	-6.8%
Hopkins	46,519	46,920	0.9%
Jackson	13,495	13,494	0.0%
Jefferson	693,604	741,096	6.8%
Jessamine	39,041	48,586	24.4%
Johnson	23,445	23,356	-0.4%
Kenton	151,464	159,720	5.5%
Knott	17,649	16,346	-7.4%

Area	2000	2010	Percent Change 2000-2010
Knox	31,795	31,883	0.3%
Larue	13,373	14,193	6.1%
Laurel	52,715	58,849	11.6%
Lawrence	15,569	15,860	1.9%
Lee	7,916	7,887	-0.4%
Leslie	12,401	11,310	-8.8%
Letcher	25,277	24,519	-3.0%
Lewis	14,092	13,870	-1.6%
Lincoln	23,361	24,742	5.9%
Livingston	9,804	9,519	-2.9%
Logan	26,573	26,835	1.0%
Lyon	8,080	8,314	2.9%
McCracken	65,514	65,565	0.1%
McCreary	17,080	18,306	7.2%
McLean	9,938	9,531	-4.1%
Madison	70,872	82,916	17.0%
Magoffin	13,332	13,333	0.0%
Marion	18,212	19,820	8.8%
Marshall	30,125	31,448	4.4%
Martin	12,578	12,929	2.8%
Mason	16,800	17,490	4.1%
Meade	26,349	28,602	8.6%
Menifee	6,556	6,306	-3.8%
Mercer	20,817	21,331	2.5%
Metcalfe	10,037	10,099	0.6%
Monroe	11,756	10,963	-6.7%
Montgomery	22,554	26,499	17.5%
Morgan	13,948	13,923	-0.2%
Muhlenberg	31,839	31,499	-1.1%
Nelson	37,477	43,437	15.9%
Nicholas	6,813	7,135	4.7%
Ohio	22,916	23,842	4.0%
Oldham	46,178	60,316	30.6%
Owen	10,547	10,841	2.8%
Owsley	4,858	4,755	-2.1%
Pendleton	14,390	14,877	3.4%
Perry	29,390	28,712	-2.3%
Pike	68,736	65,024	-5.4%
Powell	13,237	12,613	-4.7%
Pulaski	56,217	63,063	12.2%
Robertson	2,266	2,282	0.7%
Rockcastle	16,582	17,056	2.9%
Rowan	22,094	23,333	5.6%
Russell	16,315	17,565	7.7%
Scott	33,061	47,173	42.7%
Shelby	33,337	42,074	26.2%
Simpson	16,405	17,327	5.6%
Spencer	11,766	17,061	45.0%
Taylor	22,927	24,512	6.9%
Todd	11,971	12,460	4.1%
Trigg	12,597	14,339	13.8%
Trimble	8,125	8,809	8.4%
Union	15,637	15,007	-4.0%
Warren	92,522	113,792	23.0%
Washington	10,916	11,717	7.3%
Wayne	19,923	20,813	4.5%
Webster	14,120	13,621	-3.5%
Whitley	35,865	35,637	-0.6%
Wolfe	7,065	7,355	4.1%
Woodford	23,208	24,939	7.5%

Kentucky: By the Numbers is a program of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service in the Department of Community and Leadership Development at the University of Kentucky. Primarily known for the data series by the same name, the program also provides publications and other resources for those interested in finding data on their county. Data and resources are available on the Kentucky: By the Numbers section of the SNARL (<http://www.uky.edu/snarl>) website. For more information contact your local Cooperative Extension office or Julie N. Zimmerman, Department of Community and Leadership Development, 500 Garrigus Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40546-0215. Email: jjimm@email.uky.edu.