

Educator Update

Census In Schools

March 2009

2010 Census

New Census in Schools Web Site Coming Soon

Look for the new and improved Census in Schools Web site to be released by the end of March. You will find information for teachers, kids, and teens. There will be new lesson plans and 2010 Census information for teachers, games and coloring pages for kids, and career information and fun statistics for teens. Check back often – we will be adding new things weekly.

Visit www.census.gov and click on “For Teachers & Students.”

Facts for Features

Women’s History Month: March 2009

154.7 million

The number of females in the United States as of Oct. 1, 2008. The number of males was 150.6 million.

\$34,278

The median annual earnings of women 16 or older who worked year-round, full time, in 2007, up from \$33,648 in 2006 (after adjusting for inflation). Women earned 77.5 cents for every \$1 earned by men.

Irish-American Heritage Month (March) and St. Patrick’s Day (March 17): 2009

36.5 million

Number of U.S. residents who claimed Irish ancestry in 2007. This number was more than eight times the population of Ireland itself (more than 4 million). Irish was the nation’s second most frequently reported ancestry, trailing only German.



\$26.2 billion

The value of U.S. imports from Ireland for January to October 2008. Meanwhile, the United States exported \$7.4 billion worth of goods to Ireland.

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

Uncle Sam’s Almanac

The recently released *Statistical Abstract of the United States: 2009*, sometimes called “Uncle Sam’s Almanac,” is a summary of statistics on a wide range of important topics, from A (aquaculture) to Z (zinc production). Whether one seeks numbers on biofuel or banking, foreign trade or foreign aid, cars or bars, there is no better one-stop shop for statistics. A few highlights:



High school athletics

- During the 2006-2007 year, 7.3 million students participated in high school sports, an increase of almost 2.1 million from 1979-1980. Boys accounted for almost 59 percent of the total in 2006-2007. The top three sports for boys were football, basketball, and track and field. For girls, the top three sports were basketball, track and field, and volleyball. (Table 1208)

Reach the beach

- In July 2007, 10.6 million people lived in Florida’s Atlantic coastal counties, a 13 percent increase from 2000. Another 7.2 million reside in the state’s Gulf coastal counties, a 16 percent increase from 2000.

Educator Update

Census In Schools

Texas coastal counties also showed a substantial population increase (15 percent) between 2000 and 2007, reaching 7.9 million. (Table 25)

It's cosmetic

- Almost 11.7 million surgical and nonsurgical cosmetic procedures were performed in the United States in 2007, with women accounting for almost 91 percent. (Table 171)

A giving nation

- In 2005, 41.4 million U.S. tax returns showed charitable contributions, totaling \$181.6 billion. (Table 565)

To access “Uncle Sam’s Almanac,” go to the Census Bureau homepage, www.census.gov, and click on “Statistical Abstract” under “Special Topics.” To view a specific table, type the word “Table” and the table number you are looking for in the “Search” box in the upper right corner. The “Education” section may be of special interest to teachers and students. It includes sections on salaries and wages, and selected characteristics such as degrees earned, experience, and age. It also includes 84 tables that present data at various educational levels for public and private schools.

Teaching Ideas: Educational Attainment in the United States

A larger percentage of foreign-born than native-born residents had a master’s degree or higher in 2007. Nationally, 11 percent of foreign-born — people from another country now living in the United States — and 10 percent of U.S.-born residents had an advanced degree.

These statistics come from [Educational Attainment in the United States: 2007](#)

<<http://www.census.gov/prod/2009pubs/p2060.pdf>>

a report that describes the degree or level of school completed by adults 25 and older.

The following highlights from the report reveal information that both teachers and students will find relevant and provide important background for students’ understanding in making decisions about their own future educational plans.

- 84 percent of adults 25 and older had completed high school, while 27 percent had obtained at least a bachelor’s degree in 2007.
- A larger proportion of women (85 percent) than men (84 percent) had completed high school, but a larger proportion of men had earned a bachelor’s degree (28 percent compared with 27 percent).
- The percentage of high school graduates was highest in the Midwest (87 percent), and the percentage of college graduates was highest in the Northeast (32 percent).
- Men earned more than women at each level of educational attainment. The percentage of female-to-male earnings among year-round, full-time workers 25 and older was 77 percent.
- Workers with a bachelor’s degree on average earned about \$20,000 more a year (\$46,805) than workers with a high school diploma (\$26,894). Compared with non-Hispanic whites and Asians, black and Hispanic workers earned less at all attainment levels.

Teaching Ideas:

Have students make posters using graphs that reveal the information from one of the highlights listed above.

Discuss with students the relationship between educational achievement and earning power. Have them prepare for presentation to a scholarship review

Educator Update

Census In Schools

committee a report that presents their future plans using graphic representations or written explanations of the way they plan to achieve their goal.

Conduct a classroom discussion about the information conducted in the items above. Ask, “Why do you think this happened?” “Is this fair?” “What can you do to change this situation?”

Have your students compare their state with nearby states and the nation. Go to page 6 (Figure 2) and page 8 (Table 2) of the report to view quick-referenced information for students to compare their state with others.

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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