

Educator Update

Census In Schools



June 2010

Census in Schools and the 2010 Census – What's Next?

The 2009-10 school year is almost over, but before you leave we want to express our deep gratitude to all the educators who collaborated with the efforts of the Census in Schools program. Your efforts helped our country to obtain the census count in 2010.

Next year will be exciting as data from the 2010 Census will begin to be released as shown below.

Census in Schools will offer new lesson plans and teaching ideas using the 2010 data.

December 2010

By law, the Census Bureau delivers population information to the President for apportionment of the members of the House of Representatives among the 50 states.

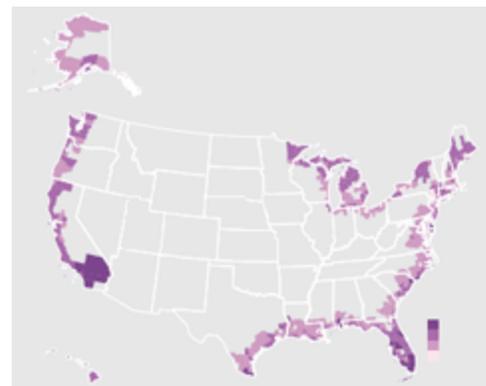
By April 1, 2011

By law, the Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

April/May 2011

The Census Bureau will release population and housing counts as well as selected population and housing characteristics.

For more details about data products from the 2010 Census, visit http://www.2010.census.gov/news/pdf/2010_Data_Products.pdf.



There Really is a Connection Between the Census Bureau, the Weather Bureau and You!

As you and your students plan for the lazy days of summer, it's interesting to know that there really is a connection between the Census Bureau and the National Weather Bureau.

Did you know that when weather disasters loom, information about where people live and work is vital to the decisions of local, state, and national emergency preparedness leaders and agencies? They use this information to advise and direct safety operations during hurricanes, tornadoes, snowstorms, fires, and other weather disasters.

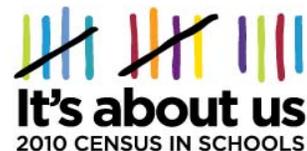
The following excerpts from the Census

Bureau's *Facts for Features* provide information about the hurricane season that began in the North Atlantic on June 1 and lasts through November 30. When the National Hurricane Center issues watches and warnings, the Census Bureau releases advisories on its Hurricane Data and Emergency Preparedness Web page. Visit < <http://www.census.gov/newsroom/emergencies/>> to learn information about the number of people and businesses that may be affected. This site also contains other data about the local areas such as housing values and median household income.

Suggested grade-level appropriate student activities are intended for use not only as they

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relate to facts about the people affected by hurricanes, but to any weather event found in different areas of the country.

In the Hurricane's Path

36.2 million

Estimated July 1, 2009, population most threatened by Atlantic hurricanes: the coastal portion of states stretching from North Carolina to Texas. Approximately 12 percent of the nation's population lived in these areas.

Source: Population estimates

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

14.0 million

1960 coastal population of the states stretching from North Carolina to Texas. Eight percent of the nation's population lived in these areas at that time.

Source: 1960 Decennial Census

<<http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/cencounts/>>

158%

Percentage growth of the coastal population of the states stretching from North Carolina to Texas between 1960 and 2009.

Source: Population estimates

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

and 1960 Decennial Census

<<http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/cencounts/>>

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Number of the 50 most populous metro areas in 2009 that were within Atlantic or Gulf coastal areas from North Carolina to Texas. These areas are Houston-Baytown-Sugar Land, Texas (sixth); Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Miami Beach, Fla. (seventh), Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, Fla. (19th), Orlando-Kissimmee, Fla. (27th),

Jacksonville, Fla. (40th) and New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, La. (46th).

Source: Population estimates

<<http://www.census.gov/popest/metro/CBSA-est2009-annual.html>>

1950

The year the Weather Bureau officially began naming hurricanes.

Source: Atlantic Oceanography and Meteorological Laboratory

<<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq/J6.html>>

Alex

The name of the first Atlantic Basin storm of 2010. Hurricane names rotate in a six-year cycle with the 2010 list being a repeat of the 2004 names. The World Meteorological Organization retired the names of four major hurricanes that made landfall in Florida during 2004: Charley, Francis, Ivan, and Jeanne. They have been replaced on the list by Colin, Fiona, Igor, and Julia.

Source: National Hurricane Center

<<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames.shtml>>

Suggested Classroom Activities Related to Hurricane Data

Elementary School Students:

- Access the NOAA site <<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutnames.shtml>> and conduct a comparison of students' names to hurricane names in the six hurricane cycles. Then ask students if they know anyone who shares a name with a hurricane.

Middle School Students:

- Identify with students a severe weather event that commonly affects your

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geographic area. Have them identify the states usually affected. Then access QuickFacts (located on the right side of the Census Bureau's Web site

<www.census.gov> or by going directly to <<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>> population data to learn the 2009 estimated population and number of households in each state. Compare current data with statistics from the 2000 Census. Discuss possible reasons for increases or decreases in population during this time. Graph the states' data, constructing bar, line, or pie graphs.

- Consult QuickFacts information for each of the states found in the activity above and determine the percentage of the population in each state that is represented by kids under the age of 5 and the percent of the population by people under the age of 18. Have students discuss which of the area's states would have the highest likelihood of having school interrupted by a severe weather event.

High School Students:

- Identify with students a severe weather event that commonly affects your geographic area. Have students identify the states usually affected. Then access QuickFacts <<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>> data for each state to determine the total land area in the states affected. Graph the 2000 population density (people per square mile) of each state. Determine the percent of each state's population that is below the poverty level and discuss challenges and possible solutions for that population during severe weather.

- Consult QuickFacts to identify people who have special circumstances during a severe weather event. What percent of the state's population in 2008 was over age 65 or under age 5? What percent of people in the state in 2000 reported having a disability? How many people in 2000 in the state reported having a disability? In 2000, what percent of the state's population spoke a language other than English in the home? If you were an emergency planner, determine which states had the greatest challenges and make suggestions for dealing with them.

Fourth of July Facts

On this day in 1776, the Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress, setting the 13 colonies on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. As always, this most American of holidays will be marked by parades, fireworks, and backyard barbecues across the country.

2.5 million

In July 1776, the estimated number of people living in the newly independent nation.

309.6 million

The nation's estimated population on this July Fourth.

\$331.4 million

The value of U.S. manufacturers' shipments of fireworks and pyrotechnics (including flares, igniters, etc.) in 2007.

For more information, visit <www.census.gov> and click on "Facts for Features."

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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 1-800-923-8282 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/schools> >.

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