

New York State Censuses: You Won't Believe What's Hiding In There!

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New York State Censuses:

1825

- Few survive
- Included a statistical sheet for:
 - Whole number of Deaf and Dumb Persons, and of Idiots and Lunatics
- Tabulation style only listing the head of household
- Two-page spread of 36 questions

1835

- Few survive
- Tabulation style only listing the head of household
- Two-page spread 24 questions
- Included statistical sheets for:
 - Whole number of Deaf and Dumb, and Blind Persons, and of Idiots and Lunatics
 - Number and values of various manufacturing businesses

1845

- Few survive
- Tabulation style only listing the head of household
- Four pages totaling 48 questions:
 - 32 questions: Return of the enumeration of Inhabitants...With the other statistical information required by law to be obtained in such District
 - 16 questions: Agricultural and Horticultural Statistics

1845 (cont.)

- Included statistical sheets for:
 - Number and values of various manufacturing businesses
 - Whole number of Deaf and Dumb and Blind Persons, and of Idiots and Lunatics; distinguishing sexes, ages and circumstances: also, the number of Indians in each District
 - Churches or Places of Worship and the cost thereof, and of the Real Estate belonging thereto, and of all improvements except ordinary repairs in each District
 - Colleges, Academies, Common Schools and Seminaries of Learning, and the cost of all buildings erected for Educational purposes, and of the Real Estate belonging thereto, and of all improvements except ordinary repairs
 - Hotels, Stores, Trades and Professions

- 1845 Population Census of Indian Reservations:
<https://digitalcollections.archives.nysed.gov/index.php/Detail/collections/4456>

1855

- More than 40 counties survive
- Lists names of everyone including relationship to the head of household
- 6 Schedules:
 - I. Population - 21 questions
 - II. Agricultural and Domestic Manufactures - 87 questions
 - III. Industry other than Agricultural - 17 questions
 - IV. Marriages and Deaths - 6 marriage questions, 8 death questions
 - Asked of only the previous year from the census date (June 1854-June 1855)
 - Names were not listed with this information
 - V. Churches, Schools, &c.
 - VI. Newspapers and other Periodicals

1865

- Almost 50 counties survive
- Unique and largest amount of questions asked
- 10 Schedules:
 - I. Population - 28 questions
 - II. Additional Inquires Relating to the Deaf and Dumb, Blind, Insane and Idiotic - 16 questions
 - III. Additional Inquiries Relating to Officers and Enlisted Men, **now** in the Military or Naval Service of the United States - 14 questions
 - IV. Additional Inquires Relating to Officers and Enlisted Men, **who have been** in the Military or Naval Service of the U. S., in the Present War - 19 questions
 - V. Marriages - 12 questions
 - Occurring during the year ending June 1, 1865
 - VI. Deaths - 10 questions
 - Occurring during the year ending June 1, 1865
 - VII. Deaths of Officers and Enlisted Men - 38 questions
 - Occurred while in the military or naval service since April 1861
 - VIII. Agricultural Statistics (No. 1 - 4) - 122 questions
 - IX. Industry other than Agricultural - 16 questions
 - X. Miscellaneous Statistics

1875

- Over 50 counties survive
- Very similar to the 1865 census (though not including the military questions)
- 6 Schedules:
 - I. Population - 21 questions
 - II. Marriages - 12 questions
 - Occurring during the year ending June 1, 1875
 - III. Deaths - 10 questions
 - Occurring during the year ending June 1, 1875
 - IV. Agricultural Statistics (No. 1-4) - 117 questions
 - V. Industry other than Agricultural - 18 questions
 - VI. Miscellaneous Statistics

1892

- Over 40 counties survive
- No Schedules
- Now called the “Enumeration of the Inhabitants”
- Only 7 questions asked

1905

- Almost 50 counties survive
- No Schedules
- 12 questions asked

1915

- All 62 counties exist
- Nearly identical to the 1905 census
- No Schedules
- 12 questions asked

1925

- All 62 counties exist
- Nearly identical to the 1915 census
- No Schedules
- 13 questions asked

New York State Fire:

NYG&B - Fire at the New York State Library:

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/blog/fire-new-york-state-library>

NYG&B (Members Only) - The 1911 State Library Fire and Its Effect on New York Genealogy:

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/knowledgebase/1911-state-library-fire-and-its-effect-new-york-genealogy>

NYSED - The Capitol Fire of March 29, 1911:

<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/mssc/capitolfire/>

Mercer, Paul and Weiss, Vicki. *Images of America: The New York State Capitol and the Great Fire of 1911*. Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

Online Resources:

Archives - "First in the Path of the Firemen" The Fate of the 1890 Populations Census:
<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1996/spring/1890-census-1.html>

Cyndi's List - New York Census:
<https://www.cyndislist.com/us/ny/census/>

FamilySearch Research Wiki - New York Census - State Censuses:
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/New_York_Census_State_Censuses

Genealogy Branches - New York State Census Records 1825-1925:
<https://www.genealogybranches.com/newyorkcensus.html>

NYG&B - New York Census Records Online:
<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/subject-guide/new-york-state-census-records-online>

NYSED - Census - New York State:
<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/scandocs/nyscensus.htm>

NYSED - Questions from each New York State Census:
<http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/genealogy/censusq.htm>

NYSL - New York State Census Records, 1790-1925 (1981):
<https://nysl.ptfs.com/awweb/pdfopener?sid=213E10886615C9FFA6FCBA4909359ED1&did=1331&fl=%2F101824.PDF>

Book Resources:

Dollarhide, William. *New York State Censuses & Substitutes*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 2005.

New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer*. New York, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2017, revised edition.