

## 1940 QUESTIONNAIRE—CENSUS OF VACANT DWELLINGS

(16" X 19," printed on two sides, space for 15 entries on each side, reverse side identical except that lines were numbered 16 to 30, yellow stock.) "Color or race of head" and "Number of persons in household" (items 3 and 4 on "Occupied-Dwelling Schedule") did not appear on the "Vacant-Dwelling Schedule;" items 8-17 were the same as items 8-17 on the "Occupied Dwelling Schedule;" items 18-31 which appeared on the "Occupied Dwelling Schedule" were omitted from the "Vacant-Dwelling Schedule."

### Instructions to Enumerators

The term "structure" was roughly comparable with "dwelling house" used in previous censuses, and 1940 "occupied dwelling units" could be equated with "homes" in 1930. The 1940 housing census, however, included vacant, habitable dwelling units and structures. It excluded units occupied by quasi households (defined as 10 or more lodgers) and various types of institutional and other places (later called "group quarters") not generally considered as part of the U.S. housing market. The dwelling unit itself was defined as "the living quarters occupied by, or intended for occupancy by, one household."

The instructions for answering the questions on the occupied and vacant dwelling schedules were fairly simple, and in many cases were spelled out on the forms themselves. Item 11 (state of repair) required the enumerator to report the structure as "needing major repairs" when parts of it, such as floors, roof, walls, or foundations required repair or replacement, "the continued neglect of which would impair the soundness of the structure and create a hazard to its safety as a place of residence."

### 1950 QUESTIONNAIRE—POPULATION

The basic schedule, form P1, was a white 19" X 22" sheet, printed in green ink on both sides. The front included space for population information for 30 persons, with a separate line for each person enumerated. (The reverse side, the housing schedule, contained spaces for information for 12 dwelling units that housed the persons enumerated on the population side of the form.) Questions 15 through 20 were asked only for persons 14 years of age and over.

Questions at the bottom of the schedule (21-33c) were asked for the one person in five whose name fell on a sample line that was indicated in black. (There were five printings to vary the sample lines.) The person whose name fell on the last sample line was also asked the additional questions from 34 on. Of the sample items, Nos. 29 on applied only to persons 14 years of age and over.

### 1950 Questionnaire—Population

LINE NUMBER	FOR HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD					FOR ALL PERSONS								
	House (and apartment) number	Serial number of dwelling unit	Is this house on a farm (or ranch)? (Yes or No)	If No item 4— Is this house on a place of three or more acres? (Yes or No)	Agriculture Questionnaire Number	NAME What is the name of the head of this household? What are the names of all other persons who live here? List in this order: The head His wife Unmarried sons and daughters (in order of age) Married sons and daughters and their families Other relatives Other persons, such as lodgers, roomers, maids or hired hands who live in, and their relatives  (Last name first)	RELATIONSHIP Enter relationship of person to head of the household, as Head Wife Daughter Grandson Mother-in-law Lodger Lodger's wife Maid Hired hand Patient, etc.	RACE White (W) Negro(Neg) American Indian (Ind) Japanese (Jap) Chinese (Chi) Filipino (Phi) Other race—spell out	SEX Male (M) Female (F)	How old was he on his last birthday? (If under one year of age, enter month of birth as April, May, Dec., etc.)	Is he now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married? (Mar, Wd, D, Sep, Nev)	What State (or foreign country) was he born in? If born outside Continental United States, enter name of Territory, possession, or foreign country  Distinguish Canada-French from Canada-other	If foreign born— Is he naturalized?  (Yes, No, or A P for born abroad of American parents)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														

FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER									
What was this person doing most of last week—working, keeping house, or something else? (Wk, H, Ot, or U for unable to work)	If H or Ot in item 15—Did this person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house? (Include work for pay, in own business, on farm, or unpaid family work) (Yes or No)	If No in item 16—Was this person looking for work? (See Special Cases below) (Yes or No)	If No in item 17—Even though he didn't work last week, does he have a job or business? (Yes or No)	If Wk in item 18 or Yes in item 16—How many hours did he work last week? (Include unpaid work on family farm or business) (Number of hours)	1. If employed (Wk in item 18, or Yes in item 16 or item 18), describe job or business held last week	2. If looking for work (Yes in item 17), describe last job or business	3. For all other persons, leave blank		
					What kind of work was he doing? For example: Nails heels on shoes..... Chemistry professor..... Farmer..... Farm helper..... Armed forces..... Never worked.....  (Occupation)	What kind of business or industry was he working in? For example: Shoe factory..... State university..... Farm..... Farm.....  (Industry)	Class of worker  For PRIVATE employer (P), For GOVERNMENT (G) In OWN business (O) WITHOUT PAY on family farm or business (NP)  (P, G, O, or NP)		
15	16	17	18	19	20a	20b	20c	C	LINE NUMBER
									1
									2
									3 ASK QUES. BELOW
									4
									5
									6
									7
									8 ASK QUES. BELOW

FOR ALL AGES											
SAMPLE LINE	If No in item 21—			If No in item 23—			What country were his father and mother born in?		What is the highest grade of school that he has attended?	Did he finish this grade?	Has he attended school at any time since February 1st?
	Was he living in this same house a year ago?	Was he living on a farm a year ago?	Was he living in this same county a year ago?	What county and State was he living in a year ago?							
	21	22	23	24a	24b	D	25	E	26	27	28
③	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	
⑧	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	
⑬	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	
⑰	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	
⑳	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	
㉑	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	County: ..... or nearest place:			Father: ..... Mother: .....		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> 30 or over	

  

<p><b>Item 17. SPECIAL CASES—</b> Enter Yes also for persons who would have been looking for work except for:</p> <p>(a) own temporary illness (b) incident to or more than 30-day layoff (c) help that no work was available</p>	<p><b>Item 26. CODES for GRADE ATTENDED</b></p> <p>None ..... G Kindergarten ..... K <b>ELEMENTARY, HIGH</b> Elementary (8 grades) ..... 51 to 58 High (4 years) ..... 59, 510, 511, 512 <b>ELEMENTARY, JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH</b> Elementary (8 grades) ..... 51 to 56 Junior high (3 years) ..... 57, 58, 59 Senior high (3 years) ..... 510, 511, 512 <b>COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY</b> Undergraduate (4 years) ..... C1, C2, C3, C4 Graduate or professional school (1 year or more) ..... C5</p>	<p><b>Items 12a, 12b, and 12c. DEFINITION OF FAMILY HEAD</b></p> <p>A family head is—</p> <p>Either (a) head of household with related persons present in household or (b) person unrelated to household head but with persons related to him listed below him on the schedule, for example, lodger with wife present in household.</p>
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FOR DISTRICT OFFICE USE ONLY		
Number of lines on this sheet	Number of cancelled lines on this sheet	Number of persons enumerated on this sheet
30		

⑳ CONT.

FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER															
If looking for work (Yes in item 17)— <b>How many weeks has he been looking for work?</b> (Number of weeks)	Last year, in how many weeks did this person do any work at all, not counting work around the house? (Number of weeks in 1949)	Income received by this person in 1949					If this person is a family head (see definition below)— Income received by his relatives in this household				If Male— (Ask each question) <b>Did he ever serve in the U. S. Armed Forces during—</b>			LEAVE BLANK	SAMPLE LINE
		Last year (1949), how much money did he earn working as an employee for wages or salary? (Enter amount before deductions for taxes, etc.)	Last year, how much money did he earn working in his own business, professional practice, or farm? (Enter net income)	Last year, how much money did he receive from interest, dividends, veteran's allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (aside from earnings)?	Last year (1949), how much money did his relatives in this household earn working for wages or salary? (Amount before deductions for taxes, etc.)	Last year, how much money did his relatives in this household earn in own business, professional practice, or farm? (Net income)	Last year, how much money did his relatives in this household receive from interest, dividends, veteran's allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (aside from earnings)?	World War II	World War I	Any other time, including present service					
29	30	31a	31b	31c	LEAVE BLANK F	32a	32b	32c	LEAVE BLANK G	33a	33b	33c	H		
	<input type="checkbox"/> None (Weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		③	
	<input type="checkbox"/> None (Weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		⑧	
	<input type="checkbox"/> None (Weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		⑬	
	<input type="checkbox"/> None (Weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		⑱	
	<input type="checkbox"/> None (Weeks)	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> None \$ _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		⑳	
34. To enumerator: If worked last year (1 or more weeks in item 30): Is there any entry in items 20a, 20b, and 20c? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes—Skip to item 36 <input type="checkbox"/> No—Make entries in items 35a, 35b, and 35c		35a. What kind of work did this person do in his last job?			35b. What kind of business or industry did he work in?			35c. Class of worker (P, G, O, or NP, as in item 20c)						㉑	
36. If ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12)— Has this person been married more than once? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		37. If Mar—How many years since this person was (last) married? If Wd—How many years since this person was widowed? If D—How many years since this person was divorced? If Sep—How many years since this person was separated? _____ years, or <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year			38. If female and ever married (Mar, Wd, D, or Sep in item 12)— How many children has she ever borne, not counting stillbirths? _____ children, or <input type="checkbox"/> None										

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## Instructions to Enumerators

Changes from 1940 were few. Special pains were taken in the 1950 census, however, to distinguish among institutions, households, and quasi households (five or more nonrelatives of the head, other than employees).

College students were to be enumerated where they lived while attending school, rather than where their homes were located. Members of the Armed Forces who slept off post would be counted where they slept rather than where they were stationed.

The instructions continued to allow anyone to be designated as head of the household for relationship purposes, but if a woman was listed as head and her husband was present, he was reclassified as the head when the completed schedule was reviewed in the office. (At the time, the number of such cases was relatively small.)

A “family” was distinguished from a “household” in that the family represented a group of two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption. A household could contain one or more families, or none, but would occupy only one dwelling unit (quarters with separate cooking equipment or (new for 1950) a separate entrance.)

As in 1940, there was a separate form a respondent could use to report income. However, this was now a self-mailing piece (form P6) which the householder was asked to complete and post (rather than hand it to the enumerator).

A supplemental schedule (form P8) was used to obtain additional information on Indian reservations. In addition to entering each person’s name as it appeared on the regular schedule, the enumerator wrote in any other name(s) by which that person was known.

1950 QUESTIONNAIRE—HOUSING

SHEET NO.		FOR ALL DWELLING UNITS										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Serial number of dwelling unit	Block number	<b>TYPE OF LIVING QUARTERS</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> House, apartment, flat 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Trailer 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Tent, boat, railroad car X <input type="checkbox"/> Nondwelling-unit quarters in large rooming house, institution, hotel, tourist court, etc. (If nondwelling unit, do not ask remaining items)	<b>TYPE OF STRUCTURE</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Detached 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-detached 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Attached	<b>NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS IN STRUCTURE</b> (Number)	<b>BUSINESS UNIT IN STRUCTURE</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>CONDITION OF UNIT</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Not dilapidated 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dilapidated	<b>We have listed (number) persons who live here. Have we missed anyone away traveling? Babies? Lodgers? Other persons staying here who have no home anywhere else?</b> (Add names on other side if necessary) Enter correct number of persons: _____ (Final count) X <input type="checkbox"/> Occupied entirely by nonresidents V <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<b>How many rooms are in this unit, not counting bathrooms?</b> (Number)	<b>PIPED WATER SUPPLY</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Hot and cold piped running water inside this structure 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Only cold piped running water inside this structure 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Piped running water outside this structure 4 <input type="checkbox"/> No piped running water (hand pump, well, etc.)	<b>TYPE OF TOILET</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Flush toilet inside this structure 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Flush toilet outside this structure 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Privy, outhouse, or chemical toilet 4 <input type="checkbox"/> No toilet for this unit	<b>TOILET—EXCLUSIVE USE</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> For this unit's exclusive use 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Shared with another unit 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No toilet for this unit	<b>INSTALLED BATHTUB OR SHOWER</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> For this unit's exclusive use 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Shared with another unit 3 <input type="checkbox"/> No bathtub or shower for this unit

		FOR ALL VACANT UNITS		FOR NONFARM VACANT UNITS ONLY		FOR NONFARM UNITS OCCUPIED BY OWNER		FOR NONFARM UNITS OCCUPIED BY RENTER				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>c. Is there a radio in this unit?</b> ③ 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<b>c. Is there a television set in this unit?</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No V <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<b>OCCUPANCY</b> Occupied— 1 <input type="checkbox"/> By owner 2 <input type="checkbox"/> By renter 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Rent free Vacant— 4 <input type="checkbox"/> For rent 5 <input type="checkbox"/> For sale only 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Not for rent or sale	1 <input type="checkbox"/> Non-seasonal 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal	If "For rent"— Monthly rent for this unit— \$ _____	If "For sale only"— Sale price asked— \$ _____	<b>How much would this property sell for?</b> \$ _____	<b>How many dwelling units are included in this property?</b> (Number) _____	<b>Is there any mortgage (trust) on this property?</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No	<b>What is the monthly rent for this unit?</b> \$ _____	<b>In addition to rent, how much do you pay for—</b> Enter amount in dollars Nothing paid Electricity? \$ _____ (Monthly average) <input type="checkbox"/> Gas? \$ _____ (Monthly average) <input type="checkbox"/> Water? \$ _____ (Monthly average) <input type="checkbox"/> Wood? Coal? Oil? \$ _____ (12 months total) <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Is this unit rented—</b> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Unfurnished or 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Furnished	<b>If rented furnished—What would it rent for monthly if unfurnished?</b> \$ _____

Instructions to Enumerators—Housing

The census takers continued to define "nondwelling-unit quarters" (item 3) as they had in 1940, including as dwelling units those places with fewer than 10 lodgers. However, in subsequent office coding, any residence with 5 to 9 lodgers was reclassified as a nondwelling unit and excluded from the housing inventory. Vacant trailers, tents, boats, etc., were not enumerated.

There were detailed instructions for classifying various facilities (such as plumbing), equipment, and rooms for inclusion in the census.

In item 7 (condition of unit), the enumerator had to decide whether or not the place was "dilapidated," which, in conjunction with the information on plumbing facilities (items 10-13) would provide an indicator of housing quality. The reference manual had a special illustrated section devoted to item 7 and training was augmented with a filmstrip. With this background, "dilapidated" or "not dilapidated"

was to be checked without asking the householder about the condition of the unit. The decision was to be made on the basis of observation, looking for critical and minor housing deficiencies or for the adequacy of the original construction. A dilapidated unit, the census taker was told, was "below the generally accepted minimum standard for housing." It failed to protect the occupants from the elements or endangered their health or safety. It could be dilapidated because it had been neglected or because the original construction had been inadequate in the first place. A unit was not to be reported as "dilapidated" simply because it was old or dingy, nor was it "not dilapidated" because it happened to be freshly painted or shingled over.

Items 14 and 15 were five different sets of questions, and each household answered the set found on the line on which it was enumerated (thus constituting a 20-percent sample for these items).