
Census 2000 in New Hampshire

“ This is your future. Don’t leave it blank.” — Census 2000 slogan

New Hampshire has a projected 1.2 million people to count in Census 2000. It is important that every person is counted. Federal funds are allocated to the states and their counties based on the final count from the census. The state could lose \$660 in federal money for each person that is not counted. Cities and towns can expect about \$100 in federal money for every person counted.

Population data is also used to apportion the 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. The seats are divided among the states according to census data. States also use census data for legislative redistricting. Census information is used when a natural disaster hits by making a precise map of the disaster area. It is also used to let emergency personnel estimate how many people may need their help.

The primary function of the census is to gather population and housing data. Most households will receive the Census Bureau’s short form, the shortest in 180 years. It asks seven questions - six on population and one on housing. The long form will include fourteen additional population questions and thirteen more housing questions. The number of people who will receive the long form will vary depending on the population of an area. Information gathered is highly protected and is kept confidential for seventy-two years.

The Census Bureau will start mailing forms around March 1st and continue

until April 1st. Enumerators will deliver forms to households that don’t receive them in the mail. Census enumerators will be going to nonresponding households to collect the data after April 1st, the due date. New Hampshire is estimated to be done collecting data by September. After the information is gathered, it will be sent to a data capture center for processing.

According to the U.S. Constitution a census must be taken every ten years. The first census was taken 210 years ago. For every census between 1790 and 1950, enumerators collected the information by going door-to-door. In 1960 population growth prompted the Census Bureau to mail the form, with enumerators collecting them. The census form was distributed by mail again in 1970 and, for the first time, was to be mailed back to the local census offices.

For the first time the Census Bureau is using advertising to heighten awareness of the importance of completing the census. The Federal Government is spending \$100 million on the advertising campaign.

Census coordinators from the Concord and Dover offices helped gather this information. Personnel from Boston Regional office and the Census Bureau provided past data.

Gail Houston

Census Population Breakdown 1970 - 1990

Year	Total	Male	Female	White	Minority	Hispanic
1970	737,681	360,718	376,963	733,679	4,002	2,681
1980	920,610	448,462	472,148	910,099	10,511	5,587
1990	1,109,252	543,544	565,708	1,087,433	21,819	11,333