

1950 CENSUS OF POPULATION

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CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION OF KENTUCKY

APRIL 1, 1950

(This is one of a series of reports presenting figures on selected characteristics of the population of the smaller States. In this series, reports are numbered alphabetically by States. Additional reports will be issued as figures for other States become available. Preliminary sample data for the larger States, not covered in this series, will be found in Series PC-6)

Gains in the population of Kentucky between 1940 and 1950 were most marked among young children and elderly persons, according to figures from the 1950 Census of Population released today by Roy V. Peel, Director, Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. Although the total population of the State increased by 99,179, or 3.5 percent, during the decade, the number of children under 5 years of age increased by 60,837, or 21.3 percent, and the number of persons 65 years old and over increased by 45,642, or 24.1 percent. On the other hand, the number of persons 15 to 24 years of age and 5 to 14 years of age decreased by 12.3 percent and 2.8 percent, respectively. In 1950 there were more males than females in the population of Kentucky, but the excess of males was relatively smaller than it had been at the time of the preceding census. In 1950 there were 100.4 males for every 100 females as compared with 101.8 in 1940. Between 1940 and 1950 the nonwhite population of the State decreased by 5.3 percent, in contrast to the white population which increased by 4.2 percent.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND EXPLANATIONS

Urban and rural residence.--Under the urban definition established for use in the 1950 Census, the urban population comprises all persons living in (a) places of 2,500 inhabitants or more incorporated as cities, boroughs, towns,¹ and villages; (b) the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas, around cities

¹ Except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin, where "towns" are minor civil divisions of counties and are not necessarily densely settled centers like the towns in other States.

of 50,000 or more; and (c) unincorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more outside any urban fringe. The remaining population is classified as rural. According to the definition used in previous censuses, urban population comprised all persons living in incorporated places of 2,500 inhabitants or more and areas (usually minor civil divisions) classified as urban under special rules relating to population size and density.

Farm and nonfarm residence.--The rural population is subdivided into the rural-farm population, which comprises all rural residents living on farms, and the rural-nonfarm population, which comprises the remaining rural population. However, the method of determining farm and nonfarm residence in the 1950 Census differs somewhat from that used in earlier censuses. In the 1950 Census, persons on "farms" who were paying cash rent for their house and yard only were classified as nonfarm; furthermore, persons in institutions, summer camps, and tourist courts were classified as nonfarm.

Color.--The group designated as "non-white" consists of Negroes, Indians, Japanese, Chinese, and other nonwhite races. Persons of Mexican birth or ancestry who are not definitely Indian or of other nonwhite race are classified as white.

Age.--The age classification is based on the age of the person at his last birthday before the date of the census, that is, the age of the person in completed years. The median age may be defined as that age which divides the population into two equal groups--one-half being older and one-half younger than the median.

P R E L I M I N A R Y

Table 1.--COLOR BY SEX, FOR KENTUCKY, URBAN AND RURAL; 1950 AND 1940

Color and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950	Percent distribution			
	1950	1940	Percent change, 1940 to 1950			The State		Urban, 1950	Rural, 1950
						1950	1940		
Total.....	2,944,806	2,845,627	3.5	1,084,070	1,860,736	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	2,741,930	2,631,425	4.2	956,334	1,785,596	93.1	92.5	88.2	96.0
Nonwhite.....	202,876	214,202	-5.3	127,736	75,140	6.9	7.5	11.8	4.0
Male.....	1,475,092	1,435,812	2.7	517,291	957,801	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,375,122	1,329,625	3.4	456,780	918,342	93.2	92.6	88.3	95.9
Nonwhite.....	99,970	106,187	-5.9	60,511	39,459	6.8	7.4	11.7	4.1
Female.....	1,469,714	1,409,815	4.2	566,779	902,935	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
White.....	1,366,808	1,301,800	5.0	499,554	867,254	93.0	92.3	88.1	96.0
Nonwhite.....	102,906	108,015	-4.7	67,225	35,681	7.0	7.7	11.9	4.0

Table 2.--AGE BY SEX, FOR KENTUCKY, URBAN AND RURAL; 1950 AND 1940

Age and sex	The State			Urban, 1950	Rural nonfarm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950	Percent distribution				
	1950	1940	Per- cent change, 1940 to 1950				The State		Urban, 1950	Rural non- farm, 1950	Rural farm, 1950
							1950	1940			
Total population.....	2,944,806	2,845,627	3.5	1,084,070	886,526	974,210	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Percent by residence	100.0	...	...	36.8	30.1	33.1	...	...	...	...	...
Under 5 years.....	346,029	285,192	21.3	113,178	121,975	110,876	11.8	10.0	10.4	13.8	11.4
5 to 14 years.....	562,424	578,857	-2.8	157,487	180,396	224,541	19.1	20.3	14.5	20.3	23.0
15 to 24 years.....	473,995	540,649	-12.3	165,405	151,315	157,275	16.1	19.0	15.3	17.1	16.1
25 to 34 years.....	423,979	422,128	0.4	176,196	136,282	111,501	14.4	14.8	16.3	15.4	11.4
35 to 44 years.....	373,929	346,939	7.8	155,041	104,108	114,780	12.7	12.2	14.3	11.7	11.8
45 to 54 years.....	301,408	281,976	6.9	128,870	74,579	97,959	10.2	9.9	11.9	8.4	10.1
55 to 64 years.....	228,116	200,602	13.7	94,202	54,428	79,486	7.7	7.0	8.7	6.1	8.2
65 years and over.....	234,926	189,284	24.1	93,691	63,443	77,792	8.0	6.7	8.6	7.2	8.0
Median age.....years..	27.1	25.4	...	31.0	24.3	24.6	...	...	...	...	...
Male.....	1,475,092	1,435,812	2.7	517,291	451,593	506,208	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	175,786	144,624	21.5	57,207	62,166	56,413	11.9	10.1	11.1	13.8	11.1
5 to 14 years.....	286,141	294,322	-2.8	78,804	91,726	115,611	19.4	20.5	15.2	20.3	22.8
15 to 24 years.....	238,460	271,826	-12.3	76,237	77,923	84,300	16.2	18.9	14.7	17.3	16.7
25 to 34 years.....	210,537	210,850	-0.1	85,227	69,947	55,363	14.3	14.7	16.5	15.5	10.9
35 to 44 years.....	186,148	173,565	7.2	73,743	54,037	58,368	12.6	12.1	14.3	12.0	11.5
45 to 54 years.....	149,852	143,544	4.4	61,712	38,145	49,995	10.2	10.0	11.9	8.4	9.9
55 to 64 years.....	114,297	101,888	12.2	44,542	27,046	42,709	7.7	7.1	8.6	6.0	8.4
65 years and over.....	113,871	95,193	19.6	39,819	30,603	43,449	7.7	6.6	7.7	6.8	8.6
Median age.....years..	26.8	25.3	...	30.4	24.2	24.6	...	...	...	...	...
Female.....	1,469,714	1,409,815	4.2	566,779	434,933	468,002	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Under 5 years.....	170,243	140,568	21.1	55,971	59,809	54,463	11.6	10.0	9.9	13.8	11.6
5 to 14 years.....	276,283	284,535	-2.9	78,683	88,670	108,930	18.8	20.2	13.9	20.4	23.3
15 to 24 years.....	235,535	268,823	-12.4	89,168	73,392	72,975	16.0	19.1	15.7	16.9	15.6
25 to 34 years.....	213,442	211,278	1.0	90,969	66,335	56,138	14.5	15.0	16.1	15.3	12.0
35 to 44 years.....	187,781	173,374	8.3	81,298	50,071	56,412	12.8	12.3	14.3	11.5	12.1
45 to 54 years.....	151,556	138,432	9.5	67,158	36,434	47,964	10.3	9.8	11.8	8.4	10.2
55 to 64 years.....	113,819	98,714	15.3	49,660	27,382	36,777	7.7	7.0	8.8	6.3	7.9
65 years and over.....	121,055	94,091	28.7	53,872	32,840	34,343	8.2	6.7	9.5	7.6	7.3
Median age.....years..	27.5	25.5	...	31.5	24.4	24.7	...	...	...	...	...