Infographic 1 – 1940 – 2010 How Has America Changed?

Total Population and Most Populated States:

The 1940 United States total population of 132.2 million includes Hawaii and Alaska, which were considered territories in 1940.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 Census

Racial and Ethnic Diversity:

In 1940, three population groups were generally tabulated in Census products that provided data on race -- White, Black ("Negro"), and Other. In some instances, data was further delineated and tabulated for population groups within the "Other" category (Indian, Chinese, and Japanese). There was no question on whether or not the person (s) was of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin.

Federal statistical standards for collecting and tabulating the types of data we understand today on race and ethnicity first came into existence in 1977 with the issuance of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Directive No.15, which guided the 1980 Census and 1990 Census data collections. Revised standards issued in 1997 guided the Census 2000 and 2010 Census data collections on race and ethnicity. For more information on the OMB Race and Ethnic Standards, see www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg_1997standards.

- In 2010, following the aforementioned 1997 OMB standards, the following questions were asked about ethnicity and race:

Is this person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

The 2010 Census question on Hispanic origin included five separate response categories and one area where respondents could write-in a specific Hispanic origin group. ("Not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin"; "Mexican, Mexican Am., or Chicano"; "Puerto Rican"; "Cuban"; and "Another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin").

- What is this person's race? Mark ☒ one or more boxes.

For the first time in Census 2000, individuals were presented with the option to self-identify with more than one race and this continued with the 2010 Census, as prescribed by OMB. The 2010 Census question on race included 15 separate response categories and three areas where respondents could write-in detailed information about their race. The response categories and write-in answers can be combined to create the five minimum OMB race categories (White, Black or African American, American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander) plus Some Other Race.

For more information on the 2010 Census data on race and ethnicity, see the 2010 Census Brief, "Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin" www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 Census

Education:

In 1940, persons were asked if they attended school any time since March 1940 and how many years of school have they completed.

Also in 1940, the percentage used for *percentage of population males and females 25 and older who are college graduates*, was persons who completed four or more years of college. There was no distinction if they received a degree. In 2010, percent of males, females, and population with a bachelor degree or college graduates were those who had received a bachelor's degree or higher.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates

Earnings:

In 1940, the median represents the amount of wage or salary income received in calendar year 1939 for people age 14 and older with a dollar or more of income and are in 1939 dollars.

In 2010, median earnings are defined as the algebraic sum of wage or salary income and net income from farm and nonfarm self-employment and are in 2010 dollars. Earnings represent the amount of income received regularly before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc for people age 16 and older.

The ratio shown is for all employees and not year-round, full-time employees.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates

Top Industries:

In 1940, total number of employees is the number of employed persons 14 years and over (excluding those on emergency work) and experienced workers seeking work.

The percentage shown for industries is the percentage of employed persons reporting that industry as their industry of work.

In 2010, the employed includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" -- those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other

personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are all institutionalized and people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.

In 2010, U.S. industries are classified using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2007.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates

Housing:

In 1940, average monthly rent, urban and rural, non-farm is the average rent paid (dollars) for a dwelling in urban areas and rural non-farm areas. There were three classifications in 1940: Urban, rural non-farm, and rural farm.

In 1940, the percentages shown for having an outside toilet, running water, and electric light was the national average for rural-farm locations.

In 2010, median monthly rent is the median selected cash rent paid for renter-occupied housing units including utilities.

In 2010, Median monthly housing costs for mortgaged owners is the median selected monthly owner's costs for occupied housing units with a mortgage.

Percentages listed was the percentage of total occupied housing units that had complete plumbing, had telephone service, and had two or more vehicles .

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates

Marital Status:

In 1940, the categories for marital status were single, married, widowed, and divorced. The percentages listed are the percent of the total population ages 15-19 and 20-34 who have never married and are currently married by sex.

In 2010, the categories for marital status were Now Married (excluding separated), Widowed, Divorced, Separated, and Never Married. The percentages shown for married include the now married and separated population for ages 15 – 19 and 20-34 in order to be comparable to the 1940 numbers.

Source: 1940 Census and 2010 American Community Survey 1-year estimates.