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PRINCIPAL DATA COLLECTION FORMS

USED IN
THE 1950
CENSUSES

POPULATION • HOUSING
AGRICULTURE
IRRIGATION • DRAINAGE



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PRINCIPAL DATA COLLECTION FORMS USED IN THE 1950 CENSUSES

(Preprint of Appendix in
"The 1950 Censuses - How They Were Taken")

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PREFACE

The principal enumeration forms used in the 1950 Censuses of Population and Housing and of Agriculture and related surveys are assembled here for convenient reference. Many forms were used, but since it seemed advisable to limit the presentation, only 18 of the principal forms are shown here. These 18 include those most widely used as well as a few which were typical of a particular group of forms. The enumeration forms used in the Post-Enumeration Survey, the experimental areas, and in the Territories and possessions are not shown. However, a list of the enumeration forms used in these surveys is included. No administrative forms are included in this presentation.

Under the United States Census law the specific questions to be asked in the Census are determined by the Director of the Census with the approval of the Secretary of Commerce and subject to the approval of the Bureau of the Budget. The various questionnaires are formulated by subject matter specialists in consultation with advisors in many fields. Problems of design and production are solved jointly by these and other technicians to provide an efficient instrument for the collection of information.

The enumeration forms shown were formulated and used for the 1950 Censuses of Population and Housing, including those used for the collection of mortgage statistics data, and for the Census of Agriculture, which included coverage of Irrigation and Drainage enterprises, and Horticulture establishments. Brief notes are given for each form describing its size, the color of the paper and ink, the number printed, its use, and its distribution.

This bulletin is a preprint of part of "The 1950 Censuses - How They Were Taken," which will describe the general plan of the major censuses. The use of the forms and the instructions to the enumerators are also described in fuller detail in the enumerator's reference manuals. The instructions for the basic forms used in the censuses of Population, Housing, and Agriculture are found in the *Enumerator's Reference Manual* (Form 17 Fld-100). Instructions for the collection of mortgage statistics are given in the *Survey of Residential Financing Enumerator's Manual* (Form 17 Fld-500). Additional instructions for the Irrigation forms are given in the *Irrigation Technician's Manual* (Form 17A-5). The Drainage questionnaires are covered in *Instructions to Enumerators, Census of Drainage* (Forms 17A-28 and 17A-18).

This publication was prepared in the Statistical Reports Section of the Office of the Assistant Director for Statistical Standards, Bureau of the Census. The material included came from many offices and from many persons who participated in the collection of the data and the compilation of the results of the 1950 Census program. The editing and preparation of this document was the responsibility of Nathan Krevor, Carol J. Hobson and Bernard J. Marsh working under the supervision of Morris B. Ullman. Ada Barnard, Forms Design Specialist in the Office of Printing Services of the Department of Commerce, participated in the original design of the format of many of the schedules and in the preparation for reproduction of forms in this pamphlet. Robert H. Brooks, Chief, Graphics Section, Administrative Service Division and Franklin L. Thatcher, former chief of this section, handled the printing of the forms and other materials for the 1950 Censuses.

October 1952

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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