



# The Molly Brown House Museum

## The Colorado Census

### **What is the Census?**

A census counts every person living in a certain area. In the United States, the census is conducted every 10 years. The census was written into the U.S. Constitution, and required to be completed at least every 10 years. Conducting a census was not a novel idea. Ancient cultures such as the Egyptians and the Romans conducted census; however, the U.S. was one of the first modern countries to count all people in the census, not just men of fighting age. The first U.S. Census was conducted in 1790.

### **Why is the Census important?**

The census helps determine the amount of funding your community will receive for services such as schools, fire departments, and hospitals. It also determines how many seats your state receives in the U.S. House of Representatives. These determinations are based on the number of people who live in a particular area. It is law that everyone participate in the U.S. census.

### **What can the Census tell us about the past?**

The census can tell us about who was living in a particular area at any given time, what the main types of jobs were, levels of income, and other similar types of information. All of this information can be used to determine what a community, town, or state might have been like. The census is a snapshot of a place at a particular point in time.



# The Colorado Census

## At Home Activity

### **Overview:**

Learners will take a close look at Colorado census data from the 19th century and then use that data to construct the story of what Colorado looked like in the 1870s.

### **Instructions**

Take a look at the 1860, 1870, and 1880 Colorado census by occupation documents that are included on the next few pages and then answer the following questions:

- Are there any occupations, or jobs, listed on any of the three censuses that you have never heard of before? What do you think they might be? Ask a grownup if they know what any of these are.
- Are there any trends you notice over time? Are certain jobs more or less popular as the decades progress?
- Find at least five jobs that people still have today. Can you find even more?
- Are there certain jobs that women seem to do more than men? What about jobs that men tend to do more than men?
- Were you surprised to see how many kids between the ages of 10-15 had jobs? Were there any job types that surprised you that kids were doing?
- Was there anything else that surprised you?

### **Activity:**

Pretend that the year is 1872 and you are living in the territory of Colorado. You came out West from Pennsylvania with your family, hoping for a better life. Like most kids your age, you went to school through the fourth grade and now it's time for you to get a job and help support your family. Look at the list of possible jobs on the 1870 Census and choose one. Next, write a short story (a couple of paragraphs or pages) about what your new job is like. Are you living on the plains? In a town? Or up in the mountains? You can write about the tasks you are doing, the people you meet while working, and what your job is like. What does it look like where you work? Who are you working with? Do you earn a lot of money or just a little bit? *(Caregivers, for younger learners, if the writing activity is too challenging, ask them to simply tell you about their new job.)*

TERRITORY OF COLORADO.

TABLE No. 5.—NATIVITIES OF POPULATION.

UNITED STATES.			FOREIGN COUNTRIES.				
Alabama.....	70	Pennsylvania.....	1,463	Asia.....		Holland.....	76
Arkansas.....	374	Rhode Island.....	83	Africa.....	1	Ireland.....	621
California.....	39	South Carolina.....	42	Australia.....		Italy.....	6
Connecticut.....	189	Tennessee.....	813	Atlantic Islands.....		Mexico.....	55
Delaware.....	14	Texas.....	87	Belgium.....	11	Norway.....	12
Florida.....	2	Vermont.....	375	British America.....	221	Portugal.....	1
Georgia.....	329	Virginia.....	652	Central America.....		Poland.....	11
Illinois.....	3,630	Wisconsin.....	1,304	China.....		Pacific Islands.....	
Indiana.....	2,587	District of Columbia.....	10	Denmark.....	16	Russia.....	1
Iowa.....	767	Territories.....	167	England.....	353	Scotland.....	139
Kansas.....	197	At sea.....	1	Europe, (not specified).....	30	Spain.....	1
Kentucky.....	1,861	Not stated.....	297	France.....	103	Sweden.....	57
Louisiana.....	159			German States:		Sardinia.....	
Maine.....	611	Aggregate native.....	31,611	Austria.....	9	Switzerland.....	25
Maryland.....	461			Bavaria.....	16	South America.....	1
Massachusetts.....	1,400			Baden.....	8	Sandwich Islands.....	2
Michigan.....	800			Hesse.....	2	Turkey.....	
Minnesota.....	132			Hanau.....		West Indies.....	2
Mississippi.....	82			Prussia.....	54	Wales.....	38
Missouri.....	3,319			Württemberg.....	6	Other foreign countries.....	
New Hampshire.....	235			Germany, (not specified).....	481		
New Jersey.....	143			Total Germany.....	576	Aggregate foreign.....	2,694
New York.....	3,942			Great Britain, (not specified).....	1	Aggregate native.....	31,611
North Carolina.....	139			Greece.....		Total.....	34,305
Ohio.....	4,125						
Oregon.....	4						

TABLE No. 6.—OCCUPATIONS.

OCCUPATIONS.	NO. OF.	OCCUPATIONS.	NO. OF.	OCCUPATIONS.	NO. OF.	OCCUPATIONS.	NO. OF.
Actors.....	4	Contractors.....	24	Landrovers.....	36	Saddlers.....	8
Agents.....	39	Copers.....	4	Lawyers.....	28	Sailor keepers.....	175
Architects.....	2	Engineers.....	6	Livery-stable keepers.....	7	Sawyers.....	31
Artists.....	4	Dealers.....	3	Lumbermen.....	30	Scrimstresses.....	3
Auctioneers.....	8	Dealers.....	6	Machinists.....	14	Servants.....	139
Bakers.....	69	Drivers.....	7	Mantua-makers.....	6	Shingle-makers.....	19
Bankers.....	11	Drovers.....	13	Masons, (stone and brick).....	23	Shoemakers.....	61
Barbers.....	19	Druggists.....	9	Match-makers.....	2	Speculators.....	26
Barkeepers.....	15	Editors.....	7	Mechanics.....	114	Stone and marble cutters.....	2
Billiard-table keepers.....	2	Engravers.....	2	Mercantile.....	210	Storekeepers.....	6
Blacksmiths.....	163	Expressmen.....	16	Millers.....	18	Surveyors.....	4
Boarding-house keepers.....	91	Farmers.....	195	Milliners.....	5	Tailors.....	18
Bookbinders.....	2	Gamblers.....	27	Millwrights.....	17	Tanners.....	3
Brewers.....	5	Gardeners.....	11	Miners.....	23,036	Teachers.....	10
Bricklayers.....	11	Grocers.....	17	Moulders.....	2	Teamsters.....	437
Black-makers.....	10	Gunsmiths.....	8	Musicians.....	6	Tinsmiths.....	21
Builders.....	5	Harness-makers.....	4	Newsmen.....	2	Tobaccoists.....	6
Butchers.....	190	Hatters.....	3	Officers, (public).....	41	Traders.....	475
Cabinet-makers.....	12	Hunters.....	2	Officers.....	2	Turkeys.....	2
Carpenters.....	542	Ironkeepers.....	115	Painters.....	29	Watchmakers.....	5
Carriers.....	3	Jewelers.....	7	Physicians.....	118	Wheelwrights.....	12
Chandlers.....	4	Labourers.....	294	Planers.....	4	Wine and liquor dealers.....	8
Cigar-makers.....	3			Printer-figure makers.....	19	Wood-cutters.....	3
Civil and mechanical engineers.....	113			Printers.....	31	Other occupations and unkn'wn.....	57
Clerks.....	164			Produce dealers.....	4	Total.....	56,797
Clergymen.....	11						
Commission merchants.....	2						
Confessioners.....	5						



OCCUPATIONS.

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TABLE XXXIV.—PERSONS ENGAGED IN EACH SELECTED OCCUPATION, ETC.: 1880.

COLORADO.

OCCUPATIONS.	ALL AGES.			AGE AND SEX.				NATIVITY.								
	Total.	Male.	Female.	10 to 15.		16 to 20.		21 and over.		United States.	Ireland.	Germany.	Great Britain.	Sweden and Norway.	British America.	Other countries.
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.							
<b>ALL OCCUPATIONS</b> .....	101,251	90,472	4,779	816	171	84,020	4,583	1,577	45	72,127	5,296	4,800	7,709	1,677	3,941	4,558
<b>AGRICULTURE</b> .....	13,539	13,469	77	335	6	12,569	66	358	5	10,963	988	529	560	160	304	580
Agricultural laborers.....	2,540	2,325	215	100	0	2,334	9	65	0	2,128	85	70	72	88	63	129
Farmers and planters.....	0,011	0,474	37	.....	.....	0,120	32	308	4	5,100	153	280	859	103	155	268
Gardeners, nurserymen, and vine-growers.....	294	293	1	.....	.....	228	2	28	0	100	13	30	25	2	2	0
Stock raisers, drovers, and herders.....	4,068	4,507	11	168	.....	3,792	11	97	.....	3,347	77	187	187	13	85	173
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES</b> .....	24,813	21,733	3,080	240	155	20,642	3,389	351	33	18,012	1,899	1,020	1,075	298	849	1,492
Barbers and hairdressers.....	390	384	6	.....	.....	381	3	2	0	288	0	0	0	1	0	33
Boarding- and lodging-house keepers.....	426	157	269	.....	.....	161	244	6	4	105	50	30	40	4	10	112
Clergymen.....	284	284	0	.....	.....	281	.....	13	.....	100	8	10	18	4	10	37
Clerks and copyists (not specified).....	54	50	4	.....	.....	40	4	.....	.....	45	2	3	2	1	1	1
Dentists.....	94	88	6	.....	.....	80	4	.....	.....	83	2	2	2	1	2	1
Domestic servants.....	2,575	725	1,847	25	291	660	1,766	10	10	1,077	281	144	128	112	67	129
Hotel and restaurant keepers and employes.....	2,328	2,075	253	20	0	1,940	940	37	0	1,630	314	118	190	33	74	61
Journalists.....	152	148	4	.....	.....	140	4	.....	.....	120	4	6	6	3	4	2
<b>Laborers</b> .....	12,012	12,036	37	184	0	12,551	20	180	2	0,190	1,148	478	528	393	523	735
Launderers and handmaids.....	746	312	434	6	0	320	407	7	4	310	89	23	23	11	23	273
Lawyers.....	857	857	0	.....	.....	789	.....	18	.....	730	18	6	13	2	18	.....
Livery-stable keepers and hostlers.....	527	523	4	14	.....	510	1	.....	.....	444	20	10	10	4	23	11
Musicians and teachers of music.....	280	190	90	.....	.....	163	61	.....	.....	190	1	35	12	.....	3	11
Officials and employes (civil) of government.....	734	721	13	.....	.....	704	18	.....	.....	623	10	21	30	3	13	23
Physicians and surgeons.....	570	547	23	.....	.....	518	21	.....	.....	508	2	18	18	2	14	15
Teachers.....	380	219	161	.....	.....	216	261	.....	.....	516	10	11	10	1	14	16
<b>TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION</b> .....	15,491	15,333	158	100	2	15,063	140	150	2	11,418	1,059	857	693	164	485	773
<b>Trade.</b>																
Clerks, salesmen, and accountants in stores.....	2,816	2,704	112	41	1	2,712	61	11	.....	2,830	61	123	142	17	88	57
Commercial travelers, hucksters, and peddlers.....	233	226	7	.....	.....	221	7	.....	.....	100	0	18	18	2	5	20
In banking and brokerage of money and stocks.....	415	414	1	.....	.....	403	1	.....	.....	304	14	8	0	2	12	10
In insurances.....	72	72	0	.....	.....	70	.....	.....	.....	00	2	2	1	.....	1	1
Saloon keepers and bartenders.....	1,077	1,071	6	.....	.....	1,063	4	.....	.....	648	62	148	62	29	41	65
Traders and dealers.....	8,065	7,619	446	.....	.....	3,456	46	63	2	2,611	80	314	176	28	113	187
<b>Transportation.</b>																
Draymen, hackmen, teamsters, etc.....	2,503	2,502	1	21	.....	2,500	.....	21	.....	2,000	88	64	89	47	101	89
Officials and employes of express companies.....	162	162	0	.....	.....	159	.....	.....	.....	123	0	10	10	2	3	3
Officials and employes of railroad companies.....	0,301	3,305	2	7	.....	3,340	2	15	.....	1,007	689	161	147	39	83	311
Officials and employes of str. railroad co's.....	81	81	0	.....	.....	81	.....	.....	.....	21	1	4	4	4	1	.....
Officials and employes of telegraph co's.....	203	203	0	.....	.....	203	.....	.....	.....	182	2	2	2	2	11	2
Sailors, steamboatmen, stewards, etc., small- men, pilots, and watermen.....	42	42	0	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	25	3	4	4	2	2	2
<b>MANUFACTURING, MECHANICAL, AND MIN- ING INDUSTRIES.</b>	47,403	46,439	964	140	8	45,723	956	318	8	31,694	5,030	2,334	5,390	1,020	2,393	1,711
<b>Apprentices to trades</b> .....	50	47	3	18	4	34	2	.....	.....	45	.....	3	1	.....	2	2
Bakers.....	389	325	64	.....	.....	321	4	.....	.....	131	15	100	81	4	11	32
Blacksmiths.....	1,205	1,205	0	.....	.....	1,277	4	.....	.....	865	78	89	122	15	62	47
Bookbinders and finishers.....	80	23	57	.....	.....	24	4	.....	.....	20	.....	6	1	.....	1	.....
Boot and shoe makers.....	470	470	0	.....	.....	465	.....	.....	.....	208	37	100	40	17	34	25
Brewers and maltsters.....	164	154	10	.....	.....	151	.....	.....	.....	20	4	100	2	.....	1	18
Brick and stone masons, marble and stone cutters.....	1,108	1,108	0	.....	.....	1,130	.....	.....	.....	681	108	79	146	25	69	61
Brick and tile makers.....	684	684	0	.....	.....	696	.....	.....	.....	490	92	39	21	14	17	63
Butchers.....	685	685	0	.....	.....	632	.....	.....	.....	408	17	230	64	4	22	34
Cabinet makers and upholsterers.....	168	167	1	.....	.....	163	.....	.....	.....	85	4	83	16	9	8	8
Carpenters and joiners.....	3,773	3,773	0	.....	.....	3,685	.....	.....	.....	2,798	101	178	241	74	298	162
Carriage, cat, and wagon makers.....	163	163	0	.....	.....	161	.....	.....	.....	110	2	17	13	2	15	.....
Cigar makers and tobacco workers.....	81	79	2	.....	.....	79	.....	.....	.....	48	.....	10	4	.....	2	11
Clerks and bookkeepers in manufacturing establishments.....	20	20	0	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	2	1	.....	.....	.....
Coppers.....	35	35	0	.....	.....	31	.....	.....	.....	21	8	6	3	1	2	.....
Cotton, woolen, and silk-mill operatives.....	20	15	5	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	3	2	1	.....	.....
Employes in manufacturing establishments (not specified).....	49	42	7	.....	.....	41	.....	.....	.....	36	4	4	3	1	.....	.....
<b>Engineers and firemen</b> .....	1,078	1,078	0	.....	.....	1,070	.....	.....	.....	821	42	78	104	11	36	40
Fishermen and oystermen.....	5	5	0	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gold and silver workers and jewelers.....	150	150	0	.....	.....	148	.....	.....	.....	114	.....	10	8	5	5	10
Harness, saddle, and trunk makers.....	694	301	393	.....	.....	320	.....	.....	.....	210	0	20	6	1	18	14
Iron and steel workers.....	177	177	0	.....	.....	175	.....	.....	.....	110	0	22	27	2	6	11
Leather carriers, dressers, finishers, and tanners.....	20	20	0	.....	.....	18	.....	.....	.....	10	1	2	.....	.....	1	.....
Lumbermen, raftsmen, and woodchoppers.....	538	558	.....	11	.....	546	.....	.....	.....	480	0	15	8	13	39	14
Machinists.....	676	615	61	.....	.....	613	.....	.....	.....	444	27	30	68	9	20	21
Manufacturers and officials of manuf'g co's.....	255	233	22	.....	.....	240	.....	.....	.....	184	0	8	30	.....	15	12
Mill and factory operatives (not specified).....	76	75	1	.....	.....	72	.....	.....	.....	53	.....	3	11	.....	2	1
Millers.....	259	250	9	.....	.....	240	.....	.....	.....	197	.....	10	15	.....	8	11
Miners.....	28,370	28,359	11	61	.....	28,357	10	241	1	18,032	2,210	863	3,038	642	1,313	978
Painters and varnishers.....	703	707	4	.....	.....	699	.....	.....	.....	546	22	30	53	14	22	25
Paper-mill operatives.....	49	40	9	.....	.....	39	.....	.....	.....	20	2	3	0	.....	.....	.....
Plumbers and gasfitters.....	183	130	53	.....	.....	129	.....	.....	.....	94	14	1	14	8	3	1
Printers.....	684	638	46	.....	.....	627	.....	.....	.....	675	11	22	19	.....	12	5
Saw-mill operatives.....	407	407	0	.....	.....	408	.....	.....	.....	398	9	4	5	0	61	.....
Ship carpenters, calkers, riggers, and smiths.....	2	2	0	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tailors, dressmakers, and milliners.....	1,108	371	737	.....	.....	301	809	.....	.....	767	70	79	31	38	61	62
Tinners.....	246	240	6	.....	.....	242	.....	.....	.....	203	4	39	4	.....	7	9
Whealwrights.....	21	21	0	.....	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	8	1	.....	.....	.....