

The Census

1. Themes

(a) Looking backwards

i. Why do we have a census?

Why do we have a census?

To ensure fair and even representation in Congress..

A. Why not just count votes?

Why not just count votes?

Because non-voters need representation, too, and apportionment can't just shift

In the American context, this means, paradoxically, enslaved people, who are "represented" by the population of their masters.

And it means some people—"Indians not Taxed"—are excluded.

2. Evolving Census Data

Find any location in the US here:

[<https://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>]

(a) i. A. What do you do with this information?

ii. Frontiers and centers of population.

(b) Calculating on paper.

3. Census Technology

(a) Punch Cards