

Cost of the Decennial Census: 1790-2010

Census	Cost*	Population	Per Capita Cost
1790	\$44,377	3,929,214	\$0.01
1800	\$66,109	5,308,483	\$0.01
1810	\$178,445	7,239,881	\$0.02
1820	\$208,526	9,633,822	\$0.02
1830	\$378,545	12,866,020	\$0.03
1840	\$833,371	17,069,458	\$0.05
1850	\$1,423,351	23,191,876	\$0.06
1860	\$1,969,377	31,433,321	\$0.06
1870	\$3,421,198	38,558,371	\$0.09
1880	\$5,790,678	50,155,783	\$0.12
1890	\$11,547,127	62,979,766	\$0.18
1900	\$11,854,000	76,303,387	\$0.16
1910	\$15,968,000	91,972,266	\$0.17
1920	\$25,117,000	105,710,620	\$0.24
1930	\$40,156,000	122,775,046	\$0.33
1940	\$67,527,000	131,669,275	\$0.51
1950	\$91,462,000	151,325,798	\$0.60
1960	\$127,934,000	179,323,175	\$0.71
1970	\$247,653,000	203,302,031	\$1.22
1980	\$1,078,488,000	226,542,199	\$4.76
1990	\$2,493,400,000	248,718,301	\$10.02
2000	\$6,384,887,000	281,421,906	\$22.69
2010 (est.)	\$11,254,600,000	308,936,000	\$36.43

* Actual (nominal) cost -- not adjusted for inflation

Source: U.S. Census Bureau