



Making Sense of

Census 2000



THIS TEACHING GUIDE

will help you to:

- fulfill curriculum requirements
- teach skills that correlate with national standards
- navigate the U.S. Census Bureau Web site
- bring the census to life for your students
- drive home the importance and many benefits of the census



This is Your Future. Don't Leave It Blank.

Scope and Sequence



STRAND 1: MAP LITERACY

LESSON	OBJECTIVE	CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS	SKILLS	STANDARDS*
1. Size It Up ★	Students will read and use a U.S. population cartogram.	● Geography	● Reading a Cartogram	● People, Places, and Environment ● Time, Continuity, and Change ● The World in Spatial Terms
2. Make Your Own Map ★★	Students will create a thematic map to compare statistical data.	● Geography ● Math ● Art	● Using Thematic Maps	● People, Places, and Environment ● Individuals, Groups, and Institutions ● The World in Spatial Terms ● Human Systems



STRAND 2: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

3. Future Focus ★	Students will discuss the importance of the census, then design an advertisement for Census 2000.	● Civics and Government ● Art ● Language Arts	● Thinking Creatively	● Civic Ideals and Practices ● Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
4. District Decisions ★★	Students will learn about reapportionment and redistricting, then debate how congressional districts should be drawn.	● Civics and Government ● Geography	● Thinking Critically	● Power, Authority, and Governance ● Time, Continuity, and Change ● Human Systems ● The Uses of Geography



STRAND 3: MANAGING DATA

5. Samples and Stats ★	Students will analyze different sampling methods and then design their own surveys.	● Math ● Civics and Government ● Geography	● Understanding Statistics	● Statistics ● Mathematics as Communication ● The World in Spatial Terms ● The Uses of Geography
6. Forecasting the Future ★★	Students will learn about population estimates and population projections.	● Math ● Civics and Government ● Science ● Geography	● Understanding Estimates and Projections	● Algebra ● Time, Continuity, and Change ● Mathematics as Communication ● Human Systems

★ For Grades 9-10

★★ For Grades 11-12

*NCSS Social Studies Standards, NCTM Math Standards and The Geography Education Standards Project Geography Standards

Table of Contents



Map Literacy *Geography/Math/Art*

Lesson 1 ★	Size It Up	3
	Reading a Cartogram	
Lesson 2 ★★	Make Your Own Map	6
	Using Thematic Maps	



Community Involvement *Civics & Government/Art/Language Arts/Geography*

Lesson 3 ★	Future Focus	9
	Thinking Creatively	
Lesson 4 ★★	District Decisions	12
	Thinking Critically	



Managing Data *Math/Civics & Government/Geography/Science*

Lesson 5 ★	Samples and Stats	15
	Understanding Statistics	
Lesson 6 ★★	Forecasting the Future	18
	Understanding Estimates and Projections	

Additional Resources **Inside Back Cover**

These lessons have been stepped to help you teach and apply this material to the appropriate grade level for your class.

★ For Grades 9-10 ★★ For Grades 11-12

How to Use **This Guide**

The lessons in this guide introduce students to Census 2000 with high-interest, grade-level appropriate activities designed to meet your curricular needs. Students will learn what a census is and why it's important to them, their families, and the community.

Lesson planning at a glance Your Scope and Sequence (on the inside front cover) provides an at-a-glance summary of the lessons in this book. These lessons are divided into three learning strands: *Map Literacy*, *Community Involvement*, and *Managing Data*. The Scope and Sequence identifies skills, objectives, national standards, and curriculum areas for each lesson. This way, you can easily find lessons that support your classroom goals. Map, computer, and library icons allow you to quickly see which lessons interface with the We Count! wall map, and those that offer special enhancements using Internet and library resources.

Customized for your classroom Each lesson in this guide consists of a teacher lesson plan and two reproducible activity pages. Because students in grades 9-12 have attained different degrees of mastery, the lessons in each strand have been stepped (one lesson aimed at grades 9-10; one lesson aimed at grades 11-12), allowing you to tailor your teaching to the individual needs of your students.

Before you begin This teaching guide is based on a unifying concept: *The census is an important part of our democracy*. Before you begin using the lessons, write this concept on the board. Explain that information gathered by the census helps America learn what America needs.

Extension Activities Many lesson plan pages contain one or more Extension Activities designed to enhance students' experience and understanding of the census beyond the classroom. These activities often make use of the vast stores of information available at the official U.S. Census Bureau Web site (see below) and make it possible to incorporate updated Census 2000 information into lessons.

Using the Web site The U.S. Census Bureau Web site (www.census.gov) is easy to use and can provide students and teachers with a wide variety of information on characteristics of the U.S. population. For example: Starting on the home page, click on "Estimates" under the box labeled "People." In this category, choose "States." Students can work with the data found on screen or print it out for easier use. In addition, teachers can access the lessons from all three Census 2000 Teaching Guides (K-4, 5-8, and 9-12) on the Census Bureau Web site. The Census 2000 questionnaire may also be viewed on this site.

SYMBOL KEY



We Count!
Wall Map



Internet



Library



For Grades 9-10



For Grades 11-12