

2008 Census Dress Rehearsal

Revised August 2006

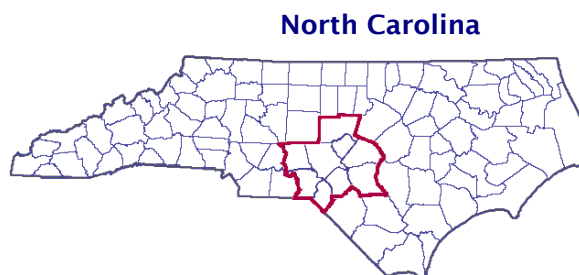
Fayetteville and Eastern North Carolina

(Nine-county region of Chatham, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland)

The 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal is the last opportunity for the Census Bureau to preview the overall design of the 2010 Census. While we have tested certain parts of the plan, the dress rehearsal will fine-tune methods to see how well all of the pieces fit together.

The city of Fayetteville, N.C., and the surrounding nine-county area were selected for the dress rehearsal primarily because it has a mix of urban, suburban and rural areas and has two large military bases (Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base).

San Joaquin County, Calif., also was selected by the Census Bureau to participate in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal.



What You Need to Know

- Most households in the dress rehearsal site will receive a census questionnaire in the mail. Some may have questionnaires delivered to their residence by a census worker. Residents are asked to complete the forms and return them by mail.
- Census workers will visit households that do not return a completed questionnaire.
- Keeping answers confidential is the Census Bureau's highest priority—a commitment that is backed by one of the strongest confidentiality laws in the United States.

“Participating in the 2008 Census Dress Rehearsal will help the Census Bureau produce more accurate counts of the people and housing units in your community and across the nation in 2010.”

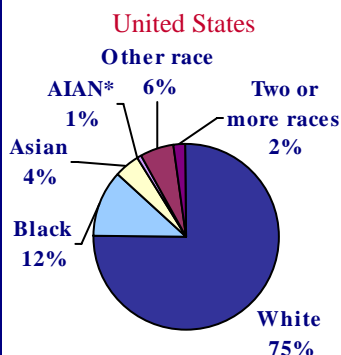
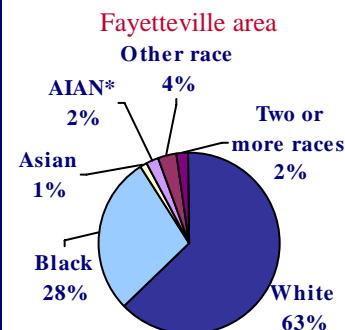
—Louis Kincannon,
Director of the U.S. Census Bureau

Fayetteville & Surrounding Area Quick Facts

Population

Fayetteville area 710,156
U.S. 281,421,906

Percentage of Population by Race



*American Indians and Alaska Natives

Hispanic Origin: Percentage of Population

Fayetteville area 6.6%
U.S. 12.5%

Percentage of Population Age 5+ Who Speak Spanish at Home

Fayetteville area 5.7%
U.S. 10.0%

Housing Units

Fayetteville area 294,690
U.S. 115,904,641

Population in Group Quarters

Fayetteville area 29,400
U.S. 7,778,633

Source: Census 2000

Census Jobs

A wide variety of temporary positions must be filled in order to conduct a census. The Fayetteville Local Census Office will hire nearly 3,000 residents of the nine-county area. These employees conduct interviews with community residents and update addresses. Most positions require U.S. citizenship, a driver's license and use of a vehicle.

For census jobs, work schedules vary. In the field, some census operations require working during daylight hours. For operations that require interviewing people in their homes, work must be done during hours when people are usually home. This includes evenings and weekends.

Methods and Operations

- Improved methods for collecting data from respondents who speak a language other than English, including bilingual questionnaire delivery in designated areas.
- Improved data collection procedures that will enhance overall data quality for people and housing units.
- Improved data collection methods in group quarters, such as dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes and other unconventional housing.
- Use of hand-held computers with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology for field data collection and support operations.
- Mailing of replacement questionnaires to increase response rates and thus minimize the need to conduct personal follow-up visits.
- Improved methods to eliminate duplicate responses.

Census Jobs

Call to schedule an appointment to take the test and apply for a job.
Fayetteville Census Office
1-866-673-2008
TDD: 1-704-344-6114

Enumerator pay rates range from \$11.50 to \$13.75 per hour.

Fast Fact

Every year, more than \$200 billion in federal funds are awarded to localities based on census data.

Members of U.S. Congress Representing the Test Site

Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-North Carolina
Sen. Richard Burr, R-North Carolina
Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-North Carolina, 2nd District
Rep. David Price, D-North Carolina, 4th District
Rep. Howard Coble, R-North Carolina, 6th District
Rep. Mike McIntyre, D-North Carolina, 7th District
Rep. Robin Hayes, R-North Carolina, 8th District

Dress Rehearsal Timeline

2006

Recruiting for temporary staff begins.

2007

The Local Census Office opens. It will serve as the hub of local dress rehearsal activity.

About 500 census workers verify addresses in the nine-county area.

2008

Questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

Census Day is April 1, 2008.

Group quarters are enumerated. Group quarters include dormitories, correctional facilities, nursing homes and other unconventional housing.

Approximately 2,000 census workers visit households that have not mailed back a census questionnaire.

The Local Census Office closes in the fall.

2008 CENSUS DRESS REHEARSAL

Fayetteville, North Carolina Site

(Including the counties of Chatham, Cumberland, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland)

North Carolina

