

The Public's Privacy

No idle pledge!

Safeguards for Your Privacy

The Law...

Title 13, U.S. Code

Simply stated, information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau is used only for statistical purposes.

When the Census Bureau says it will keep your information confidential, that also means it will not release results that could be used to identify you. That's the law!

The Oath...

All Census Bureau employees, including temporary employees, swear under oath that they will not disclose any information about individuals or businesses gathered by the agency.

The Penalties...

Substantial penalties are in place for violators of the law. Disclosing confidential census information is a felony; the penalty for wrongful disclosure is up to 5 years imprisonment and/or a fine. (Under the Sentencing Reform Act, the fine for wrongful disclosure currently is up to \$250,000.)

Technology Safeguards

Modernized automated computer systems and programs, used to store and process information collected, are configured to ensure that an individual's information is protected from any unauthorized access - for any reason!

Names and addresses are separated from the electronic files that contain an individual's answers when no longer needed, to protect the respondent's confidentiality.

The Census Bureau even withholds statistical totals if they represent a geographic area so small that the numbers might identify someone.

Access to Census Bureau computer systems from outside the Census Bureau is strictly controlled through secure technology, including passwords, firewalls, encryption, and auditing, to prevent unauthorized access.

Confidentiality Is a Must

Only authorized Census Bureau employees can see your personal identifiable information.

Even copies of census questionnaires cannot be used as evidence in a court of law.

Census data on individuals or establishments are not subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

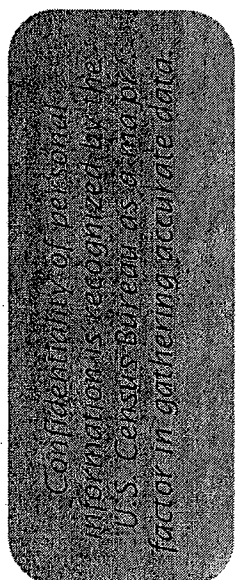
No authority can obtain personal identifiable data from the Census Bureau. The airtight law applies to the White House, U.S. Supreme Court, Internal Revenue Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, police, military, and welfare agencies - everybody!

*The law protects you
and your information.*

Results of Census Bureau Surveys Provide a Wealth of Information - Reflecting Our Nation's Economic and Social Environment!

How Census Data Affect Our Economy...

Data on every subject and aspect of social, economic, and cultural matters are distributed through a constantly growing group of data users - the general public as well as governments worldwide. For example, these data form the basis for the national unemployment rate, official poverty/income statistics, Consumer Price Index, monthly housing statistics, and other economic indicators.



How Census Data Affect Your Community...

The surveys undertaken by the Census Bureau provide vital information about emerging social problems, such as the condition of education in the United States, pregnancy and infant death, the prevalence of alcohol consumption, and crime. The data also describe the health, housing, employment, unemployment, income, and consumer expenditures of the population.

U.S. Census Bureau Regional Offices

If you have additional concerns regarding confidentiality of Census Bureau data, please contact your local regional office:

Atlanta 404-730-3832
101 Marietta St. N.W., Suite 3200
Atlanta, GA 30303-2700

Boston 617-424-0500
2 Copley Place, Suite 301
P.O. Box 9108
Boston, MA 02117-9108

Charlotte 704-344-6142
901 Center Park Drive, Suite 106
Charlotte, NC 28217-2935

Chicago 708-562-1350
2255 Enterprise Drive, Suite 5501
Westchester, IL 60154-5800

Dallas 214-640-4400
8585 North Stemmons Frwy.
Suite 800 S
Dallas, TX 75247

Denver 303-969-6750
6900 West Jefferson Ave., Suite 100
Denver, CO 80235-2032

Detroit 313-259-1158
1395 Brewery Park Blvd.
P.O. Box 33405
Detroit, MI 48232-5405

Kansas City 913-551-6728
Gateway Tower II
400 State Ave., Suite 600
Kansas City, KS 66101-2410

Los Angeles 818-904-6393
15350 Sherman Way, Suite 300
Van Nuys, CA 91406-4224

New York 212-264-3860
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
26 Federal Plaza, Rm. 37-130
New York, NY 10278-0044

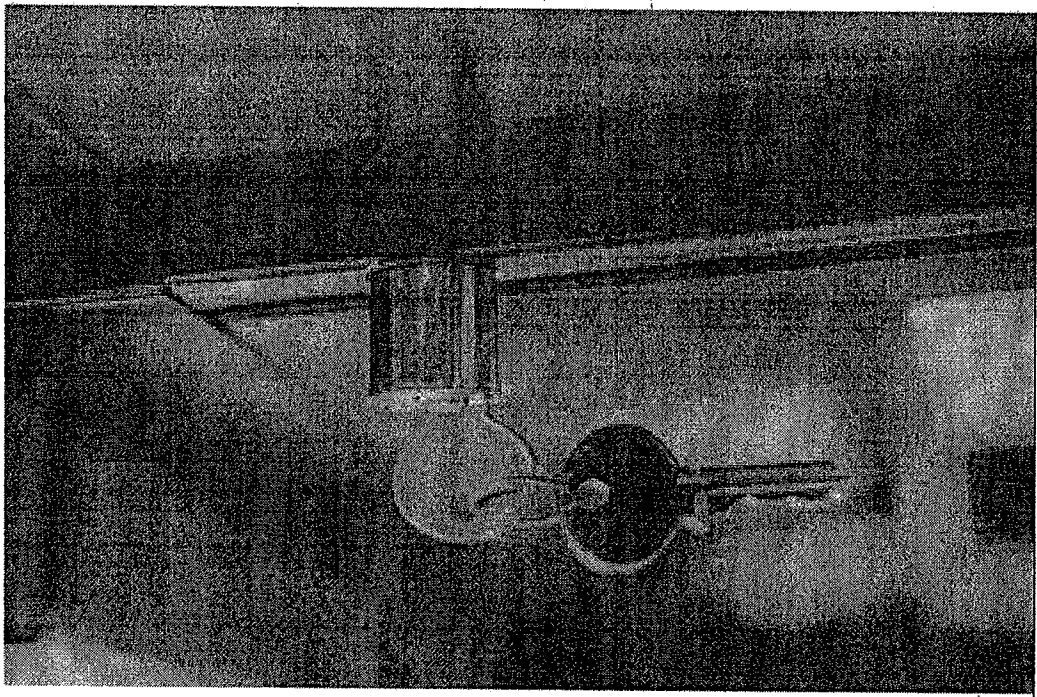
Philadelphia 215-656-7550
1601 Market St., 21st Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2395

Seattle 206-553-5837
700 5th Ave., Suite 5100
Seattle, WA 98104-5018

Be sure to visit the U.S. Census Bureau on the World Wide Web
<http://www.census.gov>

The U.S. Census Bureau Respects Your Privacy and Keeps Your Personal Information Confidential

It's the Law! (Title 13, U.S. Code)



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Issued November 2001
BC-1428RV

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

