

Name: _____

A Nation Counts

The U.S. census has changed a lot in 200 years.

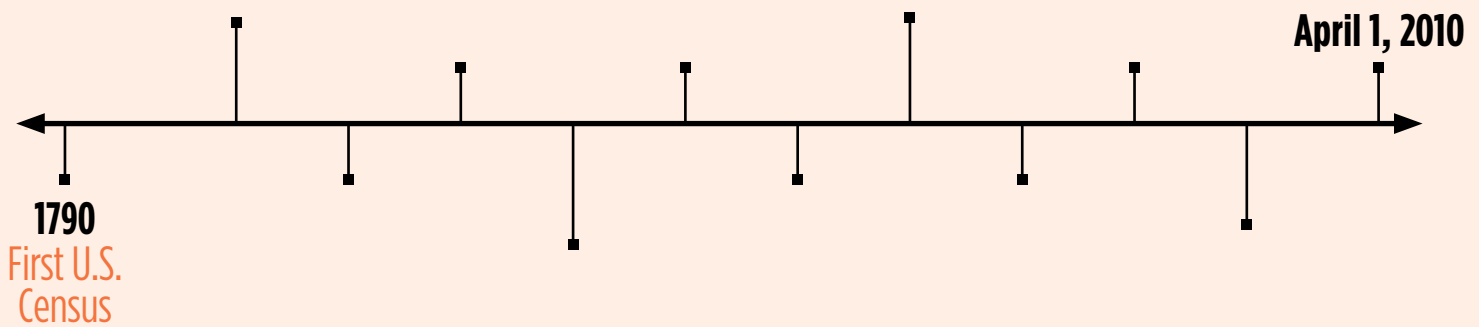
As our nation grew, the census grew with it. As data collection methods became more advanced, the census became more complex. Today the census is a massive statistical resource that measures and tracks an ever-changing nation. Complete the following activity to learn more about how the census has changed.

Conduct research online or at your school library to collect information in the following categories:

- Changes in the census
- Historical factors that affected the census
- Major statistical milestones



Fill in the time line below with 10 census-related events or milestones.



Use what you learned in the class discussion as well as your own research to answer the following questions about the history of the U.S. census. Write your answers on the back of this page.

- 1) What technological advancements have influenced the census? How?
- 2) How might the westward expansion of the United States have affected the census?
- 3) How might people have felt about the results of the census in the late 1800s? Why might they have felt this way?