

DESCRIPTIONS OF CENSUS AND INDEXES

1790, 1800 and 1810: Tennessee became a state in 1796. The territorial census schedules and the 1800 census were lost or destroyed. The 1810 census of Tennessee was also lost, except for Grainger and Rutherford counties, which have been indexed.

1820: This census is *incomplete* and most East Tennessee counties are missing. The missing counties are marked with an * on the following list. Jackson's alphabetical state-wide index lists the heads-of-household, plus a series of numbers indicating the sex and approximate age of family members. The age categories for males, given in order, are: under 10, 10-15, 16-18, 16-25, 26-44, and over 45. To the right of the first hyphen are five similar columns for females in the following age categories: under 10, 10-15, 16-25, 26-44, and over 45. Following the second hyphen is a column detailing number of slaves in the household and a column detailing number of free blacks in the household. Another index, by Bentley, only shows the heads-of-household with a county and page number for each.

1830: Sistler's index is in three volumes, East, Middle and West Tennessee. Heads of household and numbers of males and females are listed by county in the same order as they appear on the actual census, and each volume has its own alphabetical index. The numbers in each column show the number of persons in the household by age groups. Columns on the schedules are, in order, under 5, 5-10, 10-14, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, and so forth up to the "over 100" category. Males are to the left of the hyphen and females to the right. Sistler's index does not include age and sex breakdowns for blacks, either free or slave, though free black heads of household are followed by the code 0-0. The actual census gives age and sex information on free blacks, slaves, and deaf, dumb, and blind people included in the household.

1840: The 1840 census also shows the name of head of household and the number of males and females in each age category. Sistler's index covers the state in alphabetical order, listing heads-of-household and numbers of males and females in each family. Categories are the same as in the 1830 index. See above.

ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR TENNESSEE COUNTIES 1820, 1840-1870

Each census index entry provides the county name and census page number.

This list will help you identify county names which have been abbreviated by the indexer.

The year the county was created is also listed.

* Indicates missing from 1820 census.

A	Anderson 1801*		L	Lauderdale 1835
B	Bedford 1807		LK	Lake 1870
BE	Benton 1835		LA	Lawrence 1817
BL	Bledsoe 1807*		LE	Lewis 1843
BO	Blount 1795*		LI	Lincoln 1809
BR	Bradley 1836		LO	Loudon 1870
C	Campbell 1806*		M	Macon 1842
CA	Cannon 1836		MA	Madison 1821
CR	Carroll 1821		MR	Marion 1817*
CT	Carter 1796*		MS	Marshall 1836
CE	Cheatham 1856		MU	Maury 1807
CH	Chester 1875		MC	McMinn 1819*

CL	Claiborne 1801*		MN	McNairy 1823
CY	Clay 1870		ME	Meigs 1836
CO	CO Cocke 1797*		MO	Monroe 1819*
CF	CF Coffee 1836		MT	Montgomery 1796
CC	CC Crockett 1845		MOO	Moore 1871
CU	Cumberland 1856		MG	Morgan 1817*
D	Davidson 1783		O	Obion 1823
DE	Decatur 1845		OV	Overton 1806
DK	Dekalb 1837		P	Perry 1818
DI	Dickson 1803		PI	Pickett 1879
DY	Dyer 1823		PO	Polk 1839
F	Fayette 1824		PU	Putnam 1854
FE	Fentress 1823		R	Rhea 1807*
FR	Franklin 1807		RO	Roane 1801*
G	Gibson 1823		RB	Robertson 1796
GI	Giles 1809		RU	Rutherford 1803
GR	Grainger 1796*		S	Scott 1849
GE	Greene 1783*		SQ	Sequatchie 1858
GU	Grundy 1844		SE	Sevier 1794*
HM	Hamblen 1870		SH	Shelby 1819
H	Hamilton 1819*		SM	Smith 1799
HA	Hancock 1844		ST	Stewart 1803
HR	Hardeman 1823		SU	Sullivan 1779*
HD	Hardin 1819		SN	Sumner 1786
HW	Hawkins 1786*		T	Tipton 1823
HY	Haywood 1823		TR	Trousdale 1870
HE	Henderson 1821		U	Unicoi 1875
HN	Henry 1821		UN	Union 1850
HI	Hickman 1807		V	Van Buren 1840
HO	Houston 1871		W	Warren 1807
HU	Humphreys 1809		WA	Washington 1777*
J	Jackson 1801		WY	Wayne 1785
JA	James 1871		WE	Weakley 1823
JE	Jefferson 1792*		WH	White 1806
JO	Johnson 1836		WI	Williamson 1799

K	Knox 1792*		WL	Wilson 1799
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ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR TENNESSEE COUNTIES 1830

Same as listed in 1820 and 1840-1870, except as indicated here

East Tennessee

A	Anderson 1801*		L	Lauderdale 1835
B	Bedford 1807		LK	Lake 1870
BE	Benton 1835		LA	Lawrence 1817
BL	Bledsoe 1807*		LE	Lewis 1843
BO	Blount 1795*		LI	Lincoln 1809
BR	Bradley 1836		LO	Loudon 1870
C	Campbell 1806*		M	Macon 1842

Middle Tennessee

F	Franklin		R	Robertson
L	Lincoln		S	Smith
M	Maury		SU	Sumner

West Tennessee

C	Carroll		MC	McNairy
D	Dickson		MO	Montgomery
H	Hardeman		S	Shelby
HA	Hardin		W	Wayne
L	Lawrence			