

**"First Census"
of
Kentucky
1790**



Charles B. Heinemann

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N O T I C E

This is not offered as a State or Federal enumeration of inhabitants. It is a privately compiled list of tax payers appearing in the tax lists of all Kentucky counties which were established at the time of the First Federal Census.

The names of these tax payers have been arranged alphabetically so as to facilitate searching and to avoid the duplication of an index of names. The name of the county, where each tax payer was listed, is shown. Those desirous of obtaining additional tax data pertaining to those listed will have to arrange for an examination of the tax list for the year and county shown. The Compiler does not have those data; neither will he undertake work necessary to locate them.

Prepared under the Supervision of

CHARLES BRUNK HEINEMANN

HISTORY OF THE FIRST UNITED STATES CENSUS OF KENTUCKY

The first Federal enumeration of the inhabitants of the present Commonwealth of Kentucky was undertaken under the authority of an Act known as "An Act Providing for the Enumeration of the Inhabitants of the United States." This was approved March 1, 1790.

At that time the present Commonwealth of Kentucky was a part of Virginia, although a movement was then under way looking to the formation of a separate state. This movement resulted in the creation of the Territory of Kentucky under date of July 26, 1790. Kentucky was formally admitted to the Union June 1, 1792.

In the act authorizing the taking of the first Census, Kentucky was classed as a separate district for the taking of the Census, and the United States Marshall for the District of Kentucky was allowed Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

The actual taking of the Census was ordered to commence on the first Monday in August, 1790, and to be completed within nine (9) calendar months thereafter. Thus, it is to be noted that the Census enumeration actually commenced after Kentucky's separation from Virginia.

The Census was completed and the returns made to Washington where they were filed with the State Department. When the British burned the Capitol at Washington during the War of 1812, the Census of the District of Kentucky was destroyed.

The form used in the First Census enumeration called for the following information:

1. Names of heads of families.
2. Free white males of 16 years and upwards, including heads of families.
3. Free white males under 16 years.
4. Free white females, including heads of families.
5. All other free persons.
6. Slaves.

The returns for Kentucky as a District showed:

15,154 Free white males of 16 years and upwards, including heads of families.
17,057 Free white males under 16 years.
28,922 Free white females, including heads of families.
114 All other free persons.
12,430 Slaves.

73,677 Total number of inhabitants reported.

In 1906, 1907, and 1908 the Congress authorized the Director of the Census to undertake the publication of the data available from the First Census, and to acquire certain additional data designed to be used as a substitute for the burned reports. Under this authority certain publications were made, these showing the names of the heads of families in the states existing in 1790. Virginia was only partially completed. The Virginia report covered certain state enumerations for 39 of the 80 Virginia counties plus a city enumeration for the cities of Williamsburg and Richmond. Forty-one counties of the District of Virginia were not covered. No detailed report on Kentucky was included in the Virginia volume; nor has it ever been completed or published.

The compilation in this volume is designed to make public, at least, a part of the list of Kentucky's heads of families as of 1790. It is not believed that any complete list now exists, although some duplicates were made and posted in the District of Kentucky; and some of these may still exist.

The source of material used in this compilation is the precious old personal property tax lists preserved in the archives of the Kentucky State Historical Society at Frankfort.

The tax lists used in the compilation were as follows:

BOURBON COUNTY	---	8 pages of 1790 were used and 3 volumes of 1791. There is some duplication of names.
FAYETTE COUNTY	---	5 volumes of 1789, with some duplication of names.
JEFFERSON COUNTY	---	6 volumes of 1789 were used, and some duplications were found.
LINCOLN COUNTY	---	2 volumes of 1790 were used.
MADISON COUNTY	---	3 volumes of 1789 were used, with some duplication of names.
MASON COUNTY	---	1 volume of 1790 was used.
MERCER COUNTY	---	1 volume of 1789 was used.
NELSON COUNTY	---	1 volume of 1792 was used.
WOODFORD COUNTY	---	2 volumes of 1790 were used.

The duplication of names could not be avoided; nor were any names omitted because of seeming duplication. In some cases this duplication seemed to be due to the overlapping of the tax assessors' districts; in other cases, it seemed to be due to slight variations of dates of compilation. It was thought best to list every name found, for there was no way of determining what were actual duplications and what were the result of several tax payers in the same county having the same name.

The spelling used herein follows the spelling in the tax lists, although many obvious errors in the spelling of names were detected. It was thought best to list the names and spelling as they appeared rather than to undertake to correct them to read as we may have believed they should read.

Searchers should understand that the names, as listed, frequently followed their phonetic spelling, the common practice of that pioneer time when many could neither read, write, nor even spell their own name. In all cases, one should search the lists for similar names which might reflect several ways of spelling the same family name.

Just as families have been omitted in every Census from 1790 to the latest one, so have names probably been omitted in tax lists. This compilation merely records the names as listed by the tax authorities. If their lists omitted names, this list will not, of course, include them.

In the following tabulation we set out the summary of population in each of the nine (9) Kentucky counties as disclosed by the First Census (Federal). Although the details of that Census were lost, the summarized figures were preserved.

(These figures are from a publication by the Census Bureau which compared the 1790 county populations with the 1900 populations of the same counties.)

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White and Colored Population of each Kentucky County in 1790

<u>County</u>	<u>Total</u>	:	<u>White</u>	:	<u>C O L O R E D</u>		
					<u>Total</u>	:	<u>Free</u> : <u>Slave</u>
		:		:		:	
The State	73,677	:	61,133	:	12,544	:	114 : 12,430
Bourbon ¹	7,837	:	6,929	:	908	:	... : 908
Fayette ²	18,410	:	14,626	:	3,784	:	32 : 3,752
Jefferson ³	4,765	:	3,857	:	908	:	5 : 903
Lincoln ⁴	6,548	:	5,446	:	1,102	:	8 : 1,094
Madison ⁵	5,772	:	5,035	:	737	:	... : 737
Mason ⁶	2,729	:	2,500	:	229	:	... : 229
Mercer ⁷	7,091	:	5,745	:	1,346	:	7 : 1,339
Nelson ⁸	11,315	:	10,032	:	1,283	:	35 : 1,248
Woodford ⁹	9,210	:	6,963	:	2,247	:	27 : 2,220

Explanation of References

- 1 Area covered in 1900 by Bourbon, Montgomery, Bath, Letcher, Powell, Wolfe, Menifee, and Knott Counties, and by parts of Clark, Harrison, Pendleton, Floyd, Nicholas, Estill, Harlan, Perry, Pike, Morgan, Breathitt, Magoffin, Lee, and Leslie Counties.
- 2 Area covered in 1900 by Fayette and Jessamine Counties, and by part of Clark County.
- 3 Area covered in 1900 by Shelby, Henry, Oldham, Trimble, and Jefferson Counties, and by parts of Franklin, Bullitt, Spencer, Carroll, and Anderson Counties.
- 4 Area covered in 1900 by Lincoln, Logan, Pulaski, Christian, Warren, Cumberland, Muhlenberg, Barren, Knox, Wayne, Casey, Livingston, Hopkins, Caldwell, Union, Allen, Whitley, Simpson, Todd, Monroe, Trigg, Hickman, Calloway, Graves, McCracken, Laurel, Russell, Clinton, Crittenden, Marshall, Ballard, Fulton, Lyon, Metcalfe, Webster, and Carlisle Counties, and by parts of Green, Garrard, Henderson, Adair, Clay, Rockcastle, Butler, Hart, Edmonson, Boyle, Taylor, McLean, and Bell Counties.
- 5 Area covered in 1900 by Madison, Owsley, and Jackson Counties, and by parts of Garrard, Clay, Estill, Rockcastle, Perry, Breathitt, Lee, Leslie, Harlan, and Bell Counties.
- 6 Area covered in 1900 by Mason, Bracken, Fleming, Greenup, Lewis, Lawrence, Carter, Johnson, Rowan, Boyd, Elliott, Martin, Robertson, and Campbell Counties, and by parts of Floyd, Nicholas, Pike, Morgan, Magoffin, Pendleton, and Harrison Counties.
- 7 Area covered in 1900 by Mercer County, and by parts of Franklin, Anderson, Garrard, and Boyle Counties.
- 8 Area covered in 1900 by Nelson, Washington, Hardin, Ohio, Breckinridge, Grayson, Daviess, Meade, Hancock, Marion, and Larue Counties, and by parts of Green, Bullitt, Butler, Hart, Spencer, Edmonson, Anderson, McLean, Taylor, Adair, and Henderson Counties.
- 9 Area covered in 1900 by Woodford, Scott, Boone, Grant, Callatin, Owen, and Kenton Counties, and by parts of Harrison, Franklin, Carroll, and Pendleton Counties.

From the same Census Bureau publication we reproduce a map showing the outlines of the inhabited area of the various states, commonwealths, and territories as of 1790.

Kentucky Counties in 1790

The present area of Kentucky was embraced in the county of Kentucky, which was formed from Fincastle County, Virginia, December 8, 1776.

November 1, 1780, the county of Kentucky was formed into three counties: viz: Fayette, Jefferson, and Lincoln. This division continued as formed from 1780 to February, 1784, when Nelson County was formed. August 8, 1785, Bourbon County was formed from Fayette; and Madison and Mercer Counties from Lincoln. In 1788 Mason County was formed from Bourbon, and Woodford County from Fayette.

Under date of July 26, 1790, Kentucky was, by acceptance of the terms proposed by its mother commonwealth, Virginia, created a separate territory. At that time, it consisted of the following counties, whose area, of course, greatly exceeded the present area of each:

BOURBON	- Formed in 1785 from part of Fayette County.
FAYETTE	- Formed in 1780 from Kentucky County of Virginia.
JEFFERSON	- Formed in 1780 from Kentucky County of Virginia.
LINCOLN	- Formed in 1780 from Kentucky County of Virginia.
MADISON	- Formed in 1785 from part of Lincoln County.
MASON	- Formed in 1788 from part of Bourbon County.
MERCER	- Formed in 1785 from part of Lincoln County.
NELSON	- Formed in 1784 from part of Jefferson County.
WOODFORD	- Formed in 1788 from part of Fayette County.

Thus, we find that the entire area of the present Commonwealth of Kentucky was included in a small group of nine (9) counties in 1790.

In order that the area of the nine counties may be better understood, a county outline map was prepared by Mr. Bayless Hardin of the staff of the Kentucky State Historical Society.

Mr. Hardin prepared the map by outlining the counties of 1790 upon the splendid Base Map of The Kentucky Geological Survey. This map shows the present county lines so that the 1790 boundaries indicate just what present counties or parts thereof were included in the 1790 county areas.

1790 Census of Fosters in Kentucky		
Given Name	County	Tax List Date
Daniel	Fayette	03/19/1790
Harry	Fayette	01/11/1790
Gabriel	Fayette	06/29/1789
Harry	Fayette	11/xx/1789
Jacob	Bourbon	03/xx/1789
James	Fayette	01/11/1790
John	Bourbon	03/xx/1791
John (Jno)	Fayette	02/27/1790
Johnathan	Bourbon	03/01/1791
Luke	Jefferson	04/xx/1789
Samuel	Fayette	05/03/1789
Samuel (Saml)	Fayette	02/27/1790
Seth	Bourbon	03/xx/1791

NAME	COUNTY	TAX LIST DATE	NAME	COUNTY	TAX LIST DATE
Fitt, Peter B	Mercer	3/18/1789	Folker, Joseph	Fayette	2/27/1790
Fitzgarrald, Barth			Folkner, Jno	Fayette-	2/27/1790
lomeu	Fayette	7/ 7/1789	Folkner, John	Nelson	11/ 2/1792
Fitzgarrald, Daniel	Fayette	8/ 4/1789	Folkner, Sam'l	Fayette	2/27/1790
Fitzgerald, Wm	Fayette	3/19/1790	Fooke, George	Fayette	11/13/1789
Fitzgarel, Daniel	Woodford	5/ 5/1790	Foos, Vollintine	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Fitzgerill, Wm	Fayette	11/13/1789	Forbis, George	Fayette	1/11/1790
Fitzwater, Thos	Fayette	3/19/1790	Forbis, Robert	Fayette	1/11/1790
Flanagem, Lewis	Fayette	5/23/1789	Forbus, Jas	Lincoln	3/23/1790
Flanagem, Lewis	Woodford	3/19/1790	Forbus, Jas	Lincoln	3 31/1790
Flatt, John	Madison	1789	Forbus, Jonathan	Lincoln	3/24/1790
Fleck, Wm	Lincoln	4/20/1790	Forbus, George	Fayette	12/ 2/1789
Fleck, Peter	Nelson	11/ 9/1792	Forbus, Robt	Fayette	12/ 3/1789
Flemen, Joseph	Fayette	11/13/1789	Ford, Daniel	Madison	4/17/1789
Fleming, James	Jefferson	7/17/1789	Ford, Hezekiah	Jefferson	5/ 5/1789
Fleming, James	Fayette	1/11/1790	Ford, Jno	Fayette	2/27/1780
Fleming, Jno	Fayette	1/11/1790	Ford, Peter	Madison	4/17/1789
Fleming, Joseph	Fayette	3/19/1790	Ford, Peter	Madison	4/17/1789
Fleming, Leonard	Woodford	7/ 6/1790	Ford, Wm.	Fayette	1/11/1790
Fleming, Thomas	Jefferson	7/17/1789	Ford, William	Lincoln	4/21/1790
Flemon, Robert	Bourbon	6/ /1791	Ford, Winanas	Bourbon	6/ /1791
Fletcher, Thos	Lincoln	5/30/1790	Foreman, David	Lincoln	4/ 5/1790
Fletcher, Thomas	Bourbon	3/ 1791	Foreman, John	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Fletcher, William	Madison	1789	Foreman, Nathan	Fayette	2/27/1790
Flinn, William	Bourbon	3/ /1791	Foreman, Thomas	Mason	8/21/1790
Flint, John	Lincoln	6/ 3/1790	Foreman, William	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Flint, Richard	Woodford	3/26/1790	Forester, Grissom	Fayette	8/ 5/1789
Flity, Jno	Fayette	1/11/1790	Forgay, Hugh	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Floro, James	Mason	1790	Forkner, Thomas	Madison	4/ 7/1789
Floro, John	Mason	1790	Forkner, Thomas	Madison	4/ 7/1789
Floro, Robert	Mason	1790	Forman, Joseph	Nelson	11/ 9/1792
Floro, Robert	Mason	8/21/1790	Forman, Thomas	Nelson	11/15/1792
Flournoy, David	Fayette	5/21/1789	Forsyth, James	Mercer	3/10/1789
Flournoy, David	Woodford	5/21/1790	Forsyth, Robert	Fayette	1/11/1790
Flournoy, Matthew	Fayette	5/21/1789	Fort, Christopher	Fayette	11/13/1789
Flurnoy, Mathew	Fayette	12/ 1/1789	Fort, Peter	Fayette	2/27/1790
Flournoy, Matthew	Woodford	3/29.1790	Forts, Christopher	Fayette	5/23/1789
Flutnoy, Saml	Fayette	11/15/1789	Forts, Christopher	Woodford	5/28/1790
Flournoy, Samuel	Fayette	5/21/1789	Foster, Daniel	Fayette	3/19/1790
Flournoy, Samuel	Woodford	3/29/1790	Foster, Harry	Fayette	1/11/1790
Floyd, Charles	Jefferson	5/13/1789	Foster, Gabriel	Fayette	6/29/1789
Floyd, Robert	Jefferson	5/ 5/1789	Foster, Harry	Fayette	11/1789
Floyd, William	Jefferson	6/16/1789	Foster, Jacob	Bourbon	3/ /1789
Focker, Robert	Fayette	6/ 2/1789	Foster, James	Fayette	1/11/1790
Foley, Henry	Fayette	2/27/1790	Foster, John	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Foley, Richard	Fayette	2/27/1790	Foster, Jno	Fayette	2/27/1790
Folker, Alexander	Fayette	1/11/1790	Foster, Johnathan	Bourbon	3/ 1/1791

NAME	COUNTY	TAX LIST DATE	NAME	COUNTY	TAX LIST DATE
Foster, Luke	Jefferson	4/ /1789 ::	Frazier, David Sr.	Fayette	2/27/1790
Foster, Samuel	Fayette	5/ 3/1789 ::	Frazer, George	Fayette	2/27/1790
Foster, Saml	Fayette	2/27/1790 ::	Frazer, Jas	Fayette	2/27/1790
Foster, Seth	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Frazer, Joseph	Fayette	2/27/1790
Fowler, John	Woodford	7/17/1790 ::	Frazer, Martin	Mercer	3/27/1789
Fowler, John	Fayette	8/ 5/1789 ::	Frazer, Wm	Fayette	2/27/1790
Fowler, Joseph	Madison	1789 ::	Frazier, Wm	Fayette	3/19/1790
Fowler, Joshua	Jefferson	5/ 8/1789 ::	Frazyr, James C	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Fowler, Mathew	Madison	1789 ::	Freeman, Elisha	Jefferson	6/ 9/1789
Fowler, Moses	Mason	7/17/1790 ::	Freeman, Elisha	Lincoln	4/10/1790
Fowler, Richard	Madison	1789 ::	Freeman, Thomas	Jefferson	6/ 9/1789
Fowler, Thomas	Madison	1789 ::	French, Benja	Woodford	7/ 5/1790
Fowler, Zachariah	Nelson	11/30/1792 ::	French, David	Jefferson	4/ 4/1789
Fox, George	Fayette	3/19/1790 ::	French, John	Lincoln	4/ 3/1790
Fox, Tom	Bourbon	6/ /1791 ::	Frenck, Robert	Fayette	2/27/1790
Frad, John	Nelson	11/29/1792 ::	French, Wm	Fayette	2/27/1790
Frain, Archibald	Jefferson	4/ /1789 ::	Frickland, Jno	Fayette	2/27/1790
Fraine, William	Jefferson	4/30/1789 ::	Fricklin, Thomas	Woodford	5/27/1790
Fraison	Fayette	11/ /1789 ::	Frie, James	Bourbon	6/ /1791
Frakes, John	Nelson	11/ 1/1792 ::	Friend, Charles	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Frakes, John	Nelson	11/24/1792 ::	Friend, Charles	Madison	1789
Frakes, John Sr.	Nelson	11/24/1792 ::	Frier, James	Fayette	1/11/1790
Frakes, Philip	Nelson	11/16/1792 ::	Frier, Robert	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Rakes, Robert	Bourbon	6/ /1791 ::	Frier, Robert	Fayette	1/11/1790
Frame, Archibald	Jefferson	8/ 8/1790 ::	Fristo, John	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Frame, Jeremiah	Fayette	1/11/1790 ::	Fritsgerl, Eliza	Mason	1790
Frame, Jno	Fayette	1/11/1790 ::	Fritzgert, Wm	Mason	1790
Frame, Wm	Fayette	1/11/1790 ::	Frobridge, Barshaway	Fayette	6/ 4/1789
Frame, Wm	Fayette	1/11/1790 ::	Froman, Jacob	Nelson	11/ 1/1792
Frances, John	Madison	3/24/1789 ::	Froman, Paul	Nelson	12/ 3/1792
Franch, Ralph	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Frost, Simons	Fayette	2/27/1790
Francis, John	Madison	3/27/1789 ::	Frost, Stephen	Fayette	2/27/1790
Franklin, Jas. Jr.	Fayette	2/27/1790 ::	Fry, Edward	Mercer	4/26/1789
Franklin	Fayette	11/28/1789 ::	Fry, Wm	Fayette	11/13/1789
Franklin, John	Fayette	3/19/1790 ::	Fry, William	Fayette	3/19/1790
Franklin, John	Woodford	3/24/1790 ::	Fugett, Townson	Mercer	3/18/1789
Franklin, Jas. Sr.	Fayette	2/27/1790 ::	Fullingwider, Henry	Jefferson	7/12/1789
Franklin, Robt	Lincoln	4/2/1790 ::	Fulingwider, Jacob"		
Franklin, Stephen	Fayette	1/11/1790 ::	over 21 yrs age		
Franklin, Stepehn	Fayette	12/ 4/1789 ::	Fullingwider, Peter	Jefferson	7/12/1789
Franks, John M	Fayette	3/19/1790 ::	Fultin, Wm	Fayette	1/11/1790
Fraser, George	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Fulton, Hugh	Fayette	3/19/1790
Fraser, William Jr.	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Fulton, James	Fayette	3/19/1790
Fraser, Wm Sr.	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Funk, Adam	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Frasher, Moses	Bourbon	6/ /1791 ::	Funk, Adam	Bourbon	3/ /1791
Frashur, David	Bourbon	6/ /1791 ::	Frink, Henry	Nelson	11/ 2/1792
Fraze, Ezekiah	Bourbon	3/ /1791 ::	Fulkerson, Jacob	Mercer	3/16/1789
Frazer, David	Fayette	2/27/1790 ::	Furgison, Jno	Fayette	1/11/1790