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P.S.

Taking the Census 100 Years Ago



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The federal government has taken a census every ten years since 1790. Today the forms arrive by mail, but in years past, census takers canvassed neighborhoods and took notes by hand, as in this 1910 Lincoln photo.

Acting Governor Thomas Cuming ordered Nebraska's first territorial census in 1854. With a

transient population and an unsurveyed border between Nebraska and Kansas, counting residents was difficult. The returns that year showed a population of 2,732, including thirteen slaves. By 1910 Nebraska's population had grown to 1,192,214. 🏠

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