Enumeration of Pueblo Indians, 1790–1939

The Pueblo Indians inhabited the American Southwest, primarily in modern-day Arizona and New Mexico, since before the Spanish conquest of the Americas in the 16th century. The Pueblos came under Federal jurisdiction after the Southwest became part of the United States at the end of the Mexican War in 1848.

Federal Decennial Census

1850–1870 Arizona and New Mexico Territory Censuses
Arranged by county and then village or pueblo, the schedules for the Territory of New Mexico provide name, relation to head of household, and sometimes, age. Although the indication of race is often unreliable, many Pueblos are listed as non-white. The racial designation of inhabitants of Taos Pueblo, for example, is “copper” in the 1850 census and “Indian” in the 1860 and 1870 censuses. There is no census for Arizona Territory in 1850. In 1860, Arizona is enumerated with New Mexico. In the 1870 census, Indians in Arizona are enumerated with the general population.

___M432, Seventh Census of the United States, 1850. 1,009 rolls.

___M653, Eighth Census of the United States, 1860. 1,438 rolls.

___M593, Ninth Census of the United States, 1870. 1,748 rolls.

1880 New Mexico Territory Census
___T9, Tenth Census of the United States, 1880. 1,454 rolls. Enumerations of Pueblo Indians are arranged at the end of each county. Information provided is similar to that described above. “I” indicates Indian race. Literacy and birthplace of parents are often mentioned.

1885 New Mexico Territorial Census
___M846, Schedules of the New Mexico Territory Census of 1885. 6 rolls. DP. The census is arranged by county, then pueblo or reservation, providing name, age, occupation, literacy, birthplace, and parents’ birthplaces. Following the inhabitant’s schedule for each county are nonpopulation census schedules for agriculture, manufactures, and mortality (persons deceased in 1884). There is no index.

1900–1910 New Mexico Territory Censuses
Special Indian Schedules are at the end of the enumeration districts. These censuses indicate the individual’s tribe, degree of Indian blood, and tribal citizenship.

___T623, Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900. 1,854 rolls.

___T624, Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910. 1,784 rolls.
1930 New Mexico Census
___T626, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930. 2,668 rolls. The 1930 census enumerates Indians living both on reservations and in the general population. Pueblos and reservations are listed as separate enumeration districts in each county.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Census Records (RG 75)
___M595, Indian Census Rolls, 1885–1940. 692 rolls. DP. The records are arranged by Indian agency, sub-agency or other jurisdiction; then by census year. There is no index. Agents or superintendents in charge of Indian reservations usually submitted census rolls each year, as required by an act of July 4, 1884 (23 Stat. 98). The data on the rolls vary, but usually give the individual’s English name, Indian name, or both; roll number; age or date of birth; sex; and relationship to the head of the family. Beginning in 1930, the rolls also show the degree of Indian blood, marital status, ward status, and place of residence. For certain years, including 1935, 1936, 1938, and 1939, only supplemental rolls of additions and deletions were compiled.

Relevant jurisdictions containing Pueblo enumerations:
- Albuquerque School, 1904–7 and 1910–11, roll 1
- Northern Pueblo, 1920–30, rolls 308–310
- Pueblo, 1885–92, rolls 396–400
- Pueblo Day Schools, 1913–19, rolls 404–406
- Santa Fe, 1904, 1906, 1910–14, and 1931–35, rolls 472–474
- Southern Pueblo, 1920–35, rolls 532–542
- United Pueblo, 1936–39, rolls 624–627

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