

What is the U.S. Census? How does census data inform government efforts?		
	Day 1	50 minutes
Learning Objective	Students will be able to explain the purpose of the U.S. Census and what the data collected from it is used to generally accomplish.	
Background Information	<p>For all documents (A-F), have students answer the questions that follow. All documents can be analyzed individually or in small groups.</p> <p>Utilize the <i>Umbrella of Federalism</i> handout, on Day 2, to identify the levels of government within the U.S. system of federalism. Please note that not all levels will apply to all residents of the U.S. and that a resident is <u>any</u> person living in the U.S..</p> <p>All documents can be used independently, if necessary, to allow teachers to adjust for time.</p>	
Introduction	<p>Pass out copies of the student handouts, which include the background essay <i>How Does the U.S. Census Benefit the People?</i>, the vocabulary worksheet, and Documents A-F (or individual Documents if preferred). <i>Note: completion of the vocabulary worksheet could be excluded if other supports are provided to ensure students understand the academic vocabulary in the article.</i></p> <p>Tap prior knowledge during a brief class discussion to introduce concepts such as the common good, federalism, taxation and allocating and expending federal funds with these questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do so many people enjoy the benefit of running water and electricity in the U.S.? 2. How did the U.S. come to have roads that connect neighborhoods, cities, and even states? 3. How exactly have Americans come to enjoy so many of the advantages that make our lives convenient and secure, especially compared to some other countries? 	10 minutes
Evaluation of Sources	<p>Next direct students to independently annotate and record any questions as they read the background essay. Ask students to pay particular attention to the boldfaced words noting any context clues to work out the meaning on their own if possible.</p> <p>When students finish reading ask the following questions to check for understanding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ What is the purpose of the U.S. Census? ☐ What is the purpose of counting the people of the United States? ☐ How are seats in the House of Representatives distributed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: printed copies of the student handouts (or make them available to students online) and a whiteboard or screen to list supporting questions. • Accommodations and Supports: conduct a whole class reading. Allow students to work with dictionaries and classmates. During the check for understanding, encourage students to share and discuss answers with elbow partners before sharing out whole class. Teacher should circulate throughout the room to check for understanding and respond to questions. <p>Students will then complete the vocabulary worksheet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: dictionaries and/or textbook glossaries. • Accommodations and Supports: allow students to work with dictionaries and classmates. 	35 minutes
Closing	<p>Share answers and answer clarifying questions so that students have a comprehensive understanding of the academic vocabulary before continuing with the lesson.</p> <p>Wrap up discussing the question: <i>"How does the U.S. Census benefit The People?"</i></p>	5 minutes