



2010 Census Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is the Census important?

A: Census data determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census data also help determine the allocation of state and federal funds for community services, such as school lunch programs and senior citizen centers, and new construction, such as highways and hospitals. Every year, the federal government distributes more than \$400 billion to local, state and tribal governments based on census data. Census data are also used to guide policy decisions and to redraw political districts, including City Council District boundaries.

Q: What is Census data used for?

A: Census data are important in attracting businesses to the community and determining where new growth should occur. It is important in determining how and if new neighborhoods are developed in the Downtown and how you encourage new investment in Peoria's older neighborhoods.

Q: What type of Census data is currently available and what will be released in the future?

A: On February 15, 2011, the Census Bureau released 2010 Census data at the local level for the State of Illinois. This data includes total population, as well as data on race, Hispanic origin, and voting age. Data is available for multiple geographies within the State of Illinois, such as census blocks, tracts, voting districts, cities, counties and school districts. Additional data will be released by the Census Bureau on a rolling basis.

The U.S. Census Bureau anticipates Demographic Profiles to be released in May 2011, which will include selected population and housing characteristics at the place level. From June - August 2011, the U.S. Census Bureau will release Summary Files which will include population counts for many detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, along with selected population and housing characteristics at the census tract and block group level.

Visit www.ci.peoria.il.us to view a schedule of the proposed release of data by the Census Bureau.

Q: Was a special Census conducted?

A: A Special Census was conducted in 2004 and 2007. The Special Census focused on areas of growth and was not a complete count of the City. The Special Censuses resulted in 8,243 additional persons and 3,542 additional housing units. This resulted in \$4,092,352 of additional revenue through 2010. The following table outlines the additional persons and housing units counted, and the associated revenue.

SPECIAL CENSUS	2004	2007	TOTAL
Number of Additional Persons	5,199	3,044	8,243
Number of Additional Housing Units	2,200	1,342	3,542
Cost	\$162,732	\$123,674	\$286,406
Annual Revenue ¹	\$534,977 (2005 - 2010)	\$389,632 (2008 - 2010)	-
Total Net Revenue through 2010	\$3,047,130	\$1,045,222	\$4,092,352

Note that the additional 8,243 people counted during the Special Census does not mean that the City's population increased to 121,179. What it does mean is that there was an increase of population in some geographical areas, not the entire City.

Q: How was the additional revenue, resulting from the Special Census, accounted for in the City Budget?

A: The City of Peoria was very responsible in working with the additional funds resulting from the Special Census. The 2010 budget was based on a population count of approximately 121,000 (this included the additional individuals counted as part of the Special Census). Some of the numbers from the Special Census may not be new growth, some may be displacement, and therefore the projection for the 2011 budget was based on 115,000 people, which closely aligns with the actual 2010 Census count. The amount of the State share expected by the City of Peoria is the amount that was budgeted for in 2011.

Q: What is the current population for the City of Peoria according to the 2010 Census results and how does it compare to the population reported in 2000?

A: The current population is 115,007, an increase of 1.8% over the 112,936 reported in 2000.

Q: Has the City's share of area population changed since 2000?

A: The City of Peoria continues to hold the same approximate share of population within Peoria County (62%), the Tri-County area (32%), and the Peoria Metro area (30%) (Peoria, Tazewell, Woodford, Stark, and Marshall Counties).

Q: How does the City of Peoria compare to other metropolitan areas?

A: The City of Peoria continues to be the core of the second largest metropolitan area outside of Chicago. The Peoria MSA has a 2010 population of 379,186.

Q: How has population density changed since 2000?

A: Population density in the City of Peoria is approximately 3.6 persons per acre, slightly lower than 3.8 persons per acre in 2000.

Q: How much of the City's operating budget is directly tied to the number of people counted during the Census?

A: 8% of the City's operating budget is based on the number of people counted during the Census.

Q: What City funding is connected to Census population counts and approximately how much is allocated per person?

A: Funding that the City receives from motor fuel, income, and use taxes is directly connected to the number of individuals counted during the Census. For 2011, the City assumes \$115 per capita annually through the above sources. In addition formulary grant funds received by the City annually are also based on population counts obtained through the decennial census.

Q: Will there be a change in State revenue payments to the City of Peoria as a result of the Census 2010 population count?

A: The Census 2010 population number will cause an approximate \$734,000 decrease in State revenue payments vs. payments that were made based on the Special Census population number of 121,391.

Q: When is it expected that the amount received for State revenue payments will change?

A: It will take effect this year. The amount received for 2011 will be based on the 2010 Census population count of 115,007.

Q: What does increased diversity mean for the City of Peoria?

A: It is very important to the City of Peoria, as it adds to the vibrancy of the community. New families of differing racial and ethnic backgrounds have strengths that will benefit the community.

Q: Were there any surprises in the 2010 Census data?

A: One surprise is that this Census was simplified and some data previously shown was not included in the questions on the 2010 Census form. Much of the more detailed data will be obtained through the American Community Survey.

The second surprise was the increase in population in Peoria's Downtown area. City Council and staff have been fairly accurate at predicting population but the increase in the Downtown was a pleasant surprise.

Q: Is the increased population in Peoria's Downtown attributed to the development of new houses?

A: Further analysis of additional Census data is necessary to determine what may have attributed to the increase. As additional data is received, this analysis will take place.

Q: Where would the City begin with creating a process to attract new housing to the Downtown and create opportunities for investment in older neighborhoods?

A: The process started already. Models were developed over the past couple months in preparation for the release of Census data. As further data is released it will be plugged in and data will be used by Council and Staff to develop programs and policies.

Q: Does the City have information on what percentage of each race is Hispanic?

A: Data is available but the analysis is not yet complete for this data set. This data will be reviewed in the coming weeks.

Q: What was Dr. Scott's projection for the City of Peoria's population in 2010 based on new development in the Growth Cells?

A: Dr. Scott projected the population to be 115,511 in 2010, due to growth resulting from the Growth Cells. He anticipated that without the Growth Cells, City population would be 108,702 in 2010. Dr. Scott's projection of 115,511 was very close to the actual population of 115,007 reported by the Census Bureau.

Q: What was the projected population in the proposed Comprehensive Plan for the City of Peoria in 2010?

A: The proposed Comprehensive Plan projected 2010 population based on a range of 110,677 to 115,195. The City's actual population reported by the Census Bureau closely aligns with the high end of the range projected in the Comprehensive Plan.

Q: Is it too soon to determine how redistricting will impact Council Districts?

A: Yes, it is too soon to determine. By the end of the year the distribution of population will be reviewed to have the Council make a decision on Council District boundaries.

Q: There are many cities where minority population has become the majority, is it too soon to project that for Peoria?

A: Data indicates that Peoria is becoming more diverse; however, no projections have been made.

Q: How can I access 2010 Census data?

A: Data can be accessed on the Census Bureau's new FactFinder site at <http://factfinder2.census.gov>.

In addition, the City of Peoria will include all data releases, summary reports, and other pertinent Census information on the City Web Site at <http://www.ci.peoria.il.us/census-info>.