

Colorado Census 1885

The 1885 Colorado Census was a special state census done in conjunction with the federal government. As such it is different from the other federal censuses. For instance, the Soundex system does not apply to this census. Also, there is a completely separate alphabetical extraction of names which includes age, race, gender, nativity, and marital status. The alphabetical extraction is organized by county and thereunder alphabetically by first letter of last name. Of the 40 counties that were organized at the time, an alphabetical extraction was done for 20. The extractions do not refer to a sheet and a page number in the census which sometimes makes it difficult for researchers to cross reference a name. If a researcher is looking to see if a person lived in a certain county in 1885 or needs only basic information about an individual, then the 1885 alphabetical extraction is useful and can be quicker to search than the actual census.

Information recorded:

- Street name and house number in some cities

- Dwelling Houses Numbered in Order of Visitation and Families Numbered in Order of Visitation

- Name, Age, Race, and Gender of individuals in the household

- Relationship of each individual to head of household

- Single, Married, Widowed, or Divorced

- Professional Status / Title

- Length of Unemployment

- Illness &/or Disability

- Blind, Deaf and Dumb, Idiotic, Insane, Maimed, Crippled, or Bedridden

- School Attendance (only in the year of the census)

- Literate and able to write

- Birthplace

- Parents' Birthplace