

Our speaker this month was Jim Stuber and his topic was the 1950 census. The census is free to access on four sites. The NARA (National Archives) site was used as the original source by the other three and is not the best choice for research since it has not been fully indexed or transcribed.

NARA: [1950 Census - Home | 1950 Census \(archives.gov\)](https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950)

[United States Census, 1950 • FamilySearch](https://www.familysearch.org/learn/census/1950)

[1950 United States Federal Census | Ancestry](https://www.ancestry.com/collections/1950-united-states-federal-census)

[1950 United States Federal Census - MyHeritage](https://www.myheritage.com/census/1950-united-states-federal-census)

FamilySearch and Ancestry require that you have a free account to access the records, My Heritage does not.

Ancestry and MyHeritage seem to have been indexed by the same people but FamilySearch was done by different people. So you might find a person on FamilySearch that you could not find on the other two, and vice-versa.

If you need to find someone when all you know is their address, Ancestry has an excellent tool for that. The link to the tool and instructions are here:

[1950 Census District Finder \(ancestry.com\)](https://www.ancestry.com/census/1950-district-finder)

Here's [the direct link to the tool](https://www.ancestry.com/census/1950-district-finder)

You have to have an Ancestry account to use the tool, but you can create a free account and use that.

Steve Morse has a tool that does the same job with a little more effort. His tool works for any census back to 1870 using the pull down at the top of the page:

[Unified Census ED Finder \(stevemorse.org\)](https://www.stevemorse.org/census/ed)

Steve Morse's site has a wealth of resources that front end many genealogy sources.

[One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse \(stevemorse.org\)](https://www.stevemorse.org/one-step)

Their major advantage is that you can wild card difficult last names in ways you can't when you access the target sites directly, improving your chances of finding their records.