

in Linkville was recorded in the same town since Linkville became the county seat of Klamath County – but then the name Linkville was changed to Klamath Falls. The boundaries of Klamath County have not changed since 1890.

Of course, the town of Linkville never moved. As the settlement of Oregon took place, new counties were created; and earlier county boundaries were changed, placing the town of Linkville-Klamath Falls in five different counties from 1850 through 1890. Therefore, all county

records such as deeds, probates, marriages, etc., for a family that lived in Linkville, Oregon, are spread across the state and stored today in five different county courthouses. These examples can be repeated in virtually every state.

Table 3 shows that the number of counties in the United States increased from 292 in 1790 to 3,142 by 2010. It is common that genealogists attempting to identify the places their ancestors lived must first face the reality of changing county boundaries over the years.

**Table 3 – Statistics of U.S. Federal Census, 1790-2010**

Census Year	U.S. Population	No. of States	No. of Counties	Territories Included in the Census
1790	3,929,214	14	292	Southwest Territory (tally only).
1800	5,308,483	16	419	Northwest, IN, MI & MS Territories.
1810	7,239,881	17	574	IL, IN, MI, MS, LA (MO) & Orleans Territories.
1820	9,638,453	23	759	AR, MI & MO Territories.
1830	12,860,702	24	988	AR, FL & MI Territories.
1840	17,063,353	26	1,279	IA, FL & WI Territories.
1850	23,191,876	31	1,623	MN, NM, OR & UT Territories.
1860	31,443,321	33	2,080	KS, NM, NE, UT, WA, Indian Terr. (Non-Indians only) & Unorg. Dakota
1870	38,558,371	37	2,295	AZ, CO, ID, NM, MT, UT, WA, WY & Dakota Territories.
1880	50,189,209	38	2,570	AK, AZ, ID, NM, MT, UT, WA, WY & Dakota Territories.
1890	62,979,766	44	2,813	AK, AZ, NM, OK & UT Territories
1900	76,212,168	45	2,862	AK, AZ, HI, NM & OK Territories.
1910	92,228,496	46	2,962	AK, AZ, NM, HI & Puerto Rico Territories.
1920	106,021,521	48	3,076	[ AK, HI, Guam, Midway, Wake Island, American Samoa, Panama Canal Zone,
1930	123,202,589	48	3,110	Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands ].
1940	132,164,569	48	3,108	Same as above.
1950	151,325,798	48	3,111	Same as above.
1960	179,323,175	50	3,133	[ Guam, Midway, Wake Island, American Samoa, Panama Canal Zone,
1970	203,302,031	50	3,142	Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands ].
1980	226,542,199	50	3,137	Same as above.
1990	248,709,873	50	3,141	[ Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Midway, American Samoa, Wake Island,
2000	281,421,906	50	3,141	Puerto Rico & U.S. Virgin Islands ]
2010	308,745,538	50	3,142	Same as above.

### Table 3 Notes

1. Alaska is the only state without counties. The totals above include the census subdivisions (boroughs) of Alaska.

2. In Louisiana, a parish has the same function as a county in other states.

3. The District of Columbia was included in all censuses, 1800 forward, but was not included in the No. of States column above.

3. Since 1790, there have been 138 counties reported in the censuses that have since been renamed or abolished and subsequently absorbed into other counties.

4. Through 2018, there were 38 cities in Virginia independent of any county. The Census Bureau treats them as “county-equivalents.”

5. Any special schedule enumerations were not included above, e.g., Indians, Overseas Military & Naval Forces.