



## Finding People in the Searchable Census Records using Digitalarkivet of Norway

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### OBJECTIVES:

You will be able to find a person in the following census records for Norway:

- 1769-1855 (Scanned and/or Searchable – not for the whole country)
- 1801 (Scanned and Searchable)
- 1865 (Scanned and Searchable)
- 1870 (Kongsvinger, Lillehammer, Gjøvik)
- 1875 (Scanned and Searchable – searchable not complete)
- 1885 (cities)
- 1891 (Scanned and Searchable – Searchable not complete)
- 1900 (Searchable)
- 1910 (Searchable)
- 1883, 1899, 1902, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1923 Kristiania (Oslo 1923 incomplete)
- 1800 and 1810 Frosta (parish) Scanned and Searchable
- 1814 Moss (city)
- 1920 Hamar (city)
- 1922 Bergen (city)
- 1925 Trondheim (city)
- 1934 Strinda (parish)

The censuses for Norway are a count and description of the population and have been taken by the government as well as by ecclesiastical officials. They were taken primarily for population studies and taxation purposes.

When you search a census record, take the following into consideration:

- A given name may not always be as complete as the name recorded in the church records
- Spelling may vary for names and places
- If a family is not at the expected address, search the surrounding area
- Information may have been provided by a neighbor or someone in the family who does not know the correct information

Census records can provide family relationships, age, year of birth, description of property, and place of birth. Census records are especially valuable because they list a large portion of the population. They may also provide information when all or portions of other records are missing. Generally, we find more complete information in the later census records.

**The 1801 census** is available on microfilm at the Family History Library as well as online in a searchable database at Digitalarkivet of Norway. This census is the first national census and includes the entire population, cities as well as rural areas. Here you will find the residence for each person, name, status in the family, age, marital status, occupation, and remarks. See link: <https://digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&format=all&it%5B%5D=13>

Complete census enumerations were taken between **the years of 1815-1860**. These were intended to be purely statistical, but in some cases the enumerator did record information about individual or families as well. Some are available on microfilm at the Family History Library

There are censuses for **Gjerstad, Aust-Agder County for the years 1825-1855**. This census is a lot like the 1801 census, but in addition, lists the number of domestic animals and farm production. This census is available at the Family History Library on microfilm no. 1283363 item 4.

**The 1865 census** is available on microfilm at the Family History Library, as well as online in a searchable and scanned database at Digitalarkivet of Norway. See link below: <https://digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&format=all&it%5B%5D=7&it%5B%5D=15>

1. Farms or localities. Name/ Number
2. Residences
3. Household
4. Name of each person
5. Status or occupation
6. Marital status
7. Age
8. Place of birth
9. Religious affiliation
10. Retarded, deaf and dumb, blind. If retarded, note if this has been since birth.
11. Total population of each household
12. Livestock
13. Types of crop sowed in 1865
14. Remarks

**The 1875 census** is available on microfilm at the Family History Library. This census was taken December 31<sup>st</sup>1875. It is available searchable as well as in a scanned database at Digitalarkivet of Norway. See link:

<https://digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&format=all&it%5B%5D=5>

The online version is not complete for the whole country as of yet. It gives the following information:

1. Households, list a [1] for each separate household then each person in each household
2. Number listing of each person (1, 2, 3 etc.)
3. Name of each person (will also list people who are temporarily visiting, who reside in the household)
4. Usual residence for those who are visiting
5. In which building on the farm each person resides

6. Sex (male/female)
7. Position in the family (head, wife, son, daughter, parent, servant, lodger, visitor, etc.).
8. Persons age 15 and older if single, married, widower, widow, divorced.
9. Persons age 15 and older, occupation or from whom they receive support.
10. Year of birth.
11. Place of birth.
12. Citizenship, if not born in Norway.
13. Religion, if not a member of the state church (Lutheran Church).
14. If mentally retarded.
15. If a person was mentally retarded or deaf before age 4.

**The 1885 census** is available online in a searchable database at Digitalarkivet of Norway. Cities only. See the following link:

<https://digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&format=all&jt%5B%5D=4>

**The 1900 census** is available on microfilm at the Family History Library as well as in a searchable database online at Digitalarkivet of Norway.

[https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&archive\\_key=&jt%5B%5D=2](https://www.digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&archive_key=&jt%5B%5D=2)

**The 1910 census** is a searchable database available online at Digitalarkivet in Norway. See link:

<https://digitalarkivet.no/en/search/sources?s=&from=&to=&format=all&jt%5B%5D=19>

These are the censuses available for Norway, but more may become available, as Digitalarkivet plans on putting all the Norwegian records online. Some are under privacy law, but as law permits, more will eventually become available.

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