



Exploring Census Records using Digitalarkivet (Digital Archives) of Norway

Liv H. Anderson CGsm, AG[®]

OBJECTIVES:

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

- 1801
- 1865
- 1875 (not complete)
- 1885 (cities only)
- 1900
- 1910
- 1883 Kristiania (Oslo), 1905 Kristiania (Oslo), 1920 Hamar city, 1923 Kristiania (Oslo), 1925 Trondheim city, 1934 Strinda parish.

You may also be able to find a person in the following scanned census records for Norway.

- 1664-1666 (males only age from age 12)
- 1701 (males only from age 1 and older, not complete for the whole country)
- 1891

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 of a name 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 relationship, 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 portion of records are missing. Generally we find more complete information in the later census records.

Notice shortcuts to the Norwegian census records below from Digitalarkivet (Digital Archives) main page. Here we have chosen the 1664-1666 census.

<http://arkivverket.no/eng/digitalarkivet>

The screenshot shows the Digitalarkivet website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Contact, Site Map, Digital Archives, Feeds, Norwegian, and language settings (A A A). Below this is the Digitalarkivet logo and a secondary navigation bar with links: About the Digital Archives, Select source, Digital Inn, Bookshelf, Discussion, and Help. A 'Register - Sign in' link is also present.

The main content area has a dark blue header with the text 'Home > Digitalarkivet' and a 'Print' button. Below this is a 'Search the sources' section with a search input field, a 'GO' button, and links for 'Advanced search for individuals' and 'Advanced search for properties'. There are also radio buttons for 'Search for individuals' and 'Search for properties'.

Below the search section, there are three columns of content:

- Find sources:** Includes links for 'The Most Recent 100' and 'Select Source'.
- Shortcuts:** A red box highlights the 'Censuses' section, which contains links for '1664-1666 (Digitised)', '1701 (Digitised)', '1801', '1865', '1875', '1885', '1891 (Digitised)', '1900', '1910', 'Municipal Censuses', and 'Full text transcriptions'. A red arrow points from the 'Select Source' link in the 'Find sources' column to the '1664-1666 (Digitised)' link in the 'Censuses' section. Below the highlighted section is a link for 'Parish registers'.
- Useful:** Includes links for 'How to do genealogical research in Norway?', 'How to search the data', 'How to use the debate forums', 'Useful links', 'Print-ready files of the censuses', and 'Fulltext transcriptions'.

At the bottom left, there is a 'News from the Digital Archives' section with a date 'October 21, 2014' and a headline 'More transcribed church records are available in our database. The data is mostly'.

1664-1666 Census

The 1664-1666 census was taken over two years, one clerical (taken by the parish priest) and one civil (taken by the civil authorities). When possible search both as they supplement each other. This census includes the value of the farm, head of household and all male children over the age of twelve, as well as share crofters (tenant farmers) and servants. Sometimes the recorder lists all male children, regardless of age. This census covers the rural areas of the country. In a case where the head of household is a woman (widow), she may be listed as a widow, but seldom by name or age. Usually she is referred to as *enken* (the widow). The content of the clerical and civil records are often the same, but sometimes one is more complete than the other, and it is wise to consult them both. For instance, the last name, patronymic name, may be listed in one but not in the other, and sometimes the age of a person is only listed in only one of them. The clerical census is often the more complete of the two records. This census record is missing for a few places.

Census headings in Norwegian and English can be found in the FamilySearch wiki for several of the censuses. See link:

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/b/b2/Census_Register_Headings_for_Norway.pdf

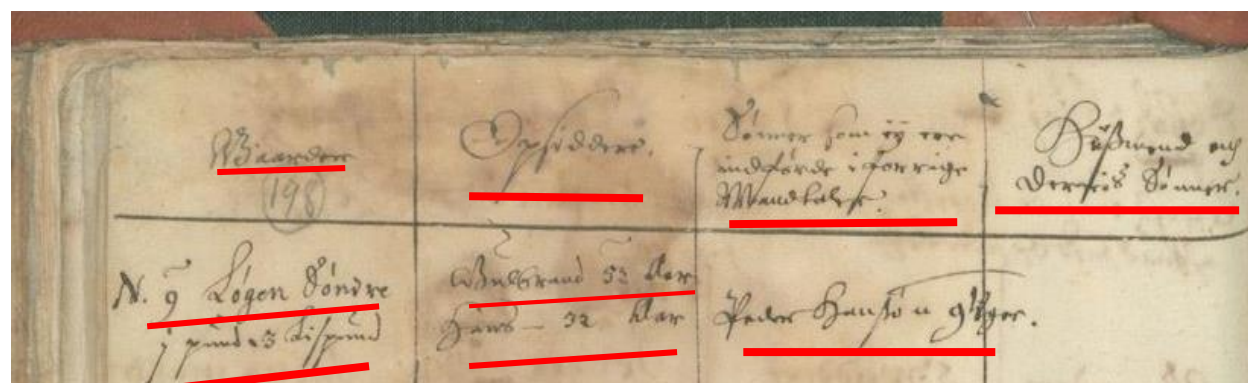
Entry from Fet clerical district in Akershus county pg. 198

Column 1. Gaarder N. 9 (farm number 9) Lögen Søndre (name of farm) 1 pund, 3 Lispund (value of farm)

Column 2. Oppsiddere (farmers) Gulbrand 52 Aar (Gulbrand age 52) Hans 32 Aar (Hans age 32)

Column 3. Sønner som og var indförde i forrige Mandtaler (Son's who are listed in previous censuses) Peder Hansen 9 Uger (Peder Hansen age 9 weeks)

Column 4. Husmend og deris sønner (Tenant farmers and their sons)



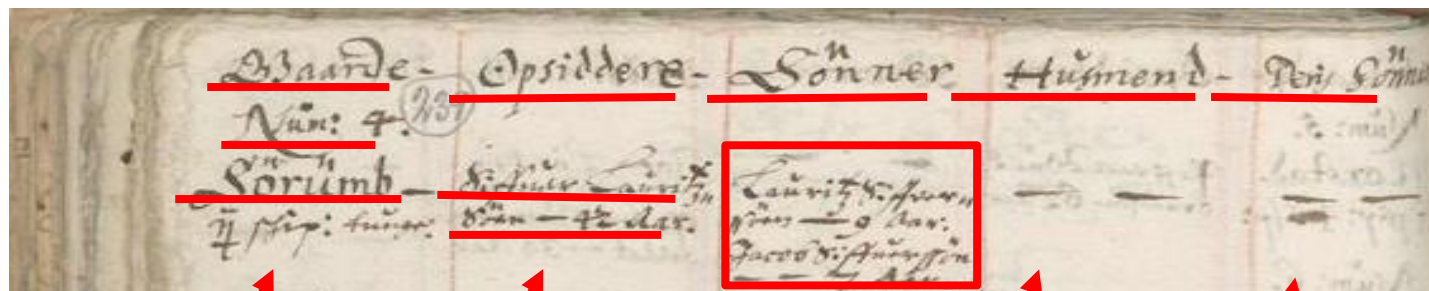
Column 1

Column 2

Column 3

Column 4

Here are other examples from the 1664-1666 census



Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

Column 1. Gaarde Num: 4 (farm no. 4) name of the farm (Sörumb) 1 ½ skep: tunge (taxed at 1 ½ skep. Tunge)

Column 2. Opsiddere (farmers) Siffuer Lauritzsön 42 Aar (age 42)

Column 3. Sønner (son's) Lauritz Siffuerssön 9 Aar (age 9), Jacob Siffuerssön 7 Aar (age 9)

Column 4. Husmend (Tenant farmers)

Column 5. Deris Sønner (Sons of tenant farmers)



Column 1. Fulde gaarder (whole farms)

Column 2. Opsiddere (farmers)

Column 3. Sønner (sons of the farmers)

Column 4. Tieneste drenger (male servants)

Column 5. Husmend. (tenant farmers)

1701 Census

The 1701 census is similar to the 1664-1666 census and will list the name of the farm, name of the farmers, their ages, names and ages of their sons, and names and ages of their servants. However, this census will list all males from age one and older, and if a servant came from a different parish, it will also list the name of the parish he came from. Both the 1664-1666 and the 1701 are available online at the Digital Archives of Norway in a scanned format. See link: <http://www.arkivverket.no/eng/content/view/full/6590>

Entry from Nasset clerical district in Møre og Romsdal county pg.144

Column 1. Opsiddernes eller leylandings stand og wilchor (the farmers' social status)

Column 2. Pladzernes nafne (the name of the farm) **Lyngvuer**

Column 3. Opsidderens nafne (farmer or renters' name) **sub-farm Øyemand** (farmer) **Oluf Gunders.**

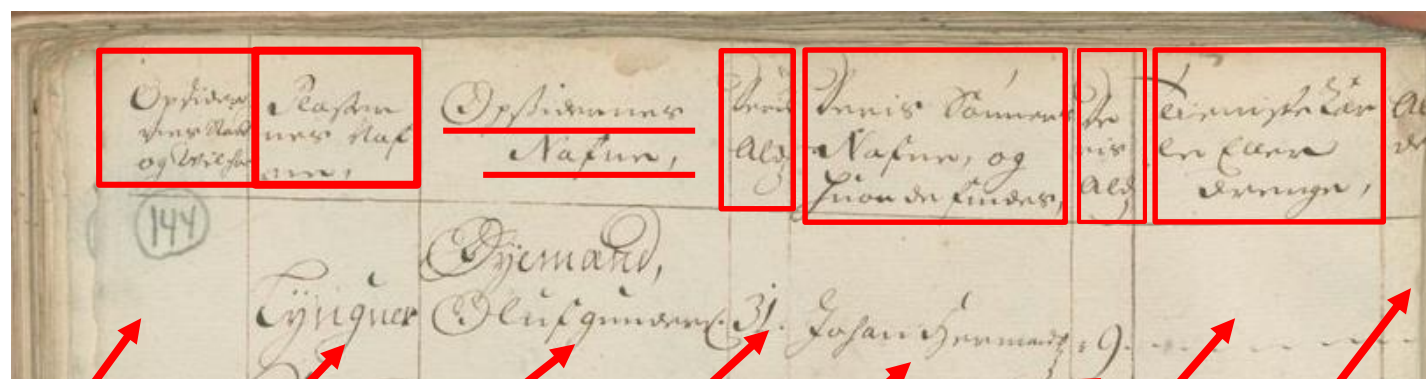
Column 4. Deris alder (their age) **age 31**

Column 5. Deris sønners nafne og huor de findes (names of sons and where they are located) **Johan Hermands.**

Column 6. Deris alder (their age) **age 9**

Column 7. Tienestekarle eller drenge (servants or farm hands) this column is blank

Column 8. Alder (age) of servants or farm hands (this column is left blank)



Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7	Column 8
----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------	----------

There are additional censuses that are available on microfilm at the History Library as well as online at Digitalarkivet (The Digital Archives of Norway), as well as the 1758 census for Rogaland county is available in book form at the Family History Library. See links: <http://www.arkivverket.no/eng/content/view/full/14394> (1662-1825) and (1920-1934) http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/finn_kilde?s=&fra=&til=&kt%5B%5D=KFOT

Censuses are also available at the old version of Digitalarkivet. From the home page find “Old version of the Digital Archives”, then choose “Database Selector” in the top blue box, then choose “year” from sub-category and a list of the censuses for the years 1660s, 1701, 1780s, 1815, 1825, 1835, 1885, and 1891 can be searched. See link for the censuses available in 1782:

<http://gda.arkivverket.no/cgi-win/WebMeta.exe?slag=vismeny&fylkenr=&knr=&katnr=1&aar=&dagens=&emnenr=13>

1801 Census (indexed in searchable database)

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 to the searchable database: <http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-qb/ft/sok/1801>

1. Jens Olsen Kaasbøll age 55, head of household, 1st marriage, a farmer
2. Ingebor Anna Conders age 57, his wife, 1st marriage
3. Jochum Jensen Kaasbøll, age 24, their child, unmarried, sailor
4. Else Jensdatter, age 21, their child, unmarried
5. Henrik Jensen, age 16, their child, unmarried

1801 census for 1573P Edøy

Jens Olsen Kaasbøll

Next ▶ Last ▶

ID: pf01058433000967 Gender: m

Role: Age: 55

Household no.: 01 Date of birth: 1746 (calculated)

Person no.: 001 Place of birth:

Family position: Husbonde Residential status:

Marital status: Begges 1te ægteskab Habitual residence:

Occupation: Gaardmand Assumed residence:

Scanned image: School:

Notes:

➕ Show more fields

Useful tips!

Click on the blue links in the left column to see every detail about a household member, an apartment, a residence or a census district.

Print – Notes/corrections (0) – New search

Household members

P.no.	H.no.	Name	Age/born	Place of birth	Family position	Marital status	Occupation	Residential status
001	01	Jens Olsen Kaasbøll	55		Husbonde	Begges 1te ægteskab	Gaardmand	
002	01	Ingebor Anna Conders	57		Hans kone	Begges 1te ægteskab		
003	01	Jochum Jensen Kaasbøll	24		Deres born	Ugift	Enroul. matros	
004	01	Else Jensdatter	21		Deres born	Ugift		
005	01	Henrik Jensen	16		Deres born	Ugift		
006	01	Eli Olsdatter	36		Tieneste pige	Ugift		
007	01	Maria Olsdatter	57		Mandens søster	Gift 2den gang	Inderste, spinder og væver	

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 individuals or families as well. Some are available on microfilm at the Family History Library

There is a census record for **Gjerstad, Aust-Agder County for the year 1835**. 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 database at Digitalarkivet of Norway. See link to the searchable census:

<http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/ft/sok/1865>

It is the earliest census in Norway that gives a place of birth for each person. This census was taken December 31st 1865. It lists the following information.

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 31st 1875. It is also available in a searchable database at Digitalarkivet of Norway, see link: <http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/ft/sok/1875>

This list online is not complete for the whole country. 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. It include mainly the cities. See the following link:

<http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/ft/sok/1885>

The 1891 census is available in a scanned format at Digitalarkivet of Norway and is available online (not searchable, go page by page within a parish). See the following link:

http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/finn_kilde?s=&fra=1891&til=1891&ka%5B%5D=0&kt%5B%5D=FOLK

The 1900 census is available on microfilm at the Family History Library as well as in a searchable database online at Digitalarkivet of Norway. <http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/ft/sok/1900>

The 1910 census is a searchable database available online at Digitalarkivet in Norway. See link: <http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/ft/sok/1910>

There are at the present time Municipal censuses for the cities of **Hamar 1920**, **Kristiania (Oslo) 1923**, and **Trondheim 1925**. These online searchable censuses may be accessed at the following link: http://digitalarkivet.arkivverket.no/en-gb/finn_kilde?s=&fra=&til=&kt%5B%5D=KFOT

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 the law permits, more will eventually become available.