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Public Information Office

Four of Every Five Centenarians in the U.S. Are Women, Census Bureau Reports

Four of every five people in the United States age 100 or more are women, according to a new report released on the Internet today by the Commerce Department's Census Bureau. The report focuses on the characteristics of the 37,306 centenarians in the 1990 Census of Population and Housing for the United States.

The report, Centenarians in the United States, P23-199, has data on educational attainment, poverty status, disability status, living arrangements and country of birth. It includes geographic distribution by state and compares the centenarian population in the United States with that in other countries. The report also discusses the problems encountered in obtaining reliable estimates of the centenarian population.

Funding for the report was provided by the Office of the Demography of Aging, Behavioral and Social Research Program, U.S. National Institute on Aging.
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The U.S. Census Bureau, pre-eminent collector and disseminator of timely, relevant and quality data about the people and the economy of the United States, conducts a population and housing census every 10 years, an economic census every five years and more than 100 demographic and economic surveys every year, all of them evolving from the first census in 1790.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau
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