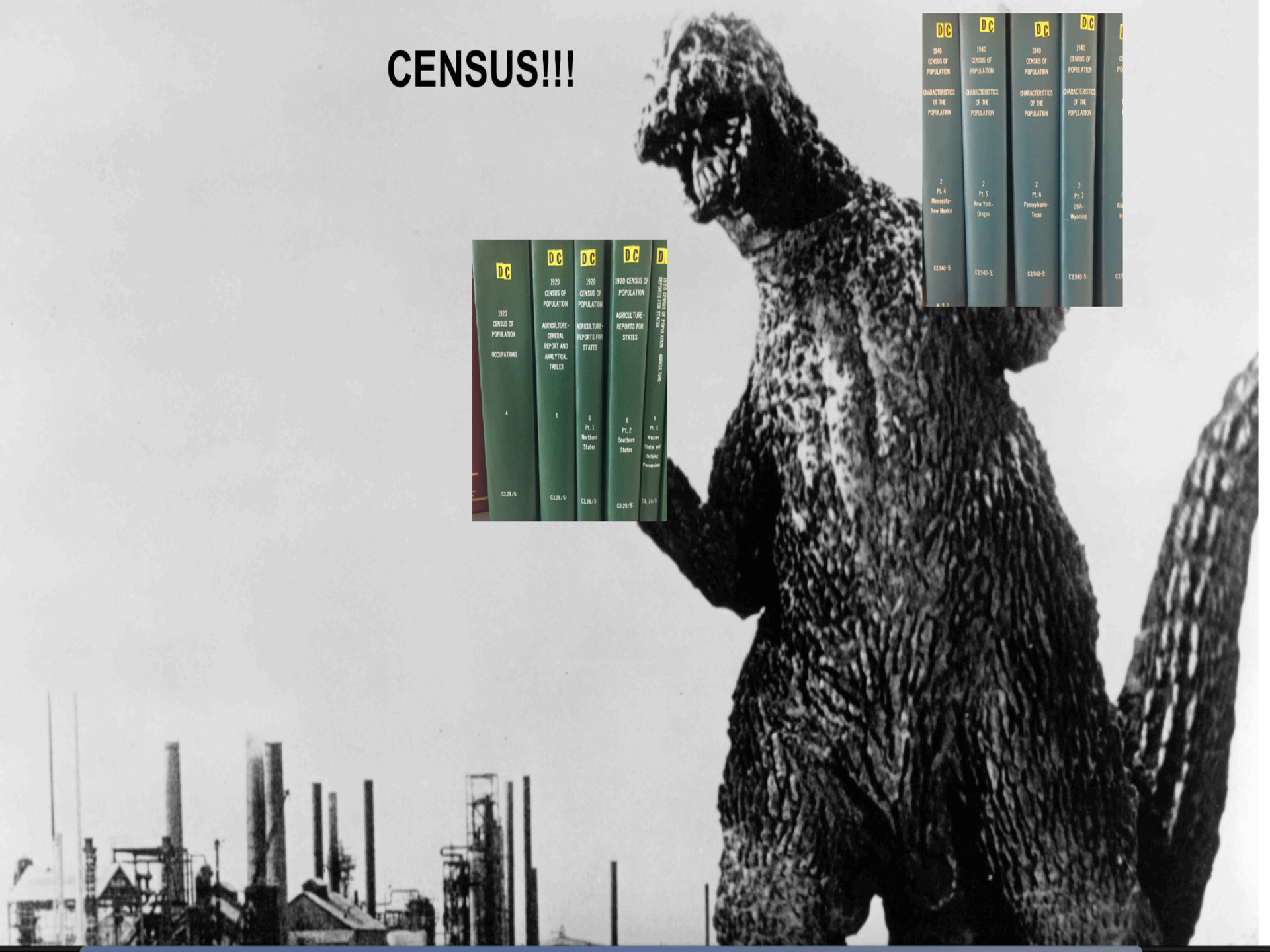
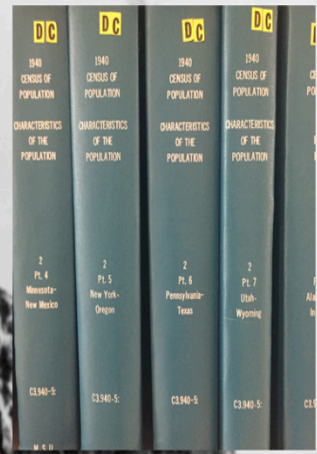
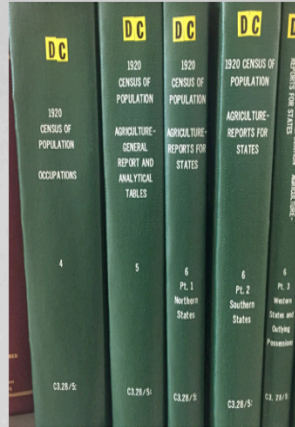


# The Census (Collection) is Coming (to the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)!!

Julia Frankosky

Reference Meeting, June 2, 2016

# CENSUS!!!



# First stop: e-resources

- American Fact Finder
- Social Explorer
- Simply Map
  
- Find relevant libguides to help by searching the library site for “census”

# Drawbacks

- American Fact Finder only has the 2 most recent Censuses and ACS data
- Social Explorer and SimplyMap do not have all the variables for all historic Censuses (SimplyMap only goes back to 1980)

**Census 1960 County, State and US**

**Census 1960 Census Tract Only**

**Census 1950 Census Tract, County, State and US**

**Census 1950 Census Tract Only**

**Census 1940 Census Tract, County, State and US**

**Census 1940 Census Tract Only**

# Question

- I'm on 3 West sifting through the Census collection and I am having trouble finding any information on some of the cities downriver Detroit, especially the further back in the 20th century that I go. I can't find information on race/ gender/ mobility/ income/ age/ and education for cities other than Detroit or Grand Rapids.

# Solution: Use the books

- Find the appropriate volume(s)
- Check the index to try to get a sense of where in the book you should look.
- Every iteration of the Census is slightly different. Questions change or are removed, organization of the books change, etc.

# But...

- This is a heavily used collection and sometimes books go for an adventure in the library
- The Census has the PDFs available at <http://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html> but these can be far harder to navigate than a book. It's better than nothing at least.

# When in Doubt

- Contact Julia! If I'm in my office, I'm happy to come out and work with patrons so give me a call. Seemingly easy Census questions can actually be very tricky once you start digging into them.
- If I don't answer, either send me an email or have the patron email me. I may not always be in my office but I check my email constantly (maybe a bit obsessively).