



National Archives and Records Administration

700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408-0001

WORLD WAR II SELECTIVE SERVICE DRAFT CARDS: FOURTH REGISTRATION DRAFT CARDS, 1942

On April 27, 1942, the Selective Service conducted the fourth of six draft registrations. Also called the “Old Man’s Registration,” this registration collected information on the industrial capacity and skills of men born between April 27, 1877 and February 16, 1897 (ages 45 to 64). This draft registration was not intended to be used for military service, but to provide a complete inventory of manpower resources in the United States that could be used for national service during World War II.

DRAFT CARD CONTENT AND ARRANGEMENT

The Fourth Registration Draft cards contain the following information:

- the registrant’s serial number
- the name of each registrant
- his residence, mailing address, and telephone number
- date and place of birth
- the name and address of his employer
- the registrant’s height, weight, race, hair color, eye color, distinguishing marks
- the registrant’s signature
- the name and address of a person who would always know the registrant’s address.

The draft cards are arranged by state and then alphabetically by the registrant's surname.

WHERE TO FIND FOURTH REGISTRATION DRAFT CARDS

The originals of the Fourth Registration Draft cards are in the National Archives regional branches. The cards for the District of Columbia are in the National Archives at College Park. Many regions are filming the cards in their custody. After the region has microfilmed the cards the region provides the National Archives Building with a copy of the microfilmed records. Those microfilm publications are in the National Archives Building's Microfilm Research Room. Draft cards for states that are not on microfilm are in the National Archives Regional Facility that keeps Federal records for the state where the person registered.

Fourth Registration Draft Cards for the following states no longer exist:

Alabama	Mississippi
Florida	North Carolina
Georgia	South Carolina
Maine	Tennessee

Consult the staff for further information about microfilm available in the National Archives Building, roll lists, and addresses for NARA's regional facilities.

OTHER WORLD WAR II DRAFT CARDS

Draft cards for all other registrations are still in the custody of the Selective Service System and are protected under the Privacy Act. For information on how to order copies of other World War II draft cards contact the Selective Service System at:

Selective Service System
National Headquarters
Records Section – PCA
Arlington, VA 22209-2425
Telephone: (703) 605-4049

<http://www.sss.gov/RECORDS2.HTM>

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