

## SOUNDEX

Utilize the Soundex records when you are having trouble locating someone in the census because of the variability of spelling by census takers.

The Soundex is a coded surname (last name) index based on the way a surname sounds rather than the way it is spelled.

Surnames that sound the same, but spelled differently, as SMITH and SMYTH, are filed together and have the same Soundex code.

The Soundex coding system was developed so that you can find a surname even though it may have been spelled (or misspelled, as was more often the case) a variety of ways.

To search for a particular surname, you must first work out its code.

Online Soundex converters can be found at:

- [RootsWeb's Soundex Converter](#)
- [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter - Soundex Calculator](#)

Once you locate an ancestor in the Soundex cards, you be able to make note of the enumeration district, city, county, state, and page number where your ancestor is listed.

You would then be able to pull up your ancestor on Ancestry.com at no charge, if you are using a public computer in the Berkeley County Library.

Here is an example:

The Soundex system is a method of indexing names in the 1880, 1900, 1910, and 1920 US Census. Soundex can also aid genealogists by identifying spelling variations for a given surname. This search tool will return the Soundex code for the entered surname, plus other surnames/spellings sharing the same soundex code.

Surname:

**Soundex Code for Mouzon = M250**

Other surnames sharing this Soundex Code:

MACKIN | [MACON](#) | [MACQUEEN](#) | [MAGOON](#) | [MAKEMIE](#) | [MAKIN](#) | [MASON](#) | [MASSON](#) | [MAUGHAN](#) | [MAXON](#) | [MAXSON](#) | [MCCAIN](#) | [MCCAN](#) | [MCCANN](#) | [MCCOUN](#) | [MCCOWAN](#) | [MCCOWEN](#) | [MCCOWN](#) | [MCCUEN](#) | [MCCUNE](#) | [MCEWAN](#) | [MCEWEN](#) | [MCGANN](#) | [MCGINN](#) | [MCGOWAN](#) | [MCGOWEN](#) | [MCHAM](#) | [MCHONE](#) | [MCKAMEY](#) | [MCKANE](#) | [MCKEAN](#) | [MCKEEN](#) | [MCKENNA](#) | [MCKENNEY](#) | [MCKEON](#) | [MCKEOWN](#) | [MCKIM](#) | [MCKINNEY](#) | [MCKOWN](#) | [MCKUNE](#) | [MCNEW](#) | [MCNEY](#) | [MCQUEEN](#) | [MCQUOWN](#) | [MCSHANE](#) | [MCSWAIN](#) | [MCSWEENEY](#) | [MEACHAM](#) | [MEACHEM](#) | [MEAKIN](#) | [MECHEN](#) | [MESCAN](#) | [MESSINO](#) | [MICHUM](#) | [MIXON](#) | [MUGAN](#) | [MUSSINA](#) | [MUSSON](#)

15th census, population, 1930, South Carolina [microform]: **Soundex United States. Bureau of the Census. Available on microfilm in the SC Room**

<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/soundex.html>

[https://www.census.gov/history/www/genealogy/decennial\\_census\\_records/soundex\\_1.html](https://www.census.gov/history/www/genealogy/decennial_census_records/soundex_1.html)