

# Introduction to Census 2010 Data Products

## Information Available From the 23rd Census of Population and Housing

**100-percent characteristics:** A limited number of questions were asked of every person and housing unit in the United States.

Household relationship	Race
Sex	Tenure (whether the home is owned or rented)
Age	Vacancy characteristics
Hispanic or Latino origin	

## Census 2010 Data Products

**Census 2010 Redistricting (Public Law 94-171) Summary File.** The first Census 2010 data files released contain the information required for local redistricting. The data include tabulations for the total population and the population 18 years old and over for 63 race categories, Hispanic or Latino, and race by not Hispanic or Latino. Detailed tabulations present data down to the block level, and are available.

**Summary File 1 (SF 1)** presents counts and basic cross-tabulations of information collected from all people and housing units. This information includes age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household relationship, and whether the residence is owned or rented. Data is available down to the block level for many tabulations, but only to the census-tract level for others. Summaries are included for other geographic areas such as Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTA) and Congressional Districts.

Related products include Demographic Profiles that gives a snapshot of the geographic area, Quick Tables, and Geographic Comparison Tables.

**Summary File 2 (SF 2)** contains 100-percent population and housing characteristics, but the tables in this file are iterated for a selected list of detailed race and Hispanic or Latino-origin groups, as well as American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. For this file, the lowest level of geography is the census tract and there is a minimum population-size threshold which must be met before information is shown for a particular group in a specific geography.

# Census 2010 Products

## **Demographic Profiles – DP-1**

A product that provides selected Census 2010 population and housing characteristics for geographic entities.

## **Quick Tables – QT**

A predefined product that displays selected population and housing characteristics for a single geographic area selected by a data user.

## **Geographic Comparison Tables – GCT**

A product in the American FactFinder2 that provides census data for one or more selected sets of geographic entities of the same type; e.g., data for all counties in a state, places in a state, tracts in a county, subdivisions of a county.

## **Detailed Tables**

The most detailed and specific product that shows data in a Population (P) table or a Housing (H) table. All other products are then derived from these detailed tables.

### **Population tables – P tables**

A product that gives data about the Population.

### **Housing Tables – H tables**

A product that gives data about Housing.

## Census 2010 Geographic Areas

### **American Indian/Alaska Native areas and Hawaiian home lands.**

These areas include the legal federally recognized American Indian reservations, off-reservation trust land entities, tribal subdivisions, Alaska Native Regional Corporations, and Hawaiian home lands. These areas also include the tribal-designated statistical areas, Oklahoma tribal statistical areas, and Alaska Native village statistical areas that are defined for federally recognized tribes without a legal land base. The boundaries of federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native areas are provided by the tribal governments. The State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands provides the boundaries for Hawaiian home lands. The boundaries of state-recognized American Indian reservations and state-designated American Indian statistical areas (for state-recognized tribes without a reservation) are provided by a state liaison designated by the state's governor.

### **Blocks.**

Generally bounded by streets, legal boundaries, and other features, a block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates data.

### **Block groups (BGs).**

Block groups are a collection of census blocks within a census tract, sharing the same first digit of their four-digit identifying numbers.

### **Census tracts.**

These small statistical subdivisions (averaging about 4,000 persons) of counties generally have stable boundaries and, when first established, were designed to have relatively homogeneous demographic characteristics.

### **Counties and equivalent areas.**

These are the primary divisions of most states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. They include counties in 48 states; parishes in Louisiana; boroughs and census areas in Alaska; municipios in Puerto Rico; independent cities in Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia; and other entities in the Island Areas.

### **Metropolitan areas (MAs).**

An MA consists of a large population nucleus of 50,000 population or greater, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. Metropolitan areas comprise at least one

county, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units.

### **Minor Civil Divisions (MCDs)/ Census County Divisions (CCDs).**

MCDs are legally defined county subdivisions, such as towns and townships. In 21 states where MCDs do not exist or are not adequate for reporting subcounty statistics, the Census Bureau, in cooperation with state and local officials, delineates county subdivisions known as Census County Divisions.

### **Places.**

Incorporated places are concentrations of population such as cities, that have legally prescribed boundaries, powers, and functions. Other population centers without legally defined corporate limits or corporate powers are defined by the Census Bureau in cooperation with state officials and local data users. These are called Census-Designated Places and are identified in data tables by the acronym CDP following the place name.

### **States and equivalent areas.**

Besides the 50 states, the Census Bureau treats the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands) as state equivalents for statistical presentation.

### **Urban areas.**

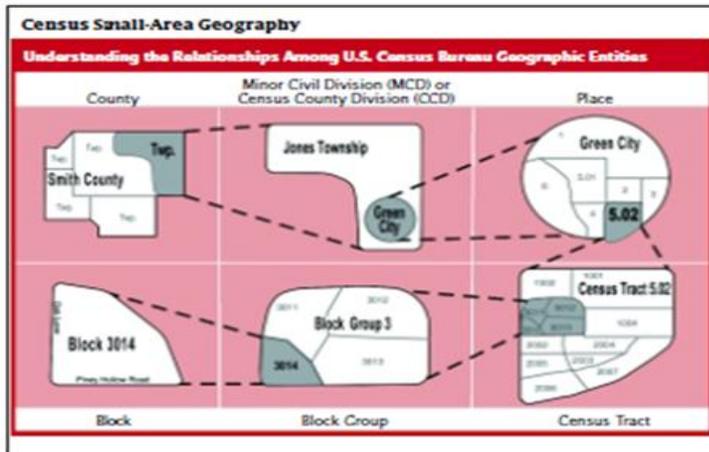
Urban areas consist of urbanized areas (UAs) and other urban entities. A UA consists of densely settled territory with a population of 50,000 or more inhabitants. Other urban areas have from 2,500 to 49,999 population.

### **Voting districts.**

Voting districts represent areas created for the purpose of conducting elections. They include election districts, precincts, wards, polling areas, and other types of electoral units submitted to the Census Bureau by states participating in the Redistricting Data Program.

### **ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA™).**

ZCTAs are approximate representations of U.S. Postal Service ZIP Code service areas. ZCTAs are composed of census blocks and represent the majority ZIP Code for addresses within a census block.



## Maps and Geographic Products

### Census block maps

These maps show the boundaries, names, and codes for American Indian/Alaska Native areas, and Hawaiian home lands, states, counties, county subdivisions, places, census tracts, and census blocks. This map series will also be produced by specified governmental units (e.g., American Indian and Alaska Native areas, and Hawaiian home lands, counties, (incorporated places, and functioning minor civil divisions).

### Census tract outline maps

These county maps show the boundaries and numbers of census tracts and names of features underlying the boundaries. They also show the boundaries, names, and codes for American Indian and Alaska Native areas, counties, county subdivisions, and places.

