

# Census Data & Resources

Finding the most current and relevant  
data resources

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# Importance of the Census

- **Congressionally mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution**
  - First Census was in 1790
- **Why do we conduct the Census?**
  - Congressional Apportionment
  - Redistricting
  - Data is used to allocate billions of dollars in federal funds

# Federal Funding from Census Data

**More than \$400 billion dollars** annually in federal grants and direct assistance allocated based on Census data.

- Decennial Census
- Population Estimates
- American Community Survey
- Other Census Surveys



# 10 Largest Federal Programs that use Population and Income data as factors

- Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
- Unemployment Insurance
- Highway Planning and Construction
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Federal Pell Grant Program
- Title 1 Grants to Local Educational Agencies
- Special Education Grants to States
- National School Lunch Program
- Head Start



# Decennial Census Short Form Only!

- In Census 2000, 1 in 6 households received the 53 question, 40 page long form
  - Detailed social, economic & housing info
- 2010 Census was **SHORT FORM ONLY!**
  - 10 Questions
- 2010 Questionnaire Topics
  - Name
  - Sex
  - Age
  - Race
  - Ethnicity
  - Housing Tenure
  - Housing Relationship



# Population Estimates Program

- Formulated based on latest census number and birth rate, death rate and migration
- Provides annual population and (some) general demographics (age, sex, race and ethnicity)
- Data available for nation, States, Metro Areas, Counties and Cities/Towns
- General demographic info available only for Nation, States and Counties (not Metro Areas or Cities/Towns)
- OFFICIAL CENSUS COUNT FOR INTERCENSAL YEARS!





# American Community Survey

- Social and Economic information every year rather than just once a decade
- Took the place of the census long form (2005)
- At the start of each month, the questionnaire is mailed to a scientifically selected random sample of household in counties throughout the Nation
- The Census will continue to conduct a short-form-only Census ever 10 years
- **NOT A COUNT! VIEW TRENDS! USE PERCENTAGES!**



# American Community Survey

## CURRENT DATA AVAILABLE FOR 2009

- Released for the first time in 2010, data is currently available for areas with a population of 20,000 or less
  - Areas with a population **65,000+** : 1-year estimates  
(data avail. For 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)
  - Areas with a population **20,000+** : 3-year estimates  
(data avail. For 2005-07 and 2006-08, 2007-2009)
  - Areas below **20,000** (incl. census tracts & block groups)  
5-year estimates (2005-2009)





# SF 1 (100% Data)

- Household Relationship
- Sex
- Age
- Hispanic or Latino Origin
- Race
- Tenure (own/rent)
- Vacancy characteristics



# SF 1 (100% Data)

- **Summary File 1**
- *Summary File 2: Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF1*
- This data is currently being released by the 2010 Census.



# SF 3 (Sample Data)\*

## **Population**

- Marital Status
- Place of birth, citizenship, entry year
- School Enrollment/Ed. Attainment
- Ancestry
- Migration
- Language spoken
- Veteran status
- Disability
- Grandparents as caregivers
- Labor force status
- Place of work, journey to work
- Occupation, industry, class of worker
- Work status in 1999
- Income in 1999
- Poverty status

## **Housing**

- Value of home or monthly rent paid - Units in structure
- Year structure built
- Number of rooms and number of bedrooms
- Year moved into residence
- Plumbing and kitchen facilities
- Telephone service
- Vehicles available
- Heating fuel
- Farm residence
- Utilities, mortgage, taxes, Insurance and fuel costs

**\*references Census 2000**



# SF 3 (Sample Data)

- **Summary File 3**
- **Summary File 4**: *Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF3*
- **Now collected by ACS**



# American FactFinder (cont.)

Consistency! Consistency! Consistency!

- No matter what survey, census, year or data you want, the process remains the same:
  1. Choose your survey
  2. Choose your data file/year and table type
  3. Choose your geography
  4. Choose your data item/table



# American FactFinder (cont.)

## TYPES AND TABLES

### DECENNIAL AND ACS

Quick Tables (Data Profiles) - Predefined tables for one geographic area. Simplest to access, least detailed.

Geographic Comparison Tables – Tables containing small amount of information for a group of related areas

Detailed Tables – Tables that provide the most detailed data on all topics and geo areas. Allows for choosing of multiple tables and multiple geos. All other tables are sourced from these tables.

### ACS ONLY

Ranking Tables – Tables that are ranked by state only.

Selected Population Profiles – Predefined tables that allow detailed race groups and Ancestries to be cross referenced.





# Additional Surveys & Programs

- **Economic Census-** taken every 5 years for years ending in “2” and “7”. Provides a detailed portrait of the United States' economy <http://www.census.gov/econ/census07/>
- **Statistical Abstracts-** see Higher Education Institutions and Education
- **Commerce Connect-** Economic Development Initiative that provides resources to U.S. businesses.

# Additional Surveys

- **Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI)-**
- set of economic indicators:
  - employment
  - job creation
  - wages and worker turnover
- that can be queried by different levels of geography -- state, county, metro, and workforce investment area -- as well as by detailed industry, gender, and age of workers.



# Contact Information

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