



American Community Survey (ACS)

for Goldschmidt Data Immersion Workshop

January 13, 2016

Steve Klein
American Community Survey Office

Outline

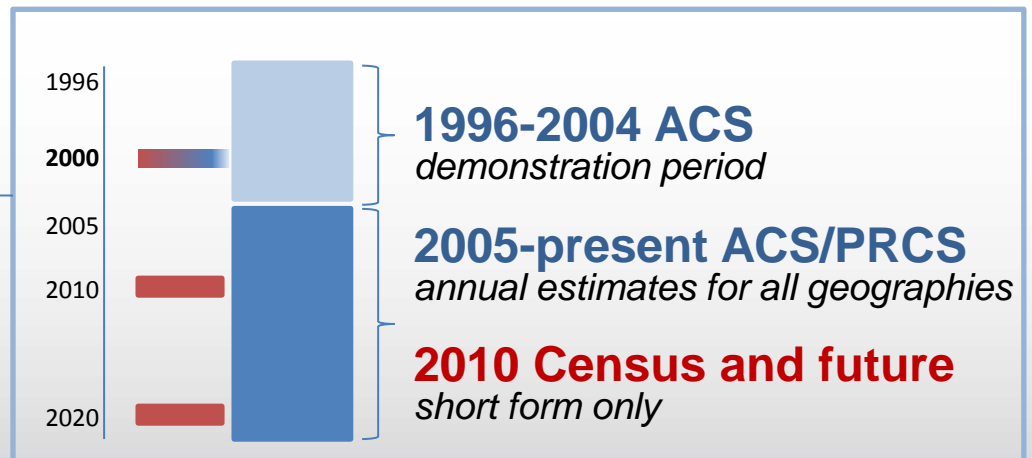
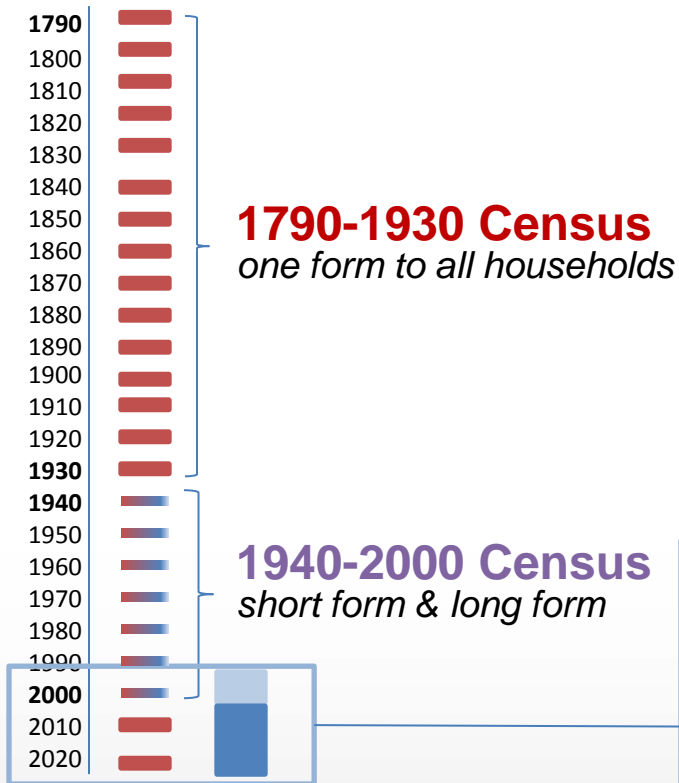
- American Community Survey (ACS) basics
- Resources for learning more
- Accessing ACS data products
- Stay in touch
- Questions/Exercises

ACS Basics

- Ongoing monthly survey sent to 3.5 million addresses per year to produce detailed population and housing estimates each year
 - Visit 20,000 Group Quarter facilities and sample approximately 194,000 residents each year
- Designed to produce *critical information on small areas and small population groups* previously collected on the decennial long form
- Covers 35+ topics and supports over 300 known Federal Government uses
- Data released twice annually
 - 1-year estimates (12 months of data)
 - 5-year estimates (60 months of data)

The image displays three overlapping representations of the American Community Survey (ACS) forms. The top-most is a paper questionnaire titled 'Housing' with various questions and checkboxes. Below it is a computer monitor showing the online survey interface, which includes a 'Welcome to the American Community Survey' message, a 'Please Log In' section with a barcode and 'Example User ID', and a 'Login' button. The bottom-most image is a mobile phone screen showing the survey interface, with a 'Please Log In' section and a 'Login' button. The forms are presented in a way that shows both the physical and digital versions of the survey.

Census & ACS



How is the ACS Different from a Census?

	ACS	2010 Census
<i>purpose</i>	Sample estimates	Official counts
<i>produces</i>	Population characteristics	Population totals
<i>new data every</i>	Year	10 years
<i>data reflect</i>	Period of time	Point in time

ACS Data Collection Process

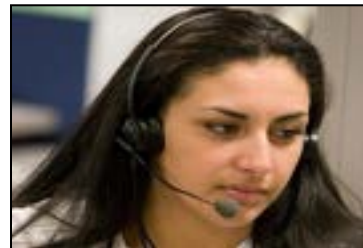
Online



Mail



Telephone



Personal Visit



Self-Response Modes

Non-Response Modes

ACS Content

Social

Ancestry
Citizenship
Disability
Educational Attainment
Fertility
Grandparents
Language
Marital Status
Migration
School Enrollment
Veterans

Demographic

Age
Hispanic Origin
Race
Relationship
Sex

Economic

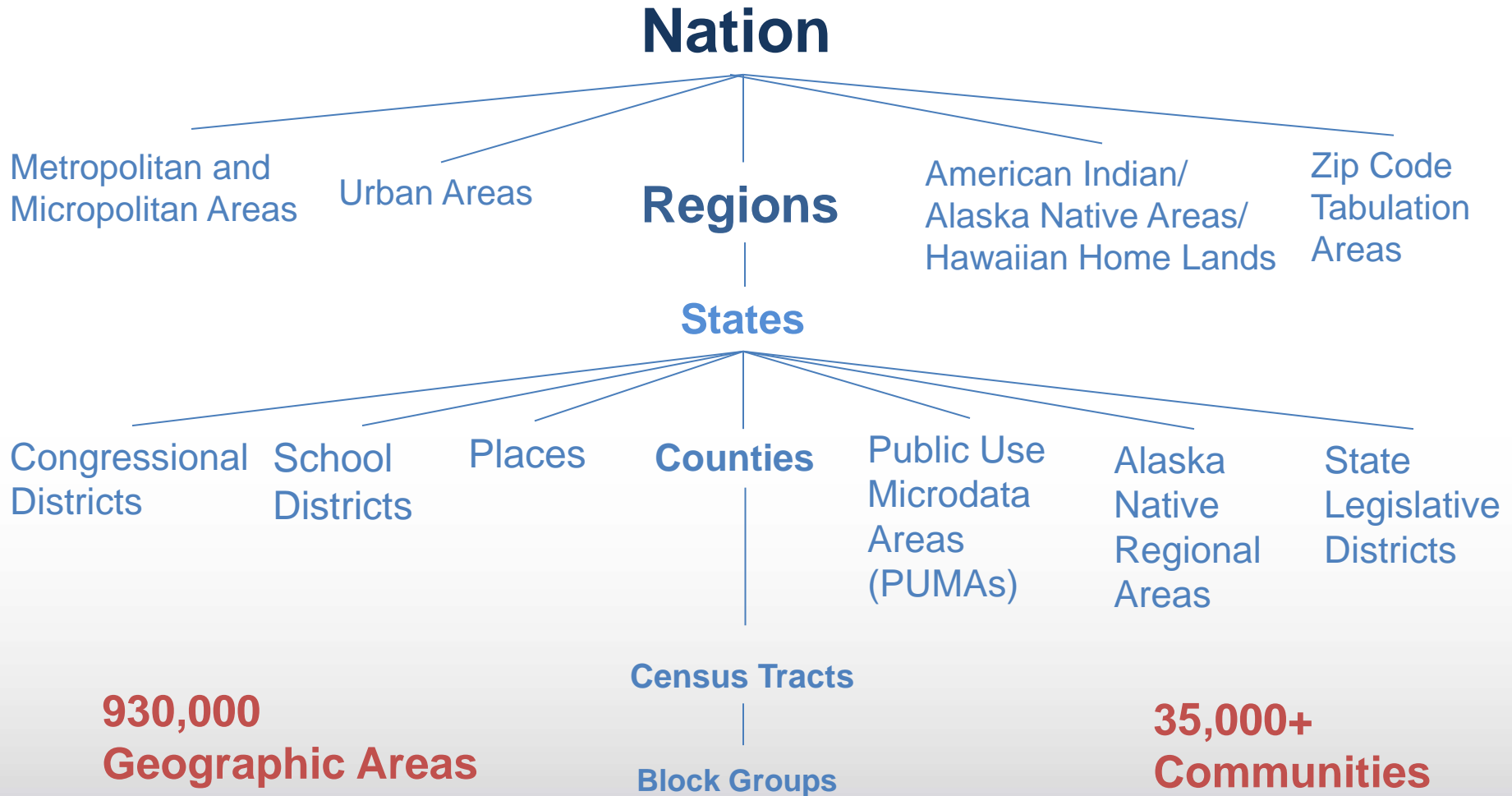
Class of Worker
Commuting
Employment Status
Food Stamps (SNAP)
Health Insurance
Hours/Week,
Weeks/Year
Income
Industry & Occupation

Housing

Computer & Internet Use
Costs (Mortgage, Taxes, Insurance)
Heating Fuel
Home Value
Occupancy
Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities
Structure
Tenure (Own/Rent)
Utilities
Vehicles
Year Built/ Year Moved In

35+ Topics → **1000+ Tables** → **11 Billion Estimates**

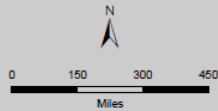
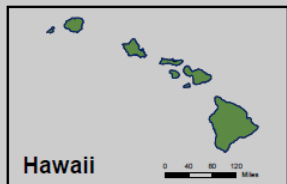
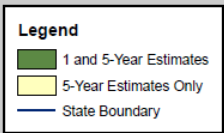
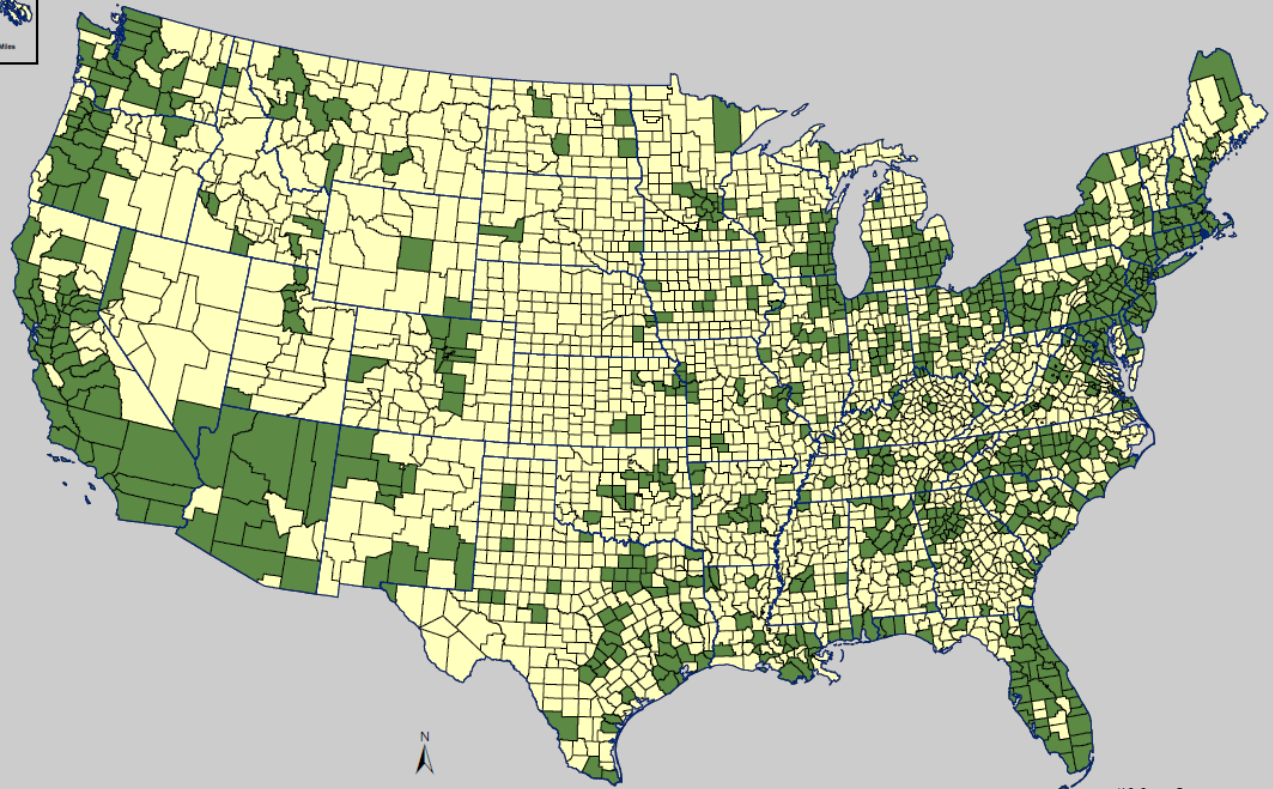
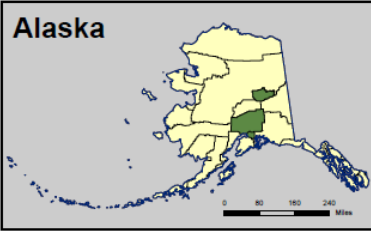
Selected Census Geographic Concepts



Availability of ACS Data Products

Estimated Population of Geographic Area	1-Year Estimates	5-Year Estimates
65,000 or more	X	X
Less than 65,000		X
Release Date	September 2015	December 2015

2014 ACS Estimate Type Availability by County



U.S. Census Bureau
American Community Survey Office
Geography Branch
August 2015

ACS Main Page



[Topics](#) Population, Economy | [Geography](#) Maps, Geographic Data | [Library](#) Infographics, Publications | [Data](#) Tools, Developers | [About the Bureau](#) Research, Surveys | [Newsroom](#) News, Events, Blogs

American Community Survey (ACS)

- About the Survey
- Respond to the Survey
- News & Updates
- Data
- Guidance for Data Users
- Geography & ACS
- Technical Documentation
- Methodology
- Library
- Operations and Administration
- Contact Us

The American Community Survey helps local officials, community leaders and businesses understand the changes taking place in their communities. It is the premier source for detailed information about the American people and workforce.



What is the ACS?

How do I respond to the ACS?

Where can I get ACS data?



Latest

[Data](#) | [News](#) | [Events](#) | [Library](#)



Respond to the ACS.
[Learn how.](#)

Data Tables & Tools

The ACS provides data tables including Comparison and Selected Population Profiles, and Subject, Detailed, Ranking, and Geographic Comparison Tables.

Summary File Data

The ACS Summary File is a set of comma-delimited text files that contain all of the detailed tables for the ACS.

census.gov/acs

Selected Ways to Access

- QuickFacts
- Census Explorer
- OnTheMap for Emergency Management
- Census Business Builder
- Narrative Profiles
- American FactFinder
- Application Programming Interface (API)

QuickFacts

district of

-- SELECT A FACT --

RESET

TABLE ³

MAP

CHART

DASHBOARD

DOWNLOAD

able

ALL TOPICS Q = Browse more datasets

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA X SUITLAND CDP, MARYLAND X UNITED STATES X

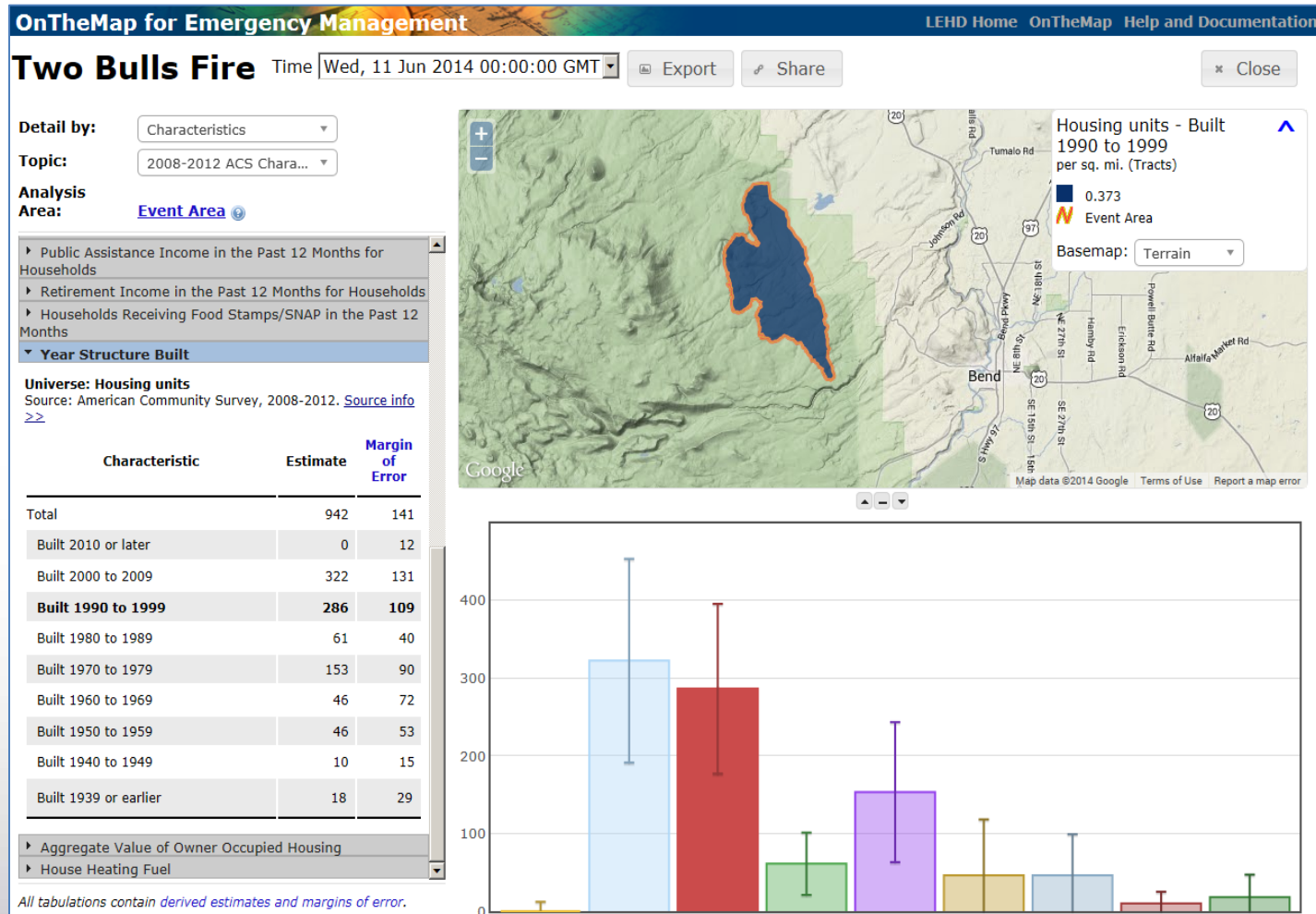
PEOPLE

Population

Population estimates, July 1, 2014, (V2014)	658,893	X	318,857,056
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010, (V2014)	601,767	X	308,758,105
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 (estimates base) to July 1, 2014, (V2014)	9.5%	X	3.3%
Population, Census, April 1, 2010	601,723	25,825	308,745,538
Age and Sex			
Persons under 5 years, percent, July 1, 2014, (V2014)	6.5%	X	6.2%
Persons under 5 years, percent, April 1, 2010	5.4%	8.3%	6.5%
Persons under 18 years, percent, July 1, 2014, (V2014)	17.5%	X	23.1%
Persons under 18 years, percent, April 1, 2010	16.8%	27.6%	24.0%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, July 1, 2014, (V2014)	11.3%	X	14.5%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, April 1, 2010	11.4%	6.8%	13.0%
Female persons, percent, July 1, 2014, (V2014)	52.6%	X	50.8%
Female persons, percent, April 1, 2010	52.8%	55.3%	50.8%

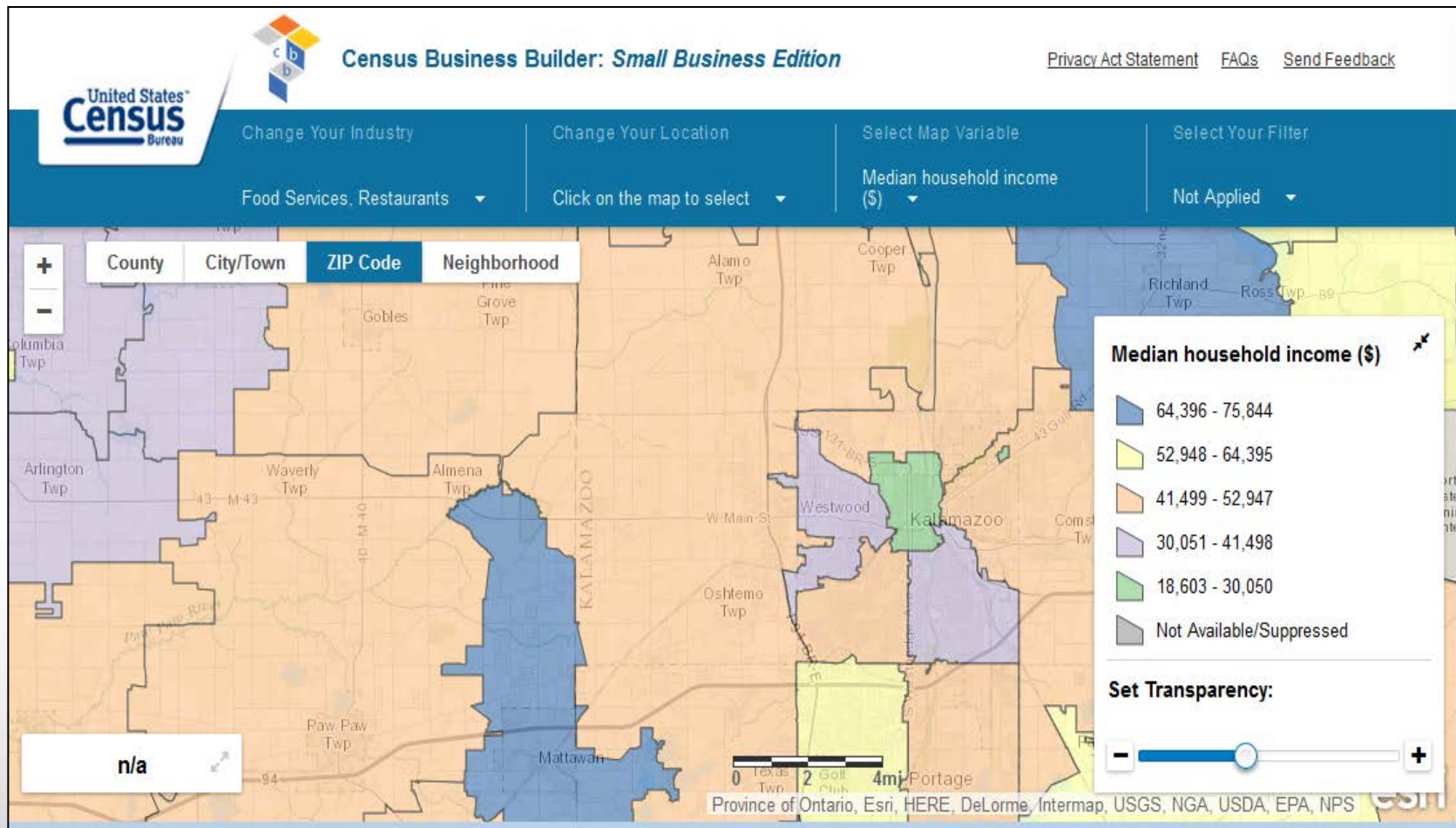
quickfacts.census.gov

OnTheMap for Emergency Management



onthemap.ces.census.gov/em

Census Business Builder



census.gov/data/data-tools/cbb.html

Data Product Types

Profiles

- Data Profiles (DP)
- Narrative Profiles (NP)
- Comparison Profiles (CP)
- Selected Population Profiles (S0201)

Tables

- Detailed Tables (B or C)
- Subject Tables (S)
- Ranking Tables (R)
- Geographic Comparison Tables (GCT)

Table/Profile Numbering

B 06004A PR

- B=Data Product Type (Base Table)
- 06=Subject (Place of Birth)
- 004=Sequential Number (2 or 3 digits)
- A=Race/Hispanic Origin (White Alone)
- PR=For Puerto Rico Geographies Only

Data Profile vs Detailed Table

Subject	College Park city, Maryland			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	28,690	+/-368	28,690	(X)
In labor force	14,997	+/-559	52.3%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	52.1%	+/-1.9
Employed	13,243	+/-619	46.2%	+/-2.1
Unemployed	1,695	+/-313	5.9%	+/-1.1
Armed Forces	59	+/-47	0.2%	+/-0.2
Not in labor force	13,693	+/-601	47.7%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	14,938	(X)
Percent Unemployed	(X)	(X)	11.3%	+/-2.1
Females 16 years and over	13,697	+/-462	13,697	(X)
In labor force	6,982	+/-400	51.0%	+/-2.7
Civilian labor force	6,971	+/-401	50.9%	+/-2.7
Employed	6,429	+/-429	46.9%	+/-3.0
Own children under 6 years	851	+/-210	851	(X)
All parents in family in labor force	569	+/-184	66.9%	+/-14.2
Own children 6 to 17 years	1,242	+/-254	1,242	(X)
All parents in family in labor force	919	+/-199	74.0%	+/-12.9
COMMUTING TO WORK				
Workers 16 years and over	12,874	+/-642	12,874	(X)
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	6,220	+/-494	48.3%	+/-2.9
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	1,162	+/-277	9.0%	+/-2.2
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	1,686	+/-306	13.1%	+/-2.2
Walked	2,670	+/-304	20.7%	+/-2.2
Other means	433	+/-138	3.4%	+/-1.0
Worked at home	703	+/-210	5.5%	+/-1.6
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	26.7	+/-1.3	(X)	(X)
OCCUPATION				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13,243	+/-619	13,243	(X)
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	6,203	+/-536	46.8%	+/-3.5
Service occupations	2,456	+/-382	18.5%	+/-2.6
Sales and office occupations	3,309	+/-373	25.0%	+/-2.7
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	709	+/-201	5.4%	+/-1.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	566	+/-126	4.3%	+/-0.9
INDUSTRY				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13,243	+/-619	13,243	(X)
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	6	+/-9	0.0%	+/-0.1
Construction	502	+/-172	3.8%	+/-1.3

Workers 16 years and over

Car, truck, or van -- drove alone

Car, truck, or van -- carpooled

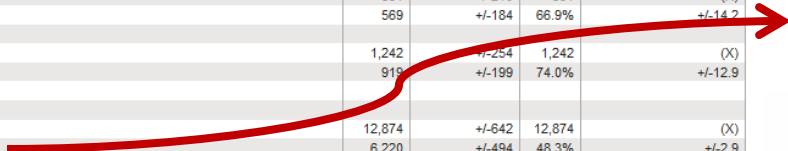
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)

Walked

Other means

Worked at home

Mean travel time to work (minutes)



	College Park city, Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	12,874	+/-642
Car, truck, or van:	7,382	+/-525
Drove alone	6,220	+/-494
Carpooled:	1,162	+/-277
In 2-person carpool	973	+/-235
In 3-person carpool	77	+/-56
In 4-or-more-person carpool	112	+/-93
Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1,686	+/-306
Bus or trolley bus	596	+/-174
Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico)	0	+/-26
Subway or elevated	935	+/-201
Railroad	155	+/-89
Ferryboat	0	+/-26
Bicycle	350	+/-123
Walked	2,670	+/-304
Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	83	+/-59
Worked at home	703	+/-210
Male:	6,548	+/-460
Car, truck, or van:	3,699	+/-387
Drove alone	3,134	+/-377
Carpooled:	565	+/-166
In 2-person carpool	461	+/-143
In 3-person carpool	49	+/-43
In 4-or-more-person carpool	55	+/-51
Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1,050	+/-238
Bus or trolley bus	362	+/-140
Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico)	0	+/-26
Subway or elevated	576	+/-151
Railroad	112	+/-81
Ferryboat	0	+/-26
Bicycle	229	+/-93
Walked	1,163	+/-191
Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	59	+/-49
Worked at home	348	+/-168
Female:	6,326	+/-439
Car, truck, or van:	3,683	+/-409
Drove alone	3,086	+/-380
Carpooled:	597	+/-171
In 2-person carpool	512	+/-147
In 3-person carpool	28	+/-37
In 4-or-more-person carpool	57	+/-55
Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	636	+/-154
Bus or trolley bus	234	+/-104
Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico)	0	+/-26
Subway or elevated	359	+/-103
Railroad	43	+/-44
Ferryboat	0	+/-26
Bicycle	121	+/-69
Walked	1,507	+/-208
Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	24	+/-29
Worked at home	355	+/-99

Application Programming Interface (API)

Developers

API Forum

About this Section

App Gallery

Available APIs

Geography

News

Terms of Service

Updates

The Census Bureau has begun rolling out our datasets via APIs. Check out our [Discovery Tool](#). Sign up for our [newsletter](#) to get the latest updates and newest dataset addition. We also invite you to make requests for features / data via our forum.

[Read More](#)

CITY SDK



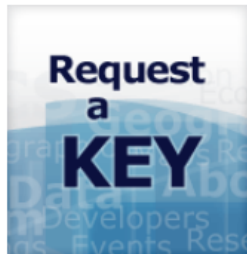
NEW: JavaScript Toolkit!



Developers' Forum



Join the Mailing List



Latest

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Annual Survey of Manufactures

August 18, 2015

Sample estimates of statistics for all manufacturing establishments with one or more paid employee.

census.gov/developers

Source Us!

U.S. Census Bureau's [YYYY-YYYY] American Community Survey [1/3/5]-year [estimates/statistics/data release]



College Destinations: How We Rank Them
American Institute for Economic Research - Apr 7, 2014
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2011
American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Table B01003;
using ...



NMSU Valencia County Extension providing youth develo...
New Mexico State University NewsCenter - Apr 14, 2015
... Mexico and \$53,046 for the United States, according to the U.S.
Census Bureau's 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year
Estimate.



Census Estimates Show Progress Toward ACA Coverag...
Health Affairs (blog) - Sep 28, 2015
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 and 2014 American
Community Survey 1-year estimates from Table S2701 in American
Fact Finder.

Continue the Conversation

#ACSdata



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instagram.com/uscensusbureau



pinterest.com/uscensusbureau

Exercise

- Use the following tools to find the average commute to work for your county of choice:
 - QuickFacts (quickfacts.census.gov)
 - Census Explorer (census.gov/censusexplorer)
 - American FactFinder (factfinder.census.gov)

QuickFacts

QuickFacts Beta

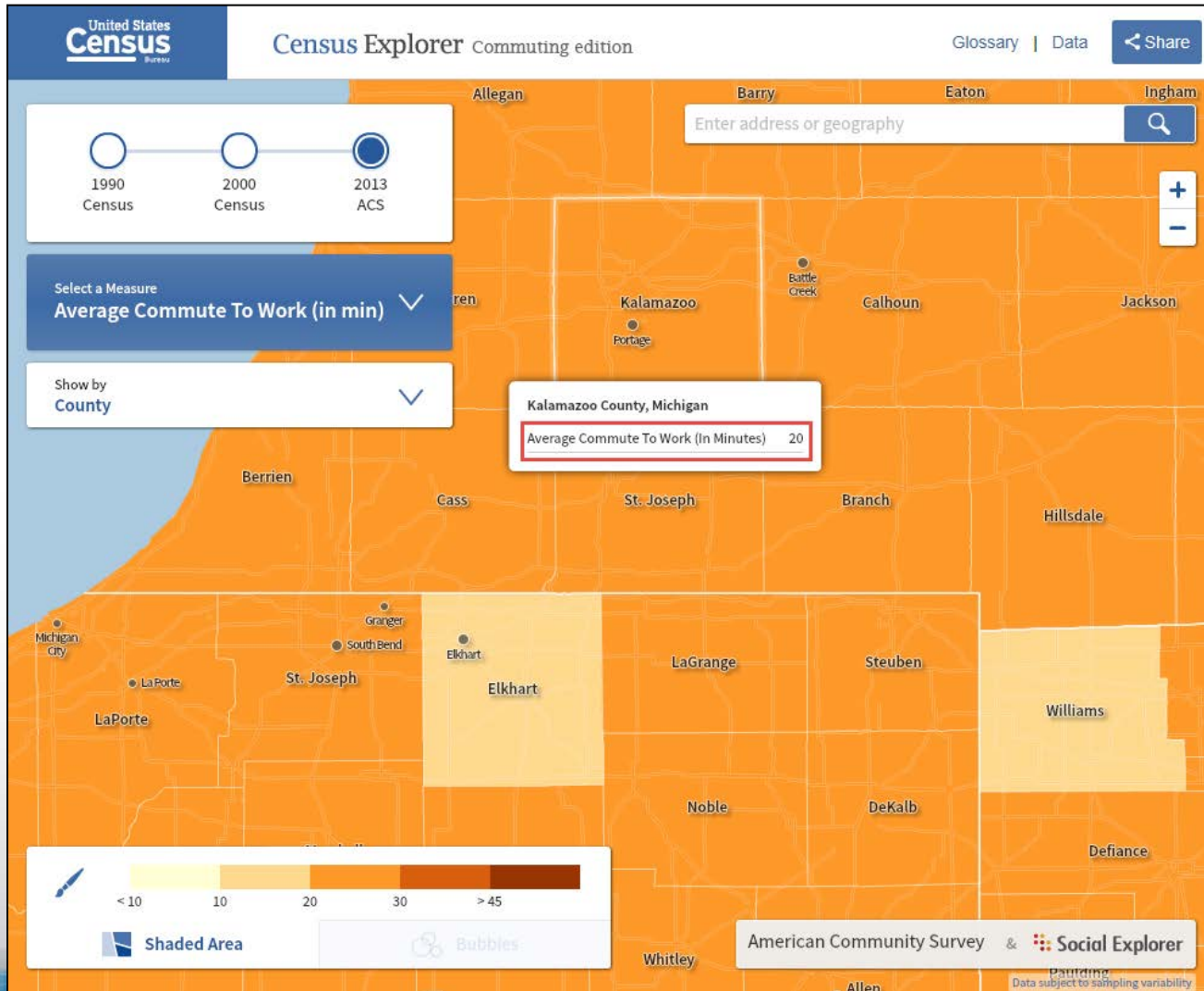
[Learn more about this application >](#)
[Tell us what you think >](#)

-- SELECT A FACT -- SET

Table

ALL TOPICS	KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN	UNITED STATES	<input type="text" value="Enter state, county, city or town"/>
In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2009-2013	65.9%	63.8%	
In civilian labor force, female, percent of population age 16 years+, 2009-2013	61.9%	59.0%	
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2009-2013	20.0	25.5	
Median household income (in 2013 dollars), 2009-2013	\$45,775	\$53,046	
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2013 dollars), 2009-2013	\$25,757	\$28,155	

Census Explorer



American FactFinder

Subject	Kalamazoo County, Michigan			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	202,264	+/-248	202,264	(X)
In labor force	133,416	+/-1,220	66.0%	+/-0.6
Civilian labor force	133,293	+/-1,224	65.9%	+/-0.6
Employed	117,581	+/-1,317	58.1%	+/-0.7
Unemployed	15,712	+/-1,003	7.8%	+/-0.5
Armed Forces	123	+/-73	0.1%	+/-0.1
Not in labor force	68,848	+/-1,230	34.0%	+/-0.6
Civilian labor force	133,293	+/-1,224	133,293	(X)
Percent Unemployed	(X)	(X)	11.8%	+/-0.7
Females 16 years and over				
In labor force	64,565	+/-969	61.9%	+/-0.9
Civilian labor force	64,552	+/-969	61.9%	+/-0.9
Employed	57,362	+/-981	55.0%	+/-0.9
Own children under 6 years				
All parents in family in labor force	13,065	+/-543	72.4%	+/-2.6
Own children 6 to 17 years				
All parents in family in labor force	27,421	+/-886	75.1%	+/-2.1
COMMUTING TO WORK				
Workers 16 years and over	114,940	+/-1,354	114,940	(X)
Car, truck, or van -- drove alone	95,261	+/-1,416	82.9%	+/-0.9
Car, truck, or van -- carpooled	9,410	+/-821	8.2%	+/-0.7
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	1,448	+/-379	1.3%	+/-0.3
Walked	3,448	+/-434	3.0%	+/-0.4
Other means	1,328	+/-333	1.2%	+/-0.3
Worked at home	4,045	+/-406	3.5%	+/-0.4
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	20.0	+/-0.4	(X)	(X)



AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY DATA USERS GROUP

- Purpose:
 - Improve understanding of the value and utility of ACS data.
 - Promote information sharing among data users about key ACS data issues and applications
- Membership is free and open to all interested ACS data users
- Webinars and special sessions at professional meetings planned
- Users group website and online community

<http://www.acsdatausers.org/>

Need Local Stats?

- Assistance Near You!

Our regional data staff can help you access local statistics from the ACS or offer training to help build your skills. Contact us at the following address:
clmso.ddb.questions@census.gov

