



Using the Census Application Programming Interface (API) with the American Community Survey (ACS)

June 21, 2017

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Outline

- **ACS Basics and Content**
- Census API Basics
- Using the API
- Building an API Request
- Stay in Touch
- Questions?

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
- Fully implemented in 2005 as replacement for the long form every ten years.
- 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 (Released in September)
 - 5-year estimates (Released in December)

The image shows three overlapping documents. The top document is a 'Housing' questionnaire with questions about housing types and amenities. The middle document is a 'United States Census' form with a barcode and a 'Please Log In' section. The bottom document is a 'Welcome to the American Community Survey' page with a 'Please Log In' section and a 'Login' button.

ACS Content

Social

Ancestry
Citizenship Status
Disability Status
Educational Attainment &
School Enrollment
Fertility
Grandparents as Caregivers
Language Spoken at Home
Marital History; Marital Status
Migration/Residence 1 Year
Ago
Period of Military Service
Place of Birth
Undergraduate Field of
Degree
Veteran Status
Year of Entry

Demographic

Age
Hispanic or Latino Origin
Race
Relationship to Householder
Sex

Economic

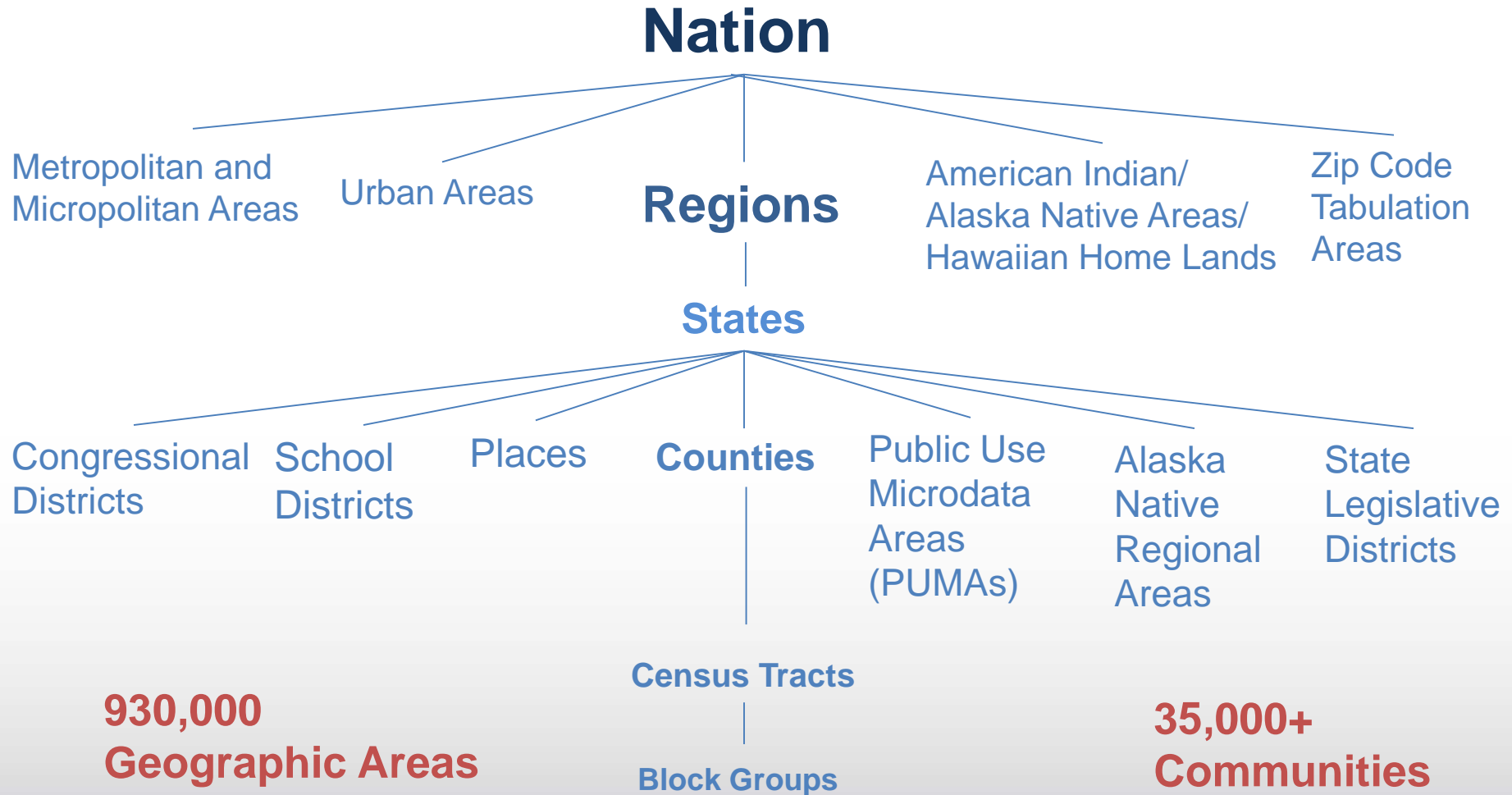
Commuting (Journey to Work)
& Place of Work
Employment Status
Food Stamps/SNAP
Health Insurance Coverage
Income and Earnings
Industry, Occupation, & Class
of Worker
Poverty Status
Work Status Last Year

Housing

Bedrooms
Computer and Internet Use
House Heating Fuel
Kitchen Facilities
Occupancy/Vacancy Status
Occupants Per Room
Plumbing Facilities
Rent
Rooms
Selected Monthly Owner Costs
Telephone Service Available
Tenure (Owner/Renter)
Units in Structure
Value of Home
Vehicles Available
Year Householder Moved into Unit
Year Structure Built

35+ Topics → 1000+ Tables → 11 Billion Estimates

Census Geographic Concepts



Availability of ACS Data Products

Estimated Population of Geographic Area	1-Year Estimates	1-Year Supplemental Estimates	5-Year Estimates
65,000 or more	X	X	X
20,000 to 64,999		X	X
Less than 20,000			X
Release Date	September	October	December

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/news/data-releases.html



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The Census Data API

- Application Programming Interface
- Data Service
- Enables data providers to expose data in a standardized way
- Enables software developers to use Census Bureau data within their applications

Advantages

- Reduces the learning curve by standardizing across multiple datasets
- Access only the variables and geographies needed
- No need to host data on another server
- Gives immediate access to most current data
- No complex interface

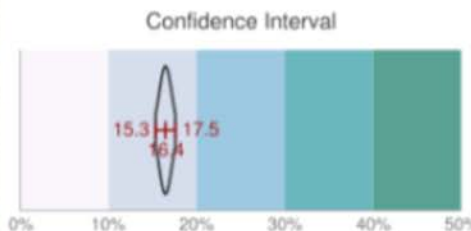
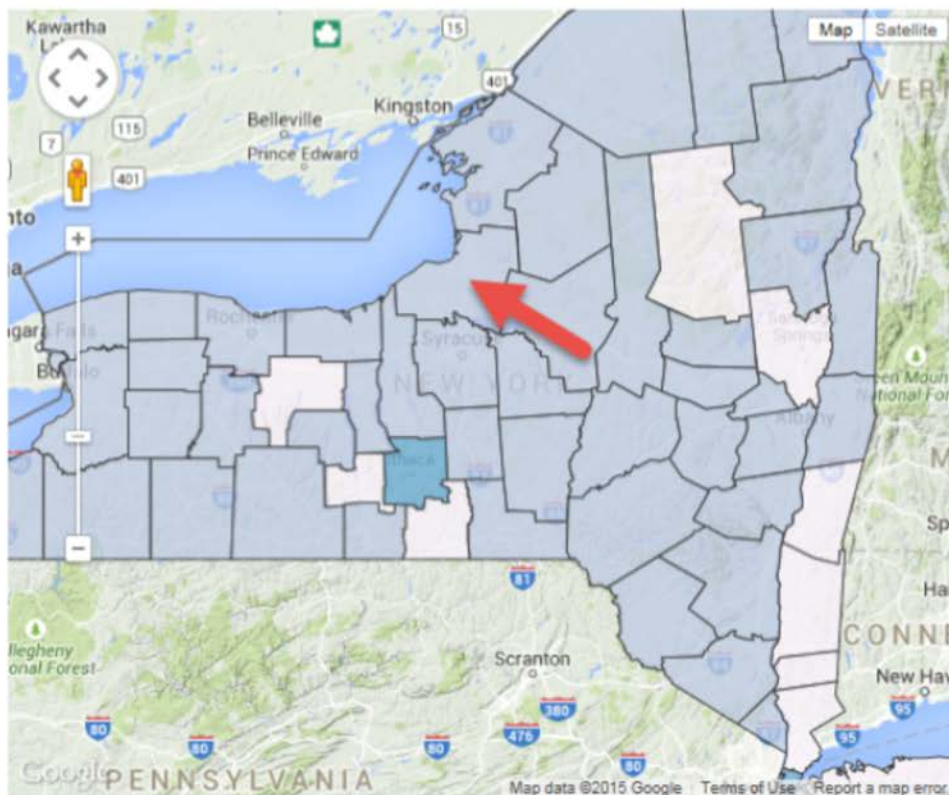


Uses

- Supports mobile and web applications
- Drives interactive data visualizations
- Connects to statistical analysis software like R

Select subgroup: All

Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age



Oswego County, New York

Estimated counts (MOE) from table B17001:

Below poverty level*: 19,116 (+/-1,341)
 Above poverty level*: 97,183 (+/-1,423)
 Calculated total: 116,299 (+/-1,955)

Poverty rate:

Estimate: 16.4%
 Margin of Error (MOE): 1.1
 90% Confidence Interval (CI): <15.3%, 17.5%>
 Standard Error (SE): 0.67
 Coefficient of variation (CV): 4.1%

* Source: Table B17001: American Community Survey, 2008-2012
 This product uses the Census Bureau Data API but is not endorsed or certified by the Census Bureau.

U.S. and World Population Clock



The United States



The World

New!

Mar 16, 2016 20:14 UTC (+4) [Learn More](#) | [Download and Share](#)

U.S. Population

3 2 3 , 1 7 8 , 8 5 9

World Population

7 , 3 1 2 , 0 6 6 , 4 4 6


COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

20:14:52 UTC

- One birth every 8 seconds
- One death every 11 seconds
- One international migrant (net) every 29 seconds
- Net gain of one person every 15 seconds


TOP 10 MOST POPULOUS COUNTRIES

1. China	1,367,485,388	6. Pakistan	199,085,847
2. India	1,251,695,584	7. Nigeria	181,562,056
3. United States	321,368,864	8. Bangladesh	168,957,745
4. Indonesia	255,993,674	9. Russia	142,423,773
5. Brazil	204,259,812	10. Japan	126,919,659



Select a Date

The United States population on March 15, 2016 was: 323,169,015

Select a Date 

Learn More | Download and Share

Features

- Uses your preferences to create a list of top 25 places and gives you information about each one.
- Uses the GPS feature in your phone to provide you with statistics for your current location.
- Uses statistics that are powered by the American Community Survey, which provides information on more than 40 topics for every neighborhood in the nation, ranging from education to commuting.
- Share the app with your friends so that they can find their 25 ideal places.

The *dwellr* app is just one example of how the Census Bureau is following the Digital Government Strategy by making its statistics more available anywhere, anytime and in any place. The Census Bureau does not collect or retain any information using this application. All information is stored only on your phone.

Source data tables

Full tables are available in the American FactFinder online tool and can also be accessed through the Census API.

The *dwellr* app uses the following tables from the American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates:

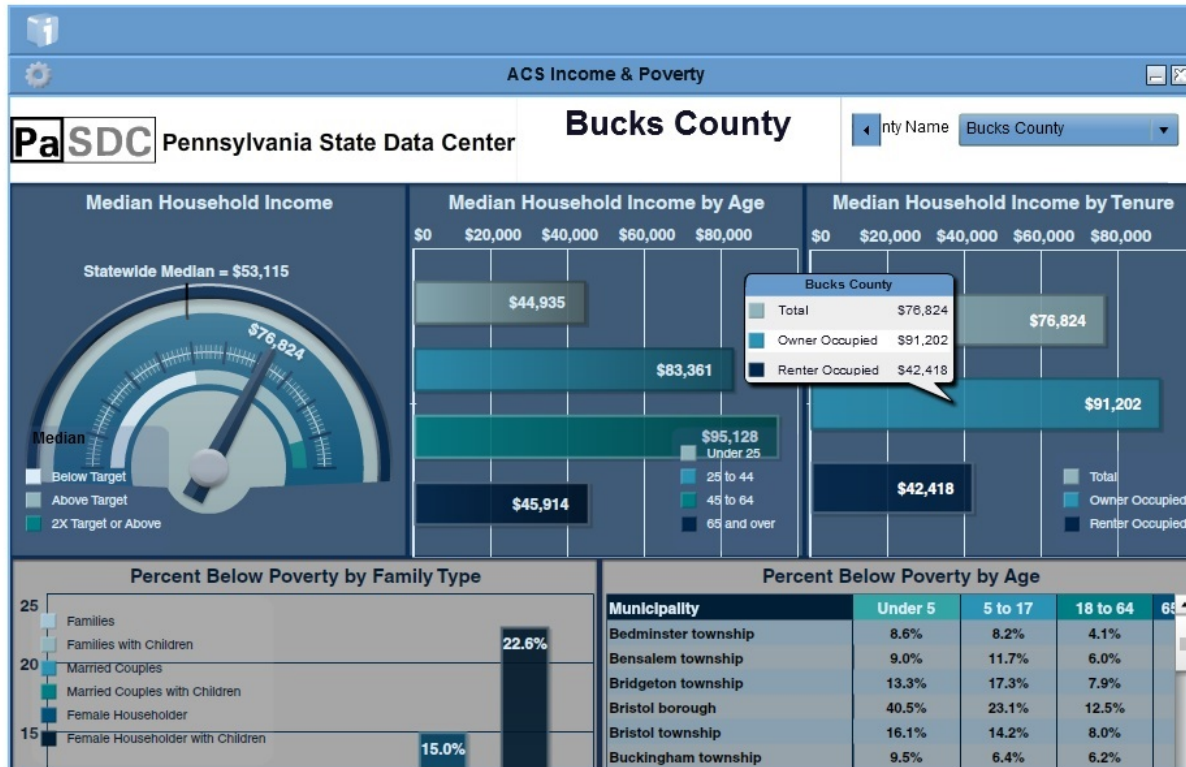
Total Population
B01001. Sex by Age





[Return to Dashboards Home](#)
[Help Using the Dashboards](#)

ACS Income 2010-2014





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Example: American Community Survey

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

B17001 POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE
 Universe: Population for whom poverty status is determined
 2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

<< 1 - 18 of 104 >>

	Alabama		Alaska		Arizona		Arkansas		California		Esti
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Esti
Total:	4,716,105	+/-2,548	718,359	+/-1,166	6,477,191	+/-3,417	2,873,340	+/-3,117	37,593,091	+/-8,648	5.15
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level:	883,371	+/-20,758	67,016	+/-4,778	1,206,460	+/-32,132	565,469	+/-16,418	6,328,824	+/-64,631	66
Male:	383,672	+/-11,572	32,287	+/-2,822	556,176	+/-18,990	260,201	+/-9,760	2,917,397	+/-33,730	30
Under 5 years	45,749	+/-2,944	4,025	+/-801	61,209	+/-3,901	32,490	+/-2,948	308,243	+/-10,058	3
5 years	10,690	+/-1,798	672	+/-255	12,323	+/-1,987	9,802	+/-2,163	62,003	+/-3,959	
6 to 11 years	52,133	+/-4,133	3,526	+/-686	70,368	+/-5,632	35,777	+/-3,287	364,451	+/-11,046	3
12 to 14 years	21,974	+/-2,440	1,705	+/-536	32,995	+/-3,128	14,661	+/-2,257	169,237	+/-6,393	1
15 years	6,620	+/-1,085	553	+/-336	11,129	+/-1,584	4,440	+/-1,009	59,866	+/-3,289	
16 and 17 years	14,701	+/-2,022	830	+/-342	21,825	+/-2,536	11,257	+/-1,892	116,937	+/-5,239	
18 to 24 years	58,848	+/-4,367	4,547	+/-1,279	78,678	+/-4,883	34,889	+/-3,859	423,124	+/-13,916	5
25 to 34 years	40,975	+/-2,688	3,826	+/-991	72,967	+/-4,885	29,329	+/-3,122	379,324	+/-10,411	4
35 to 44 years	35,409	+/-2,876	3,237	+/-586	54,724	+/-3,647	24,394	+/-2,140	332,954	+/-8,710	2
45 to 54 years	35,528	+/-3,074	3,806	+/-904	55,426	+/-3,679	25,090	+/-2,411	287,088	+/-8,329	2
55 to 64 years	35,728	+/-2,649	3,914	+/-717	50,895	+/-3,478	23,043	+/-2,367	237,319	+/-7,637	2
65 to 74 years	16,165	+/-1,925	780	+/-353	19,536	+/-1,968	8,257	+/-1,311	101,912	+/-4,664	1
75 years and over	9,152	+/-1,297	866	+/-534	14,101	+/-1,602	6,772	+/-1,100	74,939	+/-4,350	
Female:	499,699	+/-12,872	34,729	+/-2,693	650,284	+/-18,162	305,268	+/-10,313	3,411,427	+/-37,995	36
Under 5 years	45,745	+/-4,079	3,490	+/-657	60,582	+/-4,562	28,218	+/-2,970	300,488	+/-9,113	2

Output

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

Returns data in json format that looks like this:

```
[["NAME", "B17001_002E", "state"],  
["Alabama", "883371", "01"],  
["Alaska", "67016", "02"],  
["Arizona", "1206460", "04"],  
["Arkansas", "565469", "05"],  
["California", "6328824", "06"],
```

Continued...



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API Request – Four Easy Steps

1

Identify the
dataset you
want to use

[https://api.census.gov/
data.html](https://api.census.gov/data.html)

[https://www.census.g
ov/developers/](https://www.census.gov/developers/)

2

Identify items
needed

Variable names
/variables.html

Geography codes
(usually FIPS)

API Request – Four Easy Steps

3

Request the
variables and
geographies

?get=variable,names,separated,by,commas
&for=geography level:code

4

Put it all together

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

Example: American Community Survey

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

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API Discovery Tool

<https://api.census.gov/data.html>

Census API: Datasets in /data/2013/acs1 and its descendants

Title	Description	Vintage	Dataset Name	Geography List	Variable List	Tag List	Developer Examples	Documentation	API Base URL
2013 American Community Survey - Summarized Data: 1-Year Summary File	The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The ACS replaced the decennial census long form in 2010 and thereafter by collecting long form type information throughout the decade rather than only once every 10 years. Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households -- that is, about each person and the housing unit itself. The American Community Survey produces demographic, social, housing and economic estimates in the form of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates based on population thresholds. The strength of the ACS is in estimating population and housing characteristics. The 2012 data provide key estimates for each of the topic areas covered by the ACS for the nation, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, every congressional district, every metropolitan area, and all counties and places with populations of 65,000 or more. Although the ACS produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, and estimates of housing units for states and counties. For 2010 and other decennial census years, the Decennial Census provides the official counts of population and housing units.	2013	acs1	geographies	variables	tags	examples	documentation	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1
2013 American Community Survey - Data Profiles: 1-Year Data Profile	The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The ACS replaced the decennial census long form in 2010 and thereafter by collecting long form type information throughout the decade rather than only once every 10 years. Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households -- that is, about each person and the housing unit itself. The American Community Survey produces demographic, social, housing and economic estimates in the form of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates based on population thresholds. The strength of the ACS is in estimating population and housing characteristics. The 2012 data profiles provide key estimates for each of the topic areas covered by the ACS for the nation, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, every congressional district, every metropolitan area, and all counties and places with populations of 65,000 or more. Although the ACS produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, and estimates of housing units for states and counties. For 2010 and other decennial census years, the Decennial Census provides the official counts of population and housing units.	2013	acs1, profile	geographies	variables	N/A	examples	documentation	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/profile

2 datasets

Start Your Request

[https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1
?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*)

1

Requests always begin
with:

[https://api.census.gov/d
ata](https://api.census.gov/data)

Add the Data Year

[https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1
?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*)

1

Add the data year to the URL. This is usually the year the data were collected.

Add the Dataset Name

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

1

Find the dataset name
at:

<https://api.census.gov/2013/data.html>

https://api.census.gov/data/2013.html

Census API: Datasets in /data/2013 and its descendants

Title	Description	Vintage	Dataset Name	Geography List	Variable List	Tag List	Examples	Developer Documentation	API Base URL
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2013 American Community Survey - Data Profiles: 1-Year Data Profile	The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The ACS replaced the decennial census long form in 2010 and thereafter by collecting long form type information throughout the decade rather than only once every 10 years. Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households – that is, about each person and the housing unit itself. The American Community Survey produces demographic, social, housing and economic estimates in the form of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates based on population thresholds. The strength of the ACS is in estimating population and housing characteristics. The 2012 data profiles provide key estimates for each of the topic areas covered by the ACS for the nation, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, every congressional district, every metropolitan area, and all counties and places with populations of 65,000 or more. Although the ACS produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, and estimates of housing units for states and counties. For 2010 and other decennial census years, the	2013	acs1_profile	geographies	variables	<i>N/A</i>	examples	documentation	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/profile

Start Your Request

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*

2

Always start your variable request with `?get=`

Add Your Variables

[https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get= **NAME,B17001_002E**&for=state:*](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*)

3

Find the variables you want here:

<https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/variables.html>

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/variables.html

api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/variables.html

Variable ID	Description	Source	Required	Type
B16010_051M	Margin of Error for!!Bachelor's degree or higher!!Not in labor force!!Speak other Indo-European languages	B16010. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	not required	int
B16010_052E	Bachelor's degree or higher!!Not in labor force!!Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages	B16010. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	not required	int
B16010_052M	Margin of Error for!!Bachelor's degree or higher!!Not in labor force!!Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages	B16010. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	not required	int
B16010_053E	Bachelor's degree or higher!!Not in labor force!!Speak other languages	B16010. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	not required	int
B16010_053M	Margin of Error for!!Bachelor's degree or higher!!Not in labor force!!Speak other languages	B16010. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER	not required	int
B17001_001E	Total:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_001M	Margin of Error for!!Total:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_002E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_002M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_003E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_003M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male:	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_004E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!Under 5 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_004M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!Under 5 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_005E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!5 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_005M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!5 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_006E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!6 to 11 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_006M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!6 to 11 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_007E	Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!12 to 14 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int
B17001_007M	Margin of Error for!!Income in the past 12 months below poverty level!!Male!!12 to 14 years	B17001. Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex by Age	not required	int

api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/variables/B17001_001E.json

B17001 Highlight All Match Case More than 100 matches

Add Your Geography

[https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1
?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*)

4

Find available
geographies here:

[https://api.census.gov/d
ata/2013/acs1/geograp
hy.html](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/geography.html)

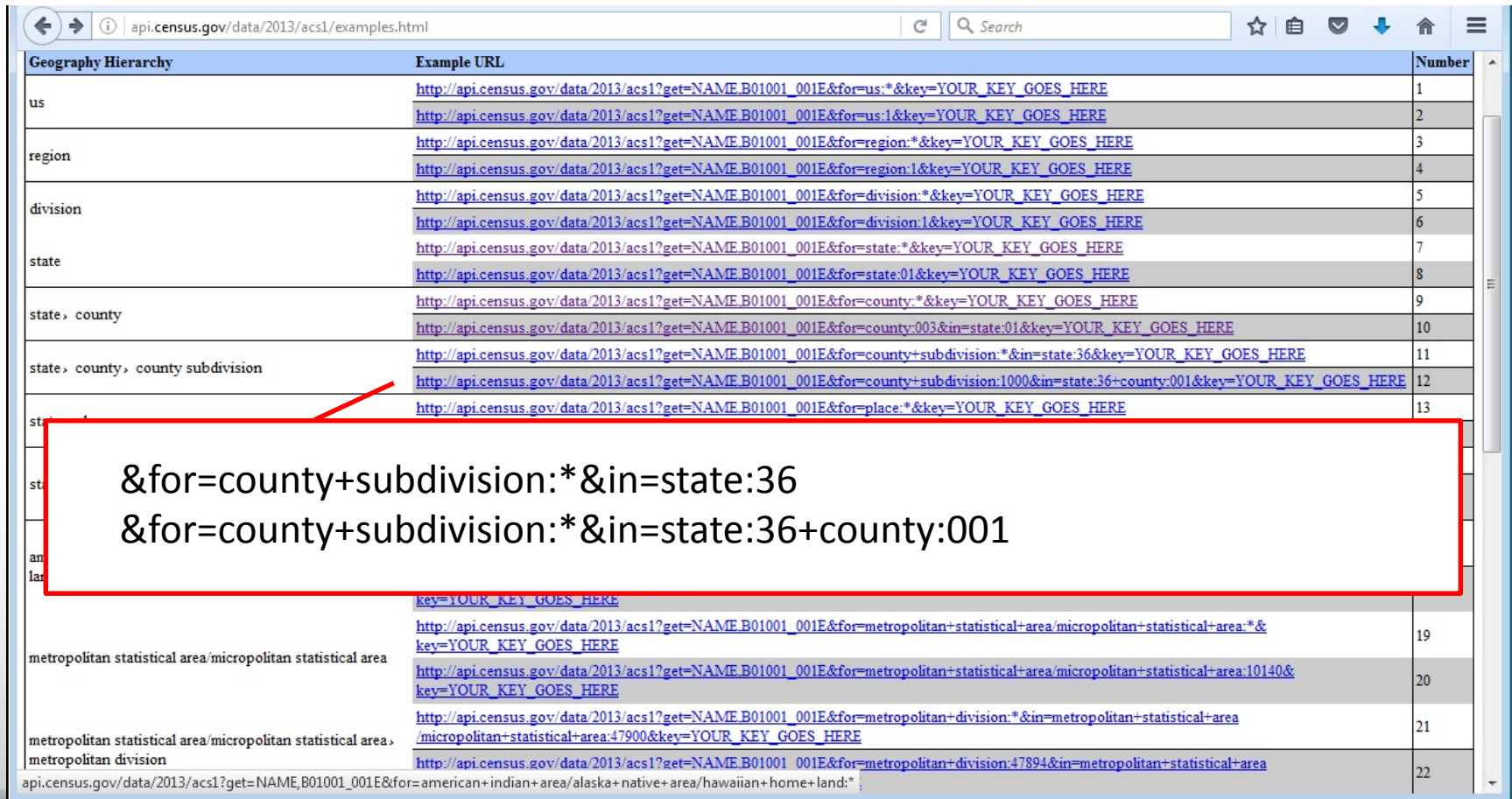
<https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/geography.html>

Census Data API: FIPS Geographies in /data/2013/acs1/geography

Reference Date	Geography Level	Geography Hierarchy
N/A	010	us
N/A	020	region
N/A	020	division
N/A	040	state
N/A	050	state, county
N/A	060	state, county, county subdivision
N/A	160	state, place
N/A	230	state, alaska native regional corporation
N/A	250	american indian area/alaska native area/hawaiian home land
N/A	310	metropolitan statistical area/micropolitan statistical area
N/A	314	metropolitan statistical area/micropolitan statistical area, metropolitan division
N/A	330	combined statistical area
N/A	335	combined new england city and town area
N/A	350	new england city and town area
N/A	355	new england city and town area, necta division
N/A	400	urban area
N/A	500	state, congressional district
N/A	795	state, public use microdata area
N/A	950	state, school district (elementary)
N/A	960	state, school district (secondary)
N/A	970	state, school district (unified)

21 items

https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1/examples.html



Geography Hierarchy	Example URL	Number
us	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=us:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	1
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=us:1&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	2
region	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=region:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	3
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=region:1&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	4
division	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=division:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	5
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=division:1&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	6
state	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=state:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	7
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=state:01&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	8
state > county	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=county:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	9
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=county:003&in=state:01&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	10
state > county > county subdivision	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=county+subdivision:*&in=state:36&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	11
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=county+subdivision:1000&in=state:36+county:001&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	12
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=place:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	13
metropolitan statistical area/micropolitan statistical area	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=metropolitan+statistical+area/micropolitan+statistical+area:*&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	19
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=metropolitan+statistical+area/micropolitan+statistical+area:10140&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	20
metropolitan statistical area/micropolitan statistical area > metropolitan division	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=metropolitan+division:*&in=metropolitan+statistical+area/micropolitan+statistical+area:47900&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE	21
	http://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME.B01001_001E&for=metropolitan+division:47894&in=metropolitan+statistical+area	22

&for=county+subdivision:*&in=state:36
&for=county+subdivision:*&in=state:36+county:001

Put it all Together

[https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1
?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*](https://api.census.gov/data/2013/acs1?get=NAME,B17001_002E&for=state:*)

```
[["NAME", "B17001_002E", "state"],  
["Alabama", "883371", "01"],  
["Alaska", "67016", "02"],  
["Arizona", "1206460", "04"],  
["Arkansas", "565469", "05"],  
["California", "6328824", "06"],
```

Continued...

Resource Links

Census Developers Page:

- <https://www.census.gov/developers/>

API Discovery Tool:

- <https://api.census.gov/data.html>
- <https://api.census.gov/data.xml>
- <https://api.census.gov/data.json>

Convert JSON to CSV data:

- <https://www.convertcsv.com/json-to-csv.htm>

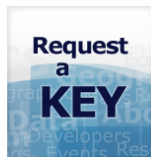


Developers Page

www.census.gov/developers/

Developers

- About this Section
- API Forum
- 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

- [Available APIs](#)
- [News](#)
- [Updates](#)

American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2005-2009 to 2010-2014)

February 24, 2016

Data available down to the block-group level. Covers a range of topics about social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population.

Survey of Business Owners

February 03, 2016

(Non)employer firms, sales/receipts, payroll, employment, by gender, ethnicity, race, veteran status for states, metro/micropolitan areas, counties and places

County Business Patterns and Nonemployer Statistics (2008-2013)

January 27, 2016

Annual statistics on U.S. businesses with and without paid employees or payroll at detailed levels of geography and industry. Both surveys use NAICS codes.

[View All Available APIs](#)

Available APIs for ACS

www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets.html

Census.gov > Data > Developers > Available APIs

Developers

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Available APIs

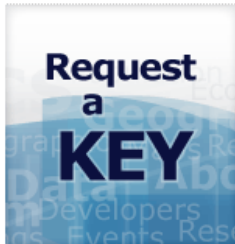
Geography

Guidance for Developers

News

Terms of Service

Updates



Available APIs

We plan on adding more of our publicly available datasets. Here you'll find which of our many data sets are currently available via API. To make specific requests for the release of datasets, please sign up and submit your requests on our [Developer Forum](#).

NEW: We now have a machine-readable dataset discovery service available in beta release. Visit our [Discovery Tool](#) page to learn more.

Page 1 of 2 >

American Community Survey 1-Year Data (2011-2015)

September 15, 2016

Areas with populations of 65,000+. Covers a broad range of topics about social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population.

American Community Survey 3 Year Data (2012-2013)

September 15, 2016

Areas with populations of 20,000+. Covers a broad range of topics about social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population.

American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2009-2015)

September 15, 2016

Data available down to the block-group level. Covers a range of topics about social, economic, demographic, and housing characteristics of the U.S. population.

American Community Survey Migration Flows (2009-2014)

September 15, 2016

Migration flows between counties, minor civil divisions, and metropolitan areas using ACS 5-year data. Flows are crossed by selected characteristics.

American Community Survey Supplemental (2014 -2015)

September 15, 2016

High-level detailed tables tabulated on the 1-year microdata for geographies with populations of 20,000 or more.

Available APIs for ACS

- ACS 1-Year Data (2011-2015)
- ACS 3-Year Data (2012-2013)
- ACS 5-Year Data (2009-2015)
- ACS Migration Flows (2009-2014)
- Supplemental (2014-2015)

Register for a Key

The screenshot displays the United States Census Bureau website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and a search box. Below this is a menu with categories: Topics (Population, Economy), Geography (Maps, Geographic Data), Library (Infographics, Publications), Data (Tools, Developers), About the Bureau (Research, Surveys), and Newsroom (News, Events, Blogs). The main content area is titled 'Developers' and includes a sidebar with links to 'API Forum', 'About this Section', 'App Gallery', 'Available APIs', 'Geography', 'News', 'Terms of Service', and 'Updates'. The main text area contains several articles, including 'The Census Bureau has announced our Discovery Tool, our newest dataset and data via our forum' and 'Request a Key'. A browser window titled 'Key Signup - Internet Explorer' is overlaid on the page, showing the 'Request A Key' form. The form includes fields for 'Organization Name' and 'Email Address', a checkbox for 'I agree to the terms of service', and a 'Submit Key Request' button. Red arrows point from the 'Request a Key' article on the website to the browser window. In the background of the browser window, there is an image of a hand drawing a lightbulb on a chalkboard.



Help Using the API?

Contact:

DataWeb Help Desk

dsd.ferrett@census.gov

1-866-437-0171

Outline

- ACS Basics and Content
- Census API Basics
- Using the API
- Building an API Request
- **Stay in Touch**
- Questions?

Source Us!

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



"As the topic of who bikes in Philly always seems to be a hot topic of conversation on social media, we reached out again for some further analysis of cycling demographics. Econsult researcher Caitlin Furio crunched the numbers for us from the **2008-2012 Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data from the ACS...**"

http://www.philly.com/philly/news/Who_bikes_drives_walks_or_rides_transit_to_work_in_Philly.html



"Homeownership rates are calculated from the **2013 American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)** and are based on whether the head of household, spouse, or unmarried partner is a veteran. "

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jed-kolko/where-veterans-live_b_6134066.html



Household- and individual-level data are based on the. **2012 5-Year American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)**

<http://www.citylab.com/housing/2014/08/where-private-school-enrollment-is-highest-and-lowest-across-the-us/375993/>

Continue the Conversation #ACSdata



Sign up for and manage alerts at
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCENSUS/subscriber/new>



More information on the
American Community Survey:
www.census.gov/acs



(800) 923-8282 or
(301) 763-1405



Email us at:
acso.users.support@census.gov



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youtube.com/user/uscensusbureau



instagram.com/uscensusbureau



pinterest.com/uscensusbureau



linkedin.com/company/us-census-bureau



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
- API Group at:
<https://acsdatacommunity.prb.org/acs-data-products--resources/api/f/15/t/158>

acsdatacommunity.prb.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:

1-844-ASK-DATA

(1-844-275-3282)

census.askdata@census.gov



Questions?