

**NWX-US DEPT OF COMMERCE**

**Moderator: Robin Wyvill  
December 3, 2012  
12:00 pm CT**

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. At this time all participants are in a listen-only mode.

During the question-and-answer session you may press star 1 on your touch-tone phone if you would like to ask a question over the phone.

Today's conference is being recorded. If you have any objections you may disconnect at this time.

I now would like to turn the meeting over to Mrs. Stacy Vidal.

Stacy Vidal: Thank you. Good afternoon, I'm Stacy Vidal from the Census Bureau's Public Information Office.

I'd like to welcome everyone today to our pre-release webinar on the American Community Survey 5-year estimates. Before we begin I'd like to briefly discuss the outline for today. Our presenter is Barbara Downs, the Chief for the Data Analysis and User Education Branch in our American Community Survey Office.

Once we conclude today's presentation we'll convene a question-and-answer session. During the Q&A we ask that for everyone who would like to ask a question that you queue yourselves by pressing star 1. We'll first take questions from members of the media followed by questions from the public.

Before we begin I'd also like to let you know that the information we'll be discussing today will be posted in our online Press Kit which you can find by visiting [census.gov](http://census.gov) and clicking on the third moving image in the upper left corner of the page.

So without further ado I'd like to turn it over to Barbara.

Barbara Downs: Thank you Stacy. Good afternoon and thank you for joining us today. I'm going to go over our outline now. Our webinar will cover the released schedule ACS basic or details about the survey and ACS estimates.

New features with this release such as changes in our data products, improvements in our methodology and the addition of zip code tabulation areas to the geographies for which estimates are released. I'll also provide a brief overview of the ACS briefed series, some guidance on comparing ACS data and throughout an overview of navigating the ACS Web site and the American FactFinder system in order to obtain ACS documentation and estimates for your analyses.

For 2007-11 5-year estimates release is our final release of ACS estimates this year. We previously released 1-year estimates in September, 3-year estimates in October and are now releasing the 5-year estimates. The press embargo starts tomorrow December 4 and the data will be publicly released on Thursday, December 6.

In addition to the 2007-11 ACS 5-year estimates we're releasing this week we will also release the 2009-11 3-year PUMS file. The PUMS files are a set of untabulated records about individual people or housing units. Public Use

Microdata Areas or PUMAs are the lowest level of geography in the PUMS files.

PUMAs contain a minimum of about 100,000 residents. Researchers can use this microdata file to create their own estimates and analyses of ACS data. The 3-year PUMAs files contain records for about 3% of housing units. We released 1-year PUMAs files in October and we'll release the 2007-11 5-year PUMAs file in January 2013.

Turning to Survey basics, the ACS was fully implemented in 2005. It is an ongoing survey that samples over 3.5 million addresses per year and collects data on a wide range of demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics including age, sex, race, education, marital status, employment and income, commuting, housing costs and housing type in addition to other topics. Our data collection modes currently include mail, telephone and in-person interviews.

Beginning with the 2013 ACS the Census Bureau will begin collecting ACS data via the Internet. Sampled housing units currently receive an advance letter notifying the residents that a survey will soon arrive in the mail. Beginning with the mail out for the January 2013 sample which takes place in late December sampled housing units will receive a letter notifying residents that they can log on to a secure Internet site and complete the ACS.

Housing units who do not complete an online survey will then receive a paper questionnaire followed by phone and personal visit methods for non-respondents.

The ACS estimates are published on an annual basis. 1-year estimates are published for geographies with 65,000 or more people; 3-year estimates are

published for geographies with 20,000 or more people and 5-year estimates are published for all geographic areas down to such small areas as census tracts and block groups.

The ACS estimates are period estimates. They describe the average characteristics over a specific period of time. Because the ACS is collected on a daily basis for an entire year the measured characteristics represent that time period. So the 2011 income characteristic describes the income over the entire year, not on any particular day. Please also note that 5-year estimates are not an average of five 1-year estimates; they're an estimate of those characteristics over the entire 5-year period.

So the 2007-11 income characteristic describes the average income during those five years based on data collected over the entire five year period. Dollar values are inflation adjusted so that all five years of data collection are using the same scale.

Turning to this week's release these estimates cover the period from January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2011 and reflect geographic boundaries in place as of January 1, 2011. Dollar values are inflation adjusted to 2011 dollars. This week we're releasing over 11 billion characteristic estimates for over 700,000 unique geographic areas and these estimates are published down to the census tract and block group level regardless of margins of error, but after taking account of filtering rules.

Here's a chart showing the percent with published ACS estimates for some of the many geographies we release. To put it in perspective the 5-year estimates are published for all states, counties, places, school districts and census tracts. In comparison the 1 and 3 year files are published for only some of these geographies. For example 1-year estimates are published for 26% of counties

and 3-year estimates are published for 59% of counties while 5-year estimates are published for 100% of counties.

Now that we've established how many estimates we're releasing let's turn to the products that will display those estimates. The 5-year estimates are published in a sub-set of the data products prepared for the 1 and 3 year estimates, specifically while the 5-year estimates are produced for detailed tables, subject tables, data profile tables, geographic comparison tables, Summary Files and PUMS files, they are not included in ranking tables, comparison profiles, selected population profiles or narrative profiles.

The 5-year estimate also include four fewer topics than the 1 and 3-year estimates due to questionnaire changes in the last few years. We will have five years of estimates for health insurance, disability status and marital history after the 2012 survey year and expect to publish those 5-year estimates in 2013. We will have five years of estimates on fields of bachelor's degree after the 2013 survey year and plan to release those 5-year estimates in 2014.

I'd like to turn your attention now to accessing these 2007-11 ACS 5-year estimates via American FactFinder. The first thing you would do is go to the FactFinder page. You can get there via [census.gov](http://census.gov) or by directly entering [factfinder2.census.gov](http://factfinder2.census.gov) into your browser address window. This tool offers two ways to access estimates. You can use the Quick Start feature which is that box in the center of the page if you know the Table ID number of the product you're looking for. If not you can search for products using the buttons in the left margin.

Table ID numbers are assigned to each data product. They consist of one to three letters to describe the type of product. For example B for a detailed table

or GCT for a geographic comparison table and two or more numbers to identify the topic specific table.

All right, now I'm going to show you how to search for a product. In the left margin go to the Topics button, click on it to expand the topic, then select the data set from the drop-down box in order to expand the list of available data sets. You would select the 2011 ACS 5-year estimates.

On the next slide you'll see that 2011 ACS 5-year estimates appears in the Your Selections box in the upper left corner. I'm showing you what the screen will look like once the data are released, but since I cannot show you the actual 2007-11 ACS estimates the examples to follow will use the 2006-10 ACS 5-year estimates.

Once you've selected your data you will want to select the type of data product you're looking for. We're going to select the data profiles. So you would expand the Product Type button, then select the data profile product. Finally you would select the geography you're interested in. Now remember the 5-year ACS estimates are available at over 700,000 unique geographies, down to the block group level. All geographies except for those block groups are available in American FactFinder.

To get to the block group estimates you'll need to use the ACS Summary Files which I'll describe in a few minutes. Back to selecting geographies, select the Geographies tab. An overlay box will appear defaulting to the list option which allows you to select several commonly used geographic areas. If you know the precise geography you're looking for you may be able to choose it from the list option.

However if you want a small area estimate such as a census tract, but don't know the tract number you're looking for American FactFinder has a helpful feature in the Address tab. If you select the Address tab and enter the address of interest, then click the Go button you'll be provided a full list of geographies for that address. You have to click Go. You can select multiple geographies from that list.

In this case I've entered the address of my high school, clicked on Go, then selected the county, town and census tract that that high school is located in. The resulting data profile shows me a comparison of Cook County, Illinois, Oak Park Village, Illinois and the census tract for the high school. I selected all three of these to highlight a key feature of the 5-year estimate.

Estimates for Cook County are available in the 1-year ACS. Estimates for Oak Park are available in the 3-year ACS, but not the 1-year and estimates for the census tract area available only in the 5-year ACS. In order to make an appropriate comparison of these three geographies I should use data that refers to a common time period, so I should not compare the 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates to each other.

Instead I should compare apples to apples and the 5-year estimate allow me to do just that and compare the educational attainment of persons 25 years and over in Cook County, Oak Park and the census tract containing the high school in the Years 2007 to 2011.

I'd also like to show you another data product that is useful for making comparisons using ACS 5-year estimates. The geographic comparison table allow you to compare a variety of geographic areas on a single measure. You can compare up to 78 different characteristics across states, counties, places, metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, combined statistical areas,

congressional districts, urban and rural areas, urbanized areas, PUMAs, school districts and American Indian areas, Alaska Native areas, Hawaiian Home Lands and Alaska Native Regional Corporations.

In this case I return to the example of educational attainment in my home state of Illinois. The results of this selection via that data products option in AFF shows the percentage of people 25 years and over who've completed high school in all places such as cities, towns and villages in Illinois. And I can make comparisons amongst these groups. They're listed alphabetically, so I can compare Oak Park to other villages nearby.

Okay. Next I'd like to turn to the ACS Summary Files. The ACS Summary File is a set of comma-delimited text files that contain all of the Detailed Tables for the 5-year estimates. The Summary File contains only Detailed Tables. Block group level estimates are not available via American FactFinder, so you'll need to use the Summary File to access that level of geography.

The Summary File is available via the Census Bureau's FTP site at [www2.census.gov](http://www2.census.gov) and will be accessible via Data Ferrett about a week after the data release. I will provide a link to the Summary File at the end of the presentation.

Now this is a screenshot of the sequenced files. That screenshot may have been a little frightening, don't worry. You can also use a Summary File Retrieval Tool that we have that will allow you to easily access the block group level estimates as well as all of the other levels of geography that are available in the release. The Retrieval Tool is available on our Web site, [census.gov/ACS](http://census.gov/ACS).



The Retrieval Tool is an Excel macro that is ideal for downloading 20 tables or less for all published geographies within a state. In Step 1 select your state of interest. Here I picked Michigan. Then select your data product or topic of interest. Here I picked the 2006-10 ACS 5-year estimates. Then click Next.

In Step 2 select the table of interest. Table numbers are the same format as the numbers in American FactFinder. So in this example I selected Table B01001 and then checked the box next to tract and block groups only because that's the geography I'm interested in. This Retrieval Tool will be able to access the 2007-11 5-year estimates starting on December 6. Here are the results and as you can see I now have Table B01001 sex by age for block groups within the great state of Michigan.

As a reminder not all tables are available at the block group level, so I suggest you check out our Appendix E of the Summary File technical document for a list of table availability.

Now that we've discussed how to access the data I'd like to talk a little bit about the data product changes for this year. We don't have too many. We have a total of eight new detailed tables. Six provide additional detail and two provide new content. Overall we have four new migration tables, three new commuting tables and one new employment table.

The four new migration tables replace the collapsed version of these tables that were published in previous years. And two of the three commuting tables replace collapsed versions of those tables that were published in previous years. This is a good time to remind you that 5-year estimates are produced for either base or collapsed versions, but not both. So in this case we're replacing the shorter, condensed, collapsed versions with more detailed versions.

Two new tables showing content include Table B08604 which measures worker population for workplace geography. Many of our data users have requested this information and we're pleased to announce that we're releasing it this year with the 5-year estimates. And the new Employment Table B23025 is a less detailed version of Table B23001. B23001 shows employment, unemployment, labor force and armed forces data broken down by age and sex.

Many data users would like to have this information not broken down by age and sex, so we've created a new table for you, Table B23025 and we hope you like it.

One noteworthy data product modification is in Subject Table 1601, language spoken at home. This table was modified to include information about language spoken at home for citizens 18 years and over. In previous years a section for citizens 18 years and over was not available. And as I mentioned before all tables except for block group level tables are available on American FactFinder and the block group estimates are available in the Summary File.

While we didn't make too many changes to data product we did implement a number of methodological changes in 2011 to improve the accuracy and reliability of our estimates. Starting in June 2011 we increased the sample size from about 2.9 million addresses to 3.5 million addresses. This should improve the reliability of estimates for all areas.

We also increased personal visit follow-up to sampling rates and selected American Indian areas, Alaska Native Village statistical areas, Hawaiian Home Lands and remote Alaska. In January 2011 we modified the sample design to improve the reliability of estimates for small census tracts. This

improvement increases the sampling rates for smaller tracts and slightly decreases the sampling rates for larger tracts thereby minimizing the differences in the reliability of our estimates.

And finally we changed the group quarter estimation methodology to improve sub-state estimates of the GQ population and its characteristics.

And for the first time we're releasing ACS estimates for zip code tabulation areas or ZCTAs. We will continue to release estimates for this geographic area type with the 5-year ACS estimates every year. The Census Bureau identifies five digit zip codes using a five digit code; this may contain leading zeros. This code represents the most frequently occurring zip code for the addresses within the ZCTA.

However many ZCTAs do include areas which have addresses that use a different zip code for mail delivery. It is just not the most frequently occurring zip code for the addresses in that area, thus zip codes and ZCTAs are not the same concept as zip codes are linear while ZCTAs are approximate area representation of the zip code service areas.

Some zip codes represent very few addresses, sometimes only one like a business location and therefore will not appear in the ZCTA universe. Additionally the Census Bureau prepares brief reports on a variety of ACS topics. These brief views the ACS 1-year, 3-year and 5-year data. And already this year the Census Bureau has released several reports.

This slide shows you the upcoming reports that we'll use ACS 5-year data. You can find all of our ACS briefs on the ACS Web site which is [www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs). I'll show you the location of the briefs later in the presentation.

As I demonstrated with the earlier example using the data profiles there are many potential comparisons to be made using ACS estimates, so here's some guidance that we like to give. Compare across geographies and population sub-groups. Be careful comparing across data sets. Do not compare 2007-11 ACS 5-year estimates to 2006-10 ACS 5-year estimates. Do not mix 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates when making comparison.

Whenever possible compare percentages, means, medians and rates instead of totals. Finally don't expect American Community Survey estimates to match Decennial Census counts or estimates from other surveys. We're providing in our slide a link to a blog from September 6 that explains this even more. You can find it at [blogs.census.gov](http://blogs.census.gov).

We also provide additional specific guidance on our ACS Web site which is [census.gov/acs](http://census.gov/acs). On that page you can find information about comparison guidance and our table's comparison tool.

The last few sections of this presentation will cover accessing information via the ACS Web site. So first I'm going to show you how to access some of our documentation about the survey and the comparison guidance. To access it, again visit the ACS web page at [census.gov/acs](http://census.gov/acs). This is what our page looks like as of yesterday actually.

Now to find where the ACS documentation is you'll want to go to Data and Documentation in the toolbar and then choose Data Releases. You can go to the Data Release section either through the left margin or via the text in the main body of the page. Once you're at the Data Release section you'll see that we provide a nice summary of new and notable information related to each estimates release.

Looking at the left margin you can also see that we have a variety of information available for data users. You can look at information for each year's data release since 2007. Within those you can see product changes, specific information about the released schedule and a direct link to the ACS brief that we have published. You can also find all the briefs via looking at the Library tab at the top of the page.

In addition the release specific information we have data product descriptions, a page devoted to documentation about the surveys including accuracy of the data statement and information about statistical testing. We have a page devoted to the geographies for which data is published including some maps. There's a link to the FTP site for downloading data, a page devoted to the Summary File including technical documentation and access to the Summary File Retrieval Tool.

And you can't see it on your slide, but there's also a link to the PUMS file and the PUMs documentation directly via the left margin. And from there you can get additional technical documentation and access to the downloaded PUMS files.

Now that I've shown you the documentation I'm going to show you how to access the comparison guidance I referenced a moment ago. To get to the guidance you would first select the Guidance for Data Users drop-down menu and choose Comparing ACS Data. From there, there are many options in the left margin. If you select 2011 you will see topic by topic comparison guidance for the 2011 ACS estimates.

This is what the comparison guidance page looks like. You can select any of those topics that will open up an additional section and that will show you

more about comparing ACS estimates over time and with Census 2000 and the 2010 census.

The last bit of guidance I'll show you is in the left margin. If you select the ACS Census Table Comparison you can learn more about how ACS data products compared to data products that were created for Census 2000 which was the last time these characteristics were measures in a Decennial Census.

Once that is selected you enter either the ACS table ID number or the Census 2000 data product number, submit the information and you'll be provided the number of its ACS or Census counterpart if it's available.

Well thank you very much for participating in our presentation. I'm going to recap now.

Again the ACS 5-year estimate provide a wide range of local statistics on people, housing and the economy. We have a press embargo that begins tomorrow, December 4 at 10:00 am and you can learn more about the embargo at [census.gov/newsroom/embargo.html](http://census.gov/newsroom/embargo.html). And the data will be released to the public on Thursday, December 6.

And as promised there are several different Web site links. So for more information on the ACS in general visit our Web site at [census.gov/acs](http://census.gov/acs). It will be updated on December 6 with all the new documentation related to the 2007-11 ACS 5-year estimate. Guidance for data users is available at that same page by selecting the Guidance for Data Users tab.

American FactFinder can be found at [factfinder2.census.gov](http://factfinder2.census.gov). The FTP site for downloading ACS Summary Files is [www2.census.gov](http://www2.census.gov). You can also access Data Ferrett which is an online analysis tool at [dataferrett.census.gov](http://dataferrett.census.gov). And if

you would like to view some summary information via the Census Bureau's Quick Fact go to [census.gov](http://census.gov) and Quick Facts will have new 2007-11 ACS estimates included in it on Thursday the 6th.

And now I'm going to turn it back to Stacy. Thank you so much.

Stacy Vidal: Thanks Barbara. If you have any additional questions - or just in a moment we'll go to a Q&A session. Following the session if you have any questions please feel free to give us a call. If you're with the media you can call 301-763-3030. Or for members of the public you can call 1-800-923-8282.

And with that we'll go ahead and start taking questions and answers.

Operator?

Coordinator: Thank you. At this time we will begin the question-and-answer session. To ask a question you may press star 1 on your touch-tone phone. Please unmute your phone and record your name clearly when prompted. To withdraw your question please press star 2.

Once again to ask a question please press star 1 and record your name.

Stacy Vidal: While we wait for folks to queue themselves I would like to point out our online Press Kit is available. Today's slides have already been posted at the start of this presentation, so you can go back and refer to the things that Barbara described.

You'll see the link there on your screen or you can simply go to [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) and click on Number 3. You'll see the slide or those moving images at the upper left corner of the page.

You can also follow us on Twitter. Our handle is @censusbureau and we invite you to join us in conversation using the hashtag #ACS.

Coordinator: And one moment for our first question.

Our first question comes from John Pitkin with Analysis and Forecasting, Inc. Your line is open.

John Pitkin: Yes thank you for taking my question. My question is what population controls were used for the 2007-2011 5-year estimate? I'm not sure how that relates to the 2010 Census or whether the earlier years are still based on the 2000 Census base.

Barbara Downs: I'm going to have Mark Asiala answer that question. He's from our - darn it what does the acronym stand for?

Mark Asiala: Decennial Statistical Studies Division. The controls that we have used for the 2010 data products and the 2011 data products this year all use the 2010 base controls.

For the multi-year products we do take an average of the population estimates over the period. So for the 2007-2011 5-year data we take the average of the population estimates over 2007, 8, 9, 10 and 11 and we control to that average. So they won't match up to the final year or to the 2010 Census or anything like that.

Stacy Vidal: Okay. Operator, we'll take the next question.



Coordinator: Our next question comes from Ben Horowitz with Greater New Orleans Community Data Center. Your line is now open.

Ben Horowitz: Hi, thank you again for taking my question. I just wanted to confirm that block group data will be available using the Summary File Retrieval Tool to the public on December 6. I just wanted to confirm that.

Barbara Downs: Yes indeed.

Ben Horowitz: Thank you very much.

Barbara Downs: You bet.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from Gene Shackman with New York State Department of Health. Your line is open.

Gene Shackman: Hi, I'm guess not entirely clear why we can't compare the 2007-11 with the previous year data?

Barbara Downs: The question was why we can't compare the 2006-10 with the 2007-11 data?

Gene Shackman: Yes.

Barbara Downs: All right, Karen King from also the Decennial Statistical Surveys Division - I only know acronyms, I'm sorry. Actually Karen is going to address that one.

Karen King: Hello. We discourage you using - estimating the comparison between the '06 to '10 with the '07 to '11 because four of the five years that are in those estimates overlap. So since there's only one year difference between them

there isn't really an opportunity for a lot of change between those estimates unless they're very highly correlated.

Gene Shackman: Okay. Very clear answer. Thank you.

Coordinator: And once again if you participants would like to ask a question please press star 1 and record your name.

Our next question comes from Courtney Mabeus with the Frederick News-Post. Your line is open.

Courtney Mabeus: Hi, yes again thanks for having us today. I guess just follow-up on the last question then. If we're looking for new information to kind of shake out of this data, what's the best way to kind of find the changes comparing 2006-2010 with 2007-11 isn't the best possible way?

Barbara Downs: Karen's coming back.

Karen King: Could you repeat the question? I was a little far from the phone.

Courtney Mabeus: Sure. Sure, is using the 2006-2010 data and comparing that to 2007-11 isn't the best way to kind of shake out some stories - what's the best information to use to compare that to? I'm just a bit confused as to what I would look to them.

Karen King: I'm trying to think. I'm sorry, I don't see if you can compare 2000 in some cases.

Karen King: Yes that's true. You can compare 5-year estimates to the Census 2000.

Barbara Downs: And the table's comparison tool would come in very handy for that.

Courtney Mabeus: Okay.

Karen King: If I could get your name and your phone number again, I can call you.

Courtney Mabeus: Oh sure.

Stacy Vidal: Or you can give us a call at the Public Information Office at 301-763-3030. Also generally speaking you can look at comparing across geographies like Barbara was talking about. So really looking at - so your state and then within your state.

You'll also see on the embargo site this week we'll have some information looking at some of the Top 25 metro areas of that population. And then within those areas it will give you an example of how you can look at places or rather cities and towns within that metro area to see how they're comparing across a variety of characteristics.

So looking at geographies is one good comparison that you can make even if you can't maybe necessarily look at a time period that you might like prefer.

Courtney Mabeus Okay. Thank you. And one additional question on top of that.

Stacy Vidal: Okay.

Courtney Mabeus: I was - I had some computer questions at the very beginning, sorry. I may have missed this, but the data that's collected is that collected each year throughout the five year period or is it just one large collection? How does that - how is the five year summary snapshot taken I guess?

Barbara Downs: The data is collected on a daily basis every day for the last five years.

Courtney Mabeus: Okay.

Barbara Downs: So all of that data is aggregated.

Courtney Mabeus: Okay.

Coordinator: And our next question comes from (Stephanie Larose) with Baxter College.  
Your line is open.

(Stephanie Larose): Hi, we use the data here for joining it with GIS Shapefiles, specifically the TIGER/Line Shapefiles.

And I've noticed if I download from the FactFinder Web site there is a (GO) ID which is put back into - used to join to those shapefiles, but if I want to get block group data or larger data set I have to use the Summary File Retrieval Tool in Excel sheet.

And that does not have the (GO) ID; it has a logical record number. But as far as I know I can't find a way to join that to the shapefile I can use.

Barbara Downs: For that question we have Gretchen Gooding from my office who would like to address it.

Gretchen Gooding: Yes if you looked into the Summary File, in the geography file the (GO) ID is in there. It's not in the estimate or margin of error file. And if you also take a look at the Summary File tech doc there is a section about joining our

files with the shapefiles. I can't remember what section it is off the top of my head, but it's in there.

(Stephanie Larose): I'm sorry, what was the documentation?

Gretchen Gooding: It's the Summary File technical document. It's on that Summary File page we talked about. There's a link there to the tech doc.

(Stephanie Larose): Okay. Thank you very much.

Gretchen Gooding: Yes.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Susan Devir) with the Georgia DHS, Division of Aging Services. Your line is open.

(Susan Devir): Good afternoon and thank you for taking my question. I wondered at what time the data will be available to the public on the 6th please?

Stacy Vidal: Well the public embargo - or they'll be released for the public at 12:01 am on our Web site, however it takes a little while to get it up on our - in American FactFinder on the live site. So sometime the morning of the 6th by 10:00 am.

(Susan Devir): By 10:00. Thank you kindly.

Stacy Vidal: Sure and the ACS web page will be updated at the same time as the data on American FactFinder.

Coordinator: One moment for our next question.

Our next question comes from Nicholas Zill with Westat. Your line is open.

Nicholas Zill: Yes I'd like to ask about - I want to make comparisons of trends at the city level including some relatively smaller cities, but I would prefer to make a comparison say between 2011 1-year estimate versus the 2006-2010 5-year estimate in order to reduce the standard error of the comparisons.

But you say that that's not recommended. Could you clarify that?

Karen King: Sure, this is Karen. She's just going to provide you a more technical answer than I probably would.

Karen King: I just want to make sure you're trying to compare the 2011 with the 2006-10. Was that your question?

Nicholas Zill: Yes right.

Karen King: We don't recommend you mixing the 1-year and the 5-year together.

Nicholas Zill: But using just the 1-year you have quite large standard errors for some of the, you know, even very fairly good size cities. So that it's unlikely to have - to obtain statistical significance?

Karen King: I think it would depend on the area that you are talking about, but I would be - using the 5-year data with standard error on the 1-year data is just not something that we would recommend doing at this time.

Again if you would contact the PIO we could try to address your specific question individually.

Nicholas Zill: Okay. Thanks.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from Gene Shackman with the New York State Department of Health. Your line is open.

Gene Shackman: Thanks for taking my question again. I think I can clarify some of what people are asking. Rather than compare the 2006 - I mean rather than compare the 2006-2011 to the 2000 - to the 1-year, previous 5-year data compare it to some earlier 5-year period where there isn't as much overlap.

Barbara Downs: Do we have enough? Okay. You can actually compare non-overlapping 3-year files if you're interested in looking at time trends.

Gene Shackman: Yes that would work for many counties and for states, but there are - the earliest 5-year is less overlap with the most recent 5-year, isn't it?

Barbara Downs: Yes so we still don't recommend that you compare overlapping time periods.

Gene Shackman: None of them? Oh all right. Thank you.

Barbara Downs: Sure. Sorry.

Coordinator: And our last question comes from Doug Morrison with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Your line is open.

Doug Morrison: Hi, thank you for taking my call. Is there any detailed guidance available for comparing the 2006-2010 estimates or the '07 to '11 estimates with the 2010 Census data, at least for race and population data?

Barbara Downs: Yes that is on the Comparison Guidance page...

Doug Morrison: Okay.

Barbara Downs: ...that I showed you. There are three columns. The first shows year to year or ACS comparisons and ACS versus Decennial Census and ACS Census 2000 and then ACS versus 2010 Census.

Doug Morrison: Okay.

Barbara Downs: It's topic by topic comparison guidance.

Doug Morrison: Okay. Thank you.

Barbara Downs: Sure

Stacy Vidal: Operator, do we have any further questions at this time?

Coordinator: No ma'am, I show no further questions.

Stacy Vidal: All right, well just do a recap. Again tomorrow morning around 10:00 am we'll publish the estimates to our Embargo Web site. If you need embargo access and you're currently a member of the media please feel free to check that option out.

You can just go to [census.gov/newsroom](http://census.gov/newsroom) and then they'll be a link to embargo from there and there's still time to register. Then for public release so you can start actually publishing stories at 12:01 am Eastern Time. And then again the data will be available on our public American FactFinder site sometime in the morning on Thursday by 10:00 am.



If do have any questions please do feel free to give our Public Information Office a call at 301-763-3030. Also for members of the public you could call our 1-800-923-8282 number. And again we invite you to follow us on Twitter @censusbureau and follow our hashtag #ACS.

So with that, that concludes today's webinar and feel free to check out our online Press Kit as well.

Thank you.

Woman: Thank you all.

Coordinator: This does conclude today's conference. Thank you for participating. You may disconnect at this time.

END