

2015-2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates

Pre-Release Webinar

December 3, 2020

Access the Audio & Slides

Toll free number: 1-888-469-1664

Participant passcode: 8228488

If access to webinar requires a password, type *Census#01*



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/news/events/acs-5-year-2019.html

Speakers

Host

Leslie Malone

Public Affairs Specialist
Public Information Office

Presenters

Charles Gamble

Supervisory Survey Statistician
American Community Survey Office

Tyson Weister

Program Analyst
Center for Enterprise Dissemination

Webinar Outline

- **Upcoming ACS Data Releases**
- ACS Basics
- Changes for 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Release
- How to Access ACS Data
- ACS Website
- Q&A
- Accessing Block Group Data Using data.census.gov

ACS Data Release

MEDIA EMBARGO: Tuesday, December 8, 2020

- Embargo at 10 a.m. (EST), Includes 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year estimates:
 - 5-Year data products

Press Kit: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-kits/2020/acs-5-year.html>

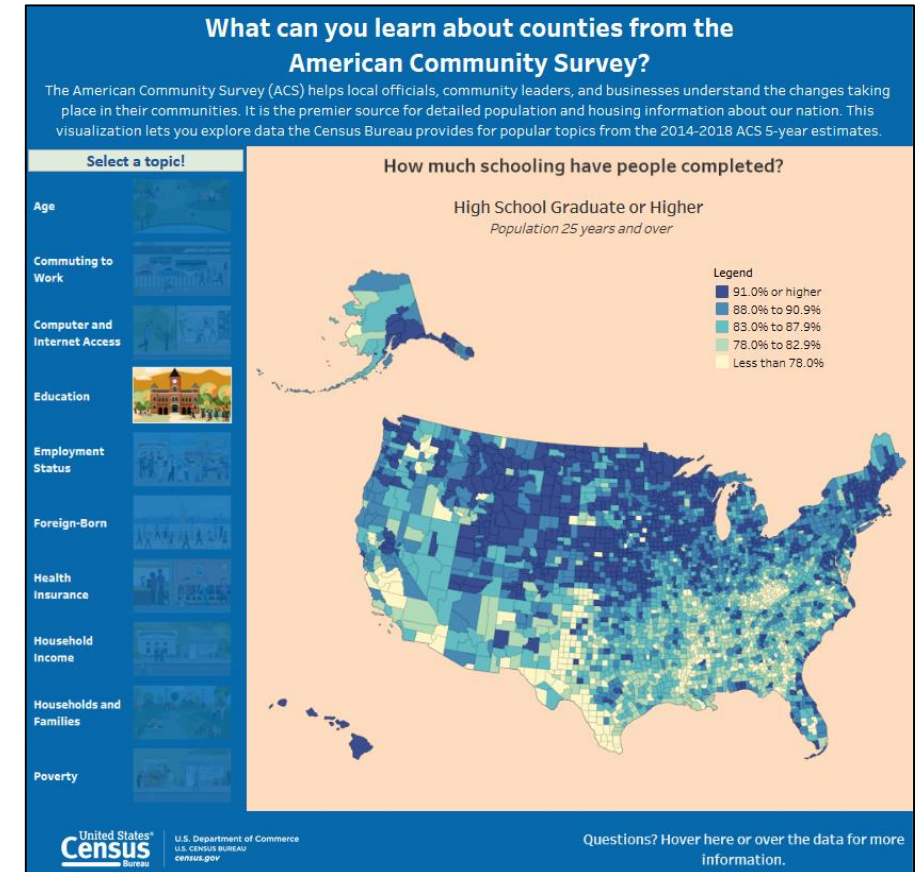
PUBLIC RELEASE: Thursday, December 10, 2020

- Release at 12:01 a.m. (EST), Includes 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year estimates:
 - All 5-Year data products
 - Narrative Profile
 - API, QuickFacts, My Tribal Area

Thursday, December 10th

- **Interactive Graphics:**

- What can you learn about counties from the ACS?
- Median Household Income: 2015-2019
- Percentage of People in Poverty: 2015-2019
- Percentage of Population 25 Years and Over With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 2015-2019



Upcoming ACS Releases

January 14, 2021

- 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) File
- 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Variance Replicate Estimates

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The American Community Survey: The Foundation

The American Community Survey is on the leading edge of survey design, continuous improvement, and data quality

- The nation's most current, reliable, and accessible data source for local statistics on critical planning topics such as age, children, veterans, commuting, education, income, and employment
- Surveys **3.5 million** addresses and informs over **\$675 billion** of Federal government spending each year
- Covers **40+ topics**, supports over **300** evidence-based Federal government uses, and produces **11 billion** estimates each year
- Three key annual data releases:
 - 1-year Estimates (areas w/ population of 65,000+)
 - 1-year Supplemental Estimates (areas w/ population of 20,000+)
 - 5-year Estimates (all areas)

13190012


 **United States Census Bureau**

The American Community Survey


This booklet shows the content of the American Community Survey questionnaire.

Start Here


You have two ways to respond:

 Respond online today at:
<https://respond.census.gov/acs>

OR

 Complete this form and mail it back as soon as possible.

Your response is required by law.
The American Community Survey is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. This survey is one of only a few surveys for which all recipients are required by law to respond. The U.S. Census Bureau is required by law to protect your information.

 **If you need help or have questions about completing this form, please call 1-800-354-7271.**

Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD):
Call 1-800-582-8330.

¿NECESITA AYUDA? Llame sin cargo alguno al 1-877-833-6625.

For more information about the American Community Survey, visit our website at:
<https://www.census.gov/acs>

Please print the name and telephone number of the person who is filling out this form. We will only contact you if needed for official Census Bureau business.

Last Name

First Name MI

Area Code + Number -


How many people are living or staying at this address?

- **INCLUDE** everyone who is living or staying here for more than 2 months.
- **INCLUDE** yourself if you are living here for more than 2 months.
- **INCLUDE** anyone else staying here who does not have another place to stay, even if they are here for 2 months or less.
- **DO NOT INCLUDE** anyone who is living somewhere else for more than 2 months, such as a college student living away or someone in the Armed Forces on deployment.

Number of people

Fill out pages 2 - 7 for everyone, including yourself, who is living or staying at this address for more than 2 months. Then complete the rest of the form.

FORM **ACS-1(INFO)(2020)** OMB No. 0607-0810
07-13-2019 OMB No. 0607-0936



ACS Content

POPULATION		HOUSING
SOCIAL Ancestry Citizenship Citizen Voting Age Population Disability Educational Attainment Fertility Grandparents Language Marital Status Migration School Enrollment Veterans	DEMOGRAPHIC Age Hispanic Origin Race Relationship Sex	Computer & Internet Use Costs (Mortgage, Rent, Taxes, Insurance) Heating Fuel Home Value Occupancy Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities Structure Tenure (Own/Rent) Utilities Vehicles Year Built/ Year Moved In
	ECONOMIC Class of Worker Commuting Employment Status Food Stamps (SNAP) Health Insurance Hours/Week, Weeks/Year Income Industry & Occupation	

5-Year Geography

- Over 579,000 geographic areas
- All geographic areas including: Census Tracts & Block Groups
- 87 different geography summary levels available



5-Year Estimates

- Describe the characteristics over a specific period of time, not a single point in time
- Data are pooled across 60 months, weighted to produce estimates, and controlled for age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin
 - 5-year estimates are NOT an average of 1-year estimates
- Estimates are based on geographic boundaries (“vintages”) as of the last year in the 5-year period
- Dollar-value estimates are inflation adjusted to the most recent year for the period

When to Use 5-Year Estimates?

- No 1-year estimate is available
- Margins of error for 1-year estimates are larger than desired
- Analyzing data for small population groups
- Comparing various geographies when one or more of them do not receive 1-year estimates

Comparing 5-Year Estimates

- Only compare non-overlapping time periods (e.g., 2015-2019 and 2010-2014)
- Only compare 1-yr estimates to 1-yr and 5-yr estimates to 5-yr
- Compare across geographies and subpopulations
- Compare percentages, means, medians and rates instead of totals whenever possible

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ACS Content Changes Impacting Data Products

Relationship to Householder

- Specific information now collected for the following categories:
 - Opposite-sex spouse
 - Opposite-sex unmarried partner
 - Same-sex spouse
 - Same-sex unmarried partner
- Roomer/boarder category deleted

2 How is this person related to Person 1? Mark (X) ONE box.

<input type="checkbox"/> Opposite-sex husband/wife/spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Father or mother
<input type="checkbox"/> Opposite-sex unmarried partner	<input type="checkbox"/> Grandchild
<input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex husband/wife/spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent-in-law
<input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex unmarried partner	<input type="checkbox"/> Son-in-law or daughter-in-law
<input type="checkbox"/> Biological son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Other relative
<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted son or daughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Roommate or housemate
<input type="checkbox"/> Stepson or stepdaughter	<input type="checkbox"/> Foster child
<input type="checkbox"/> Brother or sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Other nonrelative

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/user-notes.2019.html

ACS Content Changes Impacting Data Products (Continued)

Means of Transportation - Multiple categories updated

2018 categories:

- Bus or trolley bus
- Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico)
- Subway or elevated rail
- Railroad
- Worked at home

2019 categories:

- Bus
- Subway or elevated rail
- Long-distance train or commuter rail
- Light rail, streetcar, or trolley (carro público in Puerto Rico)
- Worked from home

ACS New Tables

Households and Families

- **B11008:** Cohabiting Couple Households By Presence And Age Of Own Children Under 18 Years
- **B11012:** Households By Type

Foreign-Born Population

- **B05015:** Place Of Birth By Year Of Entry For The Foreign-Born Population

Quality Measures

- **B98003:** Unweighted Total Population Sample

TableID	Line Number	Description
B11008		COHABITING COUPLE HOUSEHOLDS BY PRESENCE AND AGE OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS
B11008		Universe: Households
B11008	1	Total:
B11008	2	Cohabiting couple household:
B11008	3	With own children of the householder under 18 years:
B11008	4	Under 6 years only
B11008	5	Under 6 years and 6 to 17 years
B11008	6	6 to 17 years only
B11008	7	With no own children of the householder under 18 years
B11008	8	Not a cohabiting couple household

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-shells.html

ACS Modified Tables

Quality Measures

- **B98001:** Unweighted Housing Unit Sample
- **B98002:** Unweighted Group Quarters Population Sample

Foreign-Born Population

- **B05006:** Place Of Birth For The Foreign-born Population In The United States

Educational Attainment

- **S1501:** Educational Attainment

TableID	Line Number	Description
B98001		UNWEIGHTED HOUSING UNIT SAMPLE
B98001		Universe: Housing Units
B98001	1	Initial addresses selected
B98001	2	Final number of housing unit interviews

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Modified Tables

Journey to Work

Updates to vast majority of tables beginning with the following IDs:

- B08
- B9908
- S08

TableID	Line Number	Description
B08006		SEX OF WORKERS BY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK
B08006		Universe: Workers 16 years and over
B08006	1	Total:
B08006	2	Car, truck, or van:
B08006	3	Drove alone
B08006	4	Carpooled:
B08006	5	In 2-person carpool
B08006	6	In 3-person carpool
B08006	7	In 4-or-more-person carpool
B08006	8	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):
B08006	9	Bus
B08006	10	Subway or elevated rail
B08006	11	Long-distance train or commuter rail
B08006	12	Light rail, streetcar or trolley (carro público in Puerto Rico)
B08006	13	Ferryboat
B08006	14	Bicycle
B08006	15	Walked
B08006	16	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means
B08006	17	Worked from home
B08006	18	Male:
B08006	19	Car, truck, or van:

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Modified Tables

Households and Families – family/non-family changes

- **B09005:** Household Type For Children Under 18 Years In Households (Excluding Householders, Spouses, And Unmarried Partners)
- **B09019:** Household Type (Including Living Alone) By Relationship
- **B09020:** Relationship By Household Type (Including Living Alone) For The Population 65 Years And Over

TableID	Line Number	Description
B09019		HOUSEHOLD TYPE (INCLUDING LIVING ALONE) BY RELATIONSHIP
B09019		Universe: Total population
B09019	1	Total:
B09019	2	In households:
B09019	3	Householder:
B09019	4	Male:
B09019	5	Living alone
B09019	6	Not living alone
B09019	7	Female:
B09019	8	Living alone
B09019	9	Not living alone
B09019	10	Opposite-sex spouse
B09019	11	Same-sex spouse
B09019	12	Opposite-sex unmarried partner
B09019	13	Same-sex unmarried partner
B09019	14	Child:
B09019	15	Biological child
B09019	16	Adopted child

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Modified Tables

Households and Families – spouse/partner changes

- **B09019:** Household Type (Including Living Alone) By Relationship
- **B11009:** Coupled Households by Type*

Marital History – spouse/partner changes

- **B12504:** Median Duration Of Current Marriage In Years By Sex By Marital Status For The Married Population 15 Years And Over

Fertility – spouse/partner changes

- **B13004:** Women 15 To 50 Years Who Had A Birth In The Past 12 Months By Presence Of Spouse Or Unmarried Partner*

*Updated title

TableID	Line Number	Description
B12504		MEDIAN DURATION OF CURRENT MARRIAGE IN YEARS BY SEX BY MARITAL STATUS FOR THE MARRIED POPULATION 15 YEARS AND OVER
B12504		Universe: Population 15 Years and Over Who Are Now Married or Separated
B12504	1	Total:
B12504	2	Male:
B12504	3	Married, spouse present:
B12504	4	Opposite-sex spouse
B12504	5	Same-sex spouse
B12504	6	Married, spouse absent
B12504	7	Separated
B12504	8	Female:
B12504	9	Married, spouse present:
B12504	10	Opposite-sex spouse
B12504	11	Same-sex spouse
B12504	12	Married, spouse absent
B12504	13	Separated

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Modified Tables

Table ID	2018 Title	2019 Title
HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES		
B11009	Unmarried-Partner Households by Sex of Partner	Coupled Households by Type
FERTILITY		
B13004	Women 15 to 50 Years Who Had a Birth in the Past 12 Months by Marital Status	Women 15 to 50 Years Who Had a Birth in the Past 12 Months by Presence of Spouse or Unmarried Partner
JOURNEY TO WORK		
B08011	Sex Of Workers By Time Leaving Home To Go To Work	Sex Of Workers By Time Of Departure To Go To Work
B08132	Means Of Transportation To Work By Time Leaving Home To Go To Work	Means Of Transportation To Work By Time Of Departure To Go To Work

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Modified Tables

Table ID	2018 Title	2019 Title
JOURNEY TO WORK (continued)		
B08133	Aggregate Travel Time To Work (In Minutes) Of Workers By Time Leaving Home To Go To Work	Aggregate Travel Time To Work (In Minutes) Of Workers By Time Of Departure To Go To Work
B08302	Time Leaving Home To Go To Work	Time Of Departure To Go To Work
B08532	Means Of Transportation To Work By Time Arriving At Work From Home For Workplace Geography	Means Of Transportation To Work By Time Arriving At Work For Workplace Geography
B08602	Time Arriving At Work From Home For Workplace Geography	Time Arriving At Work For Workplace Geography
B99083	Allocation Of Time Leaving Home To Go To Work	Allocation Of Time Of Departure To Go To Work

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html

ACS Deleted Tables

Sample Counts

- B00001: Unweighted Sample Count Of The Population
- B00002: Unweighted Sample Housing Units

Relationship

- B09008: Presence Of Unmarried Partner Of Householder By Household Type For Children Under 18 Years In Households

TableID	Line Number	Description
B09008		PRESENCE OF UNMARRIED PARTNER OF HOUSEHOLDER BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN HOUSEHOLDS
B09008		Universe: Population under 18 years in households (excluding householders, spouses, and unmarried partners)
B09008	1	Total:
B09008	2	Unmarried partner of householder present:
B09008	3	In family households:
B09008	4	In male householder, no wife present, family
B09008	5	In female householder, no husband present, family
B09008	6	In nonfamily households
B09008	7	No unmarried partner of householder present:
B09008	8	In family households:
B09008	9	In married-couple family
B09008	10	In male householder, no wife present, family
B09008	11	In female householder, no husband present, family
B09008	12	In nonfamily households


census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/table-and-geography-changes/2019/5-year.html


2019 Table Changes


// Census.gov > American Community Survey (ACS) > Technical Documentation > Table & Geography Changes > **2019 Table & Geography Changes**


AMERICAN
COMMUNITY SURVEY
(ACS)

< Back to Table &
Geography Changes


Respond to the ACS
Learn how

 **2019 Table & Geography Changes**

 Table Changes



2019 ACS 1-year Estimates

2019 ACS 1-year Supplemental Estimates

2015-2019 ACS 5-year Estimates

Geography Changes

2019 Geography Changes
Explanation of changes in the universe of geographic entities, changes to GEOID codes, and comparability changes.

- [Census.gov/acs](https://census.gov/acs)→
- Technical Documentation→
- Table & Geography Changes→
- 2015-2019 ACS 5-year Estimates

Webinar Outline

- Upcoming ACS Data Releases
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5-Year Data Products

- **Data Profiles (5)**

(Social, Economic, Housing, Demographic,
Selected Social Characteristics - Puerto Rico)

- **Comparison Profiles (5)**

(2015-2019 and 2010-2014)

- **Subject Tables (83)**

- **Detailed Tables (1,136)**

- **Narrative Profiles**

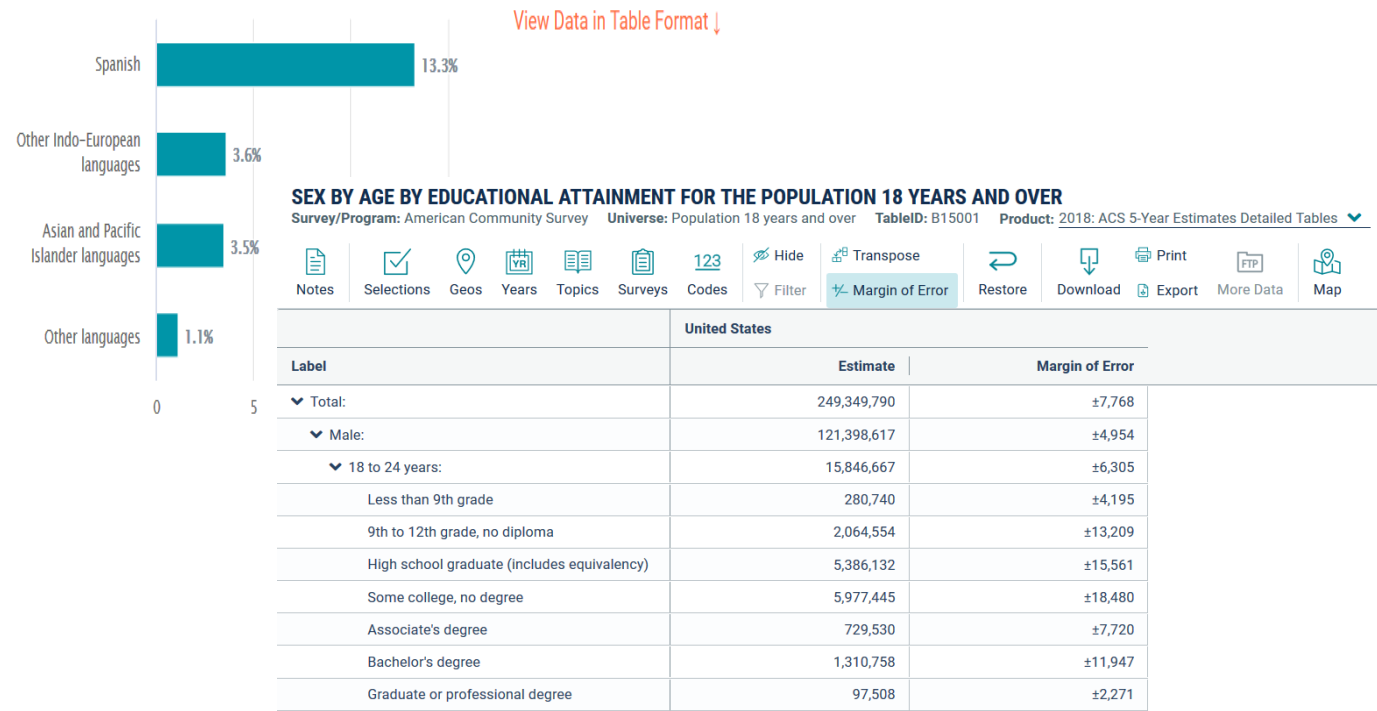
- **Data Tools**

(API, QuickFacts, My Tribal Area, Census
Business Builder)


Language

Among people at least five years old living in the United States in 2014-2018, 21.5 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Spanish was spoken by 13.3 percent of people at least five years old; 8.5 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

Percent of the Population 5 years and over who Speak a Language other than English in the United States in 2014-2018



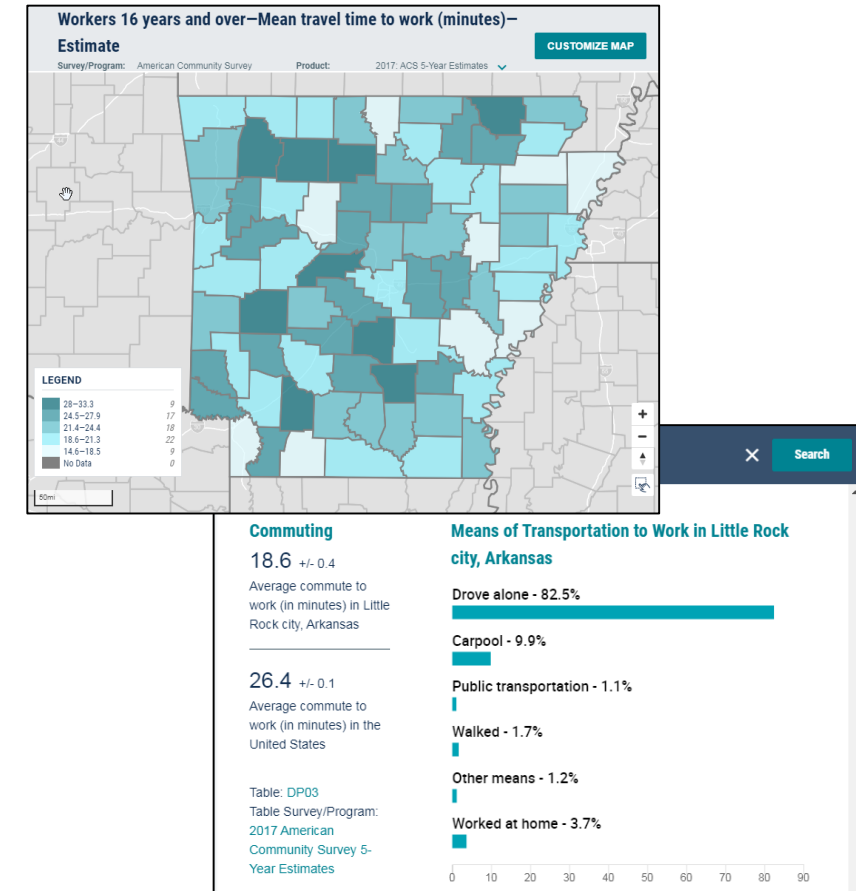
data.census.gov



Explore Census Data

The Census Bureau is the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy.

[Advanced Search](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#)

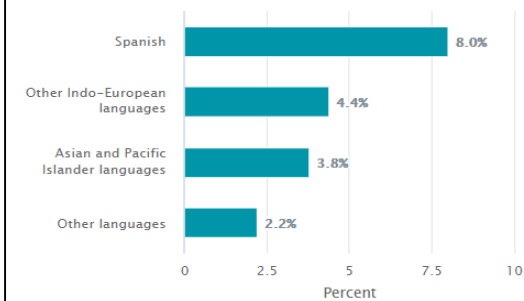


Narrative Profile

Language

Among people at least five years old living in Maryland in 2014-2018, 18.4 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Spanish was spoken by 8.0 percent of people at least five years old; 6.8 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."

Percent of the Population 5 years and over who Speak a Language other than English in Maryland in 2014-2018



Close Table View ↑

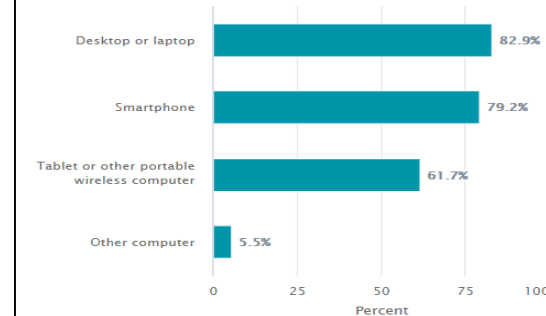
	Percent
Spanish	8.0
Other Indo-European languages	4.4
Asian and Pacific Islander languages	3.8
Other languages	2.2

Computer and Internet Use

In 2014-2018, 91.3 percent of households in Maryland had a computer, and 84.6 percent had a broadband internet subscription.

An estimated 82.9 percent of households had a desktop or laptop, 79.2 percent had a smartphone, 61.7 percent had a tablet or other portable wireless computer, and 5.5 percent had some other computer.

Types of Computers in Maryland in 2014-2018



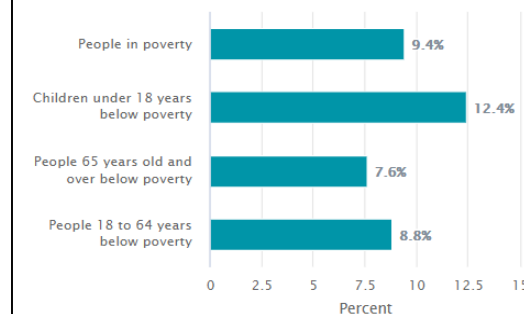
Close Table View ↑

	Percent
Desktop or laptop	82.9
Smartphone	79.2
Tablet or other portable wireless computer	61.7
Other computer	5.5

Poverty and Participation in Government Programs

In 2014-2018, 9.4 percent of people were in poverty. An estimated 12.4 percent of children under 18 were below the poverty level, compared with 7.6 percent of people 65 years old and over. An estimated 8.8 percent of people 18 to 64 years were below the poverty level.

Poverty Rates in Maryland in 2014-2018



Close Table View ↑

	Percent
People in poverty	9.4
Children under 18 years below poverty	12.4
People 65 years old and over below poverty	7.6
People 18 to 64 years below poverty	8.8

5-Year Summary File

// Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > American Community Survey (ACS) > American Community Survey Data > American Community Survey Summary File Data

AMERICAN
COMMUNITY SURVEY
(ACS)

Data Tables & Tools

Data via FTP

Summary File Data

PUMS Data

Variance Replicate
Tables

Race/Ethnicity and
American Indian &
Alaska Native Data

Custom Tables

< Back to American
Community Survey
Data

f

Summary File Data

t

The Summary File contains estimate, margin of error, and geography files for each release.

in

View instructions, guides, and example SAS programs on the [Summary File Technical Documentation](#) page.

2019

2018

2017

2016

2015

2014

2013

2012

MORE ▾

2019

2019 ACS 1-year Estimates

2019 ACS 5-year Estimates

1-Year Summary File

5-Year Summary File

Related Info

[Summary File Do](#)

[Using American C](#)

[Summary File Dat](#)

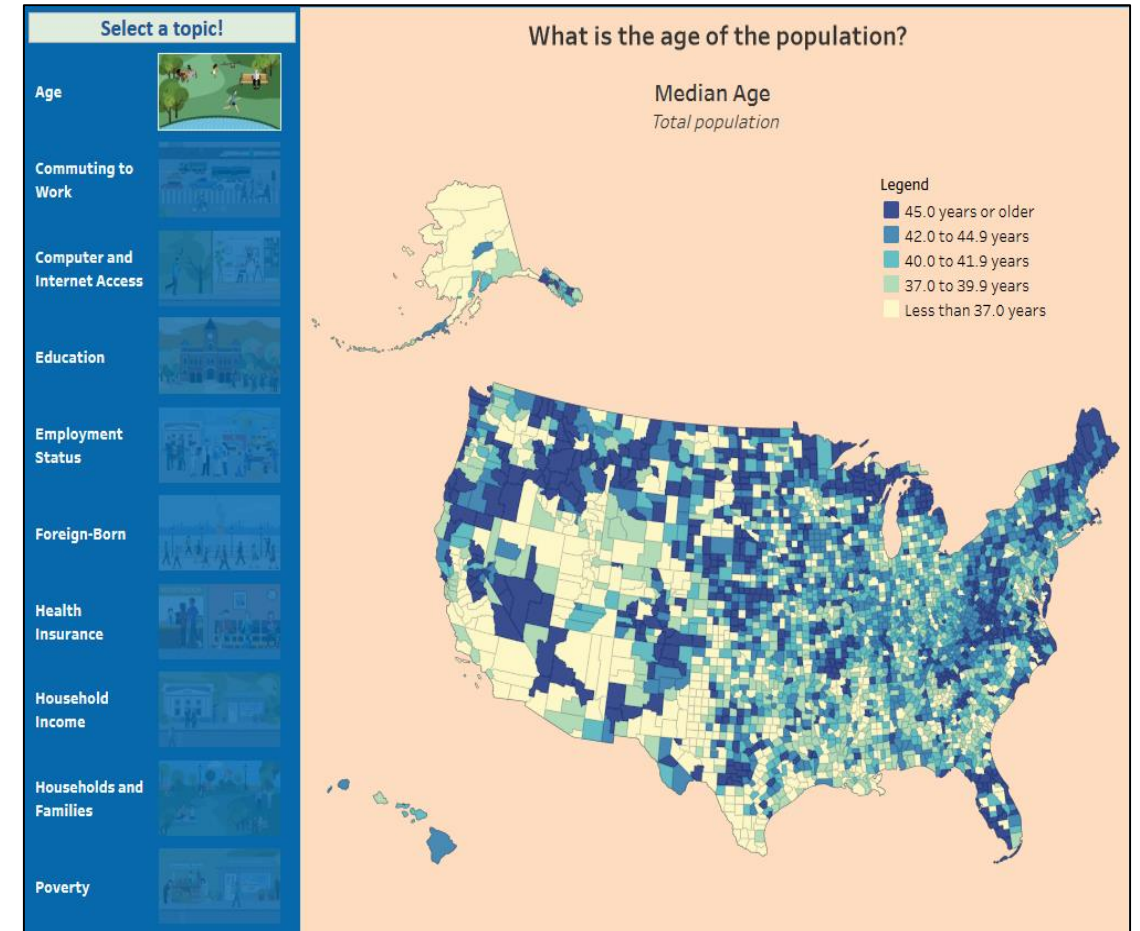
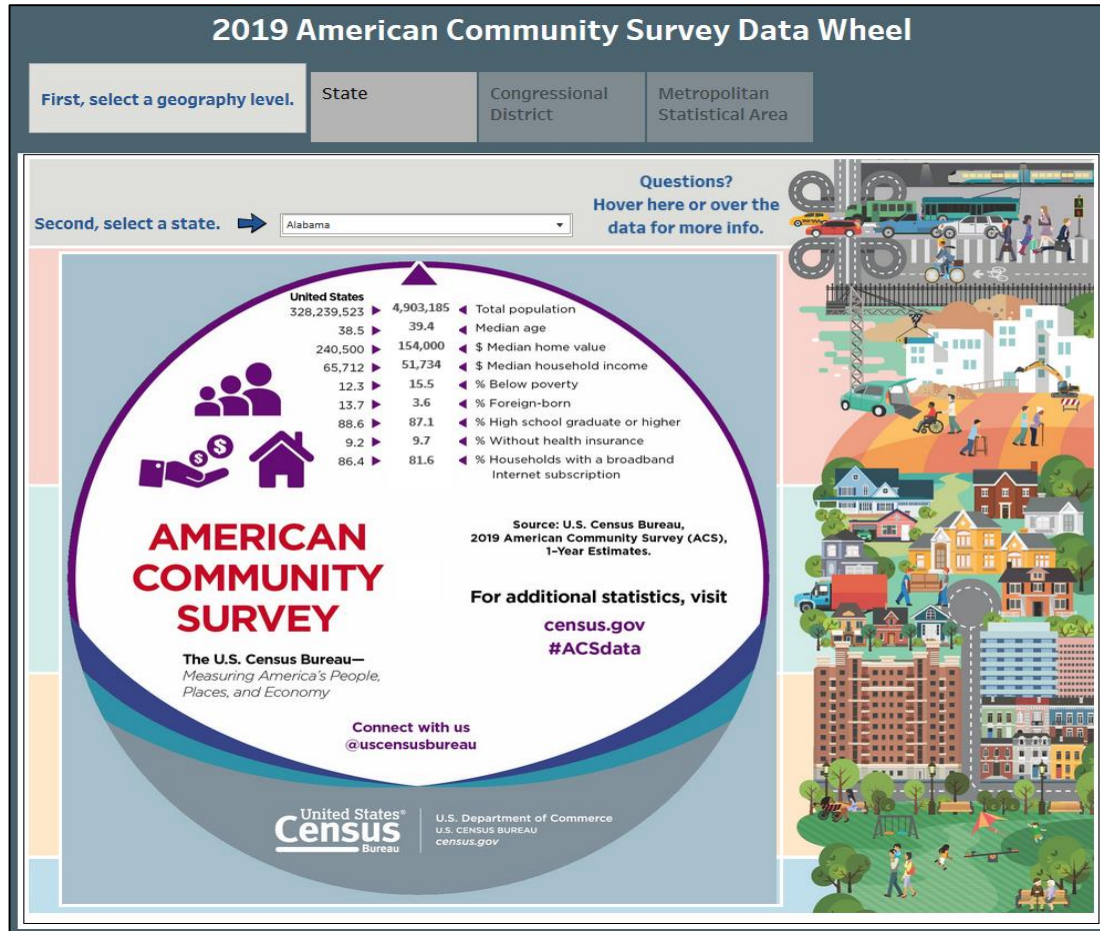
[Contact Us](#)

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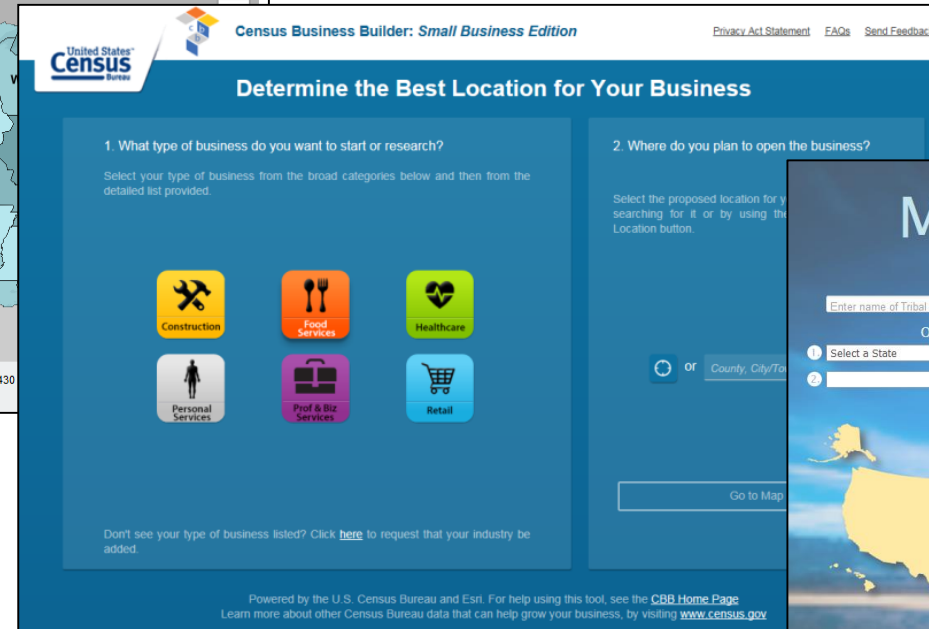
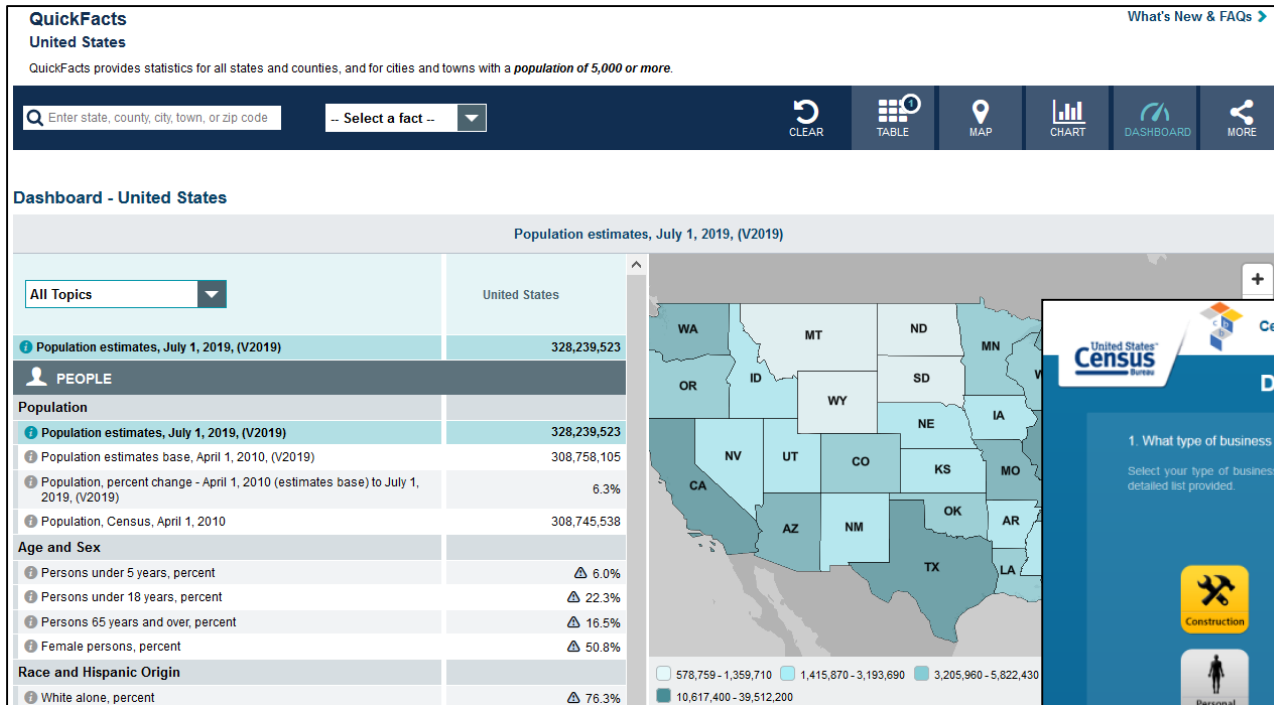
census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/data/summary-file.html

30

Application Programming Interface (API)



Data Tool Updates



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ACS Website

// Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > American Community Survey (ACS)

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS)

About the Survey

Respond to the Survey

News & Updates

Data

Microdata

Guidance for Data Users

Geography & ACS

Technical Documentation


Methodology

Library

Operations and Administration


Contact Us

< Back to Our Surveys & Programs

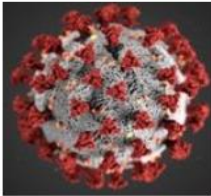

Respond to the ACS
Learn how

American Community Survey (ACS)


The [American Community Survey](#) (ACS) helps local officials, community leaders, and businesses understand the changes taking place in their communities. It is the premier source for detailed population and housing information about our nation.



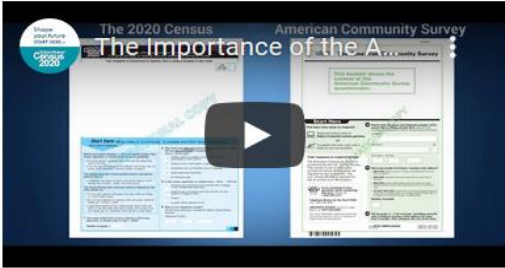
How do I respond to the ACS?



ACS data help with COVID-19 response efforts



Should I respond to both the ACS and 2020 Census?



Data

2019 Data Release

Data Release Information

// Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > American Community Survey (ACS) > News & Updates > American Community Survey Data Releases

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS)


Data Releases




News

Updates

Events

< Back to News & Updates


Respond to the ACS
Learn how



Data Releases

Leading up to the annual release of new datasets, the Census Bureau publishes a schedule, notes about new estimates or new guidance, and technical information about geography and product changes. Users can also browse the notes from previous years using the tabs below.

2019

2018

2017

2016

2015

2014

2013

2012

MORE ▾

2019

Details About the 2019 Release

2019 Data Release Schedule

Review the dates and components of the 2019 ACS release.

2019 Data Release New and Notable

Learn more about items of interest related to the 2019 ACS release.

2019 Table & Geography Changes

Learn more about changes to tables and geography for each ACS data release.

Related Information

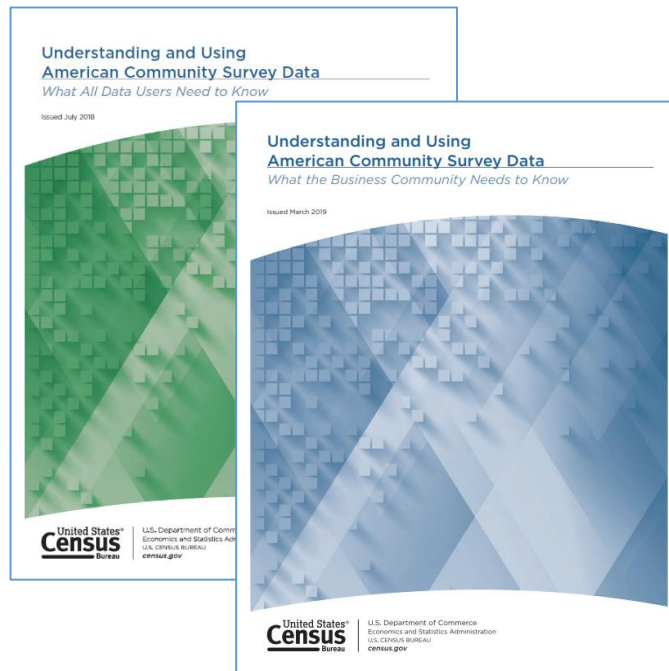
[American Community Survey Data](#)

[Which Data Table or Tool Should I Use?](#)

Data User Handbooks and Training Presentations

Currently Available

- All Data Users
- State and Local Government
- Federal
- Congress
- Rural
- Business
- And More



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/handbooks.html

// [Census.gov](#) > [Our Surveys & Programs](#) > [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#) > [Guidance for Data Users](#) > [American Community Survey Training Presentations](#)

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS)

Subjects Included in the Survey

Which Data Table or Tool Should I Use?

When to Use 1-year, 3-year, or 5-year Estimates


Handbooks

Comparing ACS Data

Statistical Testing Tool

Training Presentations

[Back to Guidance for Data Users](#)


Respond to the ACS
[Learn how](#)

Training Presentations

Want to learn more about American Community Survey (ACS) data and data products? Need to train others how to understand the data? These training presentations can help.

TRAINING | SEPTEMBER 10, 2020
2019 ACS 1-Year Pre-Release Webinar
This webinar will cover background information about the ACS, updates for this release, and where to find new data release information on the ACS website.

TRAINING | AUGUST 12, 2020
Introduction to the American Community Survey
Discover the detailed social, demographic, economic, and housing statistics that the American Community Survey (ACS) provides for every community every year.

TRAINING | AUGUST 11, 2020
Exploring Census Data Webinar Series: New Businesses Statistics
Census Bureau's subject matter experts will provide practical ways to use our business data from economic programs.

EVENT | JUNE 25, 2020
ACS Operations Update and Data User Applications in Pandemic
Learn how data users are applying ACS data to inform responses to the pandemic in hard-hit areas.

TRAINING | JUNE 16, 2020
Exploring Census Data Webinar Series: Economic Geography
Census Bureau's subject matter experts will provide information on varying economic geographies.

Related Information

[Share Your ACS Data Story](#)

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census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/training-presentations.html

Technical Documentation

// Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > American Community Survey (ACS) > **Technical Documentation**

Code Lists, Definitions, and Accuracy

User Notes

Errata Notes

Data Suppression

Table & Geography Changes

Table Shells and Table List




Summary File Documentation

PUMS Documentation

Variance Replicate Tables Documentation

Race/Ethnicity and American Indian & Alaska Native Documentation

< **Back to American Community Survey (ACS)**



Technical Documentation

The American Community Survey provides various documentation to assist users with our data releases. Click on the links below to learn more about these resources.

Code Lists, Definitions, and Accuracy

View the detailed codes and definitions for variables, statistical testing, and an explanation of sample design, methodology, and accuracy for the ACS.

User Notes

Learn more about issues impacting the American Community Survey, including design, collection, production, and data release.

Errata Notes

Learn more about errors and/or corrections related to the American Community Survey.

OCTOBER 01, 2016

Data Suppression

Learn more about why certain American Community Survey estimates are not available due to data suppression.

Related Information

[American Community Survey Data](#)

[Share Your ACS Data Story](#)

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Comparison Guidance

// Census.gov > Our Surveys & Programs > American Community Survey (ACS) > Guidance for Data Users > Comparing ACS Data

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS)

Subjects Included in the Survey

Which Data Table or Tool Should I Use?

When to Use 1-year, 3-year, or 5-year Estimates


Handbooks




Comparing ACS Data

Statistical Testing Tool

Training Presentations

< Back to Guidance for Data Users


Respond to the ACS
Learn how



Comparing ACS Data

The strength of the American Community Survey (ACS) is in estimating characteristic distributions. If you are looking for population totals, we recommend the [2010 Census](#) or [Population Estimates Program](#).

It is also important to keep in mind that **all ACS data are estimates**. We collect data from a sample of the population in the United States and Puerto Rico rather than from the whole population. To help you interpret the reliability of the estimates, the Census Bureau publishes a margin of error (MOE) for every ACS estimate.

[EXPAND ALL](#) | [COLLAPSE ALL](#)

▼ Can I compare ACS estimates?

▼ Can I compare ACS estimates with 2010 Census?

▼ Can I compare ACS estimates with Census 2000?

Comparison Guidance by Year

All2019201820172016201520142013[MORE](#) ▼

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census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/comparing-acs-data.html

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Statistical Testing Tool

// [Census.gov](#) > [Our Surveys & Programs](#) > [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#) > [Guidance for Data Users](#) > **Statistical Testing Tool**

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS)

Subjects Included in the Survey

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Statistical Testing Tool

Training Presentations

< [Back to Guidance for Data Users](#)



Respond to the ACS
Learn how



Statistical Testing Tool

Comparing American Community Survey (ACS) estimates involves more than determining which statistic is higher or lower. Users should also conduct statistical testing to make sure differences are statistically significant and are unlikely to have occurred by chance. This testing takes into account the margin of error (MOE) associated with survey estimates, which are based on responses from only a sample of the full population.

Looking for an easy way to conduct statistical testing? Try the Census Bureau's new [Statistical Testing Tool](#). Simply copy or download ACS estimates and their MOEs into the spreadsheet to get instant results of statistical tests.

Tool Features:

- Compares up to 3,230 pairs of estimates at once
- Compares multiple estimates simultaneously (up to 150 estimates)
- Displays statistical testing results ("Yes", "No") automatically
- Handles special formatting and characters, such as the '+/-' in front of the MOE, without additional editing by the data user



[Download Statistical Testing Tool](#)
[XLSX - 3.5 MB]

Related Information

VIDEO

[Population Reference Bureau: Assessing ACS Reliability](#)

[Share Your ACS Data Story](#)

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[Share Your ACS Data Story](#)

Questions?



Dial *1 for the Operator

After Questions Stay for a Demo:
Accessing 5-Year Block Group Data in data.census.gov

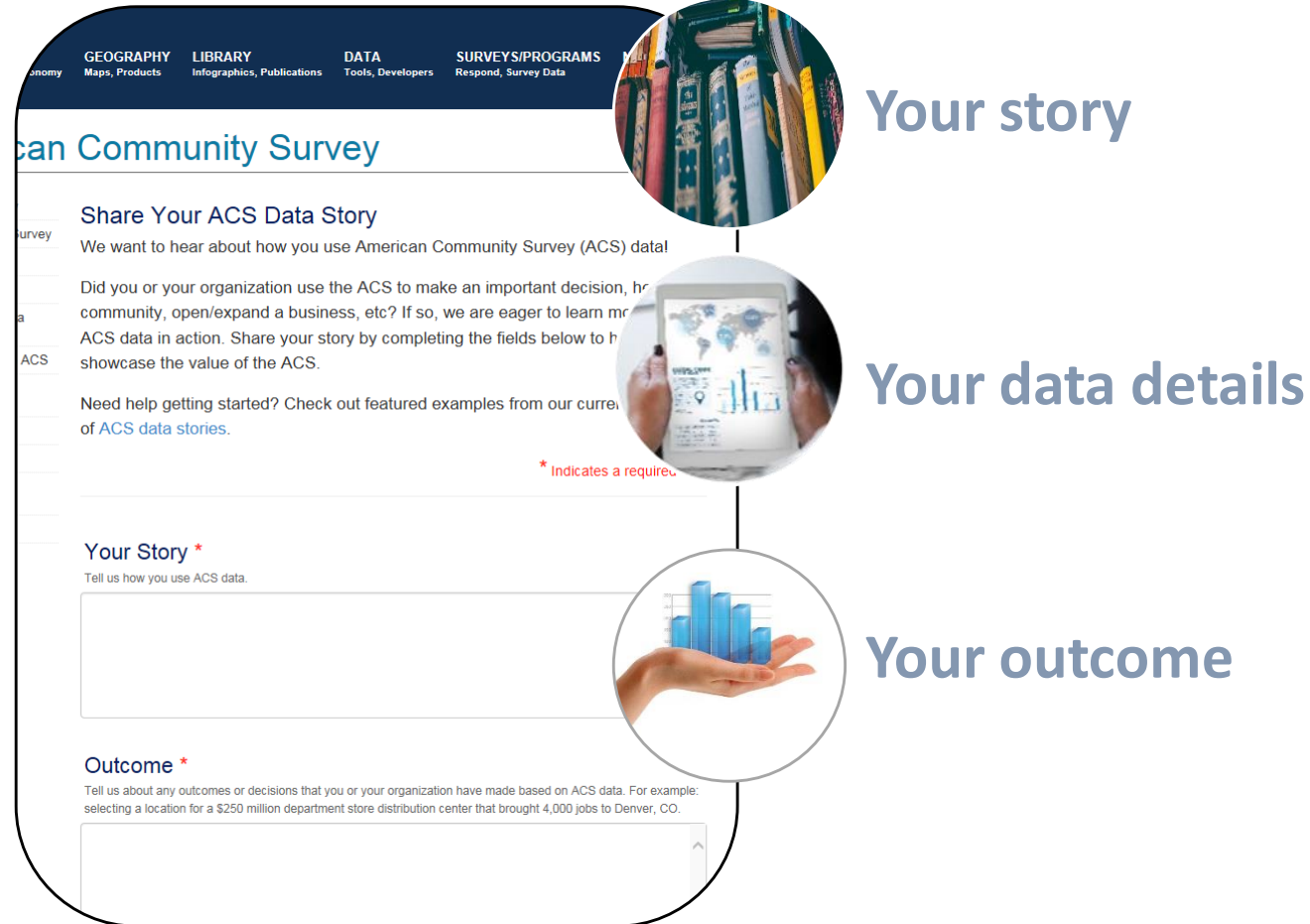


Explore Census Data

The Census Bureau is the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy.

[Advanced Search](#) [Help](#) [Feedback](#)

Data Tell Stories. Tell Us Yours!



The screenshot shows the 'Share Your ACS Data Story' form on the American Community Survey website. The form is titled 'Share Your ACS Data Story' and includes an introduction: 'We want to hear about how you use American Community Survey (ACS) data!'. It asks if the user or their organization used ACS data to make an important decision, open/expand a business, etc. The form has three main sections: 'Your Story', 'Your data details', and 'Your outcome'. Each section has a text input field and a red asterisk indicating a required field. The 'Your data details' section includes a red asterisk and a red text label '* Indicates a required field'. The 'Your outcome' section includes a red asterisk and a text label 'Tell us about any outcomes or decisions that you or your organization have made based on ACS data. For example: selecting a location for a \$250 million department store distribution center that brought 4,000 jobs to Denver, CO.'.

Your story

Your data details

Your outcome



- 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
- ACS Data Users Conference: May 19-20th (**Save the Date!**)

Webinar Outline

- Upcoming ACS Data Releases
- ACS Basics
- Changes for 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Release
- How to Access ACS Data
- ACS Website
- Q&A
- **Accessing Block Group Data Using data.census.gov**

What is a Block Group?



**Census Tract 71,
King County, WA**



**Block Group 2,
Census Tract 71,
King County, WA**

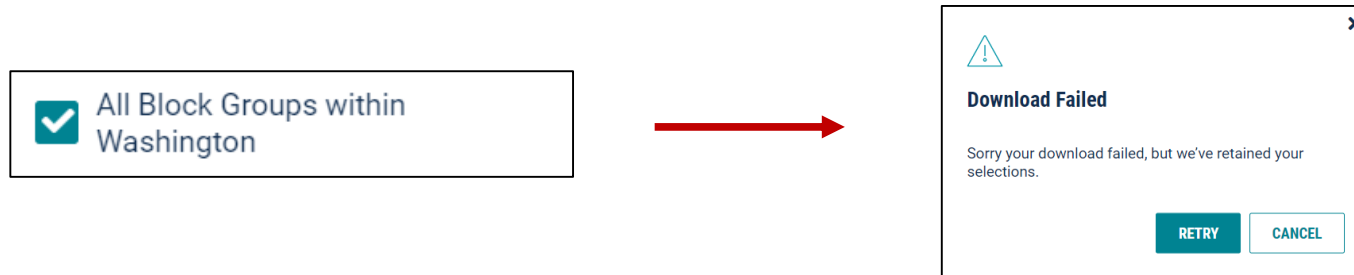
Population of:
Block Group 1 = 2,132
+Block Group 2 = 2,909

Tract 71 = 5,041

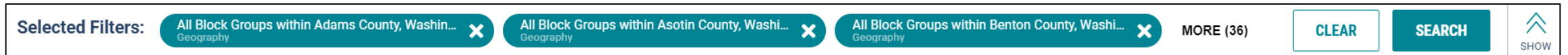
census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/about/glossary.html#par_textimage_4

All Block Groups in a State

Check boxes for “All Block Groups in a state” have not been made compatible with ACS data tables and will result in Download Failed error messages.



Use the county-level collections instead (example: All block groups in each of Washington’s 39 counties)



Visit this FAQ for quick links that provide selections for all block groups in a state that work with ACS tables:
ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-6017

How Can I Find the Block Group for an Address?

To find the block group or other geographic areas associated with a particular address:

- Use the [Census Geocoder](#) and reference [FAQ KCP-5495](#) →

▼ Find Address Results

Street :

1600 Pennsylvania Ave

City :

Washington

State :

DC

Zip :

20500

Benchmark :

Public_AR_Current ▼

Vintage :

Current_Current ▼

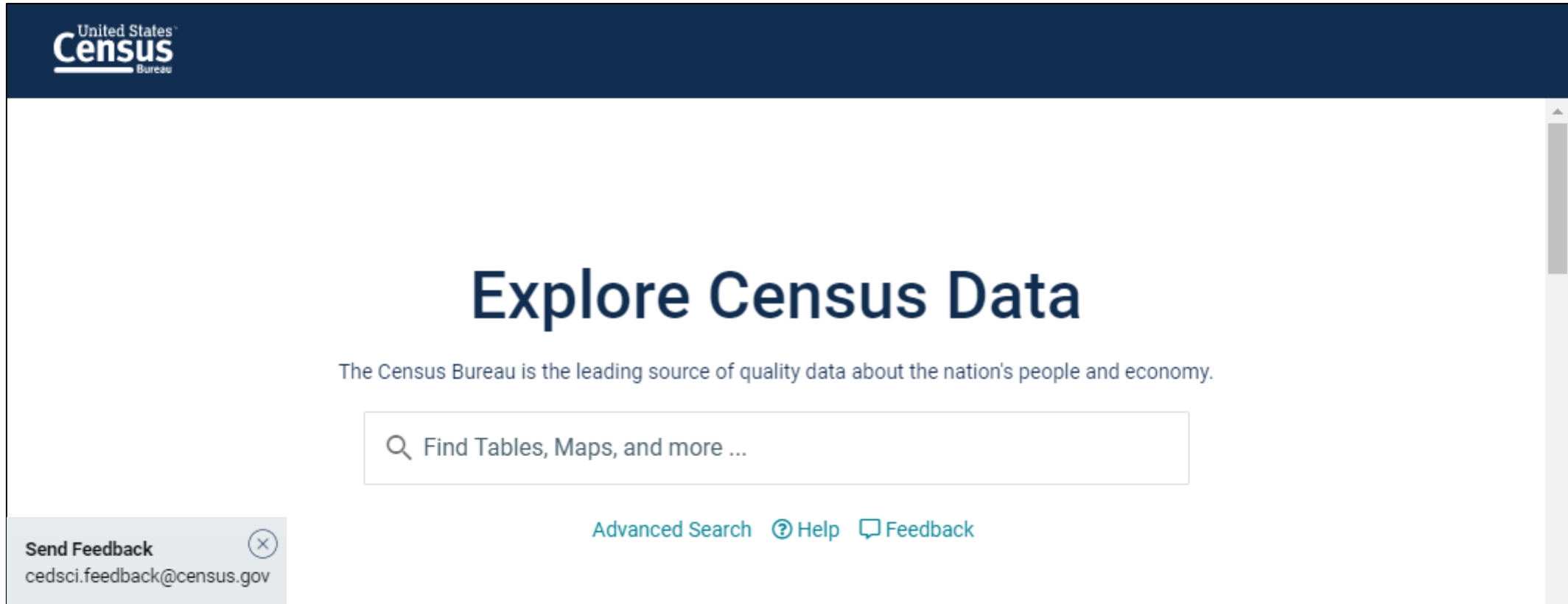
FIND

Input:

Street: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave City: Washington State: DC Zip: 20500

ask.census.gov/prweb/PRServletCustom?pyActivity=pyMobileSnapStart&ArticleID=KCP-5495

Our Development Depends on YOUR Feedback



Check out data.census.gov and provide comments at cedsci.feedback@census.gov

Stay Connected

data.census.gov Resources page:

census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov.html

Census Academy:

census.gov/data/academy/webinars/upcoming.html

Feedback: Email comments to cedsci.feedback@census.gov

The collage displays five different pages from the data.census.gov website:

- Top Left:** The main 'data.census.gov Resources' page. It features a navigation bar with links like 'BROWSE BY TOPIC', 'EXPLORE DATA', 'LIBRARY', 'SURVEYS/ PROGRAMS', 'INFORMATION FOR...', 'FIND A CODE', and 'ABOUT US'. The main content area includes a sidebar with links to 'WHAT IS DATA.CENSUS.GOV?', 'About data.census.gov', 'News and Updates', 'Guidance for Data Users', and 'Outreach'. The main heading is 'data.census.gov Resources' with the text: 'The vision for data.census.gov is to improve the customer experience by making data available from one centralized place so that data users spend less time searching for data and content, and more time using it.'
- Top Right:** A 'Video Tutorials' page. It includes a search bar, navigation links, and a section titled 'Video Tutorials' with a video player and a list of related information.
- Middle Right:** A 'Webinars' page. It features a search bar, navigation links, and a section titled 'Webinars' with a list of upcoming and past webinars.
- Bottom Right:** A 'Release Notes' page. It features a search bar, navigation links, and a section titled 'Release Notes' with a list of recent releases.
- Bottom Left:** A 'News and Updates' page. It features a search bar, navigation links, and a section titled 'News and Updates' with a list of recent news items.

Questions?

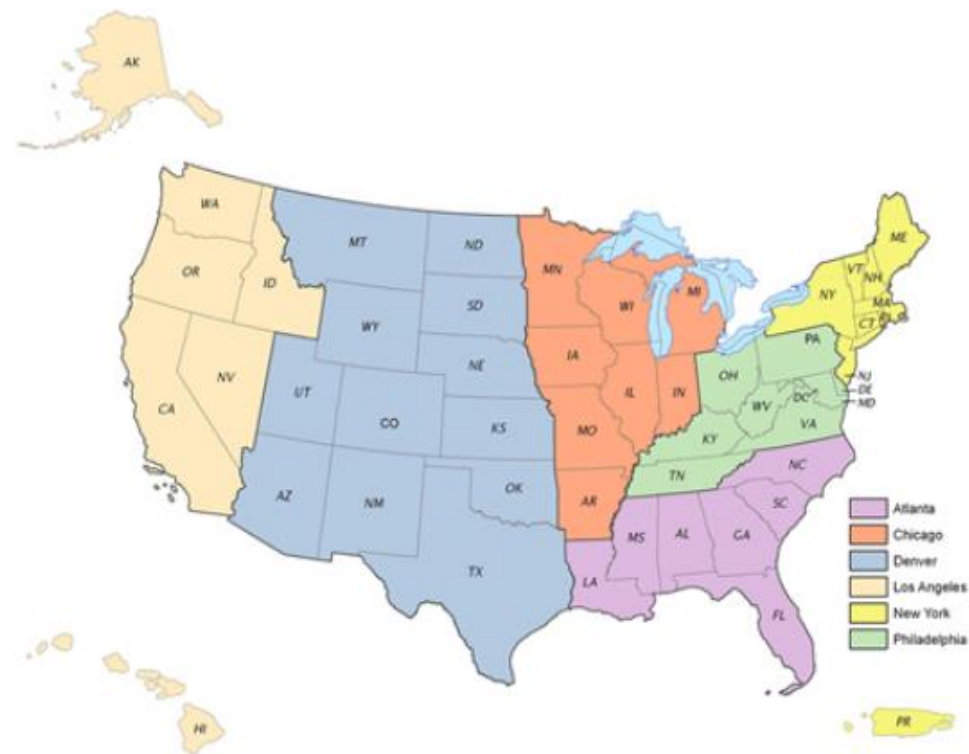


Dial *1 for the Operator

Need Local Stats or Training?

We Can Help!

- Regional Data Staff
 - 1-844-275-3282
 - census.askdata@census.gov
- State Data Centers & Census Information Centers
 - [census.gov/sdc](https://www.census.gov/sdc)



For Further Information

Media

Public Information Office
pio@census.gov
301-763-3030

Email Alerts

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCENSUS/subscriber/new>

Non-Media

Customer Service Center
1-800-923-8282 or
301-763-INFO (4636)

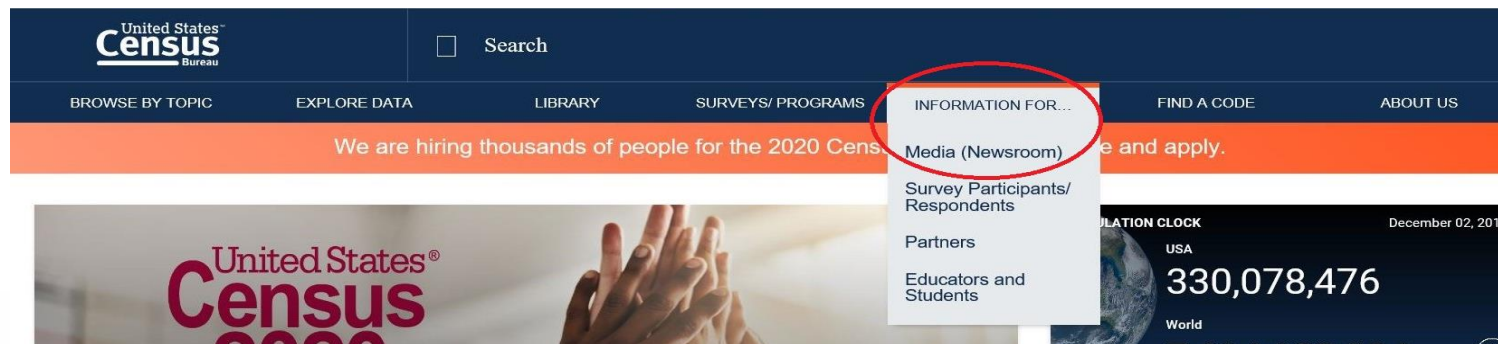
Website

census.gov/acs

Source Us

*U.S. Census Bureau's 2015-2019
American Community Survey*

Press Kit



How Did We Do?

- Please take a moment to complete our quick evaluation
Tell us what we could improve AND what we did well!

*Check the webinar “Chat” box to easily access the link. If you don’t see the Chat box, you can find the evaluation linked here:

[U.S. Census Bureau's Training Evaluation Form](#)

Mandatory for Evaluation

U.S. Census Bureau's Training Evaluation Form

- **Organization** – Census PIO/ACSO
- **City** – Suitland, MD
- **Date of Training** – Dec. 3, 2020
- **Name of Training** - 2015-2019 ACS 5-Year Estimates
- **Type of Event** – Presentation
- **Lead Census Presenter** – Charles Gamble, Tyson Weister, Leslie Malone

Thank You!