

## *How to Use ACS Geodatabase Files and ArcMap Webinar*

### *Transcript*

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### **Slide 1 – How to Use American Community Survey (ACS) Geodatabase Files and ArcMap**

Coordinator: Welcome and thank you for standing by. At this time all participants are in a listen-only mode. During our Q&A session you may press star 1 on your touch-tone phone if you would like to ask a question. Today's conference is being recorded. If you have any objections, you may disconnect at this time. Now let's turn the meeting over to Mr. Tyson Weister. You may begin.

Tyson Weister: Thank you and thank you all, good afternoon for joining. Thank you for joining our webinar today on how to use American Community Survey geodatabase files in ArcMap. My name is Tyson Weister. I work at the Census Bureau in the American Community Survey Office and am joined by my colleague today Meredith Gray. She works in the Geography Division.

## Slide 2 – Outline

So what we're going to do today is show you first a little bit about the ACS. I'm going to start off with some basics just to give you some information about how we collect the data through the ACS and tell you all about that content that it covers as well as the geography so you'll know what is available through the American Community Survey.

And then I'm going to turn it over to my colleague Meredith. She's going to show you how to locate and download the Geodatabase files. And then she's going to open up ArcMap and show you how to join feature class to tables and how to use the metadata table to identify full descriptions so you see the data that you're mapping out and what it means.

And then we'll wrap up with ways to stay in touch both through the American Community Survey as well as geography. And we'll open it up for questions. So we are going to be demonstrating the ArcMap software later in this webinar. We just want to give you the heads up that that's something that's not available like that the Census Bureau doesn't make available but if you don't have access to it, we do encourage you to reach-out to your local university or your local library as a way to potentially get that software if you don't have it.

## Slide 3 – ACS Basics

So we'll go ahead and get started through with the American Community Survey, what is the ACS? Well, we're the largest household-based survey at the U.S. Census Bureau. And every year we're surveying 3.5 million addresses. We're collecting data every single month and what sets us apart is the large scale. So because we're such a large scale we're able to produce critical information for small geographies and small population groups that you can't get through other federal surveys and programs or private ones.

And we're producing detailed population and housing estimates that were previously collected through the decennial census long form. And that's giving you an up-to-date portrait of America's people and housing.

We cover over 35 topics that you'll see on a future slide. And we currently support over 300 known federal government uses and countless nonfederal and private uses. And we release our data twice each year in the form of 1-year estimates that cover 12 months' worth of data collection and our 5-year estimate that covers 60 months' worth of data collection.

## Slide 4 – Census/ACS History

And we get a lot of questions, what sets the ACS apart from the decennial census and what's the difference between them and they actually have an intertwined history. So here's a little timeline that shows you. Ever since the very first census in 1790, Congress has always mandated that additional information is collected through the decennial census beyond a simple

population count. The way that information has been collected has changed over time and it's led to the ACS today.

So you see here between 1790 and 1930 we sent one form to all households. So we wanted additional information, we asked it of everyone.

Then between 1940 and 2000, we sent the short form questions to all households that collected your population counts and your basic demographic information and then we sent the long form to about one in six households. So that was to collect the characteristics of the population, things like income and educational attainment. And we used that sample to create statistics that represented the entire nation.

And while that worked out very well, when you're in 1999 and you're looking at data from 1990 trying to make a decision, it's not quite as useful and timely as it could be. So that's essentially where the ACS comes in – to replace the long-form census. We tested it and in 2005 we implemented it and produced fresh data every year.

It covers all 50 states and the District of Columbia and then we have the Puerto Rico Community Survey or PRCS for Puerto Rico of course. And going forward you have the 2010 and 2020 and future Censuses. These are going to be collecting your basic demographic information and population counts.

## **Slide 5 – How is the ACS Different from a Census**

So to just recap here quickly on the differences between the ACS and the decennial census, the ACS is producing a sample estimate to make population characteristics whereas the focus of the census is the official count to make the population totals and demographic information.

The ACS is giving you new data every single year and the decennial census is 10 years of course. And the ACS also reflects differences in terms of the time between the census. So the ACS is the period of time. We collect data every month throughout the entire year and the data reflects characteristics over the entire period of time, for instance January through December.

The decennial census is what we call a point in time. People are answering questions based on Census Day. So for instance Census Day is typically April 1<sup>st</sup>. People answer the question based on their situation as of April 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **Slide 6 – ACS Data Collection Process**

And because we are associated with the decennial census, we have a rigorous follow-up and data collection process. We have four different modes that occur over a three-month period. For most households we start to survey by sending a postcard to the address, letting them know that they have been selected to participate in the ACS and that they can complete the survey online.

If we don't get a response, we will follow-up with a paper copy sent to the household and we call those first two modes our self-response modes.

If we haven't got a response though and we do have a telephone number associated with the address, we will call and try to get the information. And then if we still haven't received a response, we'll take a sample of the remaining cases and select those households for personal visits.

So what's really important through this is that we get high response rates. So in 2015 our response rate for the ACS was over 95%, again something that sets us apart from other federal surveys and programs.

## **Slide 7 – ACS Content**

Probably what's most important to you all on the line is what can I get out of the ACS? So we'll talk about the scope in terms of our content and geography. We collect social, economic, housing and demographic characteristics.

So you see quite a bit of breadth there in terms of the areas that we cover. And within each of those areas, you have depth so your social characteristics include things like educational attainment, school enrollment, language spoken at home and veteran status. Demographic characteristics include age, sex, race, Hispanic origin and relationship to householder. They're collected through the ACS and the decennial census. Economic characteristics includes things like commuting, journey to work and place of work, employment status, health insurance, income and poverty. And our housing characteristics include computer and internet use, rent, value of the home and the year the structures were built.

So between these more than 35 topics we're producing over 1,000 tables every single year and pushing that out onto American FactFinder and other data tools. And we do those tables for many different geographies, so that's giving you 11 billion estimates that you could potentially map through the ArcGIS that we'll show you later.

## Slide 8 - Table IDs

And while we're talking about the content and since you'll be working with and seeing table IDs in the Geodatabase files, we wanted to just point out that they are meaningful. So here's an example of a table ID, B17001A. And each of those characters give you a preview of the table. So this particular table is poverty status in the past 12 months by sex by age for the white alone population.

So the first character that B specifies the type of table that it is. So B happens to mean that it's a Detailed Table and a Base Table specifically. These are the tables that are in the Geodatabase files that you're going to see today. And as the title suggests, they're the most detailed type of information you can get through the ACS and they're generally including totals as opposed to percentages.

The next two characters 17 specifies the subject, which in this case is poverty status. 001 is a sequential number and that just references this particular table versus the other tables. So this one is poverty status by sex by age. And the finally at the end of the tables - you won't see them for all of them - but some of them have numerical characters. This is A which is race iteration and it

means that's it a race-iterated table for the white alone population. We produce the same table for the Asian alone and so on. And you can get full details of all of the table IDs by visiting the [link](#) at the bottom. We've just created a new webpage that shows that to you.

## Slide 9 – Selected Census Geographic Concepts

So now that you know what kind of content we cover through the ACS you probably are wondering what geographies can I map this for? Here's a hierarchy that shows some of the most common geographic areas that we have through the American Community Survey and it shows the relationship between them.

So where you see lower-level geographies connected directly to higher-level geographies by a direct line, it tells you that that geography is nested within the higher one. So for example your congressional districts and school districts, those fit neatly within states and will never cross state line boundaries, but they don't necessarily bear any relationship to Public Use Microdata Areas, metro areas, or ZIP Code tabulation areas.

Another thing we like to point-out is here at the bottom is again what sets the ACS apart is our ability to provide data for small geographic areas. Those are going to be your census tracts in your block groups. So census tracts if you aren't familiar with them already, they have about 1,200 to 8,000 people. They're statistical areas that fit within counties. And even smaller than that are your block groups. They have about 600 to 3,000 people. It's the equivalent of a neighborhood level for you to map-out the data for. And in



total we have 930,000 geographic areas and that includes over 35,000 communities.

## **Slide 10 – Availability of ACS Data Products**

The one last note we like to make to tie this back to where we started at the beginning is that the availability of our data products does depend on the population that lives in the geographic area. So every year we're producing the 1-year, the 1-year supplemental and 5-year estimates.

Our 1-year estimates are available for geographies that have 65,000 people or more living in them and we're going to release the 2016 ACS 1-year estimates here in September.

We also produce simplified versions of the tables where we collapse some of the details into just one category and we call that our 1-year supplemental estimates. So because you're getting higher-level statistics, we can create those statistics even with smaller geographies. So those are available for populations with 20,000 or more as opposed to the 65,000 or more threshold. And we're going to release the 2016 ACS 1-year supplemental estimates in October.

And then finally as you see here on the slide we have the 5-year estimates. That is what you'll be seeing if you're working with census tracts and block groups. We produce them for all geographic areas regardless of the population that lives in that geography. And it's based on the responses we received over the entire five-year period of time.

So as an example if you're looking in December we're going to be releasing the 2012 to 2016 ACS 5-year estimates. That's based off of data that we collected from January 2012 all the way through December of 2016.

## **Slide 11 - Outline**

So with that now that you all have the familiar basis as far as what you can get through the ACS, I'm going to turn it over to Meredith and she'll show you how to work with the files in the Geodatabase.

Meredith Gray: Okay, thank you very much Tyson and thank you everyone for joining us today. My name is Meredith Gray. I'm in the Geography Division here at the Census Bureau and I'm going to tell you about our Geodatabases, where to find them and some things you can do with them once you download them.

## **Slide 12 - Background Information**

A little bit of background information. Our Geodatabases bring together our TIGER/Line Shapefiles with data from the American Community Survey which you just learned quite a bit about.

This uses the 5-year estimates data. And we created the Geodatabases essentially to make it easier for you for the user to create thematic maps by not having to download too many different items to bring them together. So the Geodatabases bring together the boundaries and the data tables from ACS from many of the subjects offered.

## Slide 13 – [Census.gov](http://census.gov)

So I'm going to actually back out of the PowerPoint for just a moment and I will show you where to find the Geodatabases to download. Start at our website, [census.gov](http://census.gov) and then click the geography item from the navigation menu. Under geography, click on maps and data.

And then on this page, you want to find TIGER Products under the heading geographic data and then this brings you to the page where you can download the different TIGER/Line Shapefile offerings and the Geodatabases. The first item, these are the shape files, the boundaries, the polygons alone.

This second item - TIGER Geodatabases - are also boundaries so these'll be the polygons. These don't include the ACS data so what you want to click on to get the Geodatabases with the ACS data is this third item. TIGER/Line with Selected Demographic and Economic Data. And then you'll see there are a number of data years offered.

The latest version is this 2011 to 2015 ACS 5-year estimates data. This came out a couple of months ago. And you'll see we have a number of different geographies that you can choose from here. Today for our demo we're going to look at the block group geography since this is the smallest geography that you can get for ACS data for these Geodatabases. And as Tyson mentioned, it's what most closely will get you to a neighborhood level.

So just use the pulldown menu here to select your state. Now I've actually already downloaded the Geodatabase. I'm not going to download it right now but I downloaded the Geodatabase for the state of Maryland for block group.

And then your download will be a Zip file that you will need to unzip using the software of your choice. And now I've opened ArcMap and again ArcMap is software put out by Esri. It's available for cost but you might also find that your local library or university may be able to help you get access to the software for your GIS and mapping needs.

Okay, so here we are in ArcMap. I have downloaded already the Geodatabase for Maryland block groups and I have unzipped it. So what I'm going to do now is I'm going to add data, so I'm clicking this button here.

Now I've already navigated to the location of my download and unzipped file. You'll have to navigate to wherever it is that you saved the items. Some people like to save it on their desktop so that it's easy to find. You can save it wherever it works for you as long as you can find it.

And then if you double click on the Geodatabase you will then see the listing of the different subject tables. And what I'm going to do so this first item ACS underscore 2015 with the block group from Maryland, that represents the Shapefile. So these are going to be the boundaries so I'm going to select that item and then I'm going to choose some topics that I am interested in mapping.

So I will use my control key to select multiple items. I'm actually going to choose the age and sex table and I will also choose income. And then I click add. Oh no, well, my apologies. My ArcMap failed to draw. Okay, well I'm going to go ahead and jump back to the slideshow. Just in case there was an issue like this, I actually have some slides showing these screenshots. I'm not exactly sure what happened with my ArcMap but let's go back into the presentation, see here.

## **Slide 21 – Add to Upload GDB**

My apologies so again here is the showing my Geodatabase file.

## **Slide 22 – Choose Feature Class and Tables**

And then what we just looked at, the subject table.

## **Slide 23 – Feature Class, Age and Sex, & Income**

And then here selected again is the Shapefile and the age and sex subject table.

## **Slide 24 – View in ArcMap**

Okay, well this is what you were supposed to see just a moment ago in my software so this is the state of Maryland. These are the block group boundaries with the two subject tables that we selected.

## **Slide 25 – Joining the Table to the Feature Class**

So if you were to open the attribute table for the Shapefile, you would not see the ACS data. You actually have to do a join in the software to bring the data

in with the Shapefile. So you can just right click on your feature item here and you'll get a menu and one of the options will be to join. So select join and then you'll get this dialogue box which you can set the parameters for your data join.

Now the most important thing I want to point out here is that for this first item, choose the field that the join will be based on. You want to choose GEOID underscore data and I believe this is going to be the last item in the list of this pulldown menu.

The other GEOID item won't give you a proper join so just be sure to choose GEOID underscore data. And then for the next option, we're going to join with the age and sex data and then the third field will likely populate itself. We're going to base the join on GEOIDs.

## **Slide 26 – Validation Check**

Once we select all of our parameters, it's always a good idea to validate the join. You can click that validate join button and the program will let you know if everything looks good to go ahead and do the join. So we got a thumbs up here from the software.

## **Slide 27 - Outline**

You can close that window and then go ahead and do the join. And in the software if you go back into the attribute table you will actually see the ACS data available.

## **Slide 28 – Attribute Table When Join Successfully Occurs**

This is actually a look at what you would see looking at that attribute table.

## **Slide 29 – Metadata – Example 1**

Now one challenge that we often hear about from data users is look at these - this field - the short name field. You know, what does all this mean? So you need to look at the metadata to sort of decode those headers. In this slide the metadata has been added to the ArcMap project. So if you were to go and click on that add data button again, you would find the metadata available as another file to add into your project. And that adds another attribute table that you can open and examine.

So as you can see, there are many different short names for these headers and this gives you the translation so to speak of what you're looking at each data category.

## **Slide 30 Metadata – Example 2**

The metadata is also available on the website where we were earlier. I'll jump back to the webpage. If you scroll down under documentation, you'll find text file, metadata available for the different geographies. So that's another way you can get at the metadata to get a feel for what you're looking at in your joined data table. Jump back into the slideshow now.

## Slide 31 – Tips

Okay, and again be sure to use GEOID underscore data. That's one of the most common questions we get or issues that come-up when we work with data users and again the metadata can be viewed in your ArcMap software or as a text document.

## Slide 32 – Outline

Okay, well that is in essence how you do a join in ArcGIS and how you'd use our Geodatabases with built in demographic data. I'm going to turn it back over to Tyson now for some information about how to stay in touch with us and how to reach out if you have questions or need assistance with your mapping pursuits.

## Slide 33 – Continue the Conversation #CensusGeo #ACSdata

Tyson Weister: Thanks, Meredith. Great, well we thank you again for joining us today and we wanted to close out with some leads to stay in touch before we open it up for questions. So we encourage you to continue the conversation with us using hashtag CensusGeo and hashtag ACSdata. You can see on the right we're on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, and most recently LinkedIn.



In the upper left you can also subscribe to receive our e-mail updates. Some of you may have joined this webinar and heard about it through the e-mail alert system. And if you're not already signed-up for it, it's a good way just to stay up-to-date on upcoming data releases, information, and webinars.

You can visit us online as well at [census.gov/geography.html](https://www.census.gov/geography.html) and [census.gov/acs](https://www.census.gov/acs) and then of course you see here the contact information. We have a phone number for Census Bureau questions in general as well as a little bit more direct lines to get you to geography and ACS depending on what your question is. And then of course the same thing for the e-mail.

## **Slide 34 – American Community Survey Data Users Group**

We also have another resource the American Community Survey Data Users Group. And we actually recently had the ACS Data Users conference last week, but another component of the data user group is the free online community. So this is where you can interact with other people using the ACS data and bounce ideas and share how you maybe have mapped data and any challenges you've overcome. And it's free so there's 1800 members now.

You can visit the link at the bottom to join and there are subgroups that are relevant to today's presentation. There's a subgroup for mapping ACS data and GIS applications and there's also a subgroup for ACS data for small geographic areas and population subgroups.

## Slide 35 – Need Local Stats?

And if you are ever interested in getting a local workshop or local statistics, we also wanted to let you know that we have data dissemination specialists. They're located throughout the country and they would be happy to take a request to come to your location and potentially give a local workshop for you. And you can request that by calling the 1-844-ASK-DATA or [census.askdata@census.gov](mailto:census.askdata@census.gov) e-mail.

## Slide 36 – Questions?

So with that we are going to turn it over to the moderator for questions but we also have a link here. So while we're waiting for questions to queue in, the moderator will give you instructions here shortly, but we do encourage you to fill out the evaluation form. So just type that link into your URL, the [questionweb.com/21106](http://questionweb.com/21106) and please complete the evaluation as we're waiting for questions to queue-up. Moderator? Thank you.

Coordinator: At this time if you would like to ask a question on the phone line, please press Star 1 and record your name. Once again that's Star 1. Please make sure your phone is not muted when you record your name. Thank you. One moment for our first question. And our first question comes from (Sandra Barker). Your line is open.

(Sandra Barker): This is (Sandra Barker) (unintelligible) however county subdivisions not there and that's the only way to actually get data for counties ...

Tyson Weister: (Sandra), we weren't able to get that question in clearly on our end. Are you able to repeat it?

Meredith Gray: It sounded like you were inquiring about county subdivisions, (Sandra)?

Coordinator: I'm sorry, her line has dropped.

Meredith Gray: Okay.

Coordinator: The next question comes from (Em Hartfield). Your line is open.

(Em Hartfield): Hi, I was just wondering, do the Geodatabases that get released, are those released at the same time as the 5-year estimates or do they come later? When do those get released?

Meredith Gray: It's a little bit after when the 5-year estimates are released. I think year the Geodatabases came out in March. Some years it's February and I believe it's December for your 5-year estimates.

Tyson Weister: Correct, yes.

Meredith Gray: So there are a couple of months in between when the estimates come out and then when the Geodatabases come out. Thank you (Em) for your question.

(Em Hartfield): No problem, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Stephanie). Your line is open.

(Stephanie): Hi, I joined the webinar a few minutes tardy so you may have gone over this but is there any way that we could get access to the PowerPoint that was just reviewed?

Tyson Weister: Yes, and actually I can show that to you now. So it's already posted on the [census.gov](https://www.census.gov) so if you go to [census.gov/acs](https://www.census.gov/acs). Let me zoom-in here a bit. So right here under events on the main page, if I click on that you will see here at the bottom the How to Use ACS Geodatabase Files and ArcMap Webinar and on the right-hand side here you can download the PDF of the PowerPoint slides right now today.

And then also under guidance for data users in training presentations, we do post the recording of the presentation as well.

(Stephanie): Thank you.

Tyson Weister: So that won't come for at least a couple of weeks but the slides are there now.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Rachel Snyder). Your line is open.

(Rachel Snyder): Hi, I had a question about the state legislative district information. I like to use that information in my work and noticed that I don't see it on the American FactFinder geography areas for the datasets, but I do see it in the TIGER/Line page that you showed us.

And underneath there it has a note about there's no demographic data component for feature class polygons where state House districts and state Senate districts are not defined in these Geodatabases. Can you explain what that note means?

Tyson Weister: So first we'll address your question about state legislative districts in American FactFinder. So if you go to [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov) in the advanced search, I'm just going to do really quickly here since FactFinder wasn't the focus of the webinar but if you click here on geographies on the blue box on the left and select all geographic types, eventually you will see state legislative districts. We have upper chambers and lower chambers. So that information is in American FactFinder.

And also on the ACS site just so you have some documentation that you can look with a little bit longer. We recently posted our flyers to the ACS Website. I believe that that is one of the ones so under library and outreach materials so [census.gov/acs](https://census.gov/acs) click library on the left nav, outreach materials and ACS flyers. We have the instructions for how to find that in American FactFinder just so you have a little more details to reference because I know I answered that a little bit quickly for you. So you should be able ...

(Rachel Snyder): Yes, I'm looking at it right now and I don't see that so maybe I can follow-up with you outside of ...

Meredith Gray: Be sure when you're doing the advanced search and you're selecting your geography, you toggle over to all geographies from the default option which is the most common and then the state ...

(Rachel Snyder): Oh, okay.

Meredith Gray: ... that should populate for you in the pulldown menu.

(Rachel Snyder): Thank you, thank you so much, okay.

Meredith Gray: Sure.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Zena Wynn). Your line is open.

(Zena Wynn): Hey, I'm wondering do you have monthly population and monthly income data for metropolitan and the micropolitan areas from 2008-2010?

Tyson Weister: Would you mind repeating that question, please?

(Zena Wynn): Yes, do you have monthly population and monthly income data for households at the metropolitan and micropolitan areas level ranging from 2008 to 2010?

Tyson Weister: So I can tell you that monthly data is not available through the ACS even though we collect our data on a monthly basis. We don't break it down and publish the data by month.

But if you want to e-mail in your question to the contact information a couple of slides back here, you can e-mail either the general Census line or you can e-mail ACSO User Support and we'd be happy to check if maybe other programs at the Census or if we can point you in the right direction somewhere else that may have that information for you.

(Zena Wynn): Okay, great, thank you very much.

Tyson Weister: You're welcome.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Chris). Your line is open.

(Chris): I was just wondering if there's any available data from the ACS for how many people have homeowner's insurance, also what are Public Use Microdata Areas like under what circumstance would you use that level of analysis?

Tyson Weister: Yes, so for insurance we only collect health insurance. We don't have homeowner insurance data. We do ask about home ownership status so whether someone's an owner or renter and there may be other related housing topics but home insurance is not one of them.

And as far as the Public Use Microdata Areas, you can look at that level of geography in American FactFinder. So whereas like your census tracts and your block groups, those are statistical areas based on population size.

Because they have such small populations in them, you can only get the 5-year estimates. If you wanted a consistent geography to work with across the nation and you wanted to use 1-year estimates, you might want to look at Public Use Microdata Areas or PUMAs because they will all meet the 65,000 plus threshold.

The other reason you would use it is if you're working so we have 11 billion estimates on American FactFinder that we're publishing every year but the tables are you know, they are how they've been made. Nothing's being created on the fly. You're just searching American FactFinder for what our statisticians have already worked and put together throughout the year. So if you wanted maybe for instance we could get a lot of people that want age by individual years versus like 18 to 20 range of however they're predetermined on American FactFinder.

We have a sample of the PUMS. So we take about 2/3 of the responses from the ACS. We remove all of the information so that you can't identify any individual person or household but we share the data so that you could do your own statistical analysis and when you're working with PUMS the smallest level of geography you can use is the PUMA.

(Chris): Got it, thank you very much.

Tyson Weister: You're welcome.

Coordinator: Once again if you would like to ask questions on the phone line, please press star 1, unmute your line and record your name when prompted. Our next question comes from (Robert Byrd). Sir, your line is open.

(Robert Byrd): My question was already answered, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Pamela Risotto). Your line is open.

(Pamela Risotto): Thank you. My question actually was already answered but I'm having a hard time getting back there. I was wondering about when the slides and the recorded webinar would be available because I too arrived a little late and you went so quickly in leading us to where they were, would you mind just quickly going through that one more time?

Tyson Weister: No problem, sorry about that. So if you open up your web browser, I'm going to go to [census.gov/acs](https://www.census.gov/acs), again [census.gov/acs](https://www.census.gov/acs).

(Pamela Risotto): Okay.



Tyson Weister: So if you're on our main page here and you click on the event tab so the data tab's already highlighted but click on events, that third tab. And then if you scroll, you'll see How to Use ACS Geodatabase files and ArcMap Webinar.

(Pamela Risotto): Excellent, thank you.

Tyson Weister: And when you click on that, those are the slides and then we'll post the recording. You can get to it through the same way but we'll the recording will actually kind of live under guidance for data users in training presentations on the left-hand navigation. And that will come in a couple of weeks.

(Pamela Risotto): Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Lynn Wilson). Your line is open.

(Lynn Wilson): Hi, thank you. Do you have to use ArcMap with these files or can you use Google Maps?

Meredith Gray: Yes, so the Geodatabases ArcMap is the software to use. We do have TIGER/Line KML files that you can use with a Google software platform.

(Lynn Wilson): Okay, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Wesley Furlong). Your line is open.

(Wesley Furlong): Yes, after you do the table join and you use the identify tool and you select a block group, it gives you all of the table IDs but is there a way to know what those table IDs represent? Is there a way to have the descriptions?

Meredith Gray: Are you talking about the ACS data or the geographies such as the census tract and things like that and the block group number?

(Wesley Furlong): The ACS data.

Meredith Gray: Uh huh, so that's available in the metadata. And you can find the metadata it's actually packaged in the Geodatabase. It's another item that you can add if you click on to add data in your ArcMap program. I think it has metadata in the name. It should fall just under the Shapefile when you pull it up. And the metadata's also available in text format, text file format on the website where we downloaded the Geodatabases. Let's see if I've got it up here. It's just below ...

(Wesley Furlong): Yes, okay, good, then you just do another full join with the feature?

Meredith Gray: ... from the you can actually once you've got the feature in there and even if you have, you know, your subjects in there, you can just add data and add that metadata item in.

(Wesley Furlong): Okay, awesome, thank you.

Meredith Gray: Thank you very much.

Coordinator: And that was our last question.

Tyson Weister: Great, thank you. Thank you all for joining the webinar today. If you haven't got a chance we will also have this up here for you to complete the evaluation but we'd like to thank you again and we hope to see you at a future webinar.

Coordinator: This concludes your conference and you may disconnect. Once again your conference has ended and you may disconnect. Thank you for joining.

END