



# TEACHERS' GUIDE TO DATA ACCESS TOOLS FOR STUDENTS

The U.S. Census Bureau and its Statistics in Schools program offer a number of tools that students can use to access data. Students can find city- or state-specific information about their birthplace, current place of residence, or ideal future hometown, for example. Using these tools, students and teachers can see data on housing, population, age, sex, race, ethnicity, geographic location, and much more.

To see a complete list of data access tools offered by the Census Bureau, visit [www.census.gov/data/data-tools.html](http://www.census.gov/data/data-tools.html). To download student activities that use data access tools, visit <http://www.census.gov/schools/resources/data-tools/teach-with-data-tools.html>.

## 2010 Interactive Population Map

*Best for sixth grade and up*

This tool shows specific population data, organized by geographic location through clicking on the map.

### With This Tool, Students Can:

- Explore current demographic information down to the neighborhood level.

## QuickFacts and State Facts for Students

*QuickFacts is best for sixth grade and up; State Facts for Students is best for elementary and middle school*

QuickFacts is an easy-to-use application that displays tables, maps, and charts of frequently requested statistics such as age, sex, race and ethnicity, and education. Facts are available for the nation, all 50

states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, and all U.S. counties. Also included are cities and towns with populations of 5,000 or greater.

### With This Tool, Students Can:

- Compare data for different geographies. They could, for example, compare the number of people who have a bachelor's degree or higher in a large urban city like Chicago with the number in a small rural city like Sidney, Montana.
- See data in various formats, such as tables, maps, graphs, and dashboards.

State Facts for Students is a simpler version of QuickFacts. It is easier for students to use and includes less complex data.

### With This Tool, Students Can:

- Discover information about their state, including data on population, geography, business, and history.
- Examine data about students their age and learn fun facts, such as the number of ice cream stores in a state.

## American FactFinder

### Best for high school

American FactFinder provides data on population, race, age, education, and income, among other categories, for the largest and smallest geographic entities — from entire ZIP codes to neighborhoods.

### With This Tool, Students Can:

- Narrow a search with hundreds of detailed categories, such as the number of grandparents living with children younger than 18, vacant homes, or people with disabilities.
- Create and customize thematic maps — designed to show a theme among geographic areas — from data tables.

## Census Business Builder: Small Business Edition

### Best for high school

This tool offers an easy way to access and use key demographic and economic data at the county, city, ZIP code, and tract levels. These data help small business owners plan for opening a new location or expanding an existing one, for example.

For a more advanced version of the tool, teachers and students can use the Regional Analyst Edition, which allows the user to define a region made up of two or more counties and see the data for that area.

### With This Tool, Students Can:

- Select a type of business and potential business location with easy-to-use menus.
- Use an interactive map to explore the selected area for business opportunities and compare it to neighboring areas.
- Explore, download, and print county- and city-level business reports (including trend charts).



***“When teachers show that vested interest and that passion for bringing statistics into the classroom, it’s definitely going to benefit the students.”***

**- Eric Johnson, Assistant Principal,  
Bren Mar Park Elementary School,  
Alexandria, Virginia**

