Who's in Your Neighborhood? Using the American FactFinder

Salma Abadin and Carrie Koss Vallejo Data You Can Use – www.datayoucanuse.org

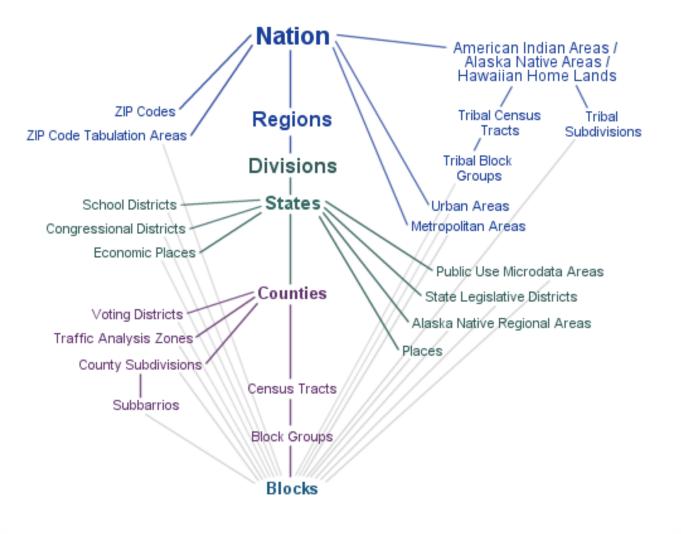
Learning Objectives

- Learn what American FactFinder is and is not
- Become familiar with the data that are available
- Explore how to find and use the data

What is American FactFinder?

- http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml
- The primary vehicle for searching for and distributing census data
- Access to data about the United States, Puerto Rico, and Island areas
- Different tools available to ascertain data Provides data for the lowest level of geography (blocks) to ZIP codes to legislative districts

Geographies



Census Glossary of Terms





Popular Tables

Population and Housing

- Annual Population Estimates (2015 PEP, PEPANNRES)
- Demographic and Housing Estimates (2014 ACS, DP05)
- General Housing Characteristics (2014 ACS, DP04)
- General Demographic Characteristics (2010 Census, DP-1)

Poverty and Income

- General Economic Characteristics (2014 ACS, DP03)
- Age, Race, Sex and Education
- Selected Social Characteristics (2014 ACS, DP02)
- Educational Attainment (2014 ACS, S1501)

American FactFinder provides access to data about the United States, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas. The data in American FactFinder come from several censuses and surveys. For more information see Using FactFinder and What We Provide.

Using American FactFinder

Learn about American FactFinder's functions and features.

What We Provide The following data are available on American FactFinder: American Community Survey more » | get data » American Housing Survey more » | get data » Annual Economic Surveys more » Annual Surveys of Governments more » Census of Governments more » | get data » Decennial Census more » | get data » Economic Census more » | get data » Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation more » | get data » Population Estimates Program more » | get data » Puerto Rico Community Survey more » | get data »

News and Notes



December 03, 2015 The 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimates are now available....



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view all news, release schedules, and more »

Address Search

Find Census data by entering a street address.



Reference Maps

Reference Maps show selected geographic boundaries for an area along with orienting features, such as roads.



Load Search or Query

To retrieve a saved search or query, use the "Load Search/Query" button.

LOAD SEARCH/QUERY

Deep Linking Guide

A how-to guide for Building Deep Links into American Factfinder (PDF) is available.

News and Notes

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- Census of Governments more » | get data »
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- Economic Census more » | get data »
- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation more » | get data »
- Population Estimates Program more » | get data »
- Puerto Rico Community Survey more » | get data »

more »

December 03, 2015 The 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-year estimates are now available < > > > view all news, release schedules, and more » Address Search Find Census data by entering a street address. Reference Maps Reference Maps show selected geographic boundaries for an area along with orienting features, such as roads. GO United States Load Search or Query To retrieve a saved search or query, use the "Load Search/Query" button. LOAD SEARCH/QUERY

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Available Data

- Decennial Census
 - Count of all residents
 - Population traits
 - Sex, age, race, household size, vacancy status, etc
- American Community Survey
 - Annual survey
 - Has information similar to the Decennial Census
 - But also has detailed social, economic, and housing characteristics

Decennial vs ACS data

Decennial Census	American Community Survey
Counts people in all housing units and group quarters	Conducts a sample survey and generates estimates
Reflects one point in time	A continuous survey that releases data every year
Includes the most detailed geographic data with coverage down to the Block level	Coverage down to the Block group level
	**American FactFinder only contains data down to the Census Tract level

A closer look at the ACS

Basic Demographics	Social Characteristics	Economic Characteristics	Housing Characteristics
•Age •Sex •Hispanic or Latino Origin •Race •Relationship	 Ancestry Citizenship Status Disability Status Educational Attainment Fertility Field of Degree Grandparents as Caregivers Language Marital Status and Marital History Place of Birth School Enrollment Residence 1 Year Ago/Migration Veterans Year of Entry 	 Class of Worker Employment Status Health Insurance Coverage Income and Earnings Industry Journey to Work Occupation Poverty Work Status 	 Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) House Heating Fuel Kitchen Facilities Owner Statistics Plumbing Facilities Renter Statistics Rooms and Bedrooms Telephone Service Available Tenure Units in Structure Value of Home Vehicles Available Year Householder Moved Into Unit Year Structure Built



ACS versions

1-year estimates	3-year estimates	5-year estimates
Data for areas with populations of 65,000+	Data for areas with populations of 20,000+	Data for all areas
Smallest sample size	Medium sample size	Largest sample size
Least reliable	More reliable	Most reliable
Most current data	Less current data	Least current data
Best used when:	Best used when:	Best used when:
 Currency is more important than precision Analyzing large populations 	 Analyzing smaller populations or geographies 	 Precision is more important than currency Analyzing very small populations and geographies

Other available data

- Puerto Rico Community Survey
- Population Estimates Program (PEP)
- Economic census
- American Housing Survey
- Equal Employment Opportunity Tabulation

Advantages and Limitations

Advantages	Limitations
Less need of knowledge of census data, data programs, and geography	No data as good as local data
Allows users to start searching for data in multiple ways, by a person's needs and interests	The data is dated
Search all census data programs for data collected at all geographic levels	Census tract and block group data are available every 5 years
Can avoid raw data	Margin of error is not negligible
	Need to be cautious in comparing data

- 1. Community Facts
 - Popular facts and frequently requested data about a specific geography

Census Bureau	FactFinder
Community Facts - Find por	COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER
	y, town, or zip code: Wisconsin GO
Population Age	Wisconsin We found more results for your geography search >>
Business and Industry 🗸	Number of Companies Bookmark/Save C Print
Education	Popular tables for this geography:
Housing	Economy-Wide Key Statistics (Number of Establishments, Annual Payroll, Number of Employees,) County Business Patterns (Number of Establishments, Annual Payroll, Number of Employees,) Zip Code Business Statistics (Number of Establishments, Annual Payroll, Number of Employees,)
Origins and Language	2014 American Community Survey • Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings • Industry by Sex and Median Earnings • Commuting Characteristics by Sex (Means of Transportation, Commute Time, Vehicles Available,)
Race and Hispanic Origin	Want more? Need help? Use Guided Search or visit Census.gov's Quick Facts.
Show All	

- Step-by-step guidance in finding data
 - Choose this option if you're not sure where to begin

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		type, value of home,)				
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- Step-by-step guidance in finding data
 - Choose this option if you're not sure where to begin

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- Step-by-step guidance in finding data
 - Choose this option if you're not sure where to begin

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 - Choose this option if you're not sure where to begin

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Table, File or Document Title	ID Dataset People:Employment:
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SEX OF WORKERS BY TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK	B08011 2014 ACS 5-year

3. Advanced search



3. Advanced search



3. Advanced search

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(executives, analysts,)		B08006	SEX OF WORKERS BY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK	2014 ACS 5-year estimates	0
		B08006	SEX OF WORKERS BY MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK	2014 ACS 1-year estimates	0
		B08011	SEX OF WORKERS BY TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK	2014 ACS 5-year estimates	0
		B08011	SEX OF WORKERS BY TIME LEAVING HOME TO GO TO WORK	2014 ACS 1-year estimates	0
		B08012	SEX OF WORKERS BY TRAVEL TIME TO WORK	2014 ACS 5-year estimates	0
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3. Advanced search

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Geographies (states, counties, places,)		B08124	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY OCCUPATION	2014 ACS 5-year estimates	0	
		B08101	MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK BY AGE	2014 ACS 5-year estimates	0	
Race and Ethnic Groups (race, ancestry, tribe)		S0801	COMMUTING CHARACTERISTICS BY SEX	2014 ACS 1-year estimates	0	
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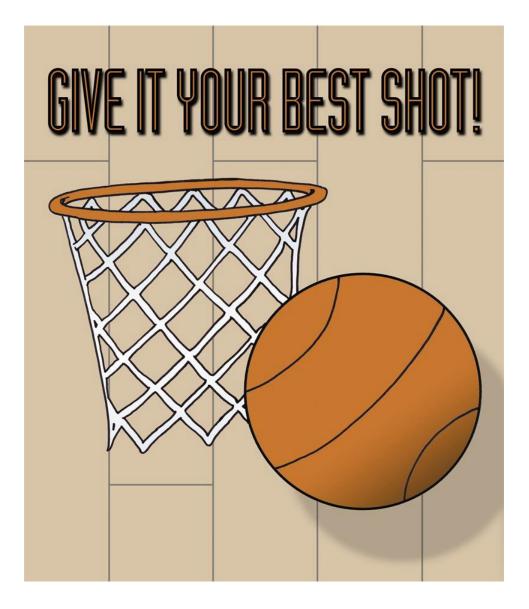
4. Download center

- Large volumes of data
 - Examples: all census tracts in the United States or all counties in a state
- To use this feature, you need to know which dataset, table, or data program you're looking for

Census / FactFinder
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Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data
1 Start 2 Dataset 3 Geographies 4 Search Results
Choose from one of the following and click Next.
I know the dataset or table(s) that I want to download.
I want to find prepackaged data that I can download.
The Download Center is designed for experienced users, providing quick access to downloadable data for predefined groups of geographies and prepackaged files. tell me more »
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Before using American FactFinder

- Ask yourself these questions:
 - Who do you want to learn about?
 - Race, age, gender
 - What is it you want to know about them?
 - Demographics, income, employment, housing
 - Where is the place that these people live?
 - Wisconsin, Milwaukee county, Milwaukee city
 - When is the time period you are interested in?
 - Recent or historic data



Application of the data

- Learn about your community
- Inform decision-making
- Determine target areas or populations
- Making comparisons
- Can use data in other programs

Resources and references

<u>A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community</u> <u>Survey Data – What General Data Users Need to Know</u>

Comparing ACS Data

United States Census FAQs

American FactFinder Help and Video Tutorials

50 Ways Census Data Are Used

Thank you!

Please visit our website (<u>www.datayoucanuse.org</u>) or contact us if you have any questions:

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