Mapping Tract Data in AFF

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Many Censuses: 1890-1910

- Nat’l Census
- NY St. Census
- Church Groups
From Sanitary District to Census Tract:

- Dir. Federation of Churches
- Walter Laidlaw
- Devised Plan pre-1910
- C.B. accepted plan.
1910 Census

- NYC: 40-acre “districts”
- 7 Other cities (over 500K) get “tracts”
- Only NYC uses tract data
Census Bureau takes up the cause:

· mid1920s – Chicago & Cleveland purchased data.

· Howard Whipple Green retrofits Cleveland 1927

· HWG Appointed chairman of Committee on Census Enumeration Areas

· 1930 – 18 Cities tracted
Nationwide Tracting

- 1940, Tract becomes an official ‘entity’.
- 1940: 1st time tract Data is free to cities
- Publishes for cities >50,000
- Urban Areas created tract teams.
- Block Numbering Areas?
Population Characteristics of Tracts:

- Optimally 4000 people; range between 1200-8000.
- The optimal size for ACS data.
- Tracts are subdivided if population swells.
Geographic Characteristics of Tracts:

- originally created with biz districts in mind
- Do not cross county boundaries
- Do not cross MCD (Town/Twp) lines in NE.
- Do not cross CCD boundaries in SE & W.
Other Characteristics of Tracts:

- follow the built and natural environment
- Wall-to-wall, nationwide regardless of governmental boundaries.
- Temporal

Image from socialexplorer.org
Characteristics of Tracts: numbering scheme.

- Subdivided if population increases, for example: Tract 20.00 becomes 20.01 and 20.02

- Numbers appear differently: 20, 002000 or 0020.00

- Recombining Tracts?

- How often?
Who maintains Census Tracts?

- Partnerships between Census Bureau & Local Government.
- Publicized by Census Bureau
- Once every ten years
- Small adjustments can be made.
Where can you see your Census tracts?

TIGERWeb:
(http://tigerweb.geo.census.gov/tigerwebmain/tigerweb_main.html)

FEDERAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS EXAMINATION COUNCIL
https://geomap.ffiec.gov/FFIECGeocMap/GeocodeMap1.aspx
American Factfinder Tips

Search using the options below:

- **Geographies**
  (states, counties, places, ...)

- Topics
  (age, income, year, dataset, ...)

- Race and Ethnic Groups
  (race, ancestry, tribe)

- Industry Codes
  (NAICS industry, ...)

- EEO Occupation Codes
  (executives, analysts, ...)
American Factfinder Tips

- The 4 main “tabs”:

**List:** A drop-down method for finding your “area”.

**Name:** A key word search (The “filter-basket” method).

**Address:** Look up a single address & its demographics

**Map:** See a map of the area you select
American Factfinder Tips

- Get items into your shopping basket!!
References & Further Reading:


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