Census Data & Resources
Finding the most current and relevant data resources

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Importance of the Census

• Congressionally mandated by Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution
  - First Census was in 1790

• Why do we conduct the Census?
  - Congressional Apportionment
  - Redistricting
  - Data is used to allocate billions of dollars in federal funds
Federal Funding from Census Data

More than $400 billion dollars annually in federal grants and direct assistance allocated based on Census data.

- Decennial Census
- Population Estimates
- American Community Survey
- Other Census Surveys
10 Largest Federal Programs that use Population and Income data as factors

• Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
• Unemployment Insurance
• Highway Planning and Construction
• Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
• Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
• Federal Pell Grant Program
• Title 1 Grants to Local Educational Agencies
• Special Education Grants to States
• National School Lunch Program
• Head Start
Decennial Census
Short Form Only!

• In Census 2000, 1 in 6 households received the 53 question, 40 page long form
  - Detailed social, economic & housing info
• 2010 Census was SHORT FORM ONLY!
  - 10 Questions
• 2010 Questionnaire Topics
  - Name  - Race  - Housing Tenure
  - Sex   - Ethnicity - Housing Relationship
  - Age
Population Estimates Program

• Formulated based on latest census number and birth rate, death rate and migration
• Provides annual population and (some) general demographics (age, sex, race and ethnicity)
• Data available for nation, States, Metro Areas, Counties and Cities/Towns
• General demographic info available only for Nation, States and Counties (not Metro Areas or Cities/Towns)
• OFFICIAL CENSUS COUNT FOR INTERCENSAL YEARS!
American Community Survey

- Social and Economic information every year rather than just once a decade
- Took the place of the census long form (2005)
- At the start of each month, the questionnaire is mailed to a scientifically selected random sample of household in counties throughout the Nation
- The Census will continue to conduct a short-form-only Census ever 10 years
- **NOT A COUNT! VIEW TRENDS! USE PERCENTAGES!**
American Community Survey
CURRENT DATA AVAILABLE FOR 2009

• Released for the first time in 2010, data is currently available for areas with a population of 20,000 or less

- Areas with a population **20,000+**: 3-year estimates (data avail. For 2005-07 and 2006-08, 2007-2009)
- Areas below **20,000** (incl. census tracts & block groups)
  5-year estimates (2005-2009)
SF 1 (100% Data)

- Household Relationship
- Sex
- Age
- Hispanic or Latino Origin
- Race
- Tenure (own/rent)
- Vacancy characteristics
SF 1 (100% Data)

- **Summary File 1**
- **Summary File 2**: Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF1
- This data is currently being released by the 2010 Census.
SF 3 (Sample Data)*

Population
- Marital Status
- Place of birth, citizenship, entry year
- School Enrollment/Ed. Attainment
- Ancestry
- Migration
- Language spoken
- Veteran status
- Disability
- Grandparents as caregivers
- Labor force status
- Place of work, journey to work
- Occupation, industry, class of worker
- Work status in 1999
- Income in 1999
- Poverty status

*references Census 2000

Housing
- Value of home or monthly rent paid
- Units in structure
- Year structure built
- Number of rooms and number of bedrooms
- Year moved into residence
- Plumbing and kitchen facilities
- Telephone service
- Vehicles available
- Heating fuel
- Farm residence
- Utilities, mortgage, taxes, Insurance and fuel costs

*references Census 2000
SF 3 (Sample Data)

- **Summary File 3**
- **Summary File 4**: Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF3
- Now collected by ACS
American FactFinder (cont.)

Consistency! Consistency! Consistency!

• No matter what survey, census, year or data you want, the process remains the same:

1. Choose your survey
2. Choose your data file/year and table type
3. Choose your geography
4. Choose your data item/table
American FactFinder (cont.)

TYPES AND TABLES

DECENNIAL AND ACS
Quick Tables (Data Profiles) - Predefined tables for one geographic area. Simplest to access, least detailed.
Geographic Comparison Tables – Tables containing small amount of information for a group of related areas
Detailed Tables – Tables that provide the most detailed data on all topics and geo areas. Allows for choosing of multiple tables and multiple geos. All other tables are sourced from these tables.

ACS ONLY
Ranking Tables – Tables that are ranked by state only.
Selected Population Profiles – Predefined tables that allow detailed race groups and Ancestries to be cross referenced.
Additional Surveys & Programs

- **Economic Census** - taken every 5 years for years ending in “2” and “7”. Provides a detailed portrait of the United States' economy [http://www.census.gov/econ/census07/](http://www.census.gov/econ/census07/)

- **Statistical Abstracts** - see Higher Education Institutions and Education

- **Commerce Connect** - Economic Development Initiative that provides resources to U.S. businesses.
Additional Surveys

• **Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI)** -
• set of economic indicators:
  - employment
  - job creation
  - wages and worker turnover
• that can be queried by different levels of geography -- state, county, metro, and workforce investment area -- as well as by detailed industry, gender, and age of workers.
Contact Information

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