American Community Survey (ACS) Overview

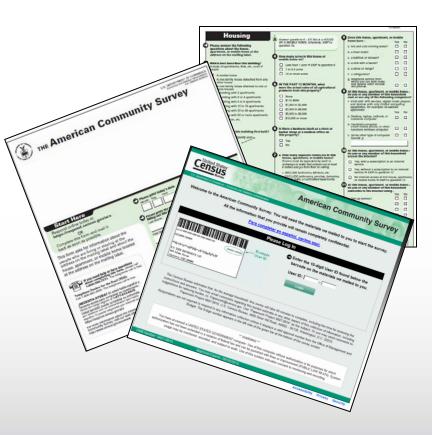
Kimberly Davis
U.S. Census Bureau
Data Dissemination Specialist
October 2015

Outline

- American Community Survey (ACS) basics
- Resources for learning more
- Accessing ACS data products
- Using American FactFinder
- Questions

What is the ACS?

- An ongoing mandatory demographic survey, that replaced the Census long form.
- Randomly select about 3.5 million addresses each year to participate in the survey.
- Data collection through four modes: Internet, Mail, Telephone, Personal Visits
- Annually produces 1 year and 5-year datasets as low as a Census Tract (neighborhood) and some block groups.
- 2014 has two data sets for release:
 - ACS 1-year available now.
 - ACS 5-year release will release December 10, 2015
- Generates data that help determine how more than \$400 billion in federal and state funds are distributed each year.



Census / ACS History

1790-1930
 Census: one form to all households

1940-2000
 Census: short form and long form

 2000 <u>ACS</u>: large-scale demonstration

2005-present
 ACS / PRCS: full implementation

2010Census: short form only



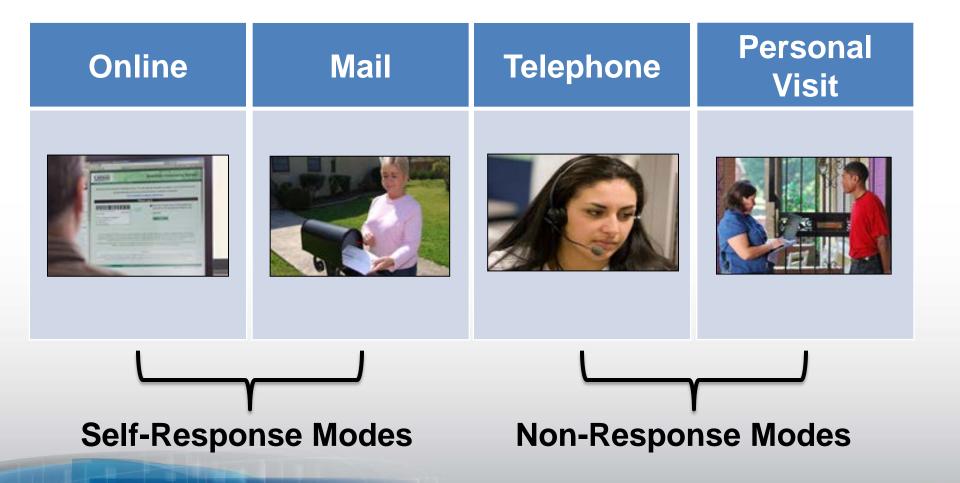


How is the ACS Different from a Census?

	ACS	2010 Census	
purpose	Sample estimates	Official counts	
produces	Population characteristics	Population totals	
new data every	Year	10 years	
data reflect	Period of time	Point in time	



ACS Data Collection Process





Subjects Included in the Survey

Social

Education
Marital Status
Fertility
Veterans
Disability
Citizenship
Language
Migration

Employment Status
Income
Commuting
Occupation & Industry
Health Insurance
Class of Worker

Economic

Tenure (Own/Rent)
Occupancy & Structure
Home Value
Costs (Mortgage, Taxes, Insurance)
Utilities
Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities

Housing

Sex Age Race Hispanic Origin

Demographic



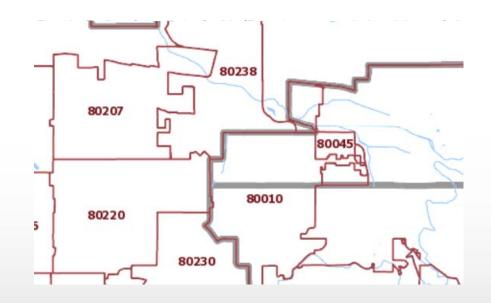
Changes to Content

- 2008: New/modified questions added for
 - Marital history
 - Health insurance coverage
 - Service-connected disability status and rating
 - Disability
- 2009: New question added for Bachelor's field of degree
- 2013: New questions added for Computer ownership/Internet access
- 2016: Propose modifying/removing
 - Computer usage and internet
 - Business/medical office on property
 - Flush toilet



Selected Census Geographic Concepts—Legal Areas

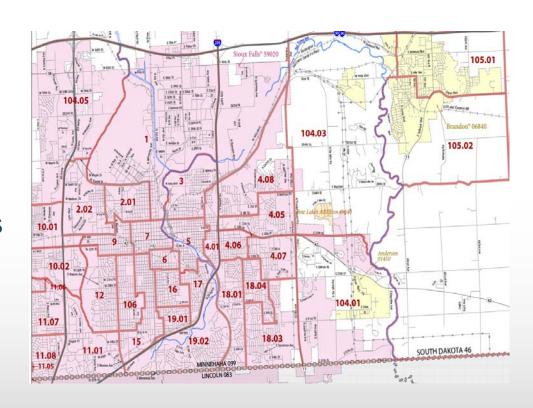
- Nation
- States
- Counties
- Incorporated Places
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Congressional Districts
- School Districts
- Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)





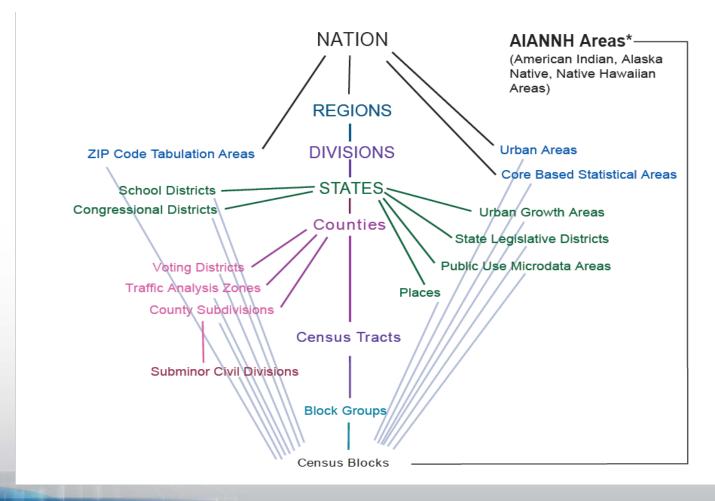
Selected Census Geographic Concepts—Statistical Areas

- Regions
- Divisions
- Census Designated Places
- Census County Divisions
- Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA)
- Census Tracts
- Block Groups





Standard Hierarchy of Census Geographic Entities

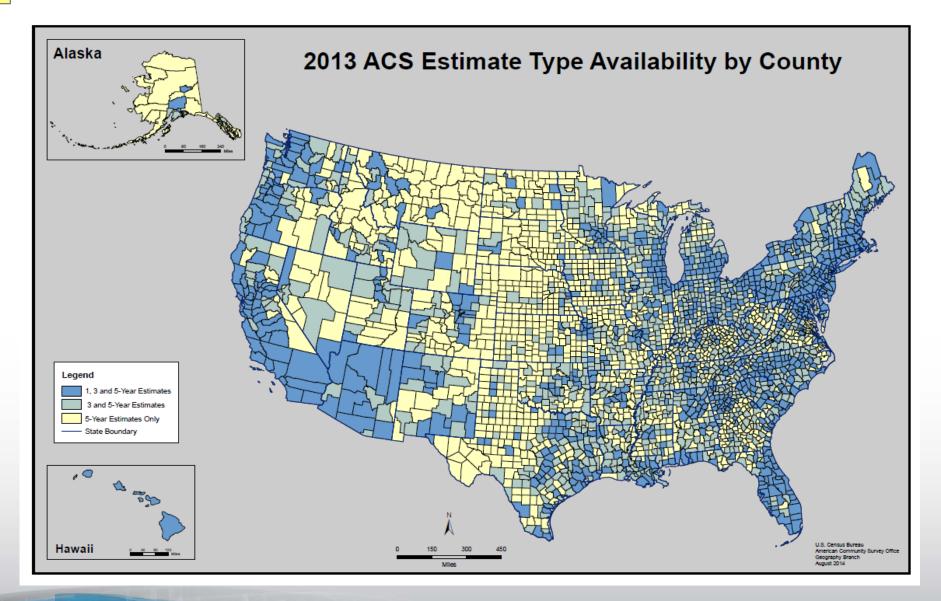




Availability of ACS Data Products

Estimated Population of Geographic Area	1-Year Estimates	3-Year Estimates	5-Year Estimates
65,000 or more	X	X	X
20,000 to 64,999		X	X
Less than 20,000			X
Planned Release Date	September 17, 2015	N/A	December 10, 2015

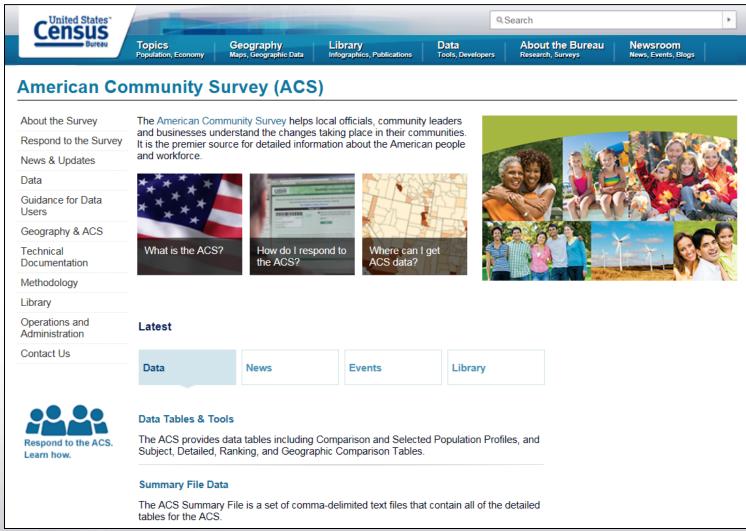




Outline

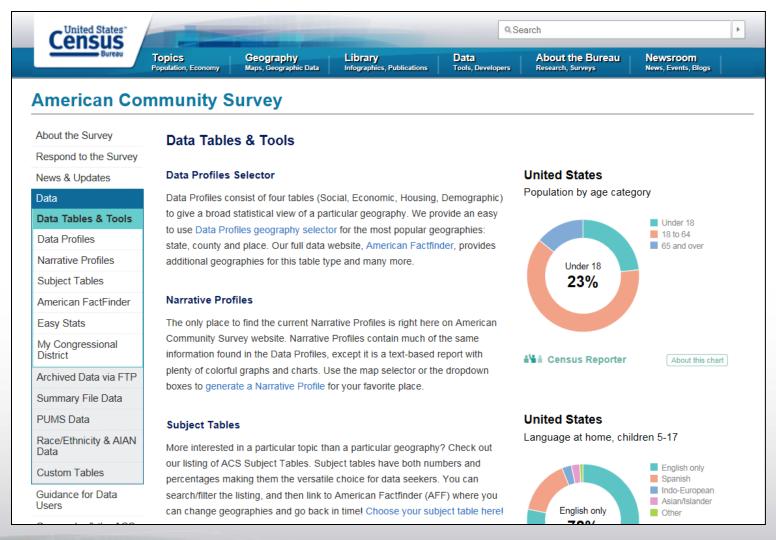
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ACS Main Page



census.gov/acs

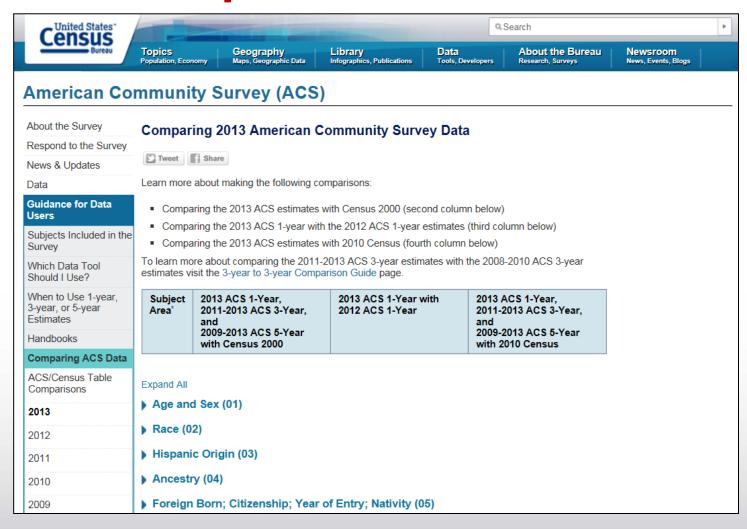
Data Tables & Tools



census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/index.php

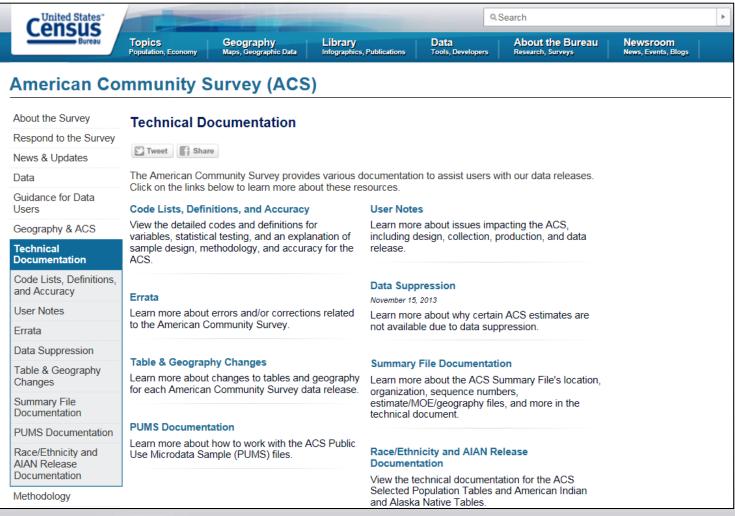


Comparison Guidance



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/comparing-acs-data/2013.html

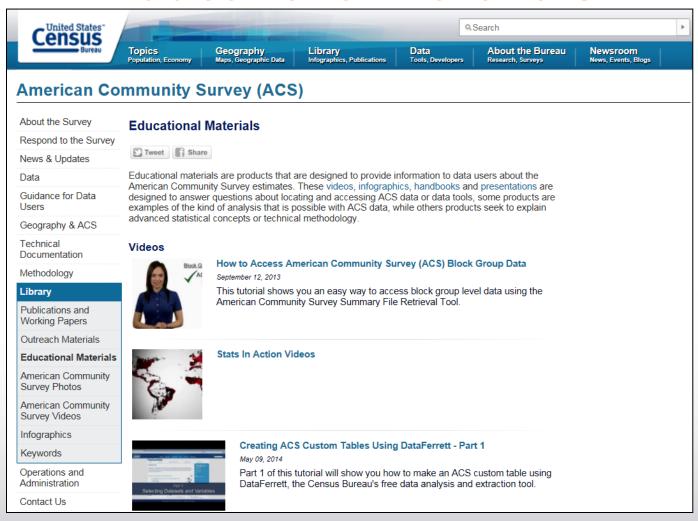
Technical Documentation Page



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation.html



Educational Materials



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/library/educational-materials.html

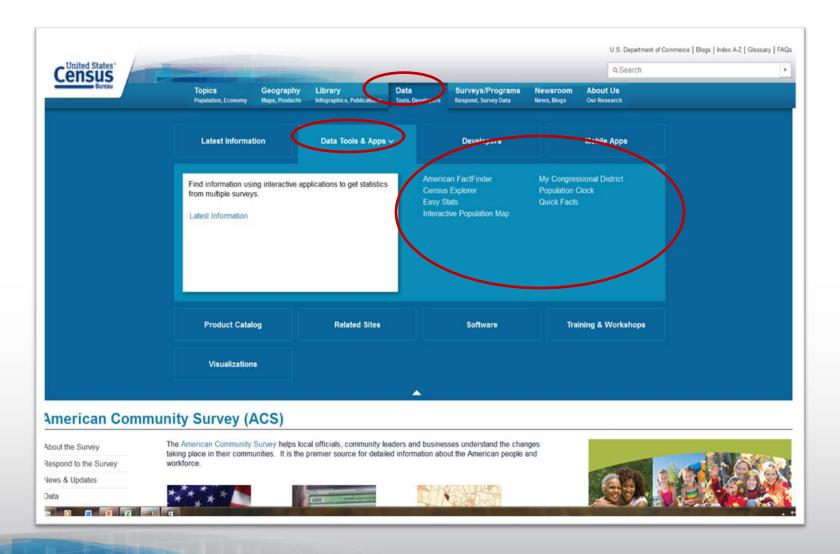
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Ways to Access

- QuickFacts
- Census Explorer
- OnTheMap for Emergency Management
- Narrative Profiles
- American FactFinder
- Application Programming Interface (API)
- Census Business Bulider

Find Data Tools on Census.gov



QuickFacts

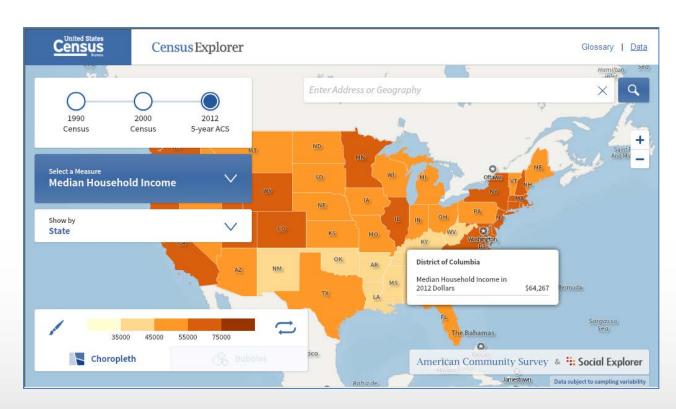


When to use:

Find a fact fast. View selected estimates about social, economic, and housing characteristics for all states and counties, and for cities with more than 5,000 people.

census.gov/quickfacts

Census Explorer



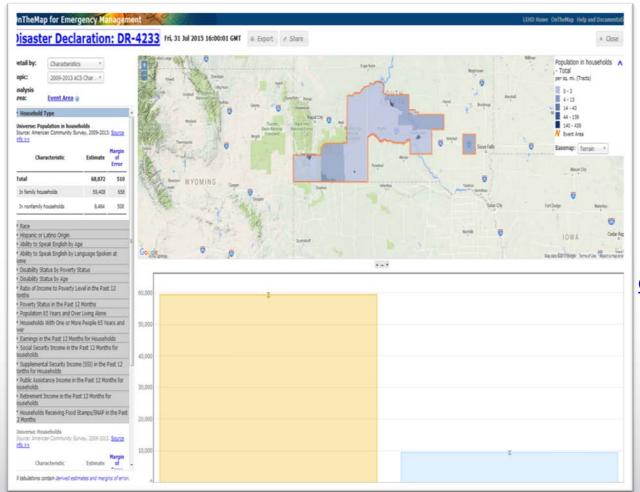
When to use:

Explore selected estimates about people, education, income, and commuting in an interactive map to visualize how statistics change over time and across geographies.

census.gov/censusexplorer



OnTheMap for Emergency Management



When to use:

Use estimates to understand areas affected by disasters, natural disasters, and weather events to support response and recovery.

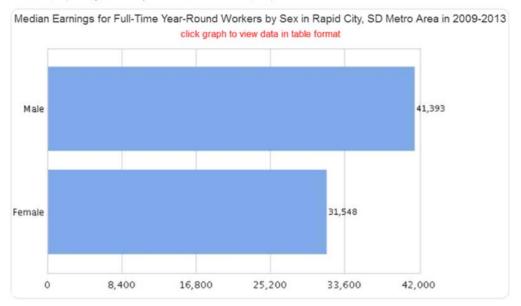
onthemap.ces.census.gov/em



Narrative Profiles

Income

The median income of households in Rapid City, SD Metro Area was \$50,464. An estimated 12 percent of households had income below \$15,000 a year and 6 percent had income over \$150,000 or more.



An estimated 80 percent of the households received earnings and 20 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. An estimated 29 percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$16,271. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

Proportion of Households with Various Income Sources in Rapid City, SD Metro Area in 2009-2013 click graph to view data in table format

When to use:

Browse statistics presented as a text-based report with plenty of colorful graphs and charts.

census.gov/programssurveys/acs/data.html



Application Programming Interface (API)

Developers

API Forum

About this Section

App Gallery

Available APIs

Geography

News

Terms of Service

Updates

The Census Bureau has begun rolling out our datasets via APIs. Check out our Discovery Tool. Sign up for our newsletter to get the latest updates and newest dataset addition. We also invite you to make requests for features / data via our forum.

Read More













Latest

Available APIs

News

Updates

Annual Survey of Manufactures

August 18, 2015

Sample estimates of statistics for all manufacturing establishments with one or more paid employee.

census.gov/developers

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American FactFinder (AFF)



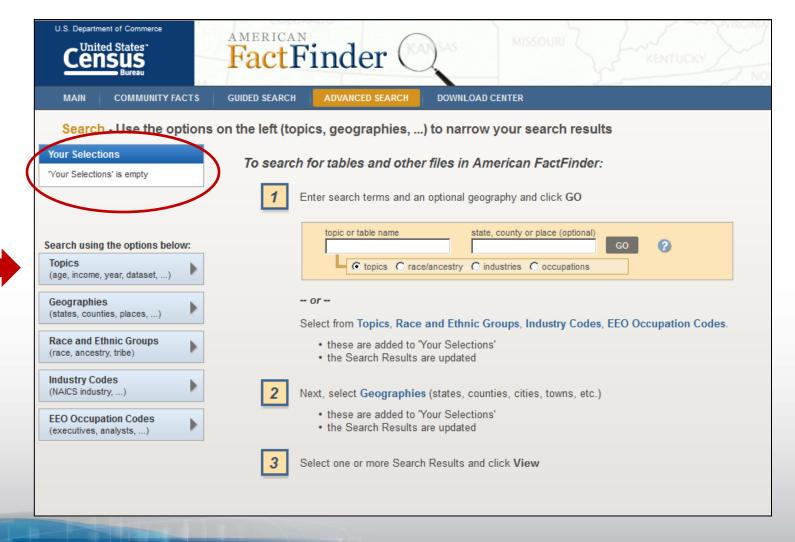
When to use:

Search all ACS data for all geographies down to the block group level

factfinder.census.gov



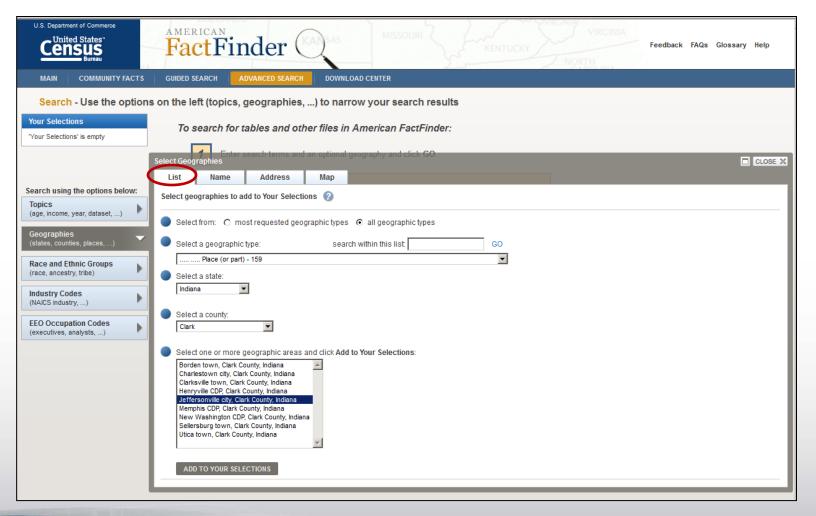
AFF Advanced Search





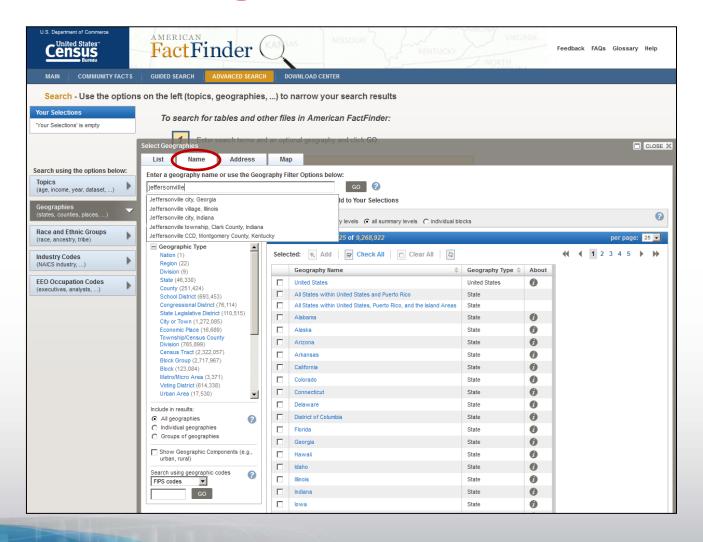


AFF Geographies-List Tab



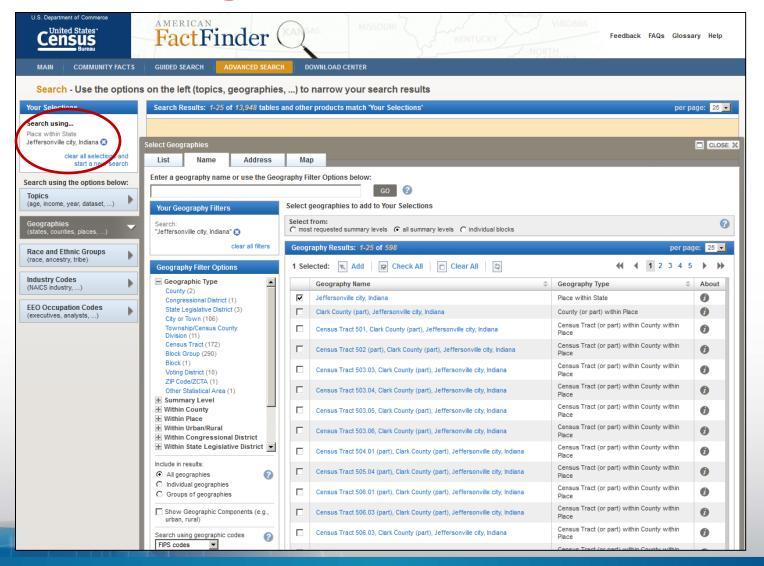


AFF Geographies-Name Tab



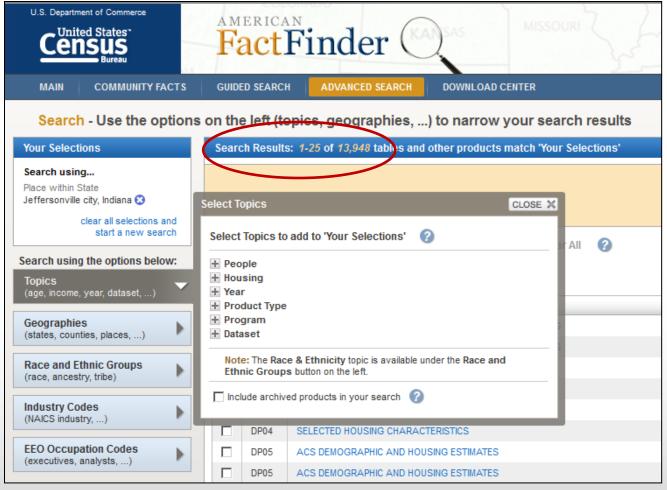


AFF Geographies-Name Tab II



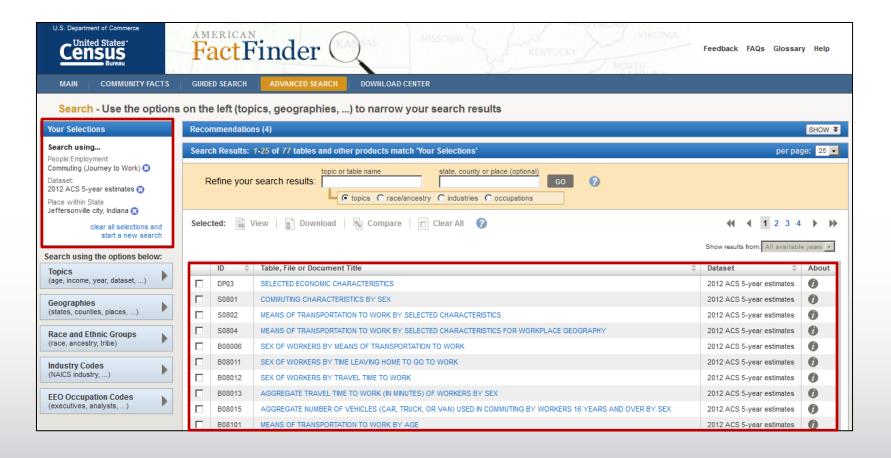


AFF Topics





Selecting Topics in AFF





Data Product Types

Profiles

- Data Profiles (DP)
- Narrative Profiles (NP)
- Comparison Profiles (CP)
- Selected Population Profiles (S0201)

Tables

- Detailed Tables (B or C)
- Subject Tables (S)
- Ranking Tables (R)
- Geographic Comparison Tables (GCT)



IDProfile/Table Numbering

B06004APR

- B=Data Product Type (Base Table)
- 06=Subject (Place of Birth)

census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/comparing_2013/

- 004=Sequential Number
- A=Race/Hispanic Origin (White Alone)
- PR=For Puerto Rico Geographies Only

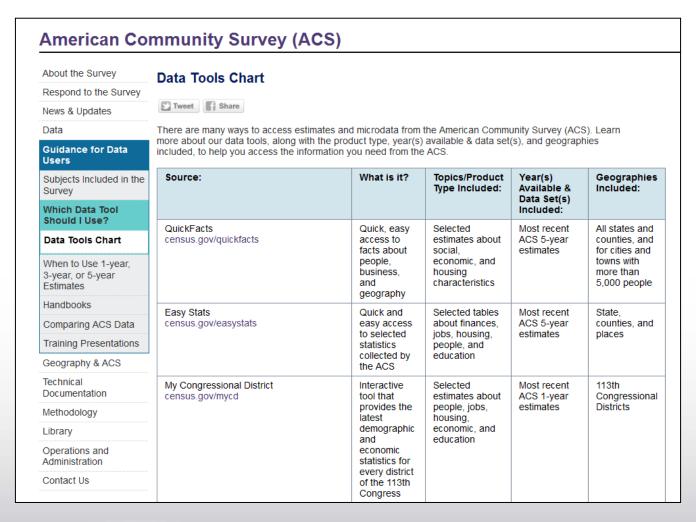


Data Profile vs Detailed Table

	College Park city, Maryland			
Subject	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	28,690	+/-368	28,690	(X)
In labor force	14,997	+/-559	52.3%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	52.1%	+/-1.9
Employed	13,243	+/-619	46.2%	+/-2.1
Unemployed	1,695	+/-313	5.9%	+/-1.1
Armed Forces	59	+/-47	0.2%	+/-0.2
Not in labor force	13,693	+/-601	47.7%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	14,938	(X)
Percent Unemployed	(X)	(X)	11.3%	+/-2.1
Females 16 years and over	13,697	+/-462	13,697	(X
In labor force	6,982	+/-400	51.0%	+/-2.7
Civilian labor force	6,971	+/-401	50.9%	+/-2.7
Employed	6,429	+/-429	46.9%	+/-3.0
Own children under 6 years	851	+/-210	851	(X
All parents in family in labor force	569	+/-184	66.9%	+/-14.2
Own children 6 to 17 years	1,242	7/52/54	1,242	(X
All parents in family in labor force	919	+/-199	74.0%	+/-12.9
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
COMMUTING TO WORK				
Workers 16 years and over	12,874	+/-642	12,874	(X)
Car, truck, or van drove alone	6,220	+/-494	48.3%	+/-2.9
Car, truck, or van carpooled	1,162	+/-277	9.0%	+/-2.2
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	1,686	+/-306	13.1%	+/-2.2
Walked	2,670	+/-304	20.7%	+/-2.2
Other means	433	+/-138	3.4%	+/-1.0
Worked at home	703	+/-210	5.5%	+/-1.6
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	26.7	+/-1.3	(X)	(X)
OCCUPATION				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13,243	+/-619	13,243	(X
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	6,203	+/-536	46.8%	+/-3.5
Service occupations	2,456	+/-382	18.5%	+/-2.6
Sales and office occupations	3,309	+/-373	25.0%	+/-2.7
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	709	+/-201	5.4%	+/-1.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	566	+/-126	4.3%	+/-0.9
INDUSTRY				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13.243	+/-619	13.243	(X
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	6	+/-9	0.0%	+/-0.1
Construction	502	+/-172	3.8%	+/-1.3

$\hat{\wedge}$		College Pa	ark city, Maryland
1		Estimate	Margin of Error
5	Total:	12,874	+/-642
5 of 5	Car, truck, or van:	7,382	+/-525
3	Drove alone	6,220	+/-494
1	Carpooled:	1,162	+/-277
1	In 2-person carpool	973	+/-235
1	In 3-person carpool	77	+/-56
1	In 4-or-more-person carpool	112	+/-93
1	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1,686	+/-306
1	Bus or trolley bus	596	+/-174
1	Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	0	+/-26
1	Subway or elevated	935	+/-201
1	Railroad	155	+/-89
1	Ferryboat	0	+/-26
1	Bicycle	350	+/-123
1	Walked	2,670	+/-304
ı	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	83	+/-59
1	Worked at home	703	+/-210
1	Male:	6,548	+/-460
1	Car, truck, or van:	3,699	+/-387
1	Drove alone	3,134	+/-377
1	Carpooled:	565	+/-166
1	In 2-person carpool	461	+/-143
1	In 3-person carpool	49	+/-43
1	In 4-or-more-person carpool	55	+/-51
1	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1.050	+/-238
1	Bus or trolley bus	362	+/-140
1	Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	0	+/-26
1	Subway or elevated	576	+/-151
1	Railroad	112	+/-81
1	Ferryboat	0	+/-26
1	Bicycle	229	+/-93
1	Walked	1,163	+/-191
1	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	59	+/-49
1	Worked at home	348	+/-168
1	Female:	6.326	+/-439
1	Car, truck, or van:	3,683	+/-409
1	Drove alone	3,086	+/-380
1	Carpooled:	597	+/-171
1	In 2-person carpool	512	+/-147
1	In 3-person carpool	28	+/-37
1	In 4-or-more-person carpool	57	+/-55
П	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	636	+/-154
	Bus or trolley bus	234	+/-104
	Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	0	+/-26
	Subway or elevated		+/-103
	Railroad	359 43	+/-44
	Ferryboat		+/-26
	Bicvcle		+/-69
	Walked		+/-208
ı	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	1,507 24	+/-200
	Worked at home	355	+/-99
	TTOTAGG AL HOHIG	333	./-33

Data Tools Chart



census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/which-data-tool/data-tools-chart.html

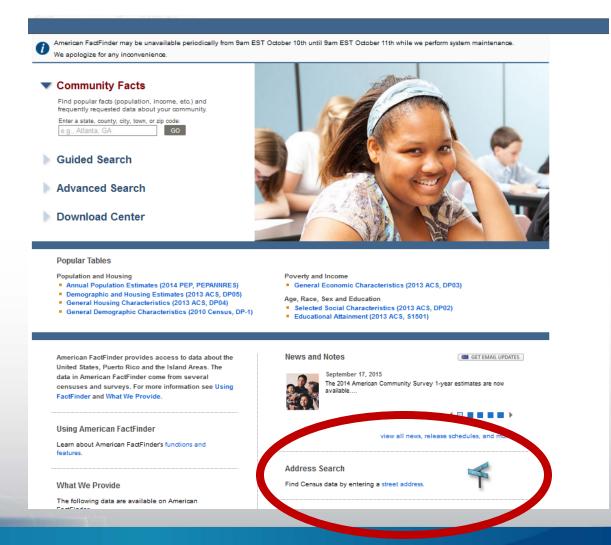
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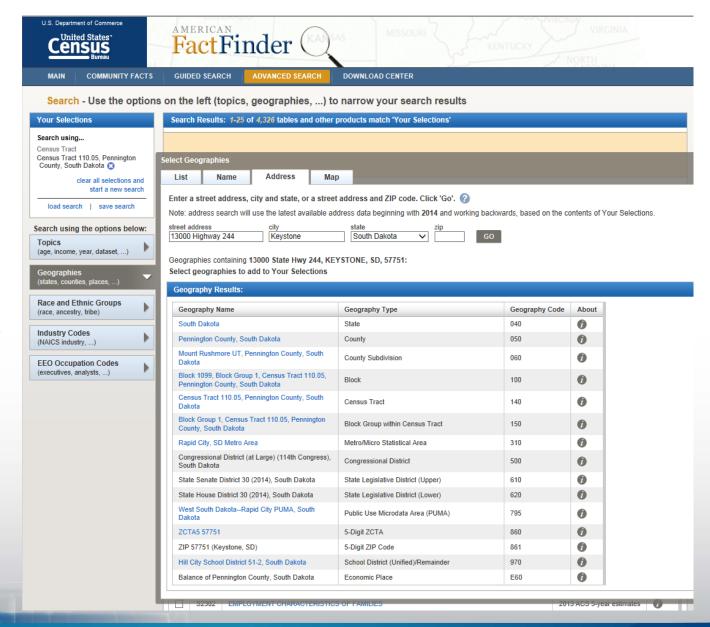
Exercise 1

 Accessing multiple levels of geographies by an address search



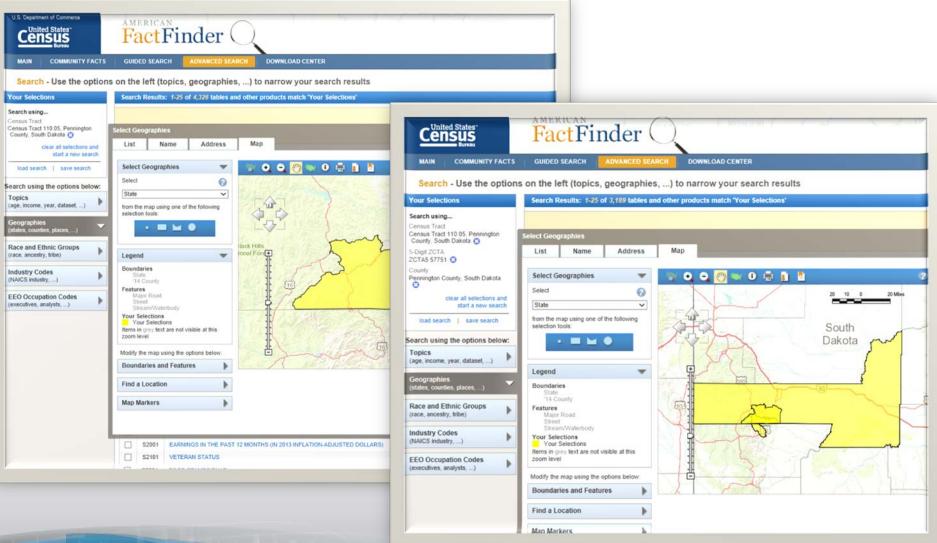


Address search results lists all the geographies associated with the address that you can access data by.

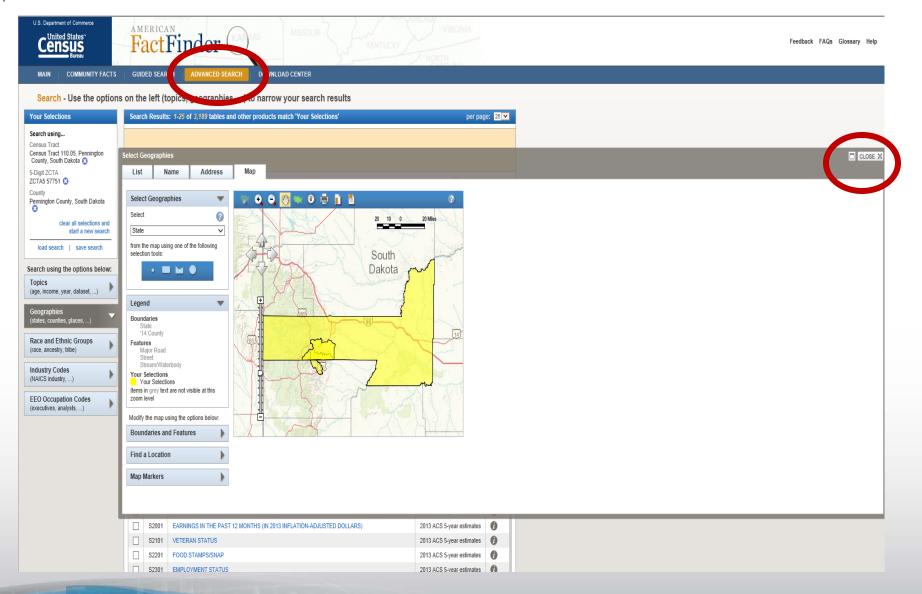


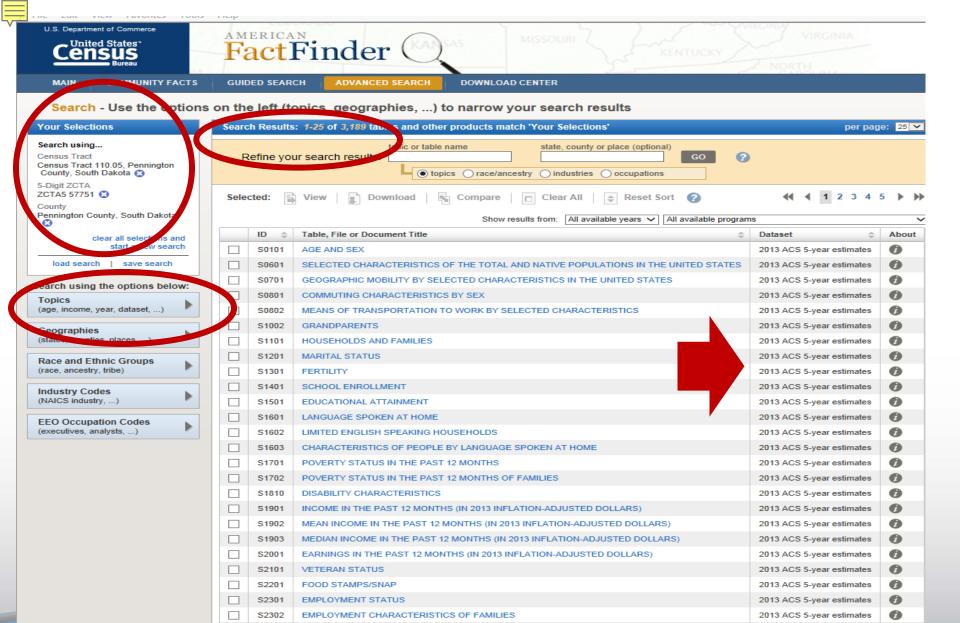


View Geographic Boundaries



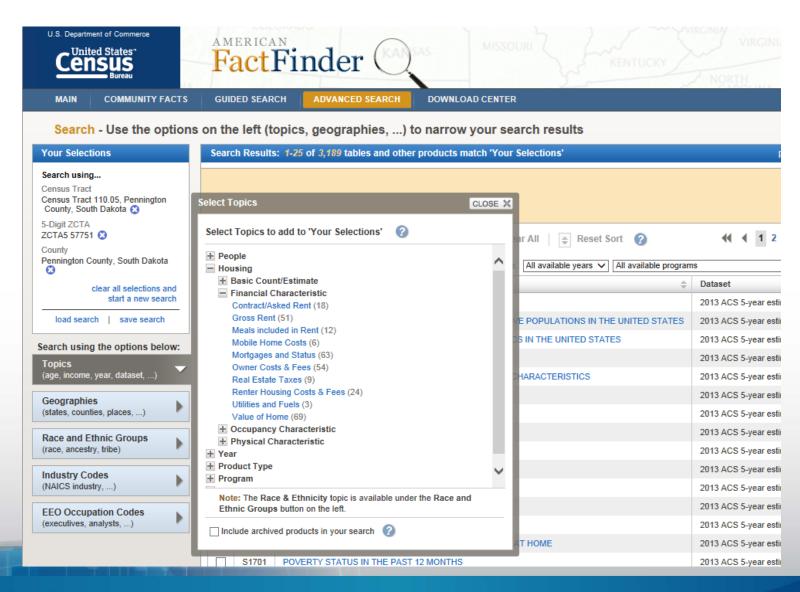
















Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN

COMMUNITY FACTS

GUIDED SEARCH

ADVANCED SEARCH

DOWNLOAD CENTER

Advanced Search - Search all data in American FactFinder





Result 5 of 7

VIEW ALL AS PDF

B25077

MEDIAN VALUE (DOLLARS)

Universe: Owner-occupied housing units

2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Table View IIII

◆ BACK TO ADVANCED SEARCH

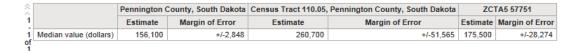
Add/Remove Geographies

View Geography Notes View Table Notes

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

Versions of this table are available for the following years: 2013

2012 2011



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey

Explanation of Symbols:

An 'tat' entry in the margin of error column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is not

An '-' entry in the estimate column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution.

An '-' following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.

An '+' following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.

An '*** entry in the margin of error column indicates that the median falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution. A statistical test is not appropriate.

An '***** entry in the margin of error column indicates that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

An 'N' entry in the estimate and margin of error columns indicates that data for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.

An '(X)' means that the estimate is not applicable or not available.



Your Selections

Housing:Financial Characteristic:

Value of Home 😯



Census Tract

Census Tract 110.05, Pennington County, South Dakota

5-Digit ZCTA ZCTA5 57751

County

Pennington County, South Dakota 😯

> clear all selections and start a new search

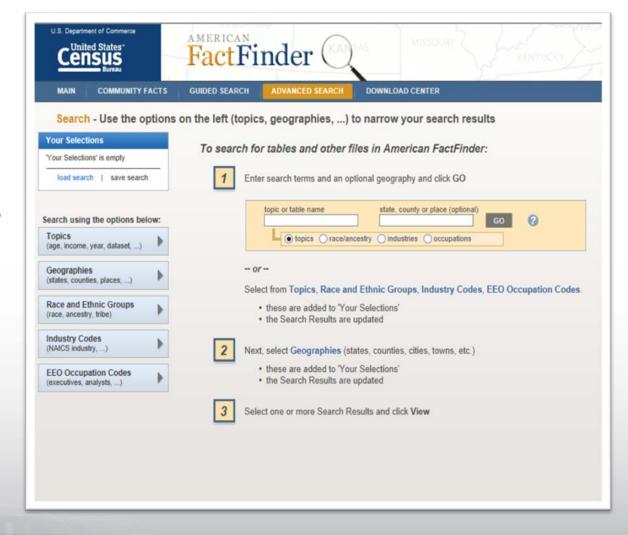


load search | save search

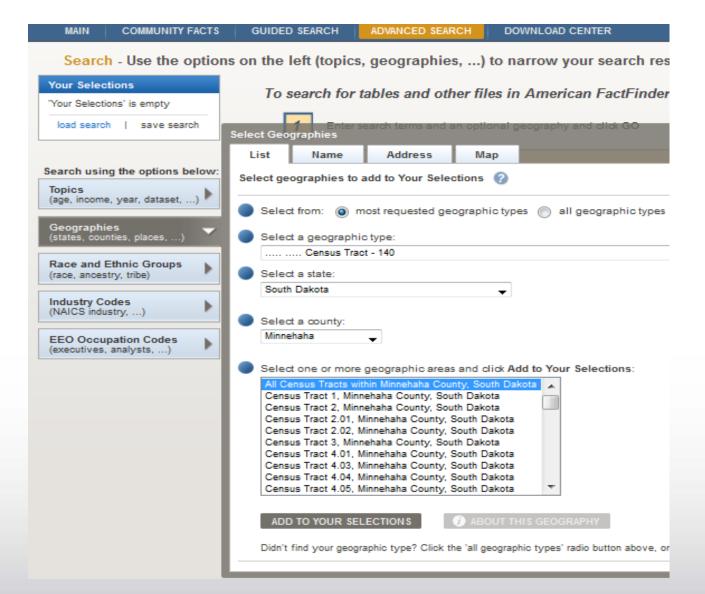


Exercise 2

Accessing Multiple like geographies in single table.

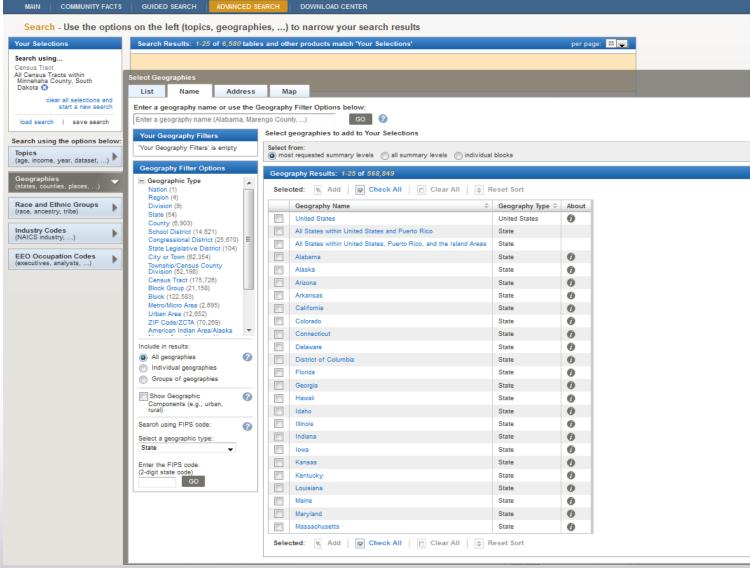




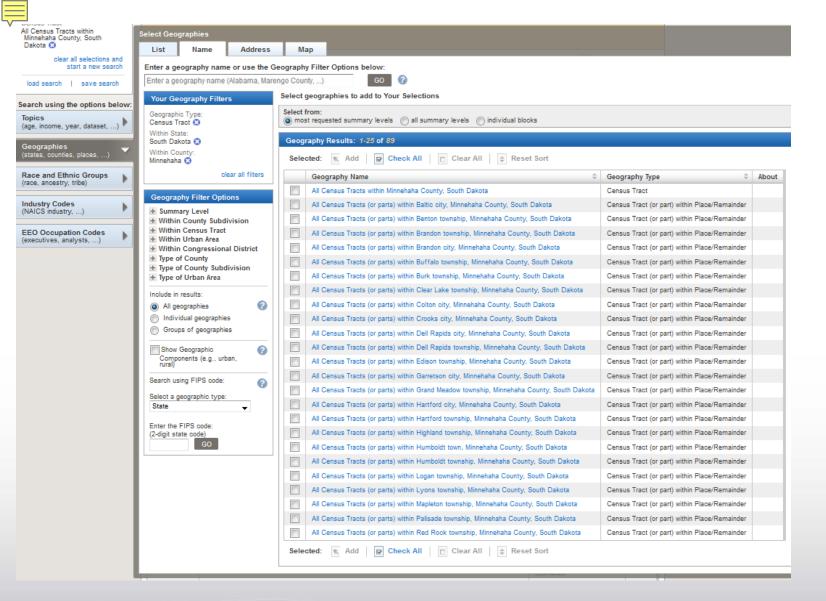




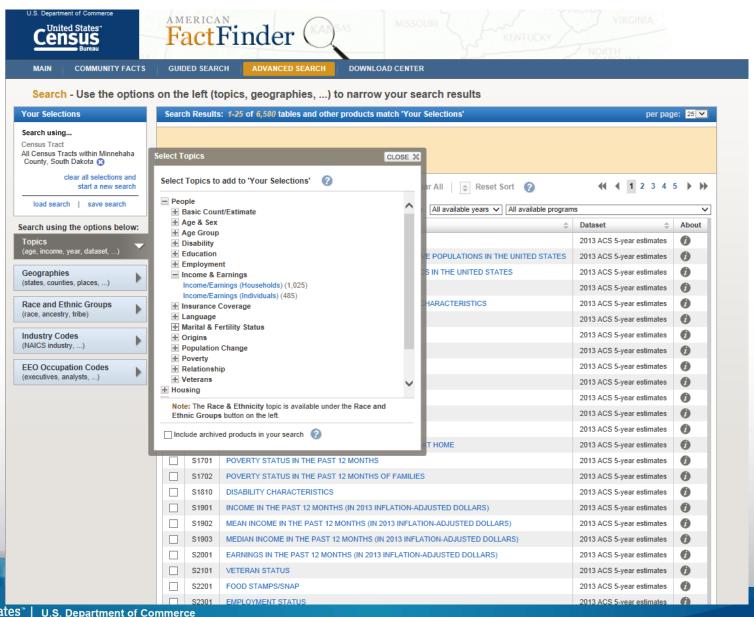






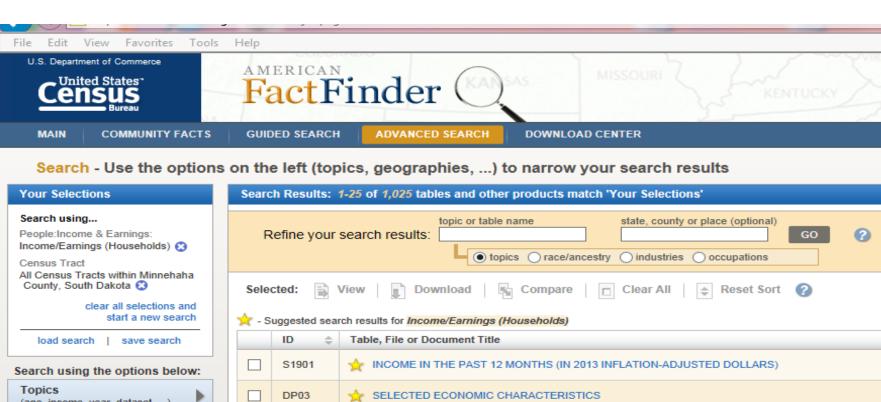












(age, income, year, dataset, ...)

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

Race and Ethnic Groups (race, ancestry, tribe)

Industry Codes (NAICS industry, ...)

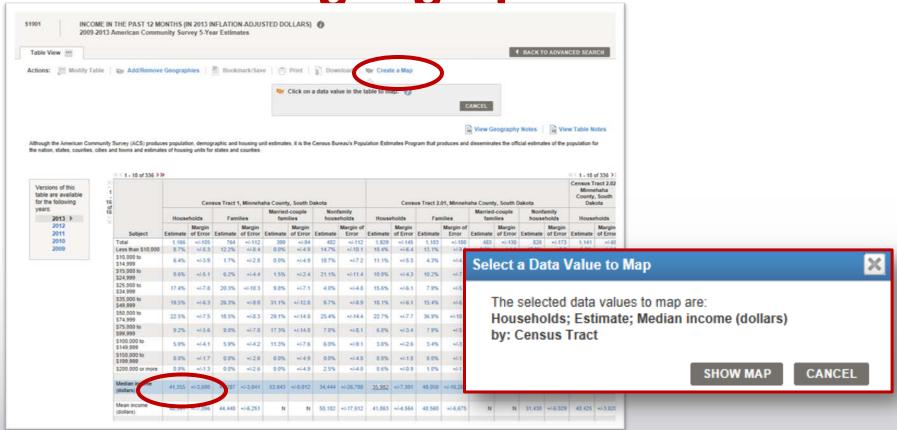
EEO Occupation Codes (executives, analysts, ...)

R	Refine your	search results: topic or table name state, county or place (optional) GO ?				
Selected: View Download Compare Clear All Reset Sort						
💢 - S	- Suggested search results for Income/Earnings (Households)					
	ID \$	Table, File or Document Title				
	S1901	★ INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2013 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
	DP03	★ SELECTED ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS				
	S2001	★ EARNINGS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2013 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
	B19001	★ HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2013 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
	S1902	MEAN INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2013 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
	S1903	MEDIAN INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS (IN 2013 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)				
	S2503	FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS				
	\$2506	FINANCIAL CHARACTERISTICS FOR HOUSING UNITS WITH A MORTGAGE				

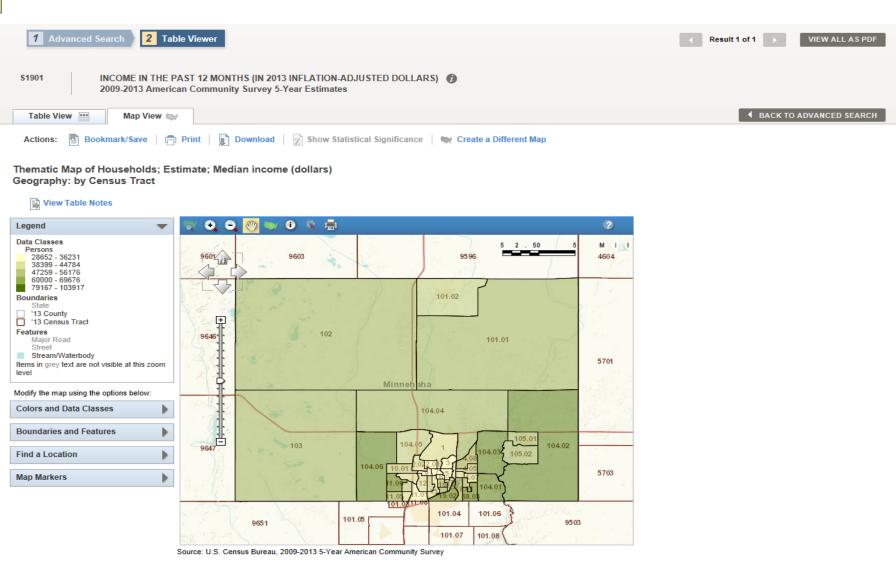




Creating a map by a data set of like geographies.









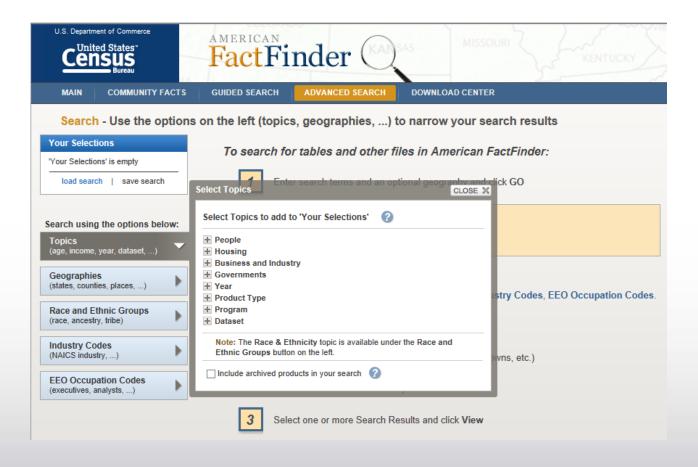
Explanation of Symbols:

not appropriate.

An 'est' entry in the margin of error column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is

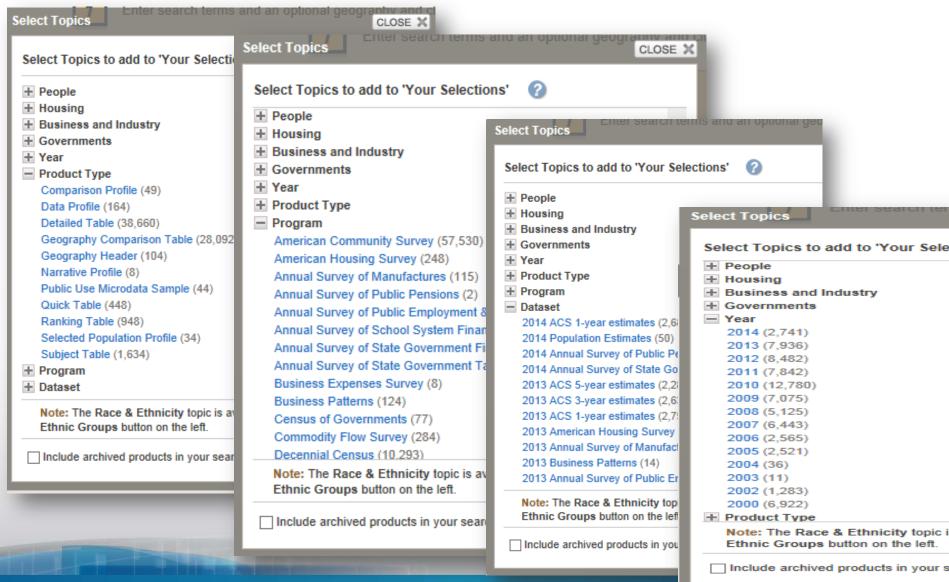


Searching with Topics box





Notable items to filter for ACS datasets



Thank you for attending American Community Survey (ACS) Overview

For further questions
Kimberly Davis
Kimberly.ann.davis@census.gov
303-503-7047