

Handout Packet

- **QuickFacts**
 - Frequently Asked Questions
- **Demographic Program Tips**
 - 2010 Decennial Census
 - Population Estimates Program (PEP)
 - American Community Survey (ACS)
- **2010 Census**
 - Data Releases and Product Descriptions
- **American Community Survey (ACS)**
 - Data Release Timetable
 - Topics Covered by the ACS & Table Codes
 - ACS Table Numbers Deconstructed
- **Census Geography**
 - Hierarchy with 2010 Statistical Area Criteria

QuickFacts

Frequently Asked Questions

What is QuickFacts?

QuickFacts tables are summary profiles showing frequently requested data items from various Census Bureau programs. Profiles are available for the nation, states, counties, and places.

How do I select an area in QuickFacts?

You may select an area in any of three ways:

- You may pull down state, county, or city lists, then select "Go".
- You may select the link labeled 'View map', then select the state or county on the map.
- You may select the link labeled 'Place search'. There, when you enter the name of a city, town or other place, you will get a link for itself (for cities of 5,000 or more), its county, and its state. If more than one area qualifies, there will be multiple entries from which to choose. If no entry matches the spelling you entered, a list of areas with similar names will be given.

Where can I get data for other levels of geography - - my city, metropolitan area, or ZIP code?

At this time, QuickFacts tables are only available for the nation, states, counties, and large cities. In the future, we may offer QuickFacts for metropolitan areas. While not consolidated into QuickFacts profiles, there are a number of sources on the web for data about:

[metropolitan areas](#)
[ZIP codes](#)

Where can I get data more detailed than QuickFacts shows?

Select the link labeled "Browse data sets for . . ." in the upper right of the page.


Why were the included data items selected?

These items answer questions people frequently ask and also demonstrate the wide variety of data available. State and U.S. profiles were limited to only those items that could also be shown for counties; additional data sets may be shown via the "Browse more data sets for . . ." Some of the data items available for counties are not available for cities.

Why are not all cities listed on the pull-down menu?

QuickFacts includes incorporated places with 5,000 or more inhabitants. Some of the data sets on which QuickFacts depends do not include Census Designated Places and may have population or other minimums. Since 2010 Census data are available for all places regardless of size, the cities menu includes an option for "***other places not listed", which takes you to a search page for 2010 Census profiles.

Why do I come up with more than 100 percent when I add the race groups (White, Black, Asian, and American Indian) and Hispanic origin together?

Hispanic origin is not a race, and persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. For more information, click on the  icon next to any of the race or Hispanic items.

Can I download the data in QuickFacts?

Yes. You may either download the data one area at a time (using links at the bottom of each page), or download the [entire data set](#) in ASCII files.

U.S. Census Bureau: Demographic Program Tips

(1) 2010 Decennial Census (100% count of population & housing)

Data: Released down to the block level (richest geographic detail) every 10 years

Topics covered:

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1. Age | 4. Hispanic origin |
| 2. Sex | 5. Relationship of each individual in household to first person listed on form |
| 3. Race | 6. Tenure (home ownership with /without mortgage, rented, or occupied without rent) |

(2) Population Estimates Program (PEP) (Derived from administrative records and net migration formulas in the intercensal years)

Data released annually on the following topics and geographic levels:

- **U.S., states, counties:** Housing and population totals, characteristics (age, sex, race, ethnicity)
- **Incorporated places:** Population totals only

(3) American Community Survey (ACS) (Survey covering ~ 3.54 million housing units/year nationwide)

The ACS is designed to measure the *characteristics* of the population, not *counts* of the population. The official estimates of the population still come from the previous census and from the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (or PEP).

The ACS estimates describe characteristics of a population over a *period*, while the Decennial Census and the Population Estimates Program are *point-in-time* (April 1 and July 1, respectively) estimates.

The ACS generally does a better job estimating percents, rates, means, and medians than it does totals.

ACS data products released every year.

Population thresholds (all surveyed addresses are unique within any 5-year period)

- 1-year estimates: 65,000 or more
- 3-year estimates: 20,000 or more
- 5-year estimates: All geographic areas below 20,000, including all census tracts and all block groups. ZCTAS will first be released in 2012, with the 5-year ACS 2007-2011 estimates.

Population controls are from the Population Estimates Program

- One-year ACS estimates are controlled to the PEP estimates as of July 1 of the tabulated year
- Multiyear ACS population and housing estimates are controlled to the average of the individual year's population and housing estimates (from the PEP)

Constructing ACS estimates

- Data are pooled across 12 months, 36 months, or 60 months (1-year, 3-year, 5-year)
- Appropriate weights are assigned for housing and population estimates (from the PEP)

Comparing ACS estimates with Census data

- Comparisons can be made for most population and housing subjects
- Global differences (residence rules, universes, and reference periods) exist between the ACS and the Decennial Census, and some items cannot be compared at all
- For more information, see http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/comparing_2009/

Comparing two or more ACS estimates across different geographic areas

- Use the same length time period (1-year ACS estimate to other 1-year ACS estimate, and so on)
- Use the same time period when making comparisons (2007-2009 to 2007-2009, for instance)

Comparing two or more ACS estimates for one geographic area across time

- Use the same length time period
- Try to compare non-overlapping periods; statistical testing is more straightforward (See Compass Guide)
- Use caution if geographic boundaries have changed over time

Dollar-valued (or dollar-denominated) estimates in multiyear estimates

- Income
- Rent
- Home values
- Energy costs

Estimates are adjusted for inflation to the most recent year, using inflation factors based on the Consumer Price Index (or CPI). A similar adjustment is also done for individual months within a one-year estimate. Inflation adjustment is designed to put the collected data into dollars of equal value.

Geographic boundaries in multiyear estimates

- Based on geographic boundaries as of January 1 of the last year in the multi-year period.
- Census Bureau's annual Boundary Annexation Survey (or BAS) collects information about the following legally defined geographic areas:
 - Counties or county-equivalents
 - Incorporated places
 - Federally-recognized American Indian areas
- Boundaries of other statistical areas (such as census tracts, block groups, urbanized areas, PUMAs) are updated every decade in conjunction with the decennial census

ACS 5-year estimates

- For most areas, no population thresholds; there are some disclosure-related release restrictions, most of which apply only to block groups
- Will not be filtered based on the reliability of the estimates; many published estimates will be unreliable - - decision to release these data driven by the need to provide building blocks for users and to be certain even the smallest areas receive data
- Data user must look at the margins of error (MOEs)!
- Will be released every year, dropping the oldest year and adding the most recent
- Excluded data products: Comparison profiles, state ranking profiles, selected population profiles
- Planned for production using 2006-2010 estimates: Summary File 4 and AIAN Summary File
- Census block group estimates:
 - Not displayed as tables in American FactFinder (AFF) for the casual data user
 - Released only in summary file format, accessible from the AFF download center

Planned Release Date ¹	Standard Data Products	Lowest Level Geography
<u>States:</u> Released December 15, 2011 – April 26, 2012 <u>National Update:</u> April 26, 2012 <u>Urban/Rural Update:</u> JAN 2013	Summary File 2 (SF 2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and housing characteristics iterated for many detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes National Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counts for the United States, regions, divisions, and geographic areas that cross state lines such as American Indian Areas and Core-Based Statistical Areas Urban/Rural Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of urban and rural population and housing unit counts Addition of characteristics for urbanized areas and urban clusters <i>Media: Internet tables, DVD (state and national only),⁴ download capability</i>	Census Tracts American Indian Areas Census Tracts Urban Clusters
Released May 8, 2012 – DEC 2012	Summary Population and Housing Characteristics Report Series (CPH-1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data tables on age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, households, families, housing tenure and occupancy, population density, and area measurements Reports for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; and a U.S. Summary Similar to the Census 2000 PHC-1 report series <i>Media: Internet (PDF) only</i>	Places
Released June 26, 2012 – SEP 2013	Population and Housing Unit Counts Report Series (CPH-2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data tables providing selected historical population and housing unit counts Includes tables on population density and area measurements Reports for each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; and a U.S. Summary Similar to the Census 2000 PHC-3 report series <i>Media: Internet (PDF), paper (printed reports)</i>	Places
JAN 2013 (and every 2 years thereafter for states where redistricting occurs)	Congressional District Summary File (113th Congress) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retabulation of Summary File 1 for newly redistricted Congressional Districts (113th Congress) <i>Media: Internet tables, DVD, download capability</i>	Census Tracts within Congressional Districts
JUN 2013 (and every 2 years thereafter for states where redistricting occurs)	State Legislative District Summary File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retabulation of Summary File 1 for State Legislative Districts drawn following the 2010 Census <i>Media: Internet tables, DVD, download capability</i> Legislative District Geographic Supplement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Files containing current geographic attributes for blocks within State Legislative Districts No characteristics – only total population and housing unit counts <i>Media: DVD, download capability</i>	Places Blocks
DEC 2012	American Indian and Alaska Native Summary File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and housing characteristics iterated for many detailed American Indian and Alaska Native tribes Same content as Summary File 2 <i>Media: Internet tables, DVD, download capability</i>	Census Tracts
APR 2013	Characteristics of American Indians and Alaska Natives by Tribe Report (CPH-3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population and housing characteristics for selected American Indian and Alaska Native tribes Similar to the Census 2000 PHC-5 report, but only for 100-percent data <i>Media: Internet (PDF), paper (printed report)</i>	States

Planned Release Date¹	Standard Data Products	Lowest Level Geography
<i>Released</i> <i>March 24, 2011 –</i> To be determined	2010 Census Briefs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of topics including graphs and tables • Topics based on 2010 Census questions • Similar to the Census 2000 Briefs series <i>Media: Internet (PDF), paper (printed reports)</i>	Largest Places
To be determined	2010 Census Special Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed analysis of topics including graphs, tables, and maps • Similar to the Census 2000 Special Report series <i>Media: Internet (PDF), paper (printed reports)</i>	Largest Places
DEC 2012 – APR 2013	Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household type and relationship, and tenure data with identifying information removed <i>Media: DVD, download capability</i>	PUMAs of 100,000+ population
Released	Special Data Products	Geography
<i>Released</i> <i>April 20, 2011</i>	Advance Group Quarters Summary File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data table (P42 from SF 1) showing the population in group quarters (7 types) <i>Media: Download capability</i>	States, Counties, Census Tracts, Blocks
<i>Released</i> <i>September 27, 2011</i>	Same-Sex Couple Households Supplemental Tables <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides preferred 2010 Census estimates, 2010 Census counts as reported, and ACS estimates (with margin of error) • Same-sex spouse responses are tabulated as reported (that is, not edited during processing to “unmarried partner,” as in other standard 2010 Census or American Community Survey data products) • Data on households with a partner or spouse who is the same sex as the householder is cross-tabulated by presence of householders’ own children <i>Media: Internet tables</i>	U.S., States
<i>Ongoing (First released</i> <i>September 27, 2011)</i>	2010 Census Population and Housing Tables (CPH-Ts) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topics and format vary • Similar to the Census 2000 PHC-T series of tables <i>Media: Internet tables</i>	Various

FOOTNOTES –

¹ The dates in this column refer to the first medium of release. Actual release dates are italicized.

² Functioning Minor Civil Divisions (MCDs) in 20 states.

³ Includes the production of a download file that provides users with urban/rural population and housing unit counts not available with previous SF 1 releases. The lowest level geography is blocks.

⁴ One DVD product containing state and national data will be produced following the release of the National Update.

GENERAL – The 2010 Census data products meet a variety of data needs for different segments of the data user community. The data products described here provide a summary of the general tabulation and publication program for the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (which is treated as a state equivalent for most data products).

Summary Files will include all or some of the following: quick tables (including demographic profiles) and geographic comparison tables. Thematic maps now are available as a function in American FactFinder. Download capability includes FTP and American FactFinder download options.

This document is available on the Internet at <<http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/c2010products.pdf>>.

For a list of 2010 Census geographic products and other geographic information, see <<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/2010census/>>.

2010 Census Data Product Descriptions

Standard Data Products

Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171) Summary File – This file was the first data product released. State and sub-state counts down to the block level are shown for the total population and the population 18 years and over for 63 race groups and Hispanic or Latino origin; and not Hispanic or Latino by 63 race groups. State and sub-state counts down to the block level also are shown for housing units by occupancy status (occupied units, vacant units). (Released: February 3-March 24, 2011)

The National Summary File of Redistricting Data contains the same data tables as the state files, but the geographic levels include the U.S., regions, divisions, other areas that cross state boundaries, and a small subset of the geographic areas shown in the state files. (Released: April 14, 2011)

Demographic Profile – The profile shows data for age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household relationship, household type, group quarters population, housing occupancy, and housing tenure. They were released as individual profiles for each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico down to place/functioning minor civil divisions, as well as for the U.S., regions, divisions, and other areas that cross state boundaries. (Released: May 5-26, 2011)

A Geographic Update to the Demographic Profile was released on August 25, 2011. Data are shown for all county subdivisions, school districts, ZIP Code Tabulation Areas, Tribal Subdivisions, and more geographic areas, down to the census tract level.

The Demographic Profile *Table* was released on American FactFinder only. The Demographic Profile *Summary File* was released on the FTP site only.

Summary File 1 (SF 1) – This file shows detailed tables on age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, detailed race and Hispanic or Latino origin groups, and group quarters. Most tables are shown down to the block or census tract level. Some tables are repeated for nine race/Hispanic or Latino origin groups. The nine groups are (1) White alone; (2) Black or African American alone, (3) American Indian and Alaska Native alone, (4) Asian alone, (5) Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, (6) Some Other Race alone, (7) Two or More Races, (8) Hispanic or Latino; and (9) White alone, Not Hispanic or Latino. (Released: June 16 -August 25, 2011)

The *SF 1 National Update File* contains the same data tables as the state files, but the geographic levels include the U.S., regions, divisions, and other areas that cross state boundaries. (Released: October 27, 2011)

The *SF 1 Urban/Rural Update File* provides users with urban/rural population and housing unit counts (down to block) and characteristics for urbanized areas and urban clusters. (Planned release: September 2012)

The *SF 1 Redefined Core Based Statistical Areas Update File* contains the same data tables as the state files for redefined CBSAs as defined by OMB following the 2010 Census. (Planned release: July-August 2013)

Summary File 2 (SF 2) – This file shows detailed tables on age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, and group quarters. Most tables are shown down to the census tract level. Tables are repeated by 75 major race groups, 114 American Indian and Alaska Native groups, 47 Asian groups, 43 Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander groups, and 51 Hispanic or Latino origin groups. (Released: December 15, 2011-April 26, 2012)

The *SF 2 National Update File* contains the same data tables as the state files, but the geographic levels include the U.S., regions, divisions, and other areas that cross state boundaries. (Released: April 26, 2012)

The *SF 2 Urban/Rural Update File* provides users with urban/rural population and housing unit counts (down to census tract) and characteristics for urbanized areas and urban clusters. (Planned release: January 2013)

Summary Population and Housing Characteristics Report (CPH-1) – This report contains tables on age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, households, families, housing tenure and occupancy, population density, and area measurements. The lowest level of geography is the place level. There is a report produced for each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and there is a U.S. Summary. (Released: May 8, 2012-December 2012 as a PDF only)

Population and Housing Unit Counts Report (CPH-2) – This report contains tables providing selected historical population and housing unit counts, and includes tables on population density and area measurements. Data for 1990, 2000, and 2010 are shown in 2010 geography. The lowest level of geography is the place level. There is a report produced for each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and there is a U.S. Summary. (Planned release: April-September 2013)

The Congressional District Summary File – This file is a re-tabulation of Summary File 1 for newly redistricted Congressional Districts for the 113th Congress. State-based files will be released in January 2013 and every 2 years thereafter for states where congressional redistricting occurs.

The State Legislative District Summary File – This file is a re-tabulation of Summary File 1 for State Legislative Districts drawn following the 2010 Census. State-based files will be released in June 2013 and every 2 years thereafter for states where legislative redistricting occurs.

The *Legislative District Geographic Supplement* will be released with this file, containing current geographic attributes for blocks within State Legislative Districts. No characteristics will be shown in this product – only total population and housing unit counts.

American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) Summary File – This is a national-level file showing the same content as Summary File 2. Tables are repeated for the total population, the total AIAN population, the total American Indian population, the total Alaska Native population, and for numerous American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. Data are shown down to the census tract level. (Planned release: December 2012)

Characteristics of American Indians and Alaska Natives by Tribe Report (CPH-3) – This report contains tables on population and housing characteristics for selected American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. (Planned release: April 2013)

Census Briefs – The Census Briefs provide analysis of 2010 Census population and housing topics, and include graphs and tables. They focus on the most important aspects of the topics, as well as explore the geographic distribution of the subject matter. This series is a basic analytic tool that is useful for introducing the public to 2010 Census population and housing data. The list below shows the briefs that have been released to date.

Population Distribution and Change: 2000 to 2010 (C2010BR-01) Released March 24, 2011

Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin: 2010 (C2010BR-02) Released March 24, 2011

Age and Sex Composition: 2010 (C2010BR-03) Released May 26, 2011

The Hispanic Population: 2010 (C2010BR-04) Released May 26, 2011

The Hispanic Population: 2010 – (Spanish version) (C2010BR-04SP) Released April 30, 2012

The White Population: 2010 (C2010BR-05) Released September 29, 2011

The Black Population: 2010 (C2010BR-06) Released September 29, 2011

Housing Characteristics: 2010 (C2010BR-07) Released October 6, 2011
Congressional Apportionment: 2010 (C2010BR-08) Released November 2, 2011
The Older Population: 2010 (C2010BR-09) Released November 30, 2011
The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2010 (C2010BR-10) Released January 25, 2012
The Asian Population: 2010 (C2010BR-11) Released March 21, 2012
Households and Families: 2010 (C2010BR-14) Released April 25, 2012
The Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Population : 2010 (C2010BR-12) Released May 8, 2012

Special Reports – Special Reports contain an in-depth analysis of population and housing topics. The reports utilize different modes of analysis, such as discussion text, maps, tables, and graphics, to examine a wide variety of topics. (Planned release: TBD)

Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files – The PUMS files contain state-level 2010 Census data containing individual records of characteristics for a 10-percent sample of people and housing units. Data for age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household type and relationship, and tenure are included, with identifying information removed, for Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) of 100,000 or more population. (Planned release: December 2012-April 2013)

Special Data Products

Advance Group Quarters Summary File – This file contains one table showing counts for 7 types of group quarters. The categories include: Correctional facilities for adults, Juvenile facilities, Nursing facilities/Skilled-nursing facilities, Other institutional facilities, College/University student housing, Military quarters, and Other noninstitutional facilities. Data are shown for states, counties, census tracts, and blocks. This table is only available via the FTP site, and is identical to table P42 in Summary File 1. (Released: April 20, 2011)

Same-Sex Couple Households Supplemental Tables – Data are available on same-sex married couples and unmarried partner households that revise earlier counts of same-sex unmarried partners released in Summary File 1. A breakdown of couples who reported as same-sex spouse, as well as estimates of the presence of the couple's own children also are available. These same statistics are shown from the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS). Three sets of estimates are available at both the national and state levels. (Released: September 27, 2011)

The American Community Survey (ACS) Data Release Timetable

Later this year

Available now

Data Product (release month)	Population Threshold of Statistical Area	Year of Data Release							
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
		Year(s) of Data Collection							
1-Year Estimates (September)	65,000 +	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3-Year Estimates (October)	20,000 +			2005 - 2007	2006 - 2008	2007 - 2009	2008 - 2010	2009 - 2011	2010 - 2012
5-Year Estimates (December)	All Areas*					2005 - 2009	2006 - 2010	2007 - 2011	2008 - 2012

* All Areas = All legal, administrative, and statistical geographic areas down to the block group level.

* Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) estimates will first be available in 2012, with the 2007-2011 estimates.

Topics Covered by the ACS (and 2-digit table ID code)

01 = Age and Sex	15 = Educational Attainment
02 = Race	16 = Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English
03 = Hispanic or Latino Origin	17 = Poverty
04 = Ancestry	18 = Disability
05 = Foreign Born, Citizenship; Year of Entry; Nativity	19 = Income (Households and Families)
06 = Place of Birth	20 = Earnings and Income (Individuals)
07 = Residence 1 Year Ago; Migration	21 = Veteran Status
08 = Journey to Work; Workers; Commuting	22 = Food Stamps
09 = Children; Household Relationship	23 = Employment Status; Work Experience; Labor Force
10 = Grandparents; Grandchildren	24 = Industry & Occupation; Class of Worker
11 = Household Type; Family Type; Subfamilies	25 = Housing
12 = Marital Status and History	26 = Group Quarters
13 = Fertility	27 = Health Insurance
14 = School Enrollment	99 = Imputation table for any topic

Proposed Content Updates for 2013

- Computer and internet usage
- Food stamps (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program – SNAP)
- Parental place of birth
- Veteran's status
- Wages, salary, and property income

ACS Table ID Numbers Deconstructed

Example: Table B14007B broken down into component parts . . . **B 14 007 B**

The **initial character** (“**B**” in the example above) is always a letter designating the “product type” (or table format) in American FactFinder:

- **B** is used for Base (Detailed) Tables, which provide the most detailed estimates
- **C** is used for a Collapsed version of a Base (Detailed) Table. A C table is similar to a B table with the same number (e.g., C07001 and B07001), but two or more lines from the B table have been collapsed to a single line in the C table. Not every B table has a collapsed version.
- **GCT** is used for Geographic Comparison Tables
- **R** is used for Ranking Tables (1-year estimates only, down to State level only)
- **S** is used for Select Population Profiles (1-year and 3-year estimates only) and Subject Tables

The **next two characters** are numbers (“**14**” in the example) designating the table topic (see reverse side of page for complete list of topics), in this case, School Enrollment.

The **next three characters** are a sequential number (“**007**” in the example) that uniquely identifies the table within a given topic.

For select tables, an **alphabetic suffix** follows (“**B**” in the example) to indicate that a table is repeated for the nine major race and Hispanic or Latino groups:

- A = White Alone
- B = Black or African American Alone
- C = American Indian and Alaska Native Alone
- D = Asian Alone
- E = Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone
- F = Some Other Race Alone
- G = Two or More Races
- H = White Alone, not Hispanic
- I = Hispanic or Latino

Wildcard Shortcut

Finding the ACS Tables You Want in American FactFinder

Main tab: Quick Start text box (left side—“topic or table name”)

Or

Search tab: In the “Narrow your search” text box,

You may enter a wildcard (“”) designation before and after the table code to display search results for a particular topic. For example,*

14

displays all tables (in all available formats and ACS datasets) relating to School Enrollment

Census Geography Hierarchy

(with 2010 Statistical Area Criteria)

Revised 05-13-12

