Question and Answer

Q: Will this session be recorded and saved somewhere on the internet?

A: Yes, this webinar is being recorded and will be uploaded to Census Academy within 30 business days. I believe the link was dropped into the chat a few minutes ago.

Q: Will transcript live captioning be available for this session as a disability accommodation?

A: It will be available.

Q: To get to resources was that under Advanced Search or Help?

A: Hi, clicking on the 'Help' button on the main data.census.gov page will take you to our resources page.

Q: Does Census.gov collect/collate data from secondary sources or third parties? In other words, other sources apart from their surveys?

A: See the surveys filter left side for sources.

Q: Can you guys share what your backend search engine is?

A: Unfortunately, that question is outside the scope of this webinar. Please feel free to submit this question to: https://ask.census.gov/support/case

Q: Does a particular browser work better than others (i.e. chrome vs. firefox, etc)?

A: Hi, we recommend Chrome when using our site.
Q: I was looking for marital status by sex and age in each state (table B12002 in the American Community Survey). I was only able to find the state-level data for 2019, although I found country-level data for 2021. Is there another way to find more recent data on this subject by state?

A: The 2019 is the most recent data for anything less than state...A 5 yr. release is due in March with 2020 data.

Q: How do you know the 24.2% is households and not individuals?

A: Take a look at the name of the table or the column heading.

Q: Do you mean for anything at the state level or lower?

A: Yes, 2020 ACS data (1 yr.) was released at the state level (and DC) only.

Q: How can you retrieve county level data for a variable for all counties in the U.S.?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > then check the box (above the list of states) that says “All Counties within United States and Puerto Rico”

Q: Does the site provide tribal data?

A: Yes, you are able to obtain tribal data.

Q: Is the table # a unique identifier across years and surveys?

A: Information on the tables and their codes are available at www.census.gov/acs website.
Q: Hello. Am I able to download tables to use in Comprehensive Plan?
   A: Yes...downloading is available (cvs or excel).

Q: Are the 2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates still on track to be released in March 2022?
   A: Hi, as of now the current release schedule does have the 5-Year Estimates slated to be released in March.

Q: Is there a place to find a list of all information that can be retrieved? As in, I suspect that SOMEWHERE, there is likely data about age of houses, but I don't want to waste my time trying to find it (especially with keywords like "age" and "house" bringing up population information) if it doesn't exist.
   A: Yes, year built is available in Topics>Housing filter on the left.

Q: You might cover later, but will there be a way we can compare data across geo and/or years?
   A: When viewing a data table, directly under the name of that table, there is a drop-down option that will let you change the table to different years.

Q: Can you compare multiple counties at the same time for instance for internet access?
   A: Yes. Got to Advanced Search > Geography > County > click on the desired state > check the box beside each County needed.

Q: Can we aggregate only certain data fields that we are interested in for certain tables? For example, we like to use the ACS data to find Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP). To find this, we use 18+ Native born and 18+ Naturalized for both Male and Female. Is there any way for us to summon a field with just the sum of all of those fields?
   A: Yes, you can manipulate tables in data.census.gov...there is also another way (API).
Q: Where would I be able to find the ACS 2019 5-year survey. In my computer, I am able to access only the 2015 and 2010 5-year surveys.

A: Go to Advanced Search > Years > check box beside 2019, the click on Surveys > American Community Survey > 5-YearEstimates > then check box beside the desired selection.

Q: Is there any tract-level data available for specific Language Minority Groups beyond 2015? I'm looking for South Asian (Gujarati-Hindi-Urdu-Other Indic) and Chinese, at tract-level, for Cook County, IL. I've found 2010 and 2015 ACS (Question B16001).

A: Hi, this data is expected to be released in the ACS 5-Year Estimates coming to our site in March 2022. Languages may be limited.

Q: Is there a way to search for a census tract by entering in the address and then seeing a map of the census tracts? And then look at poverty or unemployment on that map, by tract?

A: Yes, find your tract at this website https://www.censusreporter.org/locate/

Q: What about historical data? I teach a college-level quantitative history course and want students to learn how to access historical data using the census data portal. I know about the .pdfs for older data. But for more recent historical data, are there filters or other shortcuts to access?

A: Hi, data.census.gov only has data from 2000 onward. You can access historical census data at https://www.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html. Please contact library@census.gov if you need help accessing historical census data.

A: Another way...https://www.socialexplorer.com/explore-tables. There are other ways to get historical data.
Q: Are there child support data in? I know that CPS-Child Support Supplement may have those data.

A: Those data are not available in data.census.gov

Q: For ACS 2020 - are we still not using that data since it's considered "Experimental"? Also, will the data being released in March - will it also be considered "experimental"?


Q: This might be answered later, but is there an easy way to create customized cross tabs? Like poverty by sex among age 18+? I feel like this was a functionality of dataferrett that I haven't had success recreating in this interface.

A: Yes, dataferret isn’t used anymore. We have a tool called MDAT to do that. Please get in touch with us at the email provided at the end for more details.

Q: Other than redistricting data already released, what other data sets are yet to be released?


Q: I know you track whether people moved in the last year or five years. Do you have data on how long people have lived in their current state of residence?

A: Data tables S2502 and DP04 have tenure information.
Q: Is there any way to "normalize" the table (showing percentages instead of totals)?

A: data.census.gov contains static tables that cannot be manipulated by the user. If you export the table to Excel, further user calculations may be tabulated.

Q: Where can I go during this meeting to access the captioning?

A: It will be available on census.gov/academy within 30 days.

Q: No Latino pop figures?

A: Yes, there are pop figures for Hispanic/Latino.

Q: Do a lot of supply and demand analysis for child care. Is there an easy way to look up county information for children under 5 years of age?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > County > Select the desired State > Click box beside each county where you would like data. Then go to Topics > Populations and People > check box beside Age and Sex.

Q: I am aware of the historical census resources. Let me rephrase. For longitudinal studies (2000-2020) are there filters or shortcuts to help students do this?

A: When viewing a data table, directly under the name of that table, there is a drop-down option that will let you change the table to different years.

Q: So the tables in result treat the search/filters as Boolean "and" while the pages results treats the search/filters as "or"?

A: This previously recorded webinar will provide the information you need: https://www.census.gov/data/academy/webinars/2020/calculating-margins-of-error-acs.html
Q: How do you export a map? Only the area you choose?

A: You can export a map by copying the unique URL. If you only want the image, you will need to a snipping or image capture feature on your computer.

Q: Are there datasets available that show state industry / occupation as well as associated demographics?

A: Yes, please contact us at the contact address provided.

Q: Can we get data for the precincts within a county?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > Voting District > click on desired State > click on desired County > Check box beside the appropriate District(s)

Q: Is there a way to add a total column? Such as one column that would show the combined population of every selected county?

A: James - download and combine in Excel.

Q: Can I find data for other countries? like Canada?

A: You might refer to the international database. [International Database (census.gov)]

Q: Can we download a map after creating?

A: Yes, you can export a map by copying the unique URL. If you only want the image, you will need to a snipping or image capture feature on your computer.
Q: Will the 2020 ACS 5-Year data (2016-2020) only use the 2020 census data?

A: It will use ACS data collected based on the 60 months from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2020.

Q: How can we save the map as pictures for presentations?

A: You can export a map by copying the unique URL. If you only want the image, you will need to a snipping or image capture feature on your computer.

Q: Is there an easier way to find Language English Proficiency (LEP) and low-income/minority/race data from the Census?

A: As an example – Got to Advanced Search > Topics > Income and Poverty > check box beside “Income and Poverty” and then click Topics > Populations and People > then check box beside “Language Spoken at Home” Then select the Geography you need.

Q: Please provide contact information again.

A: Census.askdata@census.gov or phone 1-844-ASKDATA

Q: Can you demonstrate how to refine a search for a state and congressional district?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > Congressional District > click on the appropriate state > check box beside the desired Congressional District(s)
Q: Can you search deaths by county? If so, can that be broken down to diagnosis?

A: data.census.gov does not contain that information

Q: How do you find a Block Group for an area?

A: Got to Advanced Search > Geography > Block Group > click on the appropriate State > click on the desired County > select the Tract(s) > check box(es) beside each Block Group

Q: Is Tigerweb the resource to map all U.S. counties or metro markets in terms of growth by ethnicity or race? Specifically looking for Hispanic and by individual breaks: Mexican, Central American, Salvadoran, etc. Would like to map changes/growth from 2010 to 2020.


Q: Is the platform compatible on mobile devices? (e.g. if I wanted to pull a quick table and view it on my phone?)

A: Yes

Q: Can you talk about searching data for census edges under geographies? i.e. the meaning behind attributes in the edges data? some edges are pretty obvious as being roads or streams, but some are less clear in the attributes. this is important for redistricting in many localities right now.

A: Unfortunately, that question is outside the scope of this webinar. Please feel free to submit this question to: https://ask.census.gov/support/case
Q: Can you demonstrate how to do a refined search for a state or congressional district?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > Congressional District > click on the appropriate state > check box beside the desired Congressional District(s)

Q: I use 5yr ACS poverty data for all populations in certain geographies (i.e. poverty rate of all people in my city). The tables bring up data broken down into more populations than needed (i.e. broken down by age). Is it possible to customize the table remove the data that is not needed? I would only need the location and total poverty level, but the entire table downloads with all broken down populations.

A: Your options are to download into Excel and then manipulate the table, use the “Hide” tab on the ribbon above each data table, or utilize the Microdata Access Tool (MDAT).

Q: Can you search geography or layer down to the township level?

A: Go to Advanced Search > Geography > County Subdivision > select State > select County > check box(es) beside each County Subdivision

Q: Hi, would I be able to get data at block level for all blocks within US? I would like to get current and historic data on economics & demographics. Would this be something easier to do through the API?

A: It may be easier for you to use the Decennial Census API due to the amount of data you're looking for.

Q: Is there a good resource with a list of all the tables and the data associated with them?

A: There are 4,904 tables available in data.census.gov. There is no consolidated list for the information you requested.
Q: What will be the best way to search for state-level demographic data (population estimate, gender, race/ethnicity, etc.) for a specific age group, such as 5-11 years old?

A: When looking for multiple data for a specific age group, I would encourage you to use Microdata. There is a great recorded webinar on how to use the MDAT tool at the following link: https://www.census.gov/data/academy/webinars/2021/custom-tabulation-capabilities.html

Q: Will there be a class on how to use the API’s? I did not see one online.

A: Yes. It is scheduled for April 7 at 2PM. Please register.

Q: I will need to download pops by age/race/sex/ for all ZCTAs in SC. Can this be done in one table or does it have to be multiple tables? Does 'one race alone' include both Hispanic and No--Hispanic?

A: See Data Table S0701

Q: I guess as a follow up, is that total population number likely to change with release of future data?

A: No, not for the 2020 Census.

Q: Is there any way to show data for multiple years?

A: When viewing a data table, directly under the name of that table, there is a drop-down option that will let you change the table to different years.