

Supplemental Instructions for Opening and Using the "2 Giant Files" version of the 2006-2010 ACS 5-year Summary File

This document describes how to deal with two common problems users have encountered in opening and using the data files at [http://www2.census.gov/acs2010_5yr/summaryfile/2006-2010_ACSSF_All_In_2_Giant_Files\(Experienced-Users-Only\)/](http://www2.census.gov/acs2010_5yr/summaryfile/2006-2010_ACSSF_All_In_2_Giant_Files(Experienced-Users-Only)/). If you need additional support, please contact acso.users.support@census.gov.

Getting the Geography Files

The zipped data files do not contain the "geography" files (files with a "g" prefix) that are described on pages 10-12 and 32 of *The 2006-2010 ACS 5-Year Summary File Technical Documentation*.

The geography files are available in the "2010_ACS_Geography_Files.zip" file in the folder [http://www2.census.gov/acs2010_5yr/summaryfile/2006-2010_ACSSF_All_In_2_Giant_Files\(Experienced-Users-Only\)/](http://www2.census.gov/acs2010_5yr/summaryfile/2006-2010_ACSSF_All_In_2_Giant_Files(Experienced-Users-Only)/)

Downloading and Opening the Data Files

Some users have reported problems downloading and uncompressing the data files "All_Geographies_Not_Tracts_Block_Groups.zip" and "Tracts_Block_Groups_Only.zip". Depending on your operating system, please follow the steps below.

Instructions for UNIX/Linux

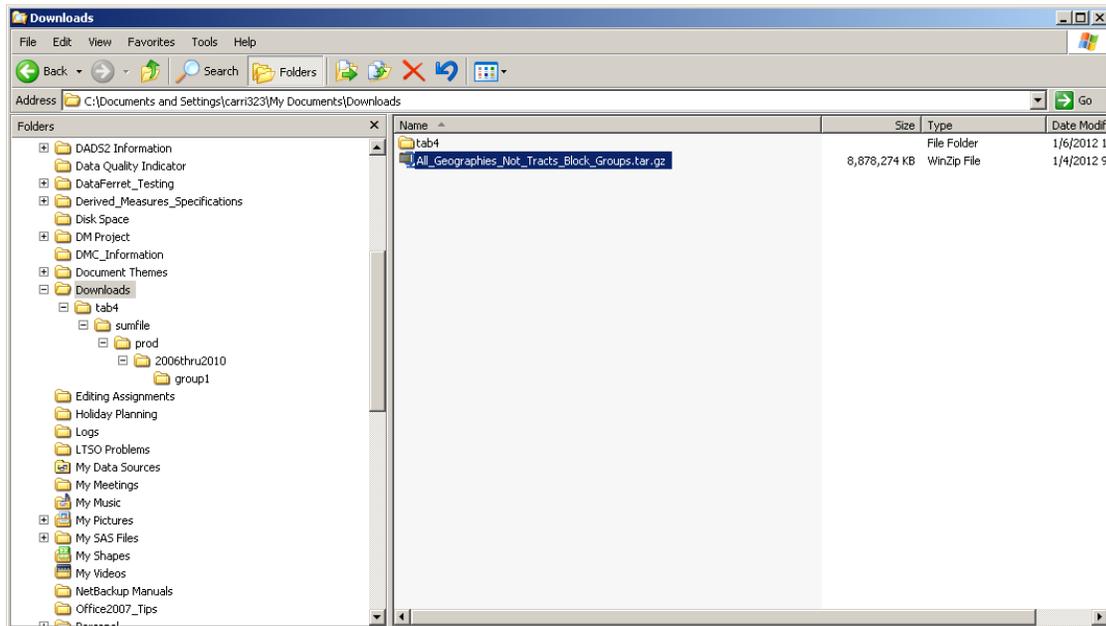
If you are using a UNIX or Linux operating system, use the "tar" command to uncompress the files. From a command line prompt, type "tar -zxvf Tracts_Block_Groups_Only.zip". The "unzip" command will not uncompress these files.

Instructions for Windows-based PCs

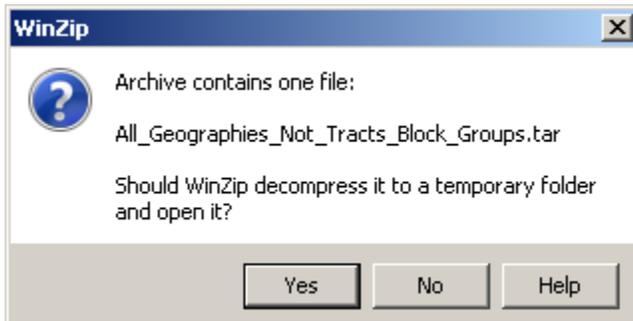
If you are using a Windows-based operating system, follow the steps below to uncompress the files.

1. Download the files. The file "All_Geographies_Not_Tracts_Block_Groups.zip" is too large to be downloaded with some versions of Internet Explorer. Use an alternate browser.

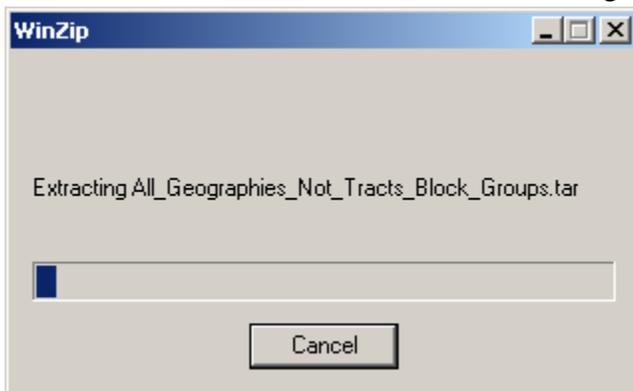
2. Change the extension from ".zip" to ".tar.gz". The following image shows the renamed file:



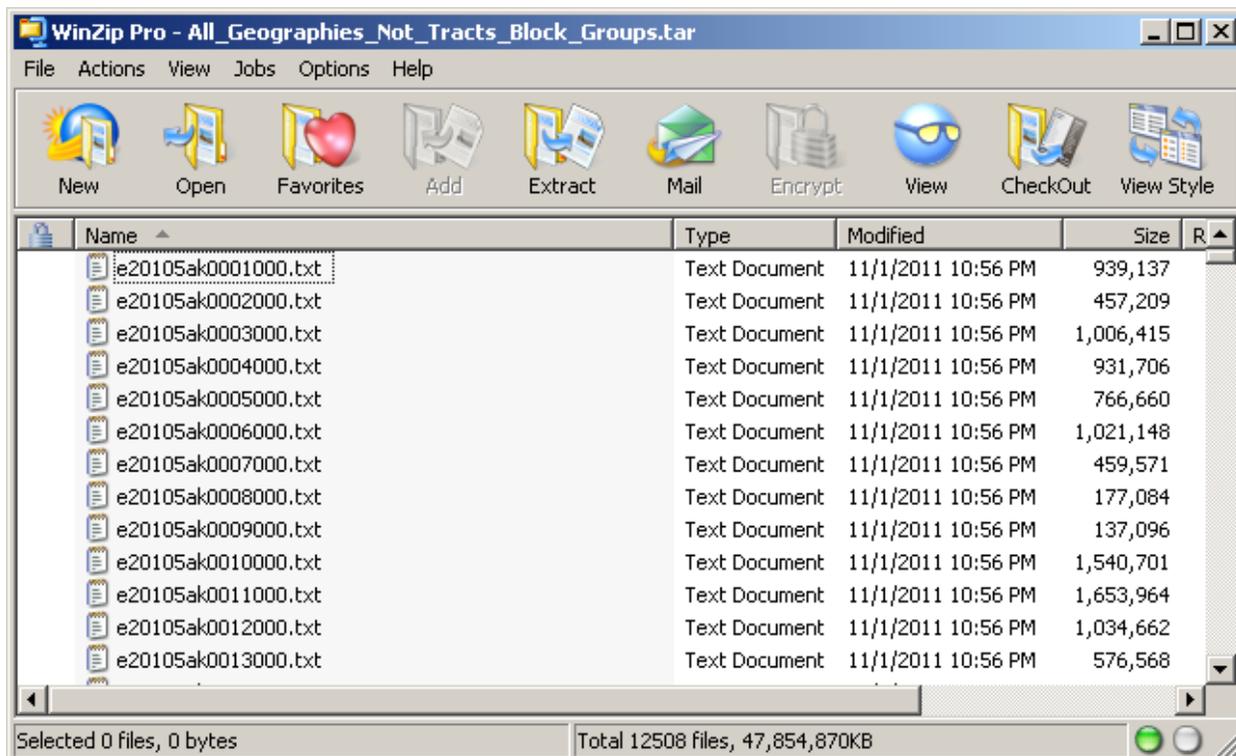
3. Double click on the file and you should see the following pop-up:



4. Select "Yes". You should then see the following image:



5. WinZip will then display a list of files that can be extracted, as shown in the example below.



6. Select the files you want to extract (or select all), click the "Extract" icon, and you will be prompted to choose a location to extract these files to.
7. The files should all be extracted under a subdirectory within the selected directory that follows the format of "`\tab4\sumfile\prod<data product date period>\group1`". For example: "`\tab4\sumfile\prod2006thru2010\group1`"