Instructions for Downloading Data from the Census Data API:
2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Detailed Table for All Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) in the U.S.

Follow these steps for building an API call (or a URL) for pulling data from the 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Detailed Table for All Zip Code Tabulation Areas in the U.S.

**Step 1:** Using Firefox or Chrome web browser, go to the census.gov Developers Page at: https://www.census.gov/developers/.

**Step 2.** On the left side of the screen, click on “Available APIs”.

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**Note:**
- For Firefox or Chrome web browser.
- Go to the census.gov Developers Page.
- Click on “Available APIs”.

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**Step 3:** Click on American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2009-2017).

![American Community Survey 5-Year Data](https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5/profile?get=group&for=us:1)

**Step 4:** Scroll down until you see “Detailed Tables.” Under detailed tables, you should see “API Call.” Copy/paste the URL into Firefox or Chrome if you are not already using these web browsers.

https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5?get=NAME.group(B01001)&for=us:1

We are going to use this URL to build an API call for table B19013 for all Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs).
Step 5. There are two parts of the URL that you will need to change:

a) First, we want to change our table number to “B19013”.
At the (B01001) portion of the URL change the table number to “B19013,”

https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5?get=NAME,group(B01001) &for=us:1

b) Second, since we want to build a URL for “all zip code tabulation areas,” change the section of the URL from the U.S. to all zip code tabulation areas. Change the “&for=us:1” to “&for=zip%20code%20tabulation%20area:*”

https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5?get=NAME,group(B19013) &for=us:1

There are more geographies available, and you can find the complete list here: https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5.html. Clicking the geographies link will show you the list of geographies available, but the examples will show you how to build URLs (or API calls) for all the geographies.

Step 6: After making these adjustments to the URL, the final query is:

https://api.census.gov/data/2017/acs/acs5?get=NAME,group(B19013)&for=zip%20code%20tabulation%20area:*

Hit the Enter key to pull the results. The results are in json format. Below are the first few lines.

```
["NAME", "GEO_ID", "B19013_001E", "B19013_001H", "NAME", "B19013_001H", "B19013_001H", "zip code tabulation area", 
"2CTAS 84966", "8900000094896", "76100", "67973", "2CTAS 84966", "null", "null", "84966"],
"2CTAS 84715", "8600000094775", "666666666", "2CTAS 84775", "null", "null", "84775"],
"2CTAS 84762", "8600000094762", "666666666", "2CTAS 84762", "null", "null", "84762"],
"2CTAS 84672", "8600000094873", "33959", "23985", "2CTAS 84772", "null", "null", "84772"],
"2CTAS 84781", "8600000094781", "48009", "12538", "2CTAS 84781", "null", "null", "84781"],
"2CTAS 84511", "8600000094511", "50777", "10971", "2CTAS 84511", "null", "null", "84511"],
"2CTAS 84516", "8600000094516", "53578", "18584", "2CTAS 84516", "null", "null", "84516"],
"2CTAS 84513", "8600000094513", "12981", "19794", "2CTAS 84532", "null", "null", "84532"],
"2CTAS 84528", "8600000094528", "46849", "5151", "2CTAS 84532", "null", "null", "84532"],
"2CTAS 84681", "8600000094681", "44436", "84681", "2CTAS 84681", "null", "null", "84681"],
"2CTAS 84620", "8600000094620", "64888", "17449", "2CTAS 84620", "null", "null", "84620"],
"2CTAS 84628", "8600000094628", "47900", "17379", "2CTAS 84628", "null", "null", "84628"],
"2CTAS 84625", "8600000094625", "68113", "8184", "2CTAS 84629", "null", "null", "84629"],
"2CTAS 84630", "8600000094630", "5413", "5162", "2CTAS 84630", "null", "null", "84630"]
```
Step 7: Copy all of these results into MS Excel:
   a) Press Ctrl-A to select all contents on the page
   b) Press Ctrl-C to copy
   c) Paste into the first cell of MS Excel (Ctrl-V)

Step 8: Now convert the text to columns.
   a) Highlight column A.
   b) Click Data -> Click Text to Columns -> Select Delimited -> Click Next.
c) **Uncheck Tab and Check Comma -> Click Next -> Click Finish.**

Now, we have our table, but we need to clean up the quotation marks and brackets.
Step 9: To remove the quotation marks and brackets:

Quotation Marks
a) Press Ctrl- F and click the Replace tab.
b) Enter the following:
   - Find what: “
   - Replace: (leave this blank)
c) Click Replace All

Left Brackets
a) Press Ctrl- F and click the Replace tab.
b) Enter the following:
   - Find what: [
   - Replace: (leave this blank)
c) Click Replace All

Right Brackets
a) Press Ctrl- F and Click the Replace Tab
b) Enter the following
   - Find what: ]
   - Replace: (leave this blank)
c) Click Replace All
**Step 10:** Change instances of -666666666 and -222222222 to (X).

-666666666
a) Press Ctrl- F and click the Replace tab.
b) Enter the following:
   - Find what: -666666666
   - Replace: (X)
c) Click Replace All

-222222222
a) Press Ctrl- F and click the Replace tab.
b) Enter the following:
   - Find what: -222222222
   - Replace: (X)
c) Click Replace All.
Here's the finished table: