Instruction for Downloading Data from the Census Data API:
Decennial Census Self-Response Rates (2010) for All Census Tracts in California

Follow these steps for building an API call (or a URL) for pulling data from the Decennial Census Self-Response Rates (2010) for All Census Tracts in California.

Step 1: Using 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”.
Step 3: Scroll down the page and click on Decennial Census Self-Response Rates (2010).


Step 5. Click on “examples.”
**Step 6.** Under state→ county→ tract. Copy/paste the URL into Firefox or Chrome if you are not already using these web browsers.


We are going to use this URL to build an API call for decennial census self-response rates (2010) for all census tracts in California.

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**Step 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography Hierarchy</th>
<th>Geography Level</th>
<th>Example URL</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>state</td>
<td>010</td>
<td><a href="https://api.census.gov/data/2010/dec/responserate?get=GEO_ID,FSRR2010&amp;for=tract:*&amp;in=state:01&amp;key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE">https://api.census.gov/data/2010/dec/responserate?get=GEO_ID,FSRR2010&amp;for=tract:*&amp;in=state:01&amp;key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE</a></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 7.** There are three parts of the URL that you will need to change:

a) First, add the geographic area name, NAME, to the URL. At the (get=) portion of the URL add “NAME,”. Adding NAME will give us the labels associated with the geographies instead of only the geographic code.

   ![URL with NAME](https://api.census.gov/data/2010/dec/responserate?get=NAME,GEO_ID,FSRR2010&for=tract:*&in=state:01&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE)

b) Since we want to build a URL for the all census tracts in California, change the (=state:01) to (=state:06).

   ![URL with state:06](https://api.census.gov/data/2010/dec/responserate?get=NAME,GEO_ID,FSRR2010&for=tract:*&in=state:06&key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE)

c) Last, delete the portion of the URL, &key=YOUR_KEY_GOES_HERE.

   ![URL without key](https://api.census.gov/data/2010/dec/responserate?get=NAME,GEO_ID,FSRR2010&for=tract:*&in=state:06)

**Step 8:** After making these adjustments to the URL, the final query is:


Hit the Enter key to pull the results. The results are in json format. Below are the first few lines.
Step 9: 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 10: 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 move the header and clean up the quotation marks and brackets.
Step 11: To move the header:

a) Select B1 to F1, then drag it to H1

b) The header GEO_ID will be in D1.

Step 12: 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

Now, we have our table for all census tracts in California.