

Frequently Asked Questions

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Top Questions

- [Why doesn't American FactFinder display properly in my browser?](#)

Since browsers cache some of the web tier files (*.js; *.css) by name, whenever an updated or new version of AFF is r...
[\(more\)](#)
- [Do I have to respond to the American Community Survey \(ACS\)?](#)

Yes. Responding to the American Community Survey (ACS) is about helping national, tribal, state and local officials m...
[\(more\)](#)
- [Someone came to my home to interview me for the ACS. Is this legitimate?](#)

If someone has contacted you about the ... [\(more\)](#)
- [What data can I get for ZIP Code Tabulation Areas?](#)

You can get population and housing data for ... [\(more\)](#)
- [American FactFinder: How do I cite tables and maps in American FactFinder?](#)

Dynamically generated tables, maps, and files from American FactFinder:(Use semicolons to separa... [\(more\)](#)
- [Can the U.S. Census Bureau help me find information about my family's history?](#)

Although censuses are a source of genealogical information, the Census Bureau does not provide these data nor can we ...
[\(more\)](#)
- [Can I get detailed import and export data?](#)

Yes, we have detailed import and export data available through an ... [\(more\)](#)
- [Where can I find historical census data on the population?](#)

In addition to our [Selected Historical](#) ... [\(more\)](#)
- [I am using the American Community Survey \(ACS\) Public Use Microdata Sample \(PUMS\) data, and I see a geograp...](#)

Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) are non-overlapping areas that partition each state into areas containing about 10...
[\(more\)](#)
- [American FactFinder: How do I find all the Census Tracts in a Place?](#)

Select Advanced Search. Click the Geographies button located below Topics (left side of pa... [\(more\)](#)
- [American FactFinder: What are the limits for downloading tables?](#)

Download from Search Results (without viewing table): Up to 10 tables at one t... [\(more\)](#)
- [Why does the ACS ask for my name and my telephone number?](#)

The American Community Survey (ACS) asks for individuals' names for two reasons. First, we have found over many...
[\(more\)](#)
- [Does the U.S. Census Bureau provide any data by first names and surnames?](#)

The Census Bureau provides [first and surname data](#) that may be... [\(more\)](#)
- [Why am I receiving phone calls from the U.S. Census Bureau about the ACS?](#)

Our telephone representatives attempt to call households to collect important survey information. If someone has cont...
[\(more\)](#)
- [American FactFinder: How do I find the population of my city, town, county, or state?](#)

From the Main Page (factfinder2.census.gov): Enter the name of your state, county, city, town, ... [\(more\)](#)

[What if I don't know the exact answer to an ACS question?](#)

On the American Community Survey (ACS), if no one in your household knows the answer to a question, and the informati... [\(more\)](#)

[When will data from the 2010 census be available?](#)

The apportionment counts will be delivered to the President within nine months of Census Day (on or before December 3... [\(more\)](#)

[How can I get data from the American Community Survey \(ACS\)?](#)

The Census Bureau publishes ACS data in tables on the ... [\(more\)](#)

[1940 Census Records](#)

Please refer to the following resources regarding the 1940 Census. ... [\(more\)](#)

[Can someone help me find my Schedule B number?](#)

Here are three options:Call the ... [\(more\)](#)

[American FactFinder: How can I find a fact sheet for my city or town?](#)

The information that was previously found on the FactSheet is now available through Community Facts:... [\(more\)](#)

[Why was my address selected for the ACS?](#)

Addresses selected for the American Community Survey (ACS) come from the Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF). T... [\(more\)](#)

[Does the Census Bureau have data for religion?](#)

The Census Bureau conducted censuses of religious bodies at 10-year intervals from 1906 through 1936. The results wer... [\(more\)](#)

[What is the American Community Survey \(ACS\)?](#)

The ACS is a legitimate survey that is part of the Decennial Census Program. It is a survey sent to a small per... [\(more\)](#)

[How can I get permission to use or publish census data?](#)

Copyright protection is not available for any work of the United States Government (Title 17 U.S.C., Section 105). ... [\(more\)](#)

[I am concerned about identity theft. How does the Census Bureau protect my ACS information?](#)

We understand concerns about identity theft and privacy. We will ensure that only authorized persons with a work-rela... [\(more\)](#)

[How will data from 2010 Census be made available?](#)

The 2010 Census data will be disseminated mainly through American FactFinder beginning in January of 2011. Visit Amer... [\(more\)](#)

[I don't know which of the Census 2000 summary files I need. What are the differences?](#)

The four summary files below for Census 2000 are among the most detailed data products available from the popula... [\(more\)](#)

[What does the U.S. Census Bureau produce by race and Hispanic origin?](#)

U.S. federal government agencies must adhere to st... [\(more\)](#)

[How do I classify my product, locate the HS number and export commodity code for the Schedule B?](#)

For help with import classification, you must contact your I... [\(more\)](#)

[Does the U.S. Census Bureau provide data on poverty?](#)

Our web site on [Poverty](#) provides data links to... [\(more\)](#)

[Why does the ACS ask such detailed questions?](#)

We ask these questions because federal and state government require the data that we collect to manage or evaluate pr... [\(more\)](#)

[Do you have data by single year of age?](#)

Yes, the U.S. Census Bureau produces data by single year of age: The U.S. Census Bureau... [\(more\)](#)

[What is the difference between EAR99 and NLR?](#)

EAR99 is a classification for an item. It indicates that a particular item is subject to the Export Administration Re... [\(more\)](#)

[What does the U.S. Census Bureau provide on ancestry?](#)

The Census Bureau provides data on ancestry... [\(more\)](#)

[I forgot my ACS PIN.](#)

When you access the American Community Survey onl... [\(more\)](#)

[How do I get trade information \(imports and exports\) on a specific product?](#)

In order to get trade information, you need to be able to correctly classify your product. There are many ways ... [\(more\)](#)

[Where do I find information on the number of people in my area surveyed by the American Community Survey \(A...](#)

Information on sample size, response rates, coverage rates, and item allocation rates is available on the ... [\(more\)](#)

[American FactFinder: How do I find data for "all the counties in a state" or "all the census tracts in a st...](#)

Click the "Advanced Search" button. Click the Geographies button (le... [\(more\)](#)

[My living room and kitchen are in one big room. How do I count the number of rooms on the ACS?](#)

When counting the number of rooms in a home for the American Community Survey (ACS), please count rooms separated by ... [\(more\)](#)

[When is it best to use American Community Survey \(ACS\) 1-year, 3-year, or 5-year estimates?](#)

You must think about the balance between currency and sample size/reliability/precision. The 1-year and 3-year e... [\(more\)](#)

[How do I find my import commodity code? How do I find my Harmonized Tariff Schedule \(HTS\) number?](#)

The United States International Trade Commission allows you to ... [\(more\)](#)

[When I'm shipping something out of the U.S., do I need to know my Export Control Classification Number \(ECCN\)?](#)

When exporting commodities out of the United States (or releasing technology or source code to a foreign national in ... [\(more\)](#)

[How do I know if I need a block map or a census tract outline map?](#)

Census 2000 Census Tract Outline Maps delineate census tract boundaries within counties, as well as boundaries for po... [\(more\)](#)

[I received an American Community Survey \(ACS\) questionnaire in the mail. Do I use a pencil or pen?](#)

If you are completing a paper questionnaire, use a pen with blue or black ink, or a #2 pencil. For more information o... [\(more\)](#)

[American FactFinder: How do I find the population for a Zip Code?](#)

From the American FactFinder Main Page: Using Community Facts, type in your Zip Code and click ... [\(more\)](#)

[How can I be sure my information is really going to the Census Bureau and not some third party?](#)

Our secure server uses a digital certificate (digital ID) issued by a Certificate Authority (CA) as proof of identity... [\(more\)](#)

[Can I complete the ACS online?](#)

In most instances, yes. If you received a letter or postcard inviting you to complete the American Community Survey o... [\(more\)](#)

[Doesn't the government already have the information requested on the ACS?](#)

The Census Bureau does use statistics from other government agencies for research and evaluations to improve our surv... [\(more\)](#)

[Can I generate my own custom tables from the U.S. Census Bureau site?](#)

The Census Bureau provides several ... [\(more\)](#)

Measuring America—People, Places, and Our Economy

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