

Update on the American Community Survey

2011 PaSDC Data User Conference

September 15, 2011

Holiday Inn, Harrisburg/Hershey

Whittona Burrell, ISS

U.S. Census Bureau/Philadelphia Regional Office



Federal Funding from Census Information

More than \$400 billion dollars annually in federal grants and direct assistance allocated based on Census information.

- Decennial Census
- Population Estimates
- American Community Survey**
- Other Census Surveys



10 Largest Federal Programs that use Population and Income data as factors

- Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid)
- Unemployment Insurance
- Highway Planning and Construction
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Federal Pell Grant Program
- Title 1 Grants to Local Educational Agencies
- Special Education Grants to States
- National School Lunch Program
- Head Start



Census Information

THEN...

- Census 2000 used 2 forms

“**short**” form – basic demographic and housing information

“**long**” form – collected the same information as the short form but also collected more in-depth information such as income, education, and language spoken at home



Census Information, **NOW** ...

2010 Census and the American Community Survey

- 2010 Census focused on counting the U.S. population
- **The sample data are now collected in the ACS**
- Puerto Rico is the only U.S. territory where the ACS is conducted
- 2010 Census used a long form for U.S. territories such as Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands
- Same “short form” questions asked on the ACS



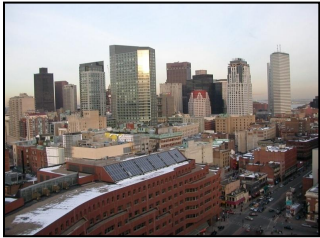
American Community Survey

Content:

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS



ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS



DEMOGRAPHICS



American Community Survey

Social Characteristics



Education

Place of Birth

Marital Status

Citizenship

Fertility

Year of Entry

Veterans

Disability Status

Language Spoken at Home

Ancestry / Tribal Affiliation

Grandparent Caregivers



American Community Survey

Economic Characteristics

- Income
- Benefits
- Employment Status
- Occupation
- Industry
- Commuting to Work
- Place of Work



American Community Survey

Housing Characteristics

- Tenure
- Occupancy & Structure
- Housing Value
- Taxes & Insurance
- Utilities
- Mortgage/Monthly Rent



American Community Survey

Demographic Characteristics



- Sex
- Age
- Race
- Hispanic Origin



Decennial Census Short Form Only!

- In Census 2000, 1 in 6 households received the 53 question, 40 page “long form”
 - Detailed social, economic & housing info
- 2010 Census was SHORT FORM ONLY!
 - 10 Questions
- 2010 Questionnaire Topics
 - Name
 - Race
 - Housing Tenure
 - Sex
 - Ethnicity
 - Housing Relationship
 - Age



American Community Survey

CURRENT DATA AVAILABLE FOR 2009*

- Released for the first time in 2010, data is currently available for areas with a population of 20,000 or less
 - Areas with a population **65,000+** : 1-year estimates (data avail. For 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)
 - Areas with a population **20,000+** : 3-year estimates (data avail. For 2005-07 and 2006-08, 2007-2009)
 - Areas below **20,000**
5-year estimates (2005-2009)
(incl. census tracts & block groups)

*2010 ACS will be available Fall 2011. 1-year ACS release beginning 9/22/11



Remember ... 2010 Census SF 1 (100% Data)

- Household Relationship
- Sex
- Age
- Hispanic or Latino Origin
- Race
- Tenure (own/rent)
- Vacancy characteristics



2010 Census - SF 1 (100% Data)

- **Summary File 1**
- **Summary File 2: Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF1**

This data currently being released by the 2010 Census



SF 3 (Sample Data)

- **Summary File 3**
- **Summary File 4**: *Cross references detailed race, ethnic, and ancestry groups with all data subjects in SF3*

**NOW...SF3 & SF4 data
collected in the ACS only!**



ACS DATA PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS

Key ACS Data Products	
Data Product	Description
Data profiles	Provide broad social, economic, housing, and demographic profiles.
Narrative profiles	Summarize the information in the data profiles using concise, nontechnical text.
Selected population profiles	Provide broad social, economic, and housing profiles for a large number of race, ethnic, ancestry, and country/region of birth groups.
Ranking tables	Provide state rankings of estimates across 86 key variables.
Subject tables	Similar to data profiles but include more detailed ACS data, classified by subject.
Detailed tables	Provide access to the most detailed ACS data and crosstabulations of ACS variables.
Geographic comparison tables	Compare geographic areas other than states (e.g., counties or congressional districts) for key variables.
Thematic maps	Interactive, online maps that can be used to display ACS data.
Custom tables	Allow the user to extract specific rows of data from the ACS detailed tables.
Summary files	Provide access to the detailed tables through a series of comma-delimited text files on the Census Bureau's FTP site < www2.census.gov >.
Public Use Microdata Sample files	Provide access to ACS microdata for data users with SAS and SPSS software experience.

* Note: Data will be available for local areas and small population subgroups with the release of 3-year and 5-year estimates.

Contact Information

Philadelphia Regional Office
833 Chestnut Street, Suite 504
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-717-1800

Follow us on Twitter at:
http://twitter.com/uscb_philly

Fan us on Facebook at:
[facebook.com/Philly.CensusBureau](https://www.facebook.com/Philly.CensusBureau)

