

The American Community Survey in Alaska

Prepared for the
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
April 24, 2008

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Washington, DC 20233

Overview

- What is the American Community Survey?
- Relationship to Census 2000 and 2010 Census
- Basic survey design
- How the survey is conducted in Alaska
- ACS Data Products

What is the American Community Survey?



**AMERICAN
COMMUNITY
SURVEY**

**America is changing,
and so is the census.**

A detailed look at how our communities are changing every year—not just once every ten years. That's what the powerful new American Community Survey provides. Your community needs current information about its residents' education, employment, income, housing and more in order to plan and fund local services that are important to you.

Your response is important and completely confidential.

For more information, please visit
www.census.gov/acs

Or call the Census Bureau's ACS toll-free number at
888-346-9682

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

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United States
Census
2010

Information Collected in the ACS

- Age & relationship
- Grandparents responsible for grandchildren
- Disability
- Language spoken at home & English fluency
- Income
- Housing costs & characteristics

Census 2000

- In Census 2000, a sample of about 1-in-6 households received a “long form” that included these questions
- Statistics were produced from this sample for a broad set of geographic areas as small as census tracts and block groups

2010 Census

- 2010 Census focus is on the count and basic demographics (short form only)
- The sample data, historically collected on the “long form” in the census, are now collected throughout the decade in the ACS
- No long-form in 2010 Census

American Community Survey

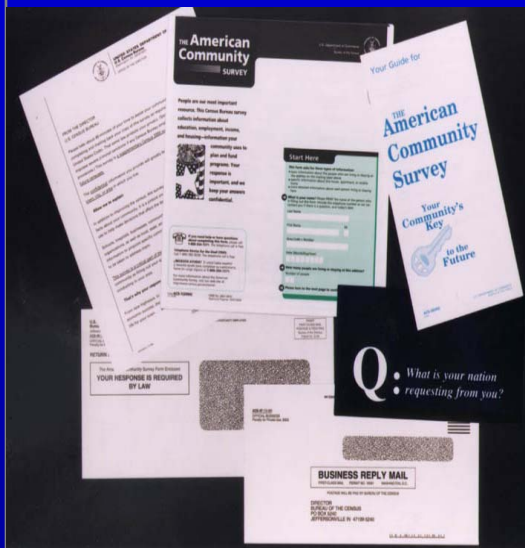
Similarities with Census 2000

- Many of the same questions and many of the same basic statistics
- Data will be produced for same broad set of geographic areas including census tracts and block groups

American Community Survey

Basic Survey Design

Mail:
(Month 1)



Telephone:
(Month 2)



Personal Visit:
(Month 3)



...unless a completed questionnaire is received

American Community Survey

Basic Survey Design

- 5-years of sample are needed to produce estimates comparable to the 2000 Census long form sample products
- These estimates will cover same small areas as Census 2000 with slightly smaller sample sizes

American Community Survey Data Products Release Schedule

Data Product	Population Threshold	Year of Data Release							
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
		Year(s) of Data Collection							
1 - year Estimates	65,000+	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3 - year Estimates	20,000+			2005- 2007	2006- 2008	2007- 2009	2008- 2010	2009- 2011	2010- 2012
5 - year Estimates	All Areas*					2005- 2009	2006- 2010	2007- 2011	2008- 2012

*All legal, administrative and statistical geographic areas down to the tract and block group level.

American Community Survey

Key Differences from Census 2000

- Beginning in 2010, data for small geographic areas will be produced every year versus once every 10 years
- Data for larger areas are available now or will be available in December 2008

American Community Survey

Key Differences from Census 2000

- 2000 data described a point in time (April 1st) while ACS data describe a period of time and require averaging data for 12 months, 36 months, or 60 months
- Smaller sample size for 5-year ACS estimates when compared with 2000 sample results in reductions in reliability of estimates – therefore important to consider margins of error

How the Survey is Conducted in Alaska

- Definition of Remote Alaska
- Remote and Non Remote Alaska
 - Sample Design
 - Data Collection Methods
 - Successes & Challenges

Alaska



Remote Alaska

- Of the 27 Census Areas in Alaska, 14 are classified as either totally Remote or partially Remote
- Different sample periods and data collection methods are used in areas classified as Remote Alaska

Totally Remote Alaska

- Aleutians East
- Aleutians West
- Bristol Bay
- Denali
- Lake & Peninsula
- Northwest Arctic
- Southeast Fairbanks
- Wade Hampton
- Yukon-Koyukuk

Partially Remote Alaska

- Bethel
- Dillingham
- Nome
- North Slope
- Valdez-Cordova

How is the Sample Selected?

- Nationally, we select a sample of about
 - 250,000 addresses each month
 - 3 million addresses each year
 - 15 million addresses over 5-year period
- The basic method for selecting the sample is the same everywhere

How Are ACS Data Collected In Remote Alaska?

- No mail out or telephone interviewing is attempted
- A two-in-three subsample of Remote Alaska sample addresses are sent to personal visit interviewing
- A four month time period is allowed for data collection

Interview Periods for Remote Alaska

Interview Period for Remote Portion	Number
January – April & September – December	7
January – April only	4
September – December only	3

How Are ACS Data Collected In The Rest of Alaska?

- Methodology based on best practices from decennial census and demographic surveys
- Monthly samples use three sequential modes of data collection
 - Mail
 - Telephone
 - Personal Visit

Challenges and Successes in Alaska

- Climate
- Travel
- Seasonality of the population
- High response rates
- Better quality data

ACS Data Products

- Detailed Tables
- Single Year and Narrative Profiles
- Subject Tables
- Selected Population Profiles
- Ranking Tables
- Geographic Comparison Tables
- Thematic Maps
- Public Use Microdata Sample Files (PUMS)

Detailed Table Topics

- Sex by Age by Race and Hispanic Origin
- Means of Transportation to Work by Travel Time to Work
- Median Number of Rooms in Housing Units
- School Enrollment by Level School
- Poverty Status in the past 12 Months by Sex and Age

Detailed Tables

[B07204. RESIDENCE 1 YEAR AGO--STATE, COUNTY AND PLACE LEVEL IN THE UNITED STATES](#)

- [Universe: POPULATION 1 YEAR AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES](#)

Data Set: [2006 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2006 American Community Survey

NOTE: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

View the [collapsed version of this table](#). Geographies missing from this table are listed below the table.

	Alaska	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	659,992	+/-1,192
Same house 1 year ago	515,159	+/-7,786
Different house in United States 1 year ago:	139,758	+/-7,689
Same city or town:	59,604	+/-5,650
Same county	59,604	+/-5,650
Different county (same state)	0	+/-235
Elsewhere:	80,154	+/-6,539
Same county	19,457	+/-2,992
Different county:	60,697	+/-5,779
Same state	23,025	+/-3,174
Different state:	37,672	+/-4,943
Northeast	3,041	+/-1,009
Midwest	5,992	+/-2,351
South	9,945	+/-2,349
West	18,694	+/-3,815
Abroad 1 year ago:	5,075	+/-1,721
Puerto Rico	0	+/-235
U.S. Island Areas	35	+/-57
Foreign country	5,040	+/-1,721

[C07204.](#)

View the [noncollapsed version of this table](#).

	Alaska	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	659,992	+/-1,192
Same house 1 year ago	515,159	+/-7,786
Different house in United States 1 year ago:	139,758	+/-7,689
Same city or town	59,604	+/-5,650
Elsewhere:	80,154	+/-6,539
Same county	19,457	+/-2,992
Different county:	60,697	+/-5,779
Same state	23,025	+/-3,174
Different state	37,672	+/-4,943
Abroad 1 year ago:	5,075	+/-1,721
Puerto Rico	0	+/-235
Elsewhere	5,075	+/-1,721

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

Data Profiles

United States

Selected Social Characteristics in the United States: 2006 ?

Data Set: **2006 American Community Survey**

Survey: **2006 American Community Survey**

[Social](#) - Education, Marital Status, Relationships, Fertility, Grandparents...

[Economic](#) - Income, Employment, Occupation, Commuting to Work...

[Housing](#) - Occupancy and Structure, Housing Value and Costs, Utilities...

[Demographic](#) - Sex and Age, Race, Hispanic Origin, Housing Units...

[Narrative](#) - Text profile with graphs for easy analysis...

NOTE. Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the [official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns](#) and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

For more information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

Selected Social Characteristics in

HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE

Total households

Family households (families)

With own children under 18 years

Married-couple families

With own children under 18 years

Male householder, no wife present

With own children under 18 years

Female householder, no husband p

With own children under 18 years

Nonfamily households

Householder living alone

65 years and over

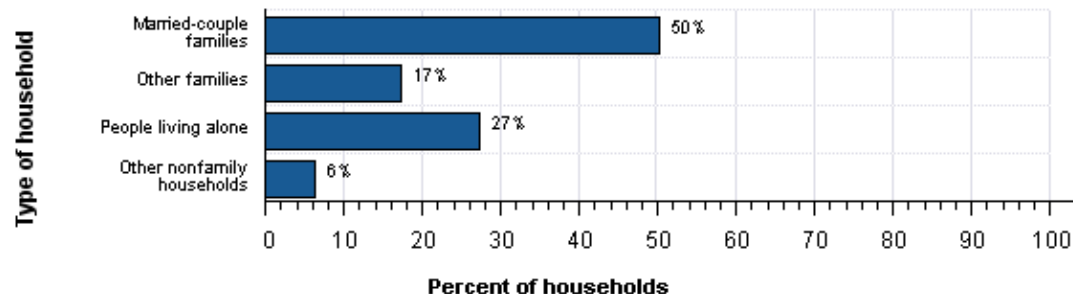
United States

Population and Housing Narrative Profile: 2006

HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES: In 2006 there were 111.6 million households in United States. The average household size was 2.6 people.

Families made up 67 percent of the households in United States. This figure includes both married-couple families (50 percent) and other families (17 percent). Nonfamily households made up 33 percent of all households in United States. Most of the nonfamily households were people living alone, but some were composed of people living in households in which no one was related to the householder.

The Types of Households in United States in 2006



Subject Tables

Cook Inlet Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska
S2504. Physical Housing Characteristics for Occupied Housing Units ?
 Data Set: 2006 American Community Survey
 Survey: 2006 American Community Survey

NOTE: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

Subject	Occupied housing units	Margin of Error	Owner-occupied housing units	Margin of Error	Renter-occupied housing units	Margin of Error
Occupied housing units	142,147	+/-1,894	93,775	+/-2,812	48,372	+/-2,438
UNITS IN STRUCTURE						
1, detached	57.2%	+/-1.6	77.8%	+/-1.6	17.2%	+/-2.6
1, attached	9.8%	+/-1.0	10.4%	+/-1.4	8.8%	+/-2.2
2 apartments	5.4%	+/-1.1	2.3%	+/-0.7	11.4%	+/-2.7
3 or 4 apartments	8.4%	+/-1.1	1.3%	+/-0.5	22.4%	+/-2.9
5 to 9 apartments	5.7%	+/-1.0	1.5%	+/-0.5	13.9%	+/-2.4
10 or more apartments	9.0%	+/-1.2	2.0%	+/-0.6	22.6%	+/-3.2
Mobile home or other type of housing	4.4%	+/-0.6	4.7%	+/-0.8	3.7%	+/-1.5
YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT						
2000 or later	10.0%	+/-1.1	11.1%	+/-1.3	7.8%	+/-2.1
1990 to 1999	16.3%	+/-1.6	19.8%	+/-2.2	9.7%	+/-1.9
1980 to 1989	28.0%	+/-1.7	29.2%	+/-1.8	25.8%	+/-3.3
1960 to 1979	39.2%	+/-1.7	34.2%	+/-2.1	48.8%	+/-3.6
1940 to 1959	5.9%	+/-0.8	5.4%	+/-0.9	7.1%	+/-1.9
1939 or earlier	0.5%	+/-0.3	0.4%	+/-0.3	0.9%	+/-0.7

Selected Population Groups

- Various Race, Ethnic, and Ancestry Groups
- The Foreign-Born
- The Native and Foreign-Born Populations



More Selected Population Groups

- Population 60 Years and Over
- The Population 65 Years and Over
- Children
- Teenagers
- Grandchildren
- Workers 16 Years and Over
- People at Specified Levels of
- Poverty in the Past 12 Months



Selected Population Profiles

Alaska

S0201. Selected Population Profile in the United States ?

Population Group: **Alaska Native alone**

Data Set: 2006 American Community Survey

Survey: 2006 American Community Survey

NOTE: For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

Subject	Total population	Margin of Error	Alaska Native alone	Margin of Error
Total population	670,053	*****	82,564	+/-2,921
SEX AND AGE				
Male	51.5%	+/-0.3	48.9%	+/-1.5
Female	48.5%	+/-0.3	51.1%	+/-1.5
Under 5 years	7.1%	+/-0.2	8.3%	+/-0.5
5 to 17 years	19.7%	+/-0.2	23.0%	+/-1.4
18 to 24 years	11.2%	+/-0.3	13.8%	+/-1.7
25 to 34 years	14.0%	+/-0.3	11.3%	+/-1.0
35 to 44 years	15.0%	+/-0.3	15.0%	+/-1.4
45 to 54 years	16.3%	+/-0.3	13.4%	+/-1.0
55 to 64 years	10.1%	+/-0.2	7.7%	+/-0.9
65 to 74 years	3.9%	+/-0.1	4.7%	+/-0.8
75 years and over	2.7%	+/-0.1	2.8%	+/-0.5
Median age (years)	33.5	+/-0.3	29.0	+/-1.4
18 years and over	73.2%	+/-0.1	68.7%	+/-1.6
21 years and over	68.1%	+/-0.3	61.4%	+/-2.2
62 years and over	8.7%	+/-0.3	9.2%	+/-0.9
65 years and over	6.6%	+/-0.1	7.5%	+/-0.8
Under 18 years	179,687	+/-671	25,834	+/-1,781
Male	51.3%	+/-0.8	53.1%	+/-1.8
Female	48.7%	+/-0.8	46.9%	+/-1.8

Ranking Tables



United States and States

R2507. Percent of Occupied Housing Units With Fuel Oil, Kerosene, Etc. as Principal Heating Fuel: 2006

Universe: Occupied housing units

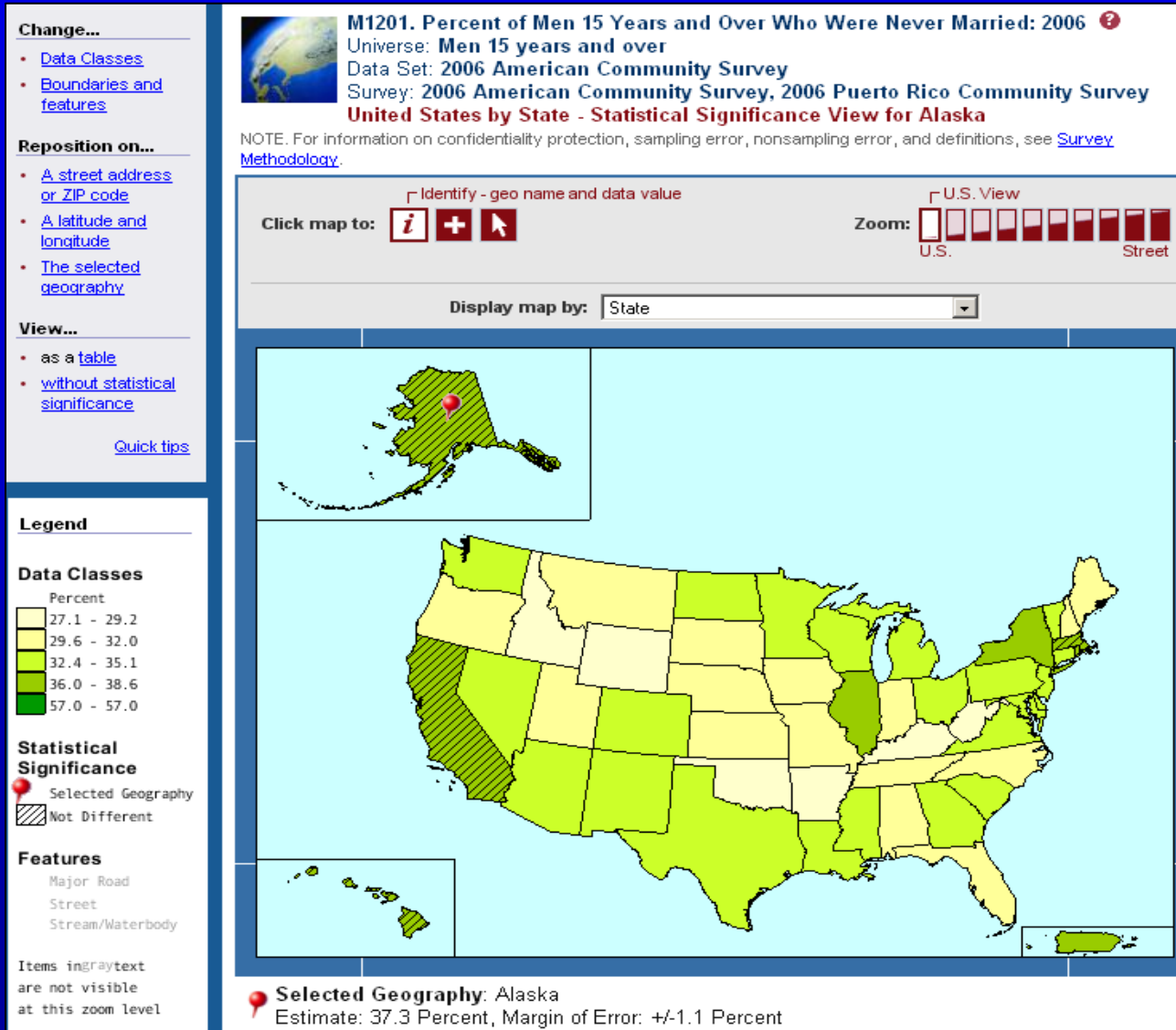
Data Set: 2006 American Community Survey

Survey: 2006 American Community Survey, 2006 Puerto Rico Community Survey

NOTE. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

Rank	State	Percent	Margin of Error
1	Maine	77.0	+/-0.9
2	Vermont	56.0	+/-1.1
3	New Hampshire	55.2	+/-1.0
4	Connecticut	50.3	+/-0.6
5	Rhode Island	40.7	+/-1.2
6	Massachusetts	36.1	+/-0.5
7	Alaska	33.9	+/-0.9
8	New York	33.5	+/-0.2
9	Pennsylvania	22.8	+/-0.2
10	Delaware	21.0	+/-1.0
11	New Jersey	15.7	+/-0.3
12	Maryland	13.2	+/-0.3
13	Virginia	9.3	+/-0.2
	United States	7.7	+/-0.1
14	North Carolina	7.6	+/-0.2
15	North Dakota	6.3	+/-0.5
16	West Virginia	5.7	+/-0.4
17	Wisconsin	5.2	+/-0.2
18	District of Columbia	4.8	+/-0.6
19	Oregon	4.6	+/-0.3
19	South Dakota	4.6	+/-0.4
21	Minnesota	4.5	+/-0.2
22	Washington	3.9	+/-0.2
23	Oklahoma	3.8	+/-0.4

Thematic Maps



Geographic Comparison Tables

View this table...

▶ from 2006
from 2005

View...

as a [thematic map](#)

View this table...

for other
geographies

Other tables...

select another
table



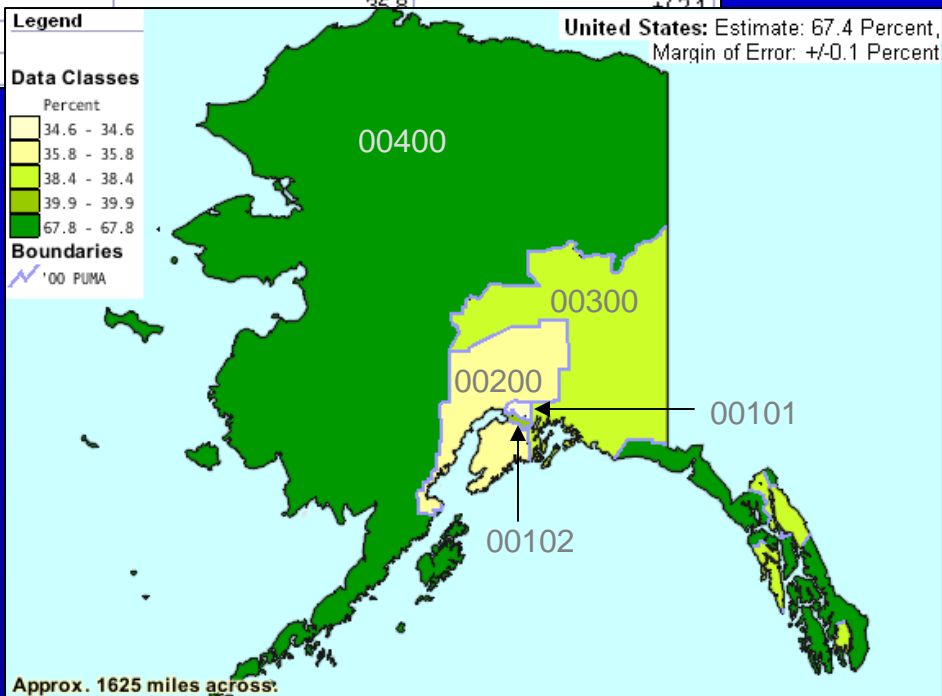
Alaska -- Public Use Microdata Area

GCT0601. Percent of the Native Population Born in their State of Residence
(Including Puerto Rico): 2006

Universe: Native population ?

Data Set: 2006 American Community Survey

Geographic area	Percent	Margin of Error
Alaska	41.8	+/-0.9
PUBLIC USE MICRODATA AREA		
PUMA 00101	34.6	+/-2.8
PUMA 00102	39.9	+/-2.2
PUMA 00200	35.8	+/-2.1
PUMA 00300		
PUMA 00400		



Public Use Microdata Sample

U.S. Census Bureau

People | Business | Geography | Newsroom | Subjects A to Z | Search@Census

American Community Survey (ACS)

ACS Main | About the ACS | Access Data | How to Use the Data | About the Data | Site Map | Search ACS

ensus > ACS Main > Access Data > Public Use Microdata (PUMS) |

Public Use Microdata Sample File (PUMS)

Available in this Section

- [PUMS Main](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 2006 in AFF](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 2005 in AFF](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 2004 in AFF](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 2000-2003](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 1998](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 1997](#)
- [PUMS for ACS 1996](#)
- [Download PUMS Using DataFerrett](#)
- [Subjects in the PUMS](#)
- [Top and Bottom Coded Values \(2006\)](#)
- [Top Coded Values\(2005\)](#)
- [Top Coded Values\(2004\)](#)

ACS Public Use Microdata Sample File(PUMS)

Microdata files from the American Community Survey show the full range of responses made on individual questionnaires. For example, how respondents answered questions on occupation, place of work, and so forth. The files contain records for a sample of all housing units and group quarters, with information on the characteristics of each housing unit and the people in the housing unit or group quarter.

All identifying information is removed to ensure confidentiality. The records selected are a sample of those housing units and group quarter persons that received the questionnaire. The questionnaire included questions on age, sex, tenure, income, education, language spoken at home, journey to work, occupation, condominium status, shelter costs, vehicles available, and other subjects. For more information click on the following link: [Subjects in the American Community Survey PUMS datasets](#)

The full range of population and housing information collected in the American Community Survey is available in the PUMS: For most questions asked on the questionnaire, the response is given in these files -- and you design tabulations to aggregate the responses in ways that are useful to you.

Summary Data and Microdata -- What's the Difference?

Help With Using PUMS!

PUMS estimates for selected housing and population characteristics are included here to assist data users in determining that they are correctly using the weights to compute estimates. These estimates are referred to as PUMS Control Counts. Data users who have doubts about the way they are computing estimates should attempt to reproduce the estimates that are provided in one of the following files. In addition, starting in 2006, we have added the standard error and the 90 percent margin of error based on replicate weights.

Tabulated 2006 PUMS Estimates for User Verification:

- [PUMS estimates](#) (SAS v8+ dataset)
- [PUMS estimates](#) (.lst text format)
- [PUMS estimates](#) (.csv format)

Note that some of these estimates may be different from the estimates for the same characteristics published in the American Factfinder. For an explanation of these differences, see the [2006 Accuracy of the PUMS](#) document.

Who Can Use PUMS?

Microdata users frequently want to look at relationships among variables not shown in the standard products offered by the Census Bureau. For example, what are the characteristics of unemployed homeowners? What characteristics do families with four or more

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/PUMS/>

DataFerret — <http://dataferrett.census.gov>

The screenshot shows the U.S. Census Bureau website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Subjects A to Z', 'FAQs', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Help'. Below this is a search bar with the text 'SEARCH: [radio buttons] FAQs [radio button] Census.gov' and a 'GO' button. To the right of the search bar is a 'Data Finders' section with a 'Population Clocks' sub-section displaying 'U.S. 303,304,418'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with several items: 'New on the Site', 'Data Tools' (circled in red), 'American FactFinder', 'Jobs@Census', 'Catalog', 'Publications', 'Are You in a Survey?', 'About the Bureau', 'Regional Offices', 'Doing Business with Us', and 'Related Sites'. Below the menu is a banner for 'Income, Poverty & Health Insurance Coverage'. At the bottom left, the text 'US CENSUS BUREAU Helping You Make Informed Decisions' is visible. The main content area is titled 'U.S. Census Bureau Data Access Tools' and contains several paragraphs and a list of links. A red arrow points from the 'Data Tools' menu item to the 'DataFerret' link in the list.

U.S. Census Bureau

SEARCH: [radio buttons] FAQs [radio button] Census.gov [input type="text"] GO

United States Census 2010 American Community Survey • Census 2000

2010 Census • News

American Community Survey • Census 2000

Data Finders

Population Clocks

U.S. 303,304,418

New on the Site

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US CENSUS BUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

U.S. Census Bureau

Data Access Tools

[The American FactFinder](#) - This interactive application supports the Economic Census, the American Housing Survey, and the latest Population Estimates.

[Census 2000 EEO Data Tool](#) - Using the web-based tool, you can select tabulations for various levels of data estimates available present information for various occupation groupings by race and ethnicity and sex.

Interactive Internet Tools

- [Censtats](#) - Applications available include: Census Tract Street Locator, County Business Patterns, and more.
- [QuickFacts](#) - State and County QuickFacts provides frequently requested Census Bureau information.
- [Online Mapping Tools](#) - using TIGER and the American FactFinder
- [US Gazetteer](#) - Place name, and ZIP code search engine.
- [DataFerret](#) is a tool and data librarian that searches and retrieves data across federal, state, and local government, creates complex tabulations and business graphics. Current Population Survey, Survey of Income and Program Participation, American Housing Survey, Small Area Income Poverty Estimates, Population Estimates, and more. DataFerret's newest tool, the [Community Economic Development HotReport](#) provides information on counties and the Employment & Training Administration's Workforce Innovation in Regional Growth Act.

U.S. Census Bureau

Subjects A to Z | FAQs | Privacy Policy | Help

SEARCH: FAQs Census.gov

A Child's Day

New on the Site

Data Tools

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United States Census 2010

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[American Community Survey](#) · [Census 2000](#)

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[Census Bureau Data and Emergency Preparedness](#) · [Census Calendar](#) · [Training](#) · [For Teachers & Students](#) · [Statistical Abstract](#) · [FedStats](#) · [USA.gov](#)

Data Finders

Population Clocks

U.S. 303,304,418
World 6,629,472,516
20:19 GMT (EST+5) Nov 06, 2007

Population Finder

city/ town, county, or zip

or state
Select a state

Find An Area Profile with QuickFacts

Select a state to begin
Select a state

Latest Economic Indicators

- Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders
- Construction Spending

Economic Indicators

Select an indicator
Select an indicator

USCENSUSBUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

Accessibility | Information Quality | Data Protection & Privacy Policy | FOIA | U.S. Dept of Commerce

American Fact Finder

U.S. Census Bureau

American FactFinder

Main Search Feedback FAQs Glossary Site Map Help

Your source for population, housing, economic, and geographic data

POPULATION FINDER
FACT SHEET
PEOPLE
HOUSING
BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT
ABOUT THE DATA
DATA SETS
DOWNLOAD CENTER
MAPS
TOOLS AND REFERENCES

Address Search...
Enter a [street address](#) to find Census 2000 data

- [Browser Notes](#)
- [Confidentiality](#)
- [Citing FactFinder](#)

! American FactFinder will be unavailable on Saturday, November 10th between 8:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for scheduled maintenance. All times are Eastern Standard Time. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Fast Access to Information

Get a **Fact Sheet** for your community...

city/town, county, or zip

state **GO**

[or select a state using a map >](#)

Getting Detailed Data

Decennial Census - taken every 10 years to collect information about the people and housing of the United States
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

See the [Count Question Resolution Program](#) for information on Census 2000 count corrections.

American Community Survey - an ongoing survey that provides data about your community every year
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Puerto Rico Community Survey - the equivalent of the American Community Survey for Puerto Rico
[learn more](#) | [get data](#) | [en español](#)

Population Estimates Program - population numbers between censuses
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Economic Census - profiles the U.S. economy every 5 years
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Annual Economic Surveys - data from the Annual Survey of Manufactures, County Business Patterns and Nonemployer Statistics
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Population Data

Population Finder
Use the [Population Finder](#) to view population trends for your community.

U.S. Population Clock

20:18 GMT (EST+5) Nov 06, 2007
303,304,415
more [population clocks >](#)

What's New

2006 Annual Survey of Manufactures data are now available as [Data Sets](#) in American FactFinder.

2006 American Community Survey (ACS) Race, Ethnic, and Ancestry data complete the release of the 2006 American Community Survey (ACS). Click the Fact Sheet, People, and Housing links on the left menu.

Updates to American FactFinder released August 28, 2007. [more >](#)

2006 Population Estimates for cities and towns are now available from the [Data Sets page](#) in American FactFinder.

2005 Nonemployer Statistics data are

<http://factfinder.census.gov>

USCENSUSBUREAU

ACS Data Products for 2006

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder website interface. At the top, there is a banner with the text "U.S. Census Bureau" and "American FactFinder" next to a magnifying glass icon. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for "Main", "Search", "Feedback", "FAQs", "Glossary", "Site Map", and "Help".

On the left side, there is a vertical navigation menu with the following categories: "POPULATION FINDER", "FACT SHEET", "PEOPLE", "HOUSING", "BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT", "ABOUT THE DATA", "DATA SETS", "DOWNLOAD CENTER", "MAPS", and "TOOLS AND REFERENCES". Under "DATA SETS", the "American Community Survey" is selected, and the "2006" year is highlighted with a red circle.

The main content area displays the "AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY" for the year 2006. It includes a description: "The American Community Survey is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The Puerto Rico Community Survey is the equivalent of the American Community Survey for Puerto Rico." Below this description is a link for "Errata Notes".

On the right side, there is a section titled "Other Resources" with a list of links: "American Community Survey Main Page", "Quality Measures", "Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) - download data and view documentation", "Download Center", and "Download 1996-1999 data via FTP". Below this is a link for "Explain Table and Map Formats".

The bottom section of the main content area shows the "2006 American Community Survey" data products. The "2006" year is highlighted with a red circle. The description for the 2006 data products is: "Includes results from both the American Community Survey and the Puerto Rico Community Survey. The 2006 data products include estimates of demographic, social, and economic characteristics of people, households and housing units (both occupied and vacant) for every state in the Nation, Puerto Rico, and most areas with a population of 65,000 or more." Below this description are links for "2006 Quick Guide" and "Important Notes About Using the Data".

On the right side of the 2006 data products section, there is a list of options to "Select from the following": "Data Profiles", "Selected Population Profiles", "Ranking Tables", "Subject Tables", "Detailed Tables", "Geographic Comparison Tables", "Thematic Maps", "Reference Maps", "Custom Table", "Enter a table number", "List all tables", "List all maps", "Download PUMS data", and "About this data set". The "Data Profiles" and "Selected Population Profiles" options are highlighted with a red circle.

Select Your Geography

Select Geography

You are here: [Main](#) ▶ [Data Sets](#) ▶ [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) ▶ **Geography** ▶ Tables ▶ Results
2006 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a selection method

list name search address search map geo within geo

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

..... Alaska Native Regional Corporation

Select a state

Alaska

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

All Alaska Native Regional Corporations
Cook Inlet Alaska Native Regional Corporation
Doyon Alaska Native Regional Corporation
Sealaska Alaska Native Regional Corporation

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add ▼

Current geography selections:

```
==== State =====  
Alaska  
==== Alaska Native Regional Corporation =====  
Cook Inlet Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska  
Doyon Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska  
Sealaska Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska
```

Download data for more than 7,000 geographic areas using the [Download Center](#).

Remove

Next ▶

Select the Table of Interest

Select Tables

You are here: [Main](#) ▶ [Data Sets](#) ▶ [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) ▶ [Geography](#) ▶ [Tables](#) ▶ Results
2006 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

■ Choose a table selection method

by subject by keyword show all tables

■ Select a subject and click 'Search'

.... Poverty (Families and Individuals) **Search**

■ Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

[explain table numbers](#)

C17012. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Number of Related Children Under 18 Years
B17013. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Household Type by Number of Persons in Family
C17013. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Number of Persons in Family
B17014. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Household Type by Number of Workers in Family
C17014. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Number of Workers in Family
B17015. Poverty Status of Families by Family Type by Soc. Sec. Inc. by Suppl. Sec. Inc. (SSI) and Pub. Assist. Inc.
C17015. Poverty Status of Families by Soc. Sec. Inc. by Suppl. Sec. Inc. (SSI) and Pub. Assist. Inc.
B17016. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Family Type by Work Experience of Householder and Spouse

Add ▼

Current table selections::

C17014. Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families by Number of Workers in Family

Remove

Show Result ▶

Important Considerations

- The Census Long-Form also had high margins of errors for small areas
- Very small areas will have issues with any sample survey
- Need to keep in mind options that will yield more reliable estimates

Learning More About the ACS

- Guide to the ACS Data Products
- Quality Measures
- ACS Design and Methodology Paper
- Data User's Handbook
- *Coming soon: The ACS Compass*

American Community Survey (ACS)



[ACS Main](#) | [About the ACS](#) | [Access Data](#) | [How to Use the Data](#) | [About the Data](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Search ACS](#)

[Census](#) > [ACS Main](#) > [How to Use the Data](#) |

How to Use the Data

Available in this Section

- [How to Use the Data Main](#)
- [Understanding Change Profiles](#)
- [Subject Definitions](#)
- [Accuracy of the Data](#)
- [Quality Measures](#)
- [ACS Group Quarters](#)
- [Errata](#)
- [Geography Explanation](#)
- [Past Notices ACS](#)
- [Past Notices Suppl. Surveys](#)
- [Guide to the ACS Data Products](#)
- [Using Data from the 2005 ACS \[PDF\]](#)
- [ACS Data User Training Guide](#)
- [ACS Summary File](#)

Section Overview

Each year we add new documentation to reflect changes in the survey or update the existing documents to help you understand the data better.

Subject Definitions

We have identified and defined 53 population variables, and 42 housing variables to help you understand the results of the American Community Survey. These [definitions](#) include information on how the data were collected and how they are presented in data products.

Accuracy of the Data

These documents provide data users with a basic understanding of the sample design, confidentiality, sampling error, nonsampling error, estimation methodology, and [accuracy of the data](#).

Errata

This section will keep you informed of any updates made to the data due to found [errors](#).

Guide to the ACS Data Products

This [online tool](#) allows users to obtain additional information about the 2005 data products. Users can obtain information about the set of published geographic areas within each state, lists of base tables by topic and lists of specific ranking tables, subject tables, and Selected Population Profiles. A variety of other links is available from this site with information about ACS data products.

ACS Summary File

This release of the [American Community Survey Summary File \(ACS-SF\)](#) is a prototype using the 2005 detailed tables (a.k.a. "base tables"). The Census Bureau ACS programming staff plans to begin implementation of the production summary file series no later than December 2007. This prototype of the ACS-SF is meant to provide data users with an early version of the ACS-SF.

Quality measures

The content in [quality measures](#) provides discussion and data tables at the state and national level on 4 key indicators of survey data quality -- response rates, coverage rates, sample size and allocation rates.

ACS Group Quarters

Definitions and Type Codes are available!

The content in [ACS Group Quarters](#) provides the definitions and type codes that help users understand the scope of American Survey Group Quarters data collection.

Geography Notes

Looking for a definition of PMSA? The [geography notes](#) gives a brief explanation of the Census Bureau's geographic hierarchy and common terms as well as details on specific geographic areas presented in the American Community Survey data products.

Using Data from the 2005 ACS

This [handbook for users](#) [PDF] covers a broad set of topics relating directly to the 2005 ACS. It covers the type of information produced from the ACS, including measures of quality that are critical for users to consider. Each of the specific data products is detailed in this guide, along with tips on how to access and interpret these data. A Spanish-language version of this guide is under development for the 2005 Puerto Rico Community Survey.

Using Data from the 2005 Puerto Rico Community Survey

This [handbook for users](#) [PDF] that covers a broad set of topics relating directly to the 2005 Puerto Rico Community Survey. It is available in PDF format and can be downloaded for use as a reference document.

ACS Data User Training Guide

These materials [overview of the ACS](#), including background on the survey and detailed information about the specific data products. We have organized these training materials into PowerPoint presentations that include exercises.

Guide to the ACS Data Products

U.S. Census Bureau

People | Business | Geography | Newsroom | Subjects A to Z | Search@Census

American Community Survey (ACS)

ACS Main | About the ACS | Access Data | How to Use the Data | About the Data | Site Map | Search ACS

Census > ACS Home > Using The Data > 2006 Guide to the Data Products

Using the Data: 2006 Guide to the Data Products

GEOGRAPHIC AREAS IN 2006

Select a state

[ACS 2006 Reference Maps](#)

Detailed Table Shells - by topic

- Age of Householder
- Ancestry
- Bedrooms
- Citizenship Status
- Class of Worker
- Disability
- Earnings
- Educational Attainment
- Employment Status
- Fertility
- Food Stamps
- Foreign-Born Place of Birth
- Grandparents
- Group Quarters
- Heating Fuel

SELECTED PRODUCTS:

- Ranking Tables
- Selected Population Profiles
- Subject Tables

FINDING BASIC DATA

Two easy steps to ACS data:

Go to the ACS page on the American FactFinder web site:
[ACS on American FactFinder.](#)

Click on any of the data products on the lower right of the Webpage.

Guide to the ACS Data Products from Other Years

- 2005 Guide to the Data Products
- 2004 Guide to the Data Products

Document download

-- Download these documents and guides:

- ACS 2006 Detailed Table Shells for August 28th Data Release (xls)
- ACS 2006 Detailed Table Shells for September 12th Data Release (xls)
- ACS 2006 Detailed Table Shells for September 27th Data Release (xls)
- All ACS 2006 Detailed Table Shells (xls)
- ACS 2006 Data Product Geographic Restriction (xls)
- ACS 2006 Geographical Areas (xls)**
- ACS 2006 Iteration List (xls)
- ACS 2006 Overview (pdf)
- ACS 2006 Geographic Overview (pdf)
- ACS 2006 Release Schedule (pdf)
- ACS 2006 SPP (xls)
- ACS 2006 Table IDs (xls)
- ACS 2006 at a Glance (pdf)
- ACS 2006 in American FactFinder Quick Guide (pdf)
- Instructions for Applying Statistical Testing to ACS Data (pot)
- SF3 detailed tables with comparable ACS tables (xls)**
- Changes to the 2006 Data Products - Complete lists of New, Removed, and Modified Tables (xls)

Quality Measures

Using the Data: [Quality Measures](#)

Available in this Section

[Using the Data Main](#)

[Understanding Change Profiles](#)

[Subject Definitions](#)

[Accuracy of the Data](#)

Quality Measures

Sample Size:

[Data](#)

[Definitions](#)

Coverage Rates:

[Data](#)

[Definitions](#)

Response Rates:

[Data](#)

[Definitions](#)

Item Allocation Rates:

[Data](#)

[Definitions](#)

[ACS Group Quarters](#)

[Errata](#)

[Geography Explanation](#)

[Past Notices ACS](#)

[Past Notices Suppl. Surveys](#)

[Guide to the ACS Data Products](#)

The quality measures provided in this section illustrate the steps the Census Bureau takes to ensure that ACS survey data are accurate and reliable.

1. How large was the sample used to produce the ACS estimates?

Sample Size:

[Sample Size Definitions](#)

2. How well does the ACS cover the population?

Coverage Rates:

[Coverage Rates Definitions](#)

3. What was the response to the survey?

Response Rates:

[Response Rates Definitions](#)

4. How complete were the data used to produce a specific estimate?

Item Allocation Rates:

[Item Allocation Rates Definitions](#)

The ACS produces survey data each year to measure key social, economic, and housing characteristics about the U.S. population. The four questions above identify four important aspects of survey quality. These quality measures are produced annually to accompany each ACS data release and describe the quality of those data. The quality measures are available at national and state levels. Clicking on "definitions" will provide additional information on each of these measures, including why the measure is important and how it was calculated.

Data for Puerto Rico are available starting with 2005. You can access the Puerto Rico data in two different ways. If you select the 'All States' view off the 'Select Nation/State' pick list, Puerto Rico data are shown at the bottom of the view. You can also select Puerto Rico directly at the bottom of the 'Select Nation/State' pick list. The numbers and rates for the United States do not include Puerto Rico.

Data User's Handbook

2006 Data Users Handbook

The American Community Survey

INTRODUCTION

America is changing, and so is the Census. In 1790, the year of the first census, 3.9 million individuals were counted. Over two hundred years later, the number is more than 300 million. As our Nation expands, so do its needs, especially the need for more current and up-to-date information. The Census Bureau is using a powerful new tool to adjust to this increased need - the American Community Survey (ACS).

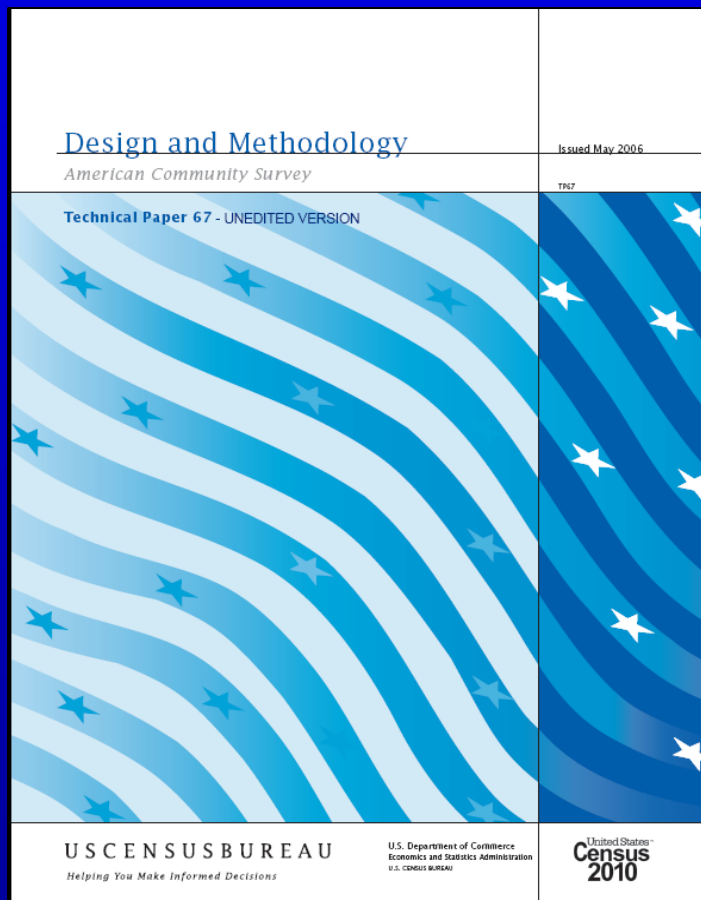
The American Community Survey is a part of the Decennial Census Program. The decennial census takes place every ten years, the next being conducted in 2010. The 2010 Census will continue to count the population to support the Constitutional mandate to provide population counts needed to apportion the seats in the U. S. House of Representatives. States develop redistricting plans based on this important information. The ACS will not provide these counts. The ACS will provide annually updated data on the characteristics of population and housing. The Text Box "*What is the American Community Survey?*" provides more information on the ACS.

This handbook includes a broad set of information relating directly to the 2006 ACS. It covers the type of information produced from the ACS, including measures of quality that are critical for users to consider. It explains specifically which geographic areas will receive data products from the 2006 ACS and how users can determine if a specific area is eligible to receive ACS products in 2007. Details on each of the specific 2006 ACS data products, along with tips on how to access and use these products, and a timetable for the 2006 ACS data releases are included as well. And, this handbook includes guidance on the use and interpretation of ACS estimates along with references and contacts for users who need additional help.

What is the American Community Survey?

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a new approach to producing critical information about the characteristics of local communities. It will eliminate the need for a long form in the 2010 Census and is a key part of the Census Bureau's Decennial Census Program. The ACS publishes social, housing, and economic characteristics for demographic groups covering a broad spectrum of geographic areas in the United States and Puerto Rico. The ACS shifted from a demonstration program with a different sample design and sample size to the full sample size and design in 2005. It became the largest household survey in the United States, with an annual sample size of about 3 million addresses. Every year the ACS can support the release of single-year estimates for geographic areas with populations of 65,000 or more. The ACS will accumulate sample over 3-year and 5-year intervals to produce estimates for smaller geographic areas including census tracts and block groups. For more information about the ACS, you can refer to the *ACS Design and Methodology* report at www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/tp67.pdf

ACS Design & Methodology Paper



Important reference document covering all methods used in producing ACS data

Available at
<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/tp67.pdf>

Coming Soon: *The ACS Compass*

- A set of 11 handbooks directed at specific audiences
 - General users
 - State and local governments
 - Rural areas
 - Tribal governments
 - Media
 - Business community
 - High school teachers
 - University researchers
 - Congressional staff
 - Federal government agencies
 - PUMS users

For More Information

For Questions on ACS:

Pamela Klein: Pamela.M.Klein@census.gov

ACS Communications, Information and Education Staff

For Questions on ACS Operations in Alaska:

Ralph Lee: Ralph.J.Lee@census.gov

Director, Seattle Regional Office

American Community Survey Office

1-888-346-9682

www.census.gov/acs/www

<http://ask.census.gov>