2000

Introduction to Census 2000 Data Products

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Census 2000 is the largest peacetime effort in the history of the United States. Information about the 118 million housing units and 275 million people across the United States will be available in a variety of formats and media, including the Internet, CD-ROMs, DVDs, and printed reports. This brochure provides a brief introduction to the information available from Census 2000, Census 2000 geography, maps, and data products. Visit our Web site at *http://www.census.gov* for more information.

Information Available From the 22nd Census of Population and Housing

100-percent characteristics: A limited number of questions are asked of every person and housing unit in the United States. Information is available on:

Household relationship
Sex
Age
Hispanic or Latino origin
Race
Tenure (whether the home is owned or rented)
Vacancy characteristics

Sample characteristics: Additional questions are asked of a sample (generally 1-in-6) of persons and housing units. Data are provided on:

Population
Marital status
Place of birth, citizenship, and year of entry
School enrollment and educational attainment
Ancestry
Migration (residence in 1995)
Language spoken at home and ability to speak English
Veteran status
Disability
Grandparents as caregivers
Labor force status
Place of work and journey to work
Occupation, industry, and class of worker
Work status in 1999
Income in 1999

Housing
Value of home or monthly rent paid
Units in structure
Year structure built
Number of rooms and number of bedrooms
Year moved into residence
Plumbing and kitchen facilities
Telephone service
Vehicles available
Heating fuel
Farm residence
Utilities, mortgage, taxes, insurance, and fuel costs

United States Census 2000

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

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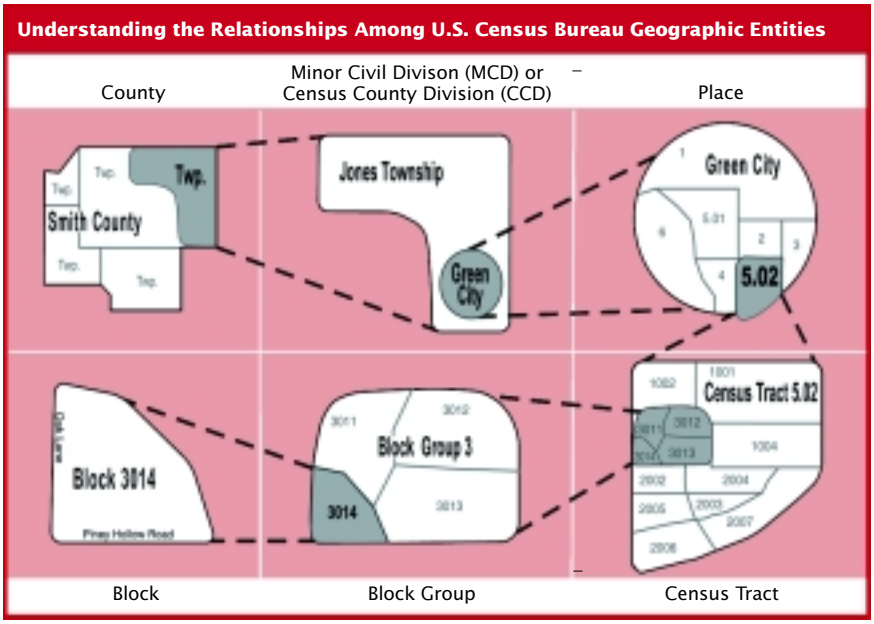
Census Small-Area Geography



Census 2000 Geographic Areas

American Indian/Alaska Native areas and Hawaiian home lands. These areas include the legal federally recognized American Indian reservations, off-reservation trust land entities, tribal subdivisions, Alaska Native Regional Corporations, and Hawaiian home lands. These areas also include the tribal-designated statistical areas, Oklahoma tribal statistical areas, and Alaska Native village statistical areas that are defined for federally recognized tribes without a legal land base. The boundaries of federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native areas are provided by the tribal governments. The State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home Lands provides the boundaries for Hawaiian home lands. The boundaries of state-recognized American Indian reservations and state-designated American Indian statistical areas (for state-recognized tribes without a reservation) are provided by a state liaison designated by the state's governor.

Blocks. Generally bounded by streets, legal boundaries, and other features, a block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates data. Approximately 8.5 million blocks are identified in Census 2000.

Block groups (BGs). Block groups are a collection of census blocks within a census tract, sharing the same first digit of their four-digit identifying numbers.

Census tracts. These small statistical subdivisions (averaging about 4,000 persons) of counties generally have stable boundaries and, when first established, were designed to have relatively homogeneous demographic characteristics.

Counties and equivalent areas. These are the primary divisions of most states, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. They include counties in 48 states; parishes in Louisiana; boroughs and census areas in Alaska; municipios in Puerto Rico; independent cities in Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia; and other entities in the Island Areas.

Metropolitan areas (MAs). An MA consists of a large population nucleus of 50,000 population or greater, together with adjacent communities having a high degree of social and economic integration with that core. Metropolitan areas comprise at least one county, except in New England, where cities and towns are the basic geographic units.

Minor Civil Divisions (MCDs)/ Census County Divisions (CCDs). MCDs are legally defined county subdivisions such as towns and townships. In 21 states where MCDs do not exist or are not adequate for reporting subcounty statistics, the Census Bureau, in cooperation with state and local officials, delineates county subdivisions known as Census County Divisions.

Places. Incorporated places are concentrations of population such as cities, that have legally prescribed boundaries, powers, and functions. Other population centers without legally defined corporate limits or corporate powers are defined by the Census Bureau in cooperation with state officials and local data users. These are called Census-Designated Places and are identified in data tables by the acronym CDP following the place name.

States and equivalent areas. Besides the 50 states, the Census Bureau treats the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands) as state equivalents for statistical presentation.

Urban areas. Urban areas consist of urbanized areas (UAs) and other urban entities. A UA consists of densely settled territory with a population of 50,000 or more inhabitants. Other urban areas have from 2,500 to 49,999 population.

Voting districts. Voting districts represent areas created for the purpose of conducting elections. They include election districts, precincts, wards, polling areas, and other types of electoral units submitted to the Census Bureau by states participating in the Redistricting Data Program.

ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA™). ZCTAs are approximate representations of five- or three-digit U.S. Postal Service ZIP Code service areas. ZCTAs are composed of census blocks and represent the majority ZIP Code for addresses within a census block.

Census 2000 Data Products Available in Many Forms

Census 2000 Data Products

The decennial census yields a wealth of data, which have virtually unlimited applications. A complete line of Census 2000 data products will soon be available to meet these requirements.

Detailed results of Census 2000 will be contained in a series of five files that you can access through the **Internet** and on **CD-ROM** or **DVD**. Several related electronic and print products include **Demographic Profiles** of most geographic areas; **Quick Tables** that allow users to choose from among approximately 50 table shells, then specify the geographic area and the universe or population subgroup (such as the African American or the Hispanic population); and approximately 30 **Geographic Comparison Tables** that will enable users to compare key data items across geographic areas. In addition, there will be three series of **reports** available in print and in Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet.

Internet. For easy access to all Census 2000 information, click on American FactFinder™ on the Census Bureau's home page (*www.census.gov*). Generally, most data products will be released first on the Internet, followed by subsequent releases in other formats.

CD-ROM and DVD. Most Census 2000 tabulations and maps will be available on CD-ROMs and/or DVDs. Viewing software will be included. CD-ROMs may be ordered by phone through the Census Bureau's Customer Services Center on 301-457-4100, or by clicking on *Catalog* from the Census Bureau's home page.

Printed reports will be sold through the U.S. Government Printing Office. Much of the information in these series will be available earlier in other data products.

The following release dates are preliminary and may be revised later.

Census 2000 Redistricting (Public Law 94-171) Summary File. The first Census 2000 data files to be released will be the information required for local redistricting. The data will include tabulations for the total population and the population 18 years old and over for 63 race categories, Hispanic or Latino, and race by not Hispanic or Latino. Detailed tabulations will present data down to the block level, and will be available through the Internet and through two CD-ROM series (state and national files). One Quick Table and a Geographic Comparison Table will be based on this redistricting file.

Note: The Public Law 94-171 numbers are expected to reflect corrections for possible overcounts and undercounts using measurements from the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation survey. To fulfill the requirements of Public Law 105-119 (enacted in 1997), the Census Bureau also must make publicly available a second version of these data that does not include the statistical corrections for overcounts and undercounts measured in the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation.

Planned release date:
March 2001

Summary File 1 (SF 1) presents counts and basic cross-tabulations of information collected from all people and housing units. This information includes age, sex, race, Hispanic or Latino origin, household relationship, and whether the residence is owned or rented. Data will be available down to the block level for many tabulations, but only to the census-tract level for others. Summaries will also be included for other geographic areas such as ZCTAs and Congressional Districts.

Related products include Demographic Profiles that will give a snapshot of the geographic area; Quick Tables; Geographic Comparison Tables, and the first of the printed report series. (See below.)

Planned release date:
June 2001-June 2002

Summary File 2 (SF 2) will also contain 100-percent population and housing characteristics, but the tables in this file will be iterated for a selected list of detailed race and Hispanic- or Latino-origin groups, as well as American Indian and Alaska Native tribes. For this file, the lowest level of geography will be the census tract, and there will be a population-size threshold before information is shown for a particular group. Various Quick Tables and Geographic Comparison Tables will be derived from Summary File 2.

Planned release date:
September 2001-July 2002

Summary File 3 (SF 3) will be the first release of the information collected on a sample basis. Data will be provided down to the block group for many tabulations but only down to the census tract for others. SF 3 will also include data by ZIP Code Tabulation Area and Congressional District. Related products include a three-page profile report, various Quick Tables and Geographic Comparison Tables, and a printed report series, developed from the sample data.

Planned release date:
June-September 2002

Summary File 4 (SF 4) will include tabulations of the population and housing data collected from a sample of the population. Just as in Summary File 2, the tables on SF 4 will be iterated for a selected list of race and Hispanic- or Latino-origin groups, for American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, as well as for ancestry groups. Various Quick Tables and Geographic Comparison Tables will be derived from Summary File 4.

Planned release date:
October 2002-February 2003

Microdata

Microdata allow users to prepare their own customized tabulations and cross tabulations of most population and housing subjects, using specially prepared microdata files. These files are the actual

responses to census questionnaires, but with names or addresses removed and the geography sufficiently broad to protect confidentiality. Two ways to access microdata will be available.

Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) Files. Two PUMS files are planned for release on CD-ROM: a 1-percent and a 5-percent sample.

Planned release date:
1-percent file: 2002
5-percent file: 2003

Advance Query Function. Users of the American FactFinder™ will be able to prepare tabulations online, using the full database of all individual responses, subject to restrictions and filters required to protect the confidentiality of individual responses.

Printed Reports

There will be three series of printed reports with one report per state and a national summary volume.

***Summary Population and Housing Characteristics* (PHC-1).** This series, containing information collected on a 100-percent basis, will present information for states, counties, places, and other areas. Comparable to the 1990 CPH-1 report, *Summary Population and Housing Characteristics*, it will also be available on the Internet.

Planned release date: 2002

***Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics* (PHC-2).** This publication will include information on the sample population and housing subjects for the same geographic areas and information and will be comparable to the 1990 CPH-5 census report series, *Summary Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics* (1990 CPH-5). It will also be available on the Internet.

Planned release date: 2003

***Population and Housing Unit Totals* (PHC-3).** This publication includes population and housing unit totals for Census 2000 as well as the 1990 and 1980 censuses. Information on area measurements and population density will be included. This series will include one printed report for each state plus a national report; it will also be available on the Internet.

Planned release date: 2003

Maps and Geographic Products

A variety of maps, boundary files, and other geographic products will be available to help users locate and identify geographic areas. These products will be available in various media such as the Internet, CD-ROM, DVD, and, in the case of maps, as print-on-demand products.

TIGER/Line® files. These files contain geographic boundaries and codes, streets, address ranges, and coordinates for use with geographic information systems for mapping and other applications.

Planned release date: 2001

Census block maps. These maps show the boundaries, names, and codes for American Indian/Alaska Native areas, and Hawaiian home lands, states, counties, county subdivisions, places, census tracts, and census blocks. This map series will also be produced by specified governmental units (e.g., American Indian and Alaska Native areas, and Hawaiian home lands, counties, incorporated places, and functioning minor civil divisions).

Planned release date: 2001

Census tract outline maps. These county maps show the boundaries and numbers of census tracts and names of features underlying the boundaries. They also show the boundaries, names, and codes for American Indian and Alaska Native areas, counties, county subdivisions, and places.

Planned release date: 2001

Reference maps. This series of tabulation reference map types shows the boundaries for tabulations areas including: states, counties, American Indian reservations, county subdivisions (MCDs/CCDs) incorporated places, and Census-Designated Places. This series includes the state and county subdivision outline maps, urbanized area maps, and metropolitan area maps. These maps vary in size from wall to page size.

Planned release date: 2001-2003

Generalized boundary files. These files are designed for use in a geographic information system (GIS) or similar computer mapping software. Boundary files are available for most levels of census geography.

Planned release date: 2001-2002

Statistical maps. Census 2000 data will be displayed on colorful maps on such topics as population density and population distribution.

Planned release date: 2001-2003

For More Information About Census 2000 and Census 2000 Data Products:

- Visit the Census Bureau's Internet site at *http://www.census.gov* or call our Customer Services Center at 301-457-4100.
- Visit your local library. Many major university and public libraries participate in the Federal Depository Library Program and receive copies of Census Bureau reports and CD-ROMs.
- Call or visit one of 1,800 state and local planning groups, libraries, chambers of commerce, and others that participate in a Census Bureau data center program. For a complete list see: *http://www.census.gov/clo.*
- Call or visit a Census Bureau Regional Office. For the address and phone number of the regional office near you, visit: *www.census.gov/field/www/.*