How to Find

American Community Survey Data in American Factfinder (AFF)

Issued July 2009

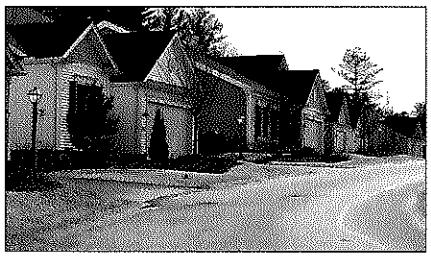
American FactFinder, the U.S. Census Bureau's primary online data access tool, is the source for population, housing, economic, and geography data produced by the Census Bureau. Look inside for ways to use AFF to access American Community Survey data products, such as data tables, detailed profiles, thematic maps, and Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files.

The American Community Survey in AFF

Subjects Found in American Community Survey

Housing

- Vehicles Available
- Year Structure Built
- Units in Structure
- Year Moved Into Unit
- Rooms
- Bedrooms
- Kitchen Facilities
- Plumbing Facilities
- House Heating Fuel
- Telephone Service Available
- Farm Residence
- Tenure (Owner/Renter)
- Housing Value
- Rent
- Selected Monthly Owner Costs



Population

- Age
- Sex
- Hispanic Origin
- Race
- Relationship to Householder (e.g., Spouse)
- Income
- Food Stamps Benefit
- Labor Force Status
- Industry, Occupation, and Class of Worker
- Place of Work and Journey to Work
- Work Status Last Year
- Marital Status
- Marital History
- Fertility
- Grandparents as Caregivers
- Ancestry
- Place of Birth
- Citizenship
- Year of Naturalization
- Educational Attainment
- Residence One Year Ago
- Veteran Status
- Period of Military Service
- Disability
- Undergraduate Field of Degree
- And Other Subjects!

The American Community Survey (ACS) is the largest household survey in the United States and provides the most up-to-date social, economic, housing and demographic data for communities in the U.S.

The area to the left displays the many subjects produced from the ACS data collection. Data for the subjects are shown in a variety of ways and inside you will find descriptions of the ACS data products available through AFF.

Similar information is also available for Puerto Rico through the Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS).

<www.factfinder.census.gov>

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

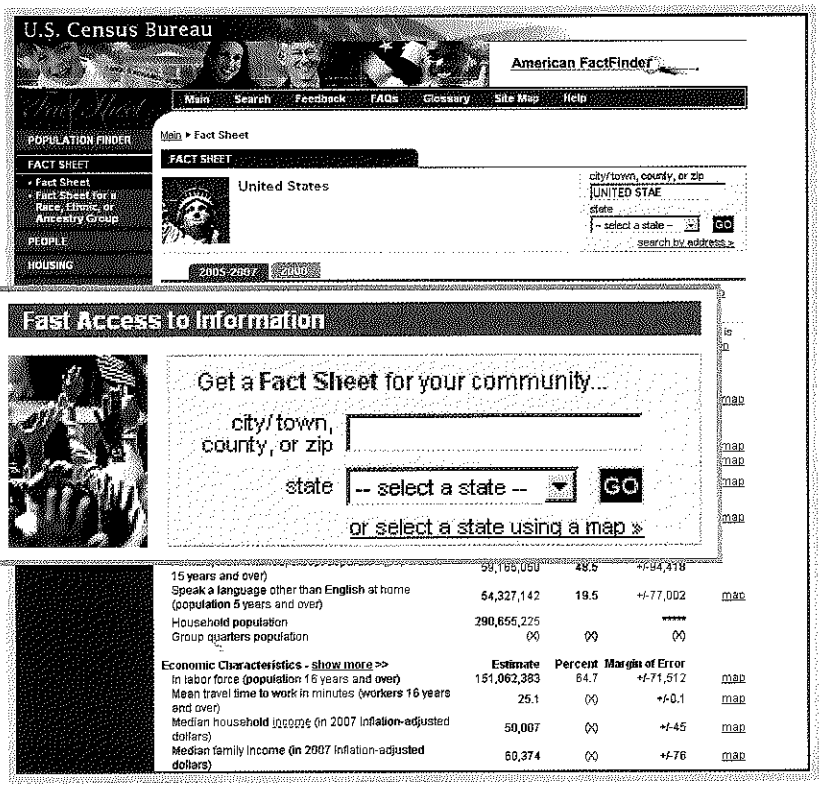
United States Census 2010

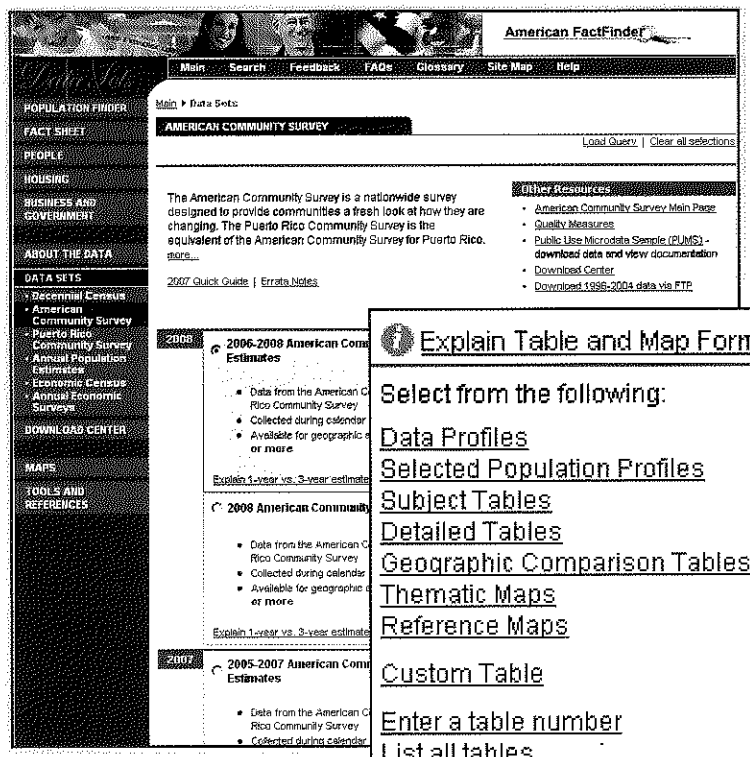
Inside American FactFinder (AFF)

AFF–QUICK AND EASY

Go to <www.factfinder.census.gov>, under "Fast Access to Information", and simply type in your city/town or county to access a fact sheet of demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics. The fact sheet shows you the latest ACS multiyear data available for your area.

If ACS data are not available for your city or county (because the population is below 20,000) AFF will automatically display Census 2000 data. Additional tables and maps are available in the people and housing sections.





ACS Data Products in AFF

Data Profiles–Discover highlights of demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics including a narrative summary with graphs.

Selected Population Profiles–View highlighted country of birth characteristics for race, ethnic, and ancestry groups that meet a population threshold.

Ranking Tables–Compare key indicators across states.

Subject Tables–See more detail on frequently requested information for a single geographic area.

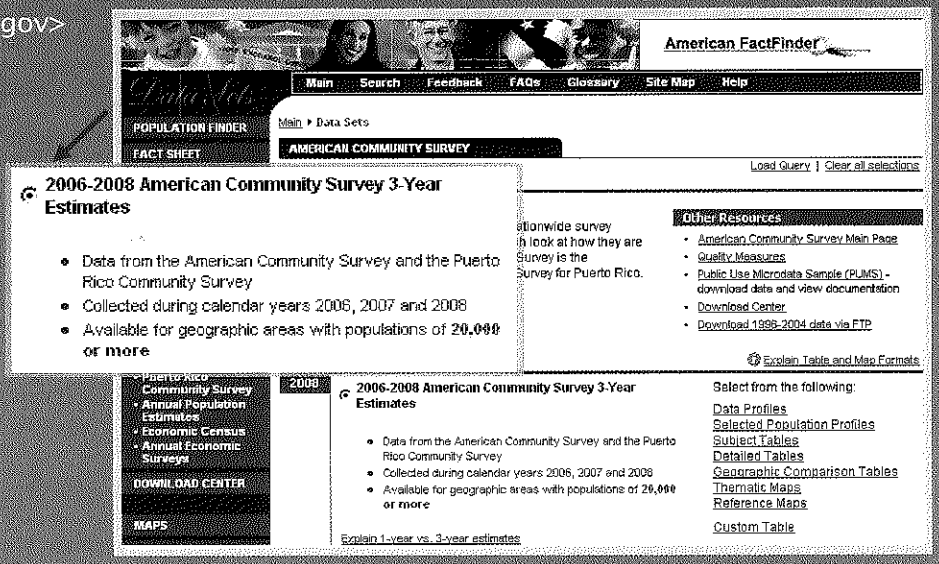
Detailed Tables–Access hundreds of data tables indexed by topic and available geography.

Geographic Comparison Tables–Compare data across available geographies in the same table (i.e., all the available counties in a state by topic).

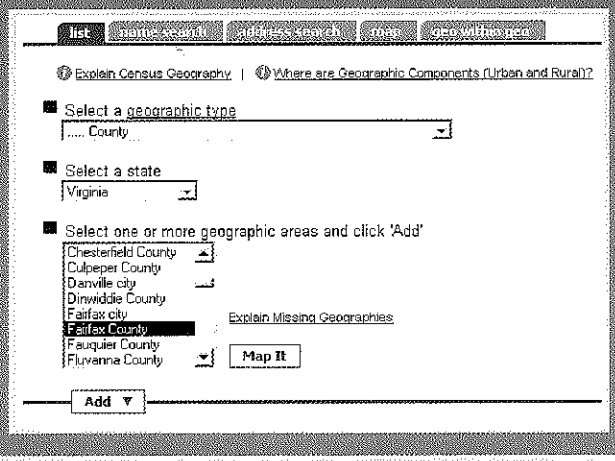
Steps to Accessing ACS Data

Get Started--<www.factfinder.census.gov>

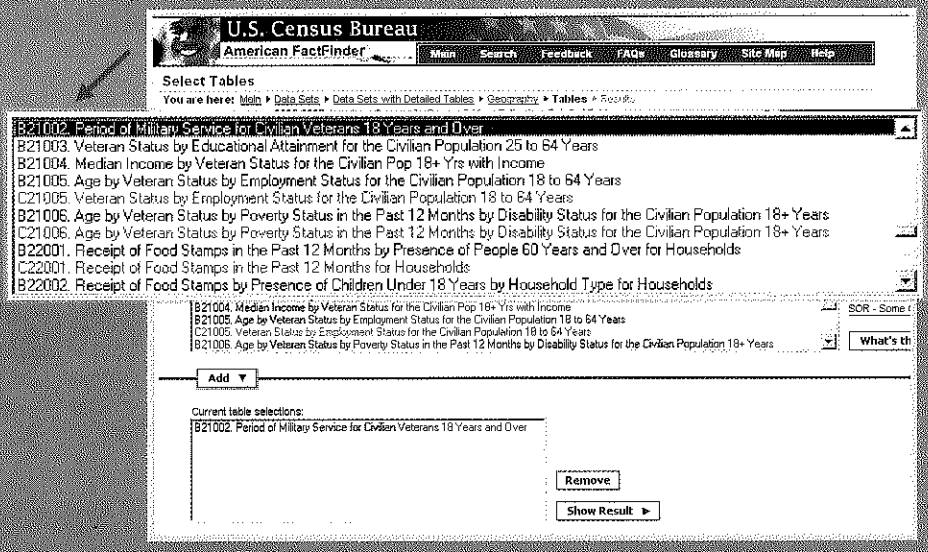
1
- Choose **Data Sets**, then **American Community Survey**
- For example, choose **2006-2008 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates**
- Click **Detailed Tables**



2
- **Select** the **Georgraphic Type**; for example, choose **County**
- Select the specific **State**, choose **Virginia**
- Select the specific **County** choose **Fairfax County**
- Click the **Add** button to move the area to the [**Current Geography Selections**]
- Click **Next** to move to step 3



3
- Choose the **by Keyword** tab
- Type **Veteran Status** in the search box; click **Search**
- Select table **B21002: Period of Military Service for Civilian Veterans 18 Years and Over**
- Click the **Add** button to move the table to [**Current Table Selections**]
- Click the **Show Result** button to see the table for Fairfax County, Virginia



Learn More About ACS Data

The ACS Compass Products:

The series includes three dynamic components that are user-friendly and easily accessed by the Internet:

- User-specific handbooks
- Fully-scripted PowerPoint presentations
- E-learning

The ACS Compass Products use illustrated examples, case studies, practice exercises, and other real-world applications intended to help you get the most out of ACS data.

Go to <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/Compass/compass series.html> to access these materials.

Customer Service Center:

Call the Census Bureau's Customer Services Center at 301-763-INFO (4636) or 1-800-923-8282 during normal business hours, Eastern time.

American FactFinder FAQs:

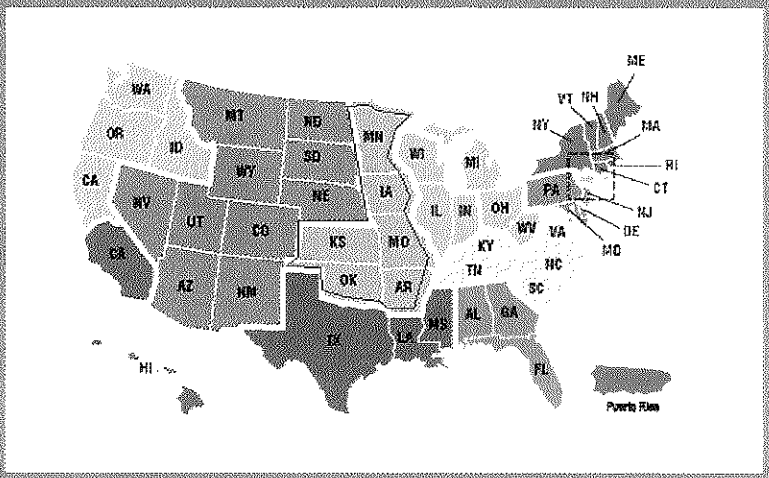
- Click the FAQs link at the top of any American FactFinder page.
- Visit the Questions and Answers page via the Contact Us link at the bottom of any American FactFinder page.

Regional Offices Partnership and Data Services:

Call or visit Partnership and Data Services in your Census Bureau Regional Office for local data and assistance, workshops, and presentations.

Atlanta	1-800-424-6974	Detroit	1-800-432-1495
Boston	1-800-562-5721	Kansas City	1-800-728-4748
Charlotte	1-800-331-7360	Los Angeles	1-800-992-3530
Chicago	1-800-865-6384	New York	1-800-991-2520
Dallas	1-800-835-9752	Philadelphia	1-800-262-4236
Denver	1-800-852-6159	Seattle	1-800-233-3308

Go to <www.census.gov/field/www> for a complete listing of regional offices with contact information.



Four ways to find answers to your ACS Data questions.

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