

## Selected Census Data Concepts for Grant Writers



### SOCIAL:

#### *What is a Household?*

A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. Two kinds of households:

- **Family Households** – A family consists of a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family.
- **Nonfamily Household** -- A householder living alone or with nonrelatives only. Same-sex couple households with no relatives of the householder present are tabulated in nonfamily households.

[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data\\_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2011\\_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2011_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf)

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/help/en/american\\_factfinder\\_help.htm#glossary/glossary.htm](http://factfinder2.census.gov/help/en/american_factfinder_help.htm#glossary/glossary.htm)

#### *How does the Census Bureau classify Race and Hispanic Origin?*

- **Race:** Starting in 1997, OMB required federal agencies to use a minimum of five race categories: White, Black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. For respondents unable to identify with any of these five race categories, OMB approved the Census Bureau's inclusion of a sixth category—Some Other Race.
- **Origin:** is viewed as the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States.
- **Ethnicity:** OMB requires federal agencies to use a minimum of two ethnicities: Hispanic or Latino and Not Hispanic or Latino.
- **Hispanics or Latino:** "Hispanic or Latino" refers to a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race. Thus, the percent Hispanic should not be added to percentages for racial categories.
- **Non-Hispanic White alone persons:** are individuals who responded "No, not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino" and who reported "White" as their only entry in the race question. Tallies that show race categories for Hispanics and non-Hispanics separately are also available.

[http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg\\_1997standards](http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/fedreg_1997standards); <http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/briefs/c2010br-02.pdf>

## **ECONOMIC:**

### ***What is the difference between Household and Family Income?***

**Household Income**– This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

**Family Income** – In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.

### ***How does the Census Bureau define Poverty?***

**Poverty**-Following the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB's) Directive 14, the Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family (and every individual in it) or unrelated individual is considered in poverty.

**Poverty Threshold:** <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/index.html>

[http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data\\_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2011\\_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/SubjectDefinitions/2011_ACSSubjectDefinitions.pdf)

[http://factfinder2.census.gov/help/en/american\\_factfinder\\_help.htm#glossary/glossary.htm](http://factfinder2.census.gov/help/en/american_factfinder_help.htm#glossary/glossary.htm)







## AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY TABLE NUMBERS AND WHAT THEY MEAN

Since the release of the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) data, detailed tables, as well as other tables and maps, use the same numbering scheme.

An ACS detailed table number consists of up to **five elements**:

1. An initial character which is either "B" or "C."

- A "B" is used for base tables. These tables provide the most detailed estimates on all topics and for all geographies.
- A "C" is used for a collapsed version of a "B" table. A "C" table is very similar to a "B" table with the same number (e.g., C07001 and B07001), but two or more lines from the "B" table have been collapsed to a single line in the "C" table. For example, the lines "75 to 79 years", "80 to 84 years" and "85 years and over" from a "B" table may be collapsed to a single line of "75 years and over" in a "C" table.

\*Note: Not every "B" table has a collapsed version.

2. The next two characters identify the subject of the table.

- 01 = Age and Sex
- 02 = Race
- 03 = Hispanic or Latino Origin
- 04 = Ancestry
- 05 = Foreign Born; Citizenship; Year or Entry; Nativity
- 06 = Place of Birth
- 07 = Residence 1 Year Ago; Migration
- 08 = Journey to Work; Workers' Characteristics; Commuting
- 09 = Children; Household Relationship
- 10 = Grandparents; Grandchildren
- 11 = Household Type; Family Type; Subfamilies
- 12 = Marital Status and History
- 13 = Fertility
- 14 = School Enrollment
- 15 = Educational Attainment
- 16 = Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English
- 17 = Poverty
- 18 = Disability
- 19 = Income (Households and Families)
- 20 = Earnings (Individuals)
- 21 = Veteran Status
- 22 = Food Stamps
- 23 = Employment Status; Work Experience; Labor Force
- 24 = Industry; Occupation; Class of Worker
- 25 = Housing Characteristics
- 26 = Group Quarters
- 27 = Health Insurance
- 98 = Quality Measures
- 99 = Imputation table for any subject

B = Base (version of table)  
17 = Poverty (subject)  
001 = Series (unique identifier)

ID	Table, File or Document Title
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE

3. The next 3 digits are a sequential number, such as 001 or 002, to uniquely identify the table within a given subject.

4. For selected tables, an alphabetic suffix follows to indicate that a table is repeated for the nine major race and Hispanic or Latino groups:

- A = White Alone
- B = Black or African American Alone
- C = American Indian and Alaska Native Alone
- D = Asian Alone
- E = Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone
- F = Some Other Race Alone
- G = Two or More Races
- H = White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino
- I = Hispanic or Latino

B = Base (version of table)  
17 = Poverty (subject)  
001 = Series (unique identifier)  
A = White Alone (selected tables)

ID	Table, File or Document Title
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001A	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE (WHITE ALONE)
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001A	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE (WHITE ALONE)
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001A	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE (WHITE ALONE)
<input type="checkbox"/> B17001A	POVERTY STATUS IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS BY SEX BY AGE (WHITE ALONE)

5. For selected tables, a final alphabetic suffix "PR" follows to indicate a table used for Puerto Rico geographies only. These Puerto Rico-specific tables exist because for some geography-based subjects, the wording of the Puerto Rico Community Survey questionnaire differs slightly but significantly from the American Community Survey questionnaire. The matching table used for United States geographies has the same ID but without the trailing "PR" (e.g., B06014 and B06014PR).

Reference: census.gov: American Community Survey FAQs

Link: <https://askacs.census.gov/faq.php?id=5000&faqlid=1687>

