

## ***C.5: Glossary of census definitions***

### **Ability to speak English**

For a respondent who speaks a language other than English at home, refers to his/her assessment of his ability to speak English, from "very well" to "not at all."

Related term: [Language spoken at home](#)

### **Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (A.C.E.)**

A survey designed to measure the undercount/overcount of the census.

### **Adopted child**

A child legally taken into a family to be raised by that family.

Related terms: [Foster children](#), [Own children](#), [Related children](#)

### **Advanced query**

A planned capability in American FactFinder that will enable users to construct tabulations from the full microdata files from Census 2000. The tabulations must pass confidentiality filters based on rules for electronic disclosure limitation developed by the Census Bureau.

Related term: [Microdata files](#)

### **Age**

Age is generally derived from date of birth information, and is based on the age of the person in complete years.

### **Alaska Native Regional Corporation (ANRC)**

A corporate entity organized to conduct both business and nonprofit affairs of Alaska Natives pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

### **Alaska Native village statistical area (ANVSA)**

A statistical entity that represents the densely settled extent of an Alaska Native village, which is a local governmental unit in Alaska. An ANVSA is delineated for the Census Bureau by officials of the Alaska Native village or Alaska Native Regional Corporation in which the ANVSA is located for the purpose of presenting decennial census data.

### **American Community Survey (ACS)**

The American Community Survey is a large, continuous demographic survey conducted by the Census Bureau that will eventually provide accurate and up-to-date profiles of America's communities every year. Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households -- that is, about each person and the housing unit itself. The survey produces annual and multi-year estimates of population and housing characteristics and produces data for small areas, including tracts and population subgroups.

Questions asked are similar to those on the decennial census long form.

Related term: [Continuous Measurement System](#)

### **American FactFinder (AFF)**

An electronic system for access and dissemination of Census Bureau data on the internet. The system offers prepackaged data products and user-selected data tables and maps from Census 2000, the 1990 Census of Population and Housing, the 1997 Economic Census, and the American Community Survey. The system was formerly known as the Data Access and Dissemination System (DADS).

### **American Indian Area, Alaska Native Area, Hawaiian Home Land (AIANAHH)**

A Census Bureau term referring to these types of geographic areas: federal and state American Indian reservations, American Indian off-reservation trust land (individual or tribal), Oklahoma tribal statistical area (in 1990 tribal jurisdictional statistical area), tribal designated statistical area, state designated American Indian statistical area, Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native village statistical area, and Hawaiian home lands.

**American Indian off-reservation trust land**

Lands held in trust by the federal government for either a tribe or an individual member of that tribe. They may be located on or outside of the reservation; the Census Bureau recognizes and tabulates data only for the off-reservation trust lands because the tribe has primary governmental authority over these lands.

**American Indian reservation**

Land that has been set aside for the use of the tribe. There are two types of American Indian reservations, federal and state. These entities are designated as colonies, communities, pueblos, ranches, rancherias, reservations, reserves, tribal towns, and villages.

**American Indian Reservation – federal**

Areas with boundaries established by treaty, statute, and/or executive or court order recognized by the federal government as territory in which American Indian tribes have primary governmental authority. The U.S. Census Bureau contacts representatives of American Indian tribal governments to identify the boundaries. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) maintains a list of federally recognized tribal governments.

**American Indian Reservation - state**

Lands held in trust by state governments for the use and benefit of a given tribe. A governor-appointed state liaison provides the names and boundaries for state reservations. The names of the American Indian reservations recognized by state governments, but not by the federal government, are followed by "(state)" in the data presentations.

**American Indian Tribal Subdivision**

Administrative subdivisions of federally recognized American Indian reservations, off-reservations trust lands, and Oklahoma tribal statistical areas (OTSAs), known as an area, chapter, community, or district. Internal units of self-government or administration that serve social, cultural, and/or economic purposes for American Indians. Provided in 1980 as "American Indian subreservation areas." These areas were not available in 1990.

**American Indian tribe**

Self-identification among people of American Indian descent. Many American Indians are members of a principal tribe or group empowered to negotiate and make decisions on behalf of the individual members. Data are available in American FactFinder for more than 35 tribes.

**Ancestry**

Refers to a person's self-identification of heritage, ethnic origin, descent, or close identification to an ethnic group.

Related terms: [Nationality](#), [Place of birth](#)

**Annual payroll (in thousands of dollars)**

Payroll includes all forms of compensation, such as salaries, wages, commissions, dismissal pay, bonuses, vacation allowances, sick-leave pay, and employee contributions, to qualified pension plans paid during the year to all employees. For corporations, payroll includes amounts paid to officers and executives; for unincorporated businesses, it does not include profit or other compensation of proprietors or partners. Payroll is reported before deductions for social security,

income tax, insurance, union dues, etc. This definition of payroll is the same as that used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on Form 941.

**Apportionment**

The process of dividing up the 435 memberships, or seats, in the U. S. House of Representatives among the 50 states. The Census Bureau's role in apportionment is to conduct the census every 10 years as mandated by the Constitution. Apportionment does not affect Puerto Rico.

Related terms: [Decennial census](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#)

**Apportionment population**

A state's apportionment population is the sum of its resident population and a count of overseas U.S. military and federal civilian employees (and their dependents living with them) allocated to the state, as reported by the employing federal agencies.

Related term: [Resident population](#)

**Area**

The size, in square miles or square meters, recorded for each geographic entity.

**Average**

The number found by dividing the sum of all quantities by the total number of quantities.

Related terms: [Mean](#), [Median](#)

**Average family size**

A measure obtained by dividing the number of members of families by the total number of families.

Related term: [Family](#)

**Average household size**

A measure obtained by dividing the number of people in households by the total number of households.

Related term: [Household](#)

**Average household size of owner-occupied units**

A measure obtained by dividing the number of people living in owner-occupied housing units by the number of owner-occupied housing units.

Related term: [Owner-occupied housing unit](#)

**Average household size of renter-occupied units**

A measure obtained by dividing the number of people living in renter-occupied housing units by the number of renter-occupied housing units.

Related term: [Renter-occupied housing unit](#)

**Barrio**

Along with Barrio-Pueblo, the primary legal subdivision of municipios in Puerto Rico. Similar to the minor civil divisions (MCDs) used for reporting census data in 28 states of the United States.

Related term: [Municipio](#), [Subbarrio](#)

**Barrio-Pueblo**

Along with Barrio, the primary legal subdivision of municipios in Puerto Rico.

Similar to the minor civil divisions (MCDs) used for reporting census data in 28 states of the United States.

Related term: [Municipio](#), [Subbarrio](#)

**Base map**

Map content including geographic, physical, cultural, political, and statistical features for locational reference.

**Basic Facts**

A pre-defined presentation of the most frequently requested data in American FactFinder from the decennial and economic censuses relative to a particular geographic area.

**Block**

A subdivision of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates 100-percent data. Many blocks correspond to individual city blocks bounded by streets, but blocks – especially in rural areas – may include many square miles and may have some boundaries that are not streets. The Census Bureau established blocks covering the entire nation for the first time in 1990. Previous censuses back to 1940 had blocks established only for part of the nation. Over 8 million blocks are identified for Census 2000.

Related terms: [100-percent data](#), [Census block](#), [Census geography](#), [Census tract](#),

**Block group (BG)**

A subdivision of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block group is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates sample data. A block group consists of all the blocks within a census tract with the same beginning number.

Example: block group 3 consists of all blocks within a 2000 census tract numbering from 3000 to 3999. In 1990, block group 3 consisted of all blocks numbered from 301 to 399Z.

Related terms: [Census block](#), [Census geography](#), [Census tract](#), [Sample data](#)

**Block numbering area (BNA)**

Prior to Census 2000, a statistical subdivision created for grouping and numbering blocks within a county for which census tracts had not been established. Beginning with Census 2000, all counties have census tracts, making block numbering areas unnecessary.

Related term: [Census tract](#)

**Borough**

A county equivalent in Alaska, a minor civil division in New York, and an incorporated place in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

Related term: [County and equivalent entity](#)

**Boundary**

The extent or limit of a geographic area such as a block, census tract, county, or place. A boundary may or may not follow a visible geographic physical feature.

**Bureau of Indian Affairs**

The federal government agency, located in the Department of the Interior, responsible for the historic and legal relationships between the federal government and American Indian communities.

**Censo 2000 Puerto Rico en Español**

Census 2000 Puerto Rico in Spanish. The data for Census 2000 Puerto Rico in Spanish are accessed in FactFinder from a button in the lower left corner of the Main Page. The same data in English are included in the Census 2000 of the United States dataset. FactFinder does not present data from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing for Puerto Rico.

**Census**

A complete enumeration, usually of a population, but also of businesses and commercial establishments, farms, governments, and so forth.

**Census (decennial)**

The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau in years ending in 0 (zero). Article I of the Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#)

**Census (economic)**

Collective name for the censuses of construction, manufactures, minerals, minority- and women-owned businesses, retail trade, service industries, transportation, and wholesale trade, conducted by the Census Bureau every five years, in years ending in 2 and 7.

**Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal**

The Census Bureau used a dress rehearsal to provide for operational testing of procedures and systems in regional census centers, local census offices, and data capture centers planned for use in Census 2000, including the production of prototype data products that comply with the requirements of Public Law 94-171. The exercise was an opportunity for others to comment on the range of standard products and their formats. The dress rehearsal also included some procedures and systems that had not been tested operationally in any prior field or processing activity. It was conducted in three sites: Sacramento, California; 11 counties in South Carolina and the city of Columbia; and Menominee County, Wisconsin, including the Menominee American Indian Reservation.

**Census 2000 Supplementary Survey (C2SS)**

The Census 2000 Supplementary Survey was an operational test conducted as part of the Census 2000, and used the American Community Survey questionnaire to collect demographic, social, economic, and housing data from a national sample. This evaluation study gives the Census Bureau essential information about the operational feasibility of converting from the long form to the American Community Survey. The data are for the nation, states, and most cities and counties above 250,000 population. Researchers will be able to use the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey data as they develop the policy-specific models they will use once the American Community Survey is fully operational later in the decade.

The data will be made available in three releases: 1) core tables for 50 states, the District of Columbia and the nation (Summer 2001); 2) core tables for most counties and cities with populations of 250,000 or more (Fall 2001); 3) the remaining 700 non-core tables, including race iterations for 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the nation (Winter 2001-2002).

Census 2000 Supplementary Survey detailed tables are identified and labeled using established guidelines. Table identification begins with a letter that refers to the type of data in the table, and then a number is assigned sequentially as the tables are produced.

Tables labeled: 'P' are population tables;  
'H' are housing tables;

'PCT' are population tables that cover geographies to the census tract level.

For example, 'Table P4. Sex by Age' is a population table with the sequential number, '4'.

Related term: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#)

**Census area**

The statistical equivalent of a county in Alaska. Census areas are delineated cooperatively by the state of Alaska and the Census Bureau for statistical purposes in the portion of Alaska not within an organized borough.

**Census block**

A subdivision of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates 100-percent data. Many blocks correspond to individual city blocks bounded by streets, but blocks -- especially in rural areas -- may include many square miles and may have some boundaries that are not streets. The Census Bureau established blocks covering the entire nation for the first time in 1990. Previous censuses back to 1940 had blocks established only for part of the nation. Over 8 million blocks are identified for Census 2000.

Related term: [Block](#)

**Census county division (CCD)**

A subdivision of a county that is a relatively permanent statistical area established cooperatively by the Census Bureau and state and local government authorities. Used for presenting decennial census statistics in those states that do not have well-defined and stable minor civil divisions that serve as local governments.

**Census data information**

Information about the data in the Census Bureau tables in FactFinder is found in the "Help" system. This information is referred to as metadata. Information presented under this heading includes description and data content of surveys and censuses, geographical areas covered, level of geographical detail, dataset descriptions, definitions, and lists of tables and products.

Related term: [Metadata](#)

**Census Day**

Reference date for the decennial census. For Census 2000, Census Day was April 1, 2000; for the Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal, April 18, 1998; and for the 1990 Census, April 1, 1990.

**Census designated place (CDP)**

A statistical entity, defined for each decennial census according to Census Bureau guidelines, comprising a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name. CDPs are delineated cooperatively by state and local officials and the Census Bureau, following Census Bureau guidelines. Beginning with Census 2000 there are no size limits.

Related term: [Incorporated place](#)

**Census geography**

A collective term referring to the types of geographic areas used by the Census Bureau in its data collection and tabulation operations, including their structure, designations, and relationships to one another.

**Census tract**

A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county delineated by a

local committee of census data users for the purpose of presenting data. Census tract boundaries normally follow visible features, but may follow governmental unit boundaries and other non-visible features in some instances; they always nest within counties. Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions at the time of establishment, census tracts average about 4,000 inhabitants. They may be split by any sub-county geographic entity.

#### **Central city**

The largest city of a Metropolitan area (MA). Central cities are a basis for establishment of an MA. Additional cities that meet specific criteria also are identified as central cities. In a number of instances, only part of a city qualifies as central, because another part of the city extends beyond the MA boundary.

Related term: [Metropolitan area \(MA\)](#)

#### **Central place**

The core incorporated place(s) or a census designated place of an urban area, usually consisting of the most populous place(s) in the urban area plus additional places that qualify under Census Bureau criteria. If the central place is also defined as an extended place, only the portion of the central place contained within the urban area is recognized as the central place.

Related terms: [Urban](#), [Urbanized area](#)

#### **Child**

A son or a daughter by birth, an adopted child, or a stepchild, regardless of the child's age or marital status.

Related terms: [Own children](#), [Related children](#),

#### **Children ever born - fertility**

For data from the 1990 Census of Population and Housing and the American Community Survey for 1996-1998, this refers to the number of children born live to women. The item was asked of all women 15 years old and over regardless of marital status. Stillbirths, stepchildren, and adopted children are excluded from the number of children ever born. Ever-married women were instructed to include all children born to them before and during their most recent marriage, children no longer living, and children living away from home, as well as children who were still living in the home. Never-married women were instructed to include all children born to them.

Beginning in 1999, the item on the number of children ever born was deleted in the American Community Survey and replaced by a question asking if a woman has had a live birth in the 12-month period preceding the survey date. The universe for this item is all women 15 to 50 years of age, regardless of marital status.

Related term: [Universe](#)

#### **Citizenship status**

##### ***Citizen***

People who indicate that they were born in the United States, Puerto Rico, a U.S. Island Area, or abroad of a U.S. citizen parent(s) are citizens.

People who indicate that they are U.S. citizens through naturalization are also citizens.

Naturalized citizens are foreign-born people who identify themselves as naturalized. Naturalization is the conferring, by any means, of citizenship upon a person after birth.

**Not a citizen**

People who indicate they are not U.S. citizens.

Related terms: [Foreign born](#), [Place of birth](#),

**City**

A type of incorporated place in 49 states and the District of Columbia. In 23 states and the District of Columbia, some or all cities are not part of any Minor Civil Division (MCD), and the Census Bureau also treats these as county subdivisions, statistically equivalent to MCDs.

Related terms: [Incorporated place](#), [Minor civil division \(MCD\)](#)

**Class of worker**

All people over the age of 15 who have been employed at any time are asked to designate the type of work normally done or the work performed most regularly. Occupations and types of work are then broken down into the following 5 classes.

Private Wage and Salary Workers--Includes people who worked for wages, salary, commission, tips, pay-in-kind, or piece rates for a private-for-profit employer or a private-not-for-profit, tax-exempt, or charitable organization.

Self-employed people whose business was incorporated are included with private wage and salary workers because they are paid employees of their own companies. Some tabulations present data separately for these subcategories: "For profit," "Not-for-profit," and "Own business incorporated."

Government Workers--Includes people who are employees of any local, state, or federal governmental unit, regardless of the activity of the particular agency. For some tabulations, the data are presented separately for the three levels of government.

Employees of foreign governments, the United Nations, or other formal international organizations controlled by governments should be classified as "Federal Government employee."

Self-Employed Workers--Includes people who worked for profit or fees in their own unincorporated business, profession, or trade, or who operated a farm.

Unpaid Family Workers--Includes people who worked 15 hours or more without pay in a business or on a farm operated by a relative.

Salaried/Self-Employed--In tabulations that categorize persons as either salaried or self-employed, the salaried category includes private and government wage and salary workers; self-employed includes self-employed people and unpaid family workers.

Related term: [Worker](#)

**Classes**

Classes define the number of groups into which data are assigned using a classing method. American FactFinder allows from 2 to 7 classes for thematic maps. Any of the 3 available classing methods and number of classes (from 2 to 7) can be combined to depict information on a thematic map.

Refer to Classing Method for information about how values are assigned to classes.

Related term: [Thematic map](#)

**Classing method**

Classing Method refers to the process used to assign values to classes for a

thematic map. American FactFinder offers the choice of 3 classing methods: Equal intervals, quantiles, and user-defined. The equal interval method divides data into classes of equal size. In the quantile method, units of measurement are ranked and then divided into an equal number of classes. Users determine how values are assigned to classes in the user-defined method.

Refer to Classes for information about the number of classes available using American FactFinder.

Related term: [Thematic map](#)

### **Commonwealth**

The legal designation for four states (Kentucky, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia), Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. The Census Bureau does not use this term in presenting data.

### **Comunidad**

Represents a census designated place that is not the representing governmental center of the municipio in Puerto Rico. There are no incorporated places in Puerto Rico. For Census 2000 there are no minimum population requirements. For 1990 comunidades had to have at least 1,000 people.

Related term: [Municipio](#)

### **Confidence interval (ACS)**

The sample estimate and its standard error permit the construction of a confidence interval which represents the degree of uncertainty about the estimate. Each American Community Survey estimate is accompanied by the upper and lower bounds of the 90 percent confidence interval. A 90 percent confidence interval can be interpreted roughly as providing 90 percent certainty that the true number falls between the upper and lower bounds.

Related terms: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#), [Estimates \(American Community Survey\)](#), [Standard error \(ACS\)](#)

### **Confidentiality**

The guarantee made by law (Title 13, United States Code) to individuals who provide census information regarding nondisclosure of that information to others.

Related term: [Title 13 \(U.S. Code\)](#)

### **Confidentiality edit**

The name for the Census 2000 disclosure avoidance procedure.

Related term: [Disclosure avoidance](#)

### **Congressional district (CD)**

An area established by law for the election of representatives to the United States Congress. Each CD is to be as equal in population to all other CDs in the state as practicable, based on the decennial census counts. The number of CDs in each state may change after each decennial census, and the boundaries may be changed more than once during a decade.

In the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, a single CD is created consisting of the entire area. The representative is termed a delegate or resident commissioner, respectively and does not have voting rights in Congress.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#)

### **Consolidated city**

An incorporated place that has combined its governmental functions with a county

or sub-county entity but contains one or more other incorporated places that continue to function as local governments within the consolidated government.

Related term: [Incorporated place](#)

#### **Consolidated metropolitan statistical area (CMSA)**

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies. An area becomes a CMSA if it meets the requirements to qualify as a metropolitan statistical area, has a population of 1,000,000 or more, if component parts are recognized as primary metropolitan statistical areas, and local opinion favors the designation.

Related terms: [Metropolitan statistical area \(MSA\)](#), [Primary metropolitan statistical area \(PMSA\)](#)

#### **Continuous Measurement System**

This system is a re-engineering of the method for collecting the housing and socio-economic data traditionally collected in the decennial census. It provides data every year instead of once in ten years. It blends the strength of small area estimation from the census with the quality and timeliness of the continuing surveys. This system includes a large monthly survey, the American Community Survey, and additional estimates through the use of administrative records in statistical models. It is in a developmental period that started in 1996.

Related term: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#)

#### **Contract rent**

The monthly rent agreed to or contracted for, regardless of any furnishings, utilities, fees, meals, or services that may be included. For vacant units, it is the monthly rent asked for the rental unit at the time of interview.

Related term: [Gross rent](#)

#### **County and equivalent entity**

The primary legal subdivision of most states. In Louisiana, these subdivisions are known as parishes. In Alaska, which has no counties, the county equivalents are boroughs, a legal subdivision, and census areas, a statistical subdivision. In four states (Maryland, Missouri, Nevada and Virginia), there are one or more cities that are independent of any county and thus constitute primary subdivisions of their states. The District of Columbia has no primary divisions, and the entire area is considered equivalent to a county for statistical purposes. In Puerto Rico, municipios are treated as county equivalents.

Related terms: [Borough](#), [Municipio](#)

#### **County subdivision**

A legal or statistical division of a county recognized by the Census Bureau for data presentation. The two major types of county subdivisions are census county divisions and minor civil divisions.

*County subdivision not defined*- The name assigned to an area of unpopulated coastal water within a county that belongs to no county subdivision.

Related terms: [Minor civil division \(MCD\)](#), [Unorganized territory](#),

#### **Data Access and Dissemination System (DADS)**

An electronic system for access and dissemination of Census Bureau data, now called the American FactFinder.

Related term: [American FactFinder \(AFF\)](#)

**Decennial**

Occurring or being done every 10 years.

**Decennial census**

The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau in years ending in 0 (zero). Article I of the Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. Title 13 of the U. S. Code provides the authorization for conducting the census in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#), [Title 13 \(U.S. Code\)](#)

**Demographic profile**

A profile includes tables that provide various demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics for the U.S., regions, divisions, states, counties, minor civil divisions in selected states, places, metropolitan areas, American Indian and Alaska Native areas, Hawaiian home lands and congressional districts. It includes 100-percent and sample data from the decennial censuses. It also is available on CD-ROM.

There are five tables in the Demographic Profile, labeled (DP-1 thru DP-5). For Census 2000 data, the DP-1 table will be available as part of the Summary File 1, and the other four tables will available as part of the Summary File 3 data set.

Related terms: [Geographic comparison tables \(GCT\)](#), [Quick tables \(QT\)](#)

**Derived measures**

Census data products include various derived measures, such as medians, means, and percentages, as well as certain rates and ratios. Derived measures that round to less than 0.1 are not shown but indicated as zero.

Related terms: [Mean](#), [Median](#), [Percentage](#)

**Detailed Tables (DT)**

Tables from summary files that provide the most detailed data on all topics and geographic areas from the decennial censuses and the American Community Survey. Tables include totals and subtotals. Users may choose more than one geographic area and more than one table that display in a scrolling list, but only what displays on the width of the screen will print.

Census 2000 detailed tables are identified and labeled using established guidelines. Table identification begins with a letter that refers to the type of data in the table, and then a number is assigned sequentially as the tables are produced.

Tables labeled: 'P' are population tables;

'H' are housing tables;

'PCT' are population tables that cover geographies to the census tract level;

'PL' are tables derived from the Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171) Summary File.

For example, 'Table P12. Sex by Age' is a population table with the sequential number, '12'.

Related terms: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#), [Summary file \(SF\)](#)

**Disability**

A long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering. This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business.

**Disclosure avoidance**

Statistical methods used in the tabulation of data prior to releasing data products to ensure the confidentiality of responses.

Related term: [Confidentiality edit](#)

**Division**

A grouping of states within a census geographic region, established by the Census Bureau for the presentation of census data. The current nine divisions are intended to represent relatively homogeneous areas that are subdivisions of the four census geographic regions.

New England Division: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island

Middle Atlantic Division: New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

South Atlantic Division: Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida

East South Central Division: Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi

West South Central Division: Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana

East North Central Division: Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois

West North Central Division: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota

Mountain Division: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico

Pacific Division: Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii

Puerto Rico and the Island Areas do not belong to any division.

Related Term: [Region](#)

**Earnings**

Earnings is defined as the algebraic sum of wage or salary income and net income from self-employment. Earnings represent the amount of income received regularly before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc.

Related term: [Income](#)

**Economic census**

Collective name for the censuses of construction, manufactures, minerals, minority- and women-owned businesses, retail trade, service industries, transportation, and wholesale trade, conducted by the Census Bureau every five years, in years ending in 2 and 7.

**Economic place**

A statistical subdivision of a state delineated according to Census Bureau guidelines for the purpose of presenting economic census data. Economic places include incorporated places of 2,500 or more people, county subdivisions of 10,000 or more people in 12 designated states, and census designated places in Hawaii. Any residual area within a state is delineated into Economic places so as not to cross the boundaries of any consolidated city, county subdivision in 12 designated states, metropolitan area in New England, or county.

**Educational attainment**

Refers to the highest level of education completed in terms of the highest degree or the highest level of schooling completed.

**Embedded housing unit (EHU)**

An EHU is a housing unit within a group quarters where the occupants live separately from others living in the group quarters. An example of an EHU is a house parent's room in a dormitory. Embedded means located within the building and not free-standing.

**Employed**

Employed includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" - those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.

Related terms: [Labor force](#), [Unemployed](#), [Worker](#),

**Employment status reference week**

The data on employment status and journey to work relate to the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.

**Establishment**

A business or industrial unit at a single location that distributes goods or performs services.

**Estimates (American Community Survey)**

Data for the American Community Survey are collected from a sample of housing units and used to produce estimates of the actual figures that would have been obtained by interviewing the entire population using the same methodology.

Related terms: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#), [Confidence interval \(ACS\)](#), [Standard error \(ACS\)](#)

**Experienced civilian labor force**

Consists of the employed and the experienced unemployed.

Related term: [Unemployed](#)

**Experienced unemployed**

These are unemployed people who have worked at any time in the past.

Related term: [Unemployed](#)

**Family**

A group of two or more people who reside together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

**Family household (Family)**

A family includes a householder and one or more 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. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in census tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may comprise a group of unrelated people or one person living alone.

Related terms: Household, Householder

**Family size**

Refers to the number of people in a family.

**Family type**

Refers to how the members of a family are related to one another and the householder. Families may be a "Married Couple Family," "Single Parent Family," "Stepfamily," or "Subfamily."

**Farm residence**

Dwelling or household located in a rural farm area and concerned with growing crops or raising livestock.

**Feature**

Any part of the landscape, whether natural (such as a stream or ridge), man-made (such as a road or power line), that can be shown on a map.

Related term: [Reference map](#)

**Federal home heating and cooling assistance program**

The data on this topic are designed to measure the number of households receiving benefits from the federal home heating and cooling assistance program. The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Act (Title XXVI of P.L. 97- 35 as amended) provides 100 percent federal funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program through annual block grants to states, the District of Columbia, more than 100 eligible Indian tribes, 2 commonwealths, and 4 territories. In addition, these funds may be supplemented with money from court-ordered oil-price overcharge settlements (distributed by the Department of Energy), state and local appropriations, and agreements with energy providers. The Department of Health and Human Services distributes annual federal appropriations to states, eligible Indian tribes, and the Island Areas (grantees) using an allocation formula established in law.

**Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS)**

Standardized system of numeric and/or alphabetic coding issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency of the US Department of Commerce. FIPS codes are assigned for a variety of geographic entities including American Indian and Alaska Native Areas, Hawaiian home lands, congressional districts, counties, county subdivisions, metropolitan areas, places and states. The purpose in using FIPS codes is to improve the use of data and avoid unnecessary duplication and incompatibility in the collection, processing and dissemination of data.

**Female householder, no husband present**

A female maintaining a household with no husband of the householder present.

**Fertility**

See [Children ever born - fertility](#)

**File Transfer Protocol (FTP)**

A process that allows a user to download large files and datasets from American

FactFinder.

**Food stamp receipt**

The data on participation in the Food Stamp Program are designed to identify households in which one or more of the current members received food stamps during the past 12 months. Once a food stamp household was identified, a question was asked about the total value of all food stamps received by the household during that 12 month period. The Food Stamp Act of 1977 defines this federally funded program as one intended to "permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet." (From title XIII of P.L. 95-113, The Food Stamp Act of 1977, declaration of policy.) Providing eligible households with coupons that can be used to purchase food increases food purchasing power. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) administers the Food Stamp program through state and local welfare offices. The Food Stamp program is the major national income support program to which all low-income and low-resource households, regardless of household characteristics, are eligible.

**Foreign born**

***Foreign-born population***

People who are not U.S. citizens at birth.

***Native population***

People born in either the United States, Puerto Rico, or a U.S. Island Area such as Guam or the U.S. Virgin Islands, or people born in a foreign country to a U.S. citizen parent(s).

Related terms: [Citizenship status](#), [Immigrants](#), [Native population](#), [Place of birth](#)

**Foster children**

Children receiving parental care and guidance although not related through blood or legal ties; placed in care by a government agency.

When a foster child is also a relative, such as a nephew or niece, the child is counted as a related individual rather than a foster child.

Related term: [Nonrelatives](#)

**Free or reduced-price meals programs**

The data on this topic are designed to measure the number of households where at least one member of the household received free or reduced-price lunches. The National School Lunch Program is designed "to help safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children by assisting the states in providing an adequate supply of foods" (P.L. 79-396, the National School Lunch Act of 1946) for all children at moderate cost. Additional assistance is provided for children determined by local school officials to be unable to pay the "full established" price for lunches. Like the Food Stamp program, the National School Lunch Program is administered by the Food and Nutrition Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture through state educational agencies or through regional USDA nutrition services for some nonprofit private schools.

**Full-time, year-round workers (in designated calendar year)**

All people 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in the designated calendar year.

Related terms: [Employed](#), [Worker](#)

**Full-time, year-round workers (in the past 12 months)**

All people 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in the past 12 months.

Related terms: [Employed](#), [Worker](#)

**Geographic Comparison Tables (GCT)**

These tables provide basic measures for decennial census 100-percent and sample population and housing subjects. Users can compare data across geographic areas in the same table (e.g., all counties in a state).

Related terms: [Demographic Profile](#), [Quick Tables \(QT\)](#)

**Geographic Component**

A geographic component is the portion of a geographic area (e.g., Alabama) that meets a location-based test such as "in a metropolitan area" or "in a rural place". For example, a geographic component of "in metropolitan area" for Texas combines the land area of El Paso, TX MSA, San Antonio, TX MSA and all other metropolitan areas in Texas into a single collective identity.

The Census Bureau recognizes about 100 different geographic components, with most focusing on urban/rural or metropolitan/non-metropolitan distinctions. Geographic components are only available for some types of geographic areas (e.g., State, Region). And the specific geographic components available for one geographic type may be different from those available for another geographic type.

**Geographic entity**

A geographic unit of any type, legal or statistical, such as a state, county, place, county subdivision, census tract, or census block.

**Geographic Identifiers**

These are also called *geocodes* and include codes, names and data relevant to the geography chosen, such as land area, water area, the center point longitude and latitude, etc. The *G001. Geographic identifiers* table listed in AFF typically includes the 100-percent population and housing counts as well as the geocodes and other data mentioned above.

**Geography (census)**

A collective term referring to the types of geographic areas used by the Census Bureau in its data collection and tabulation operations, including their structure, designations, and relationships to one another.

**Geography Quick Report (GQR)**

Data for this report are collected by the Economic Census. The report displays all industries for a geographic area.

Related term: [Economic census](#)

**Grade in which enrolled**

The level of enrollment in school, nursery school through college and graduate or professional school.

Related term: [Educational attainment](#)

**Grandparents as caregivers**

Grandparent(s) who have assumed full care of their grandchildren on a temporary or permanent live-in basis. A new question/data category for Census 2000.

**Gross rent**

The amount of the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities (electricity, gas, and water and sewer) and fuels (oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc.) if these are paid for by the renter (or paid for the renter by someone else). Gross rent is intended to eliminate differentials which result from varying practices with respect to the inclusion of utilities and fuels as part of the rental payment.

Related term: [Contract rent](#)

**Group quarters (GQ)**

The Census Bureau classifies all people not living in households as living in group quarters. There are two types of group quarters: institutional (for example, correctional facilities, nursing homes, and mental hospitals) and non-institutional (for example, college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, missions, and shelters).

Related term: [Household](#)

**Group quarters population**

Those people residing in group quarters as of the date on which a particular survey was conducted. The Census Bureau recognizes two general categories of people in group quarters: (1) institutionalized population and (2) non-institutionalized population. The institutionalized population includes people under formally authorized supervised care or custody in institutions at the time of enumeration. Such people are classified as "patients or inmates" of an institution regardless of the availability of nursing or medical care, the length of stay, or the number of people in the institution. Generally, the institutionalized population is restricted to the institutional buildings and grounds (or must have passes or escorts to leave) and thus have limited interaction with the surrounding community. Also, they are generally under the care of trained staff who have responsibility for their safekeeping and supervision. The noninstitutionalized population includes all people who live in group quarters other than institutions.

Related terms: [Institutionalized population](#), [Noninstitutionalized population](#)

**Hawaiian home land**

Lands held in trust for Native Hawaiians by the State of Hawaii, pursuant to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended. This is a new geographic entity type for Census 2000.

**Heating fuel**

The type of fuel used most often to heat the house, apartment, or mobile home.

**Hispanic or Hispanic origin**

See [Spanish/Hispanic/Latino](#).

**Homeowner vacancy rate**

The homeowner vacancy rate is the proportion of the homeowner housing inventory which is vacant for sale. It is computed by dividing the number of vacant units for sale only by the sum of owner-occupied units and vacant units that are for sale only, and then multiplying by 100.

Related terms: [Owner-occupied housing unit](#), [Rental vacancy rate](#)

**Household**

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

**Household size**

The total number of people living in a housing unit.

**Household type and relationship**

Households are classified by type according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives. Examples include: married-couple family; male householder, no wife present; female householder, no husband present; spouse (husband/wife); child; and other relatives.

**Householder**

The person, or one of the people, in whose name the home is owned, being

bought, or rented.

If there is no such person present, any household member 15 years old and over can serve as the householder for the purposes of the census.

Two types of householders are distinguished: a family householder and a nonfamily householder. A family householder is a householder living with one or more people related to him or her by birth, marriage, or adoption. The householder and all people in the household related to him are family members. A nonfamily householder is a householder living alone or with nonrelatives only.

### **Housing unit**

A house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied as separate living quarters, or if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall. For vacant units, the criteria of separateness and direct access are applied to the intended occupants whenever possible.

### **IC**

See Independent City (below)

### **Immigrants**

Aliens admitted for legal permanent residence in the United States.

Immigration statistics are prepared by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, from entry visas and change of immigration forms.

Related term: [Foreign born](#)

### **Imputation**

When information is missing or inconsistent, the Census Bureau uses a method called imputation to assign values. Imputation relies on the statistical principle of "homogeneity," or the tendency of households within a small geographic area to be similar in most characteristics. For example, the value of "rented" is likely to be imputed for a housing unit not reported on owner/renter status in a neighborhood with multi-units or apartments where other respondents reported "rented" on the census questionnaire.

### **Income**

"Total income" is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips; self-employment income from own nonfarm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and any other sources of income received regularly such as Veterans' (VA) payments, unemployment compensation, child support, or alimony.

Related term: [Earnings](#)

### **Incorporated place**

A type of governmental unit incorporated under state law as a city, town (except the New England states, New York, and Wisconsin), borough (except in Alaska and New York), or village and having legally prescribed limits, powers, and functions.

Related terms: [Census designated place \(CDP\)](#), [Place](#)

**Independent City (IC)**

An incorporated place that is a primary division of a state and legally not part of any county. The Census Bureau treats an independent city as both a county equivalent and county subdivision for data tabulation purposes.

Related term: [County and equivalent entity](#)

**Industrial Classification**

The Economic Census classifies establishments according to the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). NAICS codes replace the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes used in previous censuses. NAICS classifies industries using 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6- digit levels of detail. 2-digit codes represent sectors, the broadest classifications. 6-digit codes represent individual industries in the U.S.

Related terms: [Economic census](#), [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

**Industry (economic)**

In the 1997 economic census data, U.S. industries are classified using a 5- or 6-digit NAICS code. Industry groups are represented by classification using a 4 digit NAICS code.

Related term: [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

**Industry (population data)**

Information on industry relates to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization. For employed people the data refer to the person's job during the reference week. For those who worked at two or more jobs, the data refer to the job at which the person worked the greatest number of hours. Some examples of industrial groups shown in products include agriculture, forestry, and fisheries; construction; manufacturing; wholesale or retail trade; transportation and communication; personal, professional and entertainment services; and public administration.

Related terms: [Economic census](#), [Employed](#)

**Industry Quick Report (IQR)**

Data for this report are collected by the Economic Census. The report displays industry statistics for the United States by state.

Related term: [Economic census](#)

**Institutionalized population**

People under formally authorized, supervised care or custody in institutions at the time of enumeration. Generally, restricted to the institution, under the care or supervision of trained staff, and classified as "patients" or "inmates."

Related terms: [Group quarters \(GQ\)](#), [Group quarters population](#), [Noninstitutionalized population](#)

**Integrated Coverage Measurement (ICM)**

The Integrated Coverage Measurement program was designed to permit statistically valid estimates of the proportion of the population missed using traditional census procedures and to identify persons incorrectly included in the initial phase of the Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal. The ICM program was designed to address irrefutable evidence produced from studies of previous censuses indicating that traditional census methods result in difficulties in counting people in certain demographic groups, specifically minorities and renters. ICM estimates were obtained using a three-step procedure: Dual System Estimation, Iterative Proportional Fitting, and Synthetic Estimation.

Related term: [Without Correction for ICM](#)

### **Interpolation**

Interpolation frequently is used in calculating medians or quartiles based on interval data and in approximating standard errors from tables. Linear interpolation is used to estimate values of a function between two known values. Pareto interpolation is an alternative to linear interpolation. In Pareto interpolation, the median is derived by interpolating between the logarithms of the upper and lower income limits of the median category. It is used by the Census Bureau in calculating median income within intervals wider than \$2,500.

### **Island Areas**

Islands included in Census 2000 are: U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa. These were formerly called outlying areas.

### **Journey to work**

Includes data on where people work, how they get to work, how long it takes to get from their home to their usual workplace, when they leave home to go to their usual workplace, and carpooling.

Related terms: [Employed](#), [Worker](#)

### **Keyword**

Word or words used in the Search function of American FactFinder to locate data or geographic areas of interest.

### **Labor force**

**The labor force includes all people classified in the civilian labor force, plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). The Civilian Labor Force consists of people classified as employed or unemployed**

Related terms: [Employed](#), [Unemployed](#)

### **Language spoken at home**

The language currently used by respondents at home, either "English only" or a non-English language which is used in addition to English or in place of English.

### **Latino**

See [Spanish/Hispanic/Latino](#)

### **Legend**

The part of a map that lists and explains the colors, symbols, line patterns, shadings, and annotations used on the map.

Related terms: [Reference map](#), [Thematic map](#)

### **Living quarters**

A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home or trailer, a group of rooms or a single room occupied as separate living quarters or, if vacant, intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any people in the building and which have direct access from outside the building or through a common hall.

Related term: [Housing unit](#)

**Long form**

The decennial census questionnaire, sent to approximately one in six households for the 1980, 1990, and 2000 censuses, contains all of the questions on the short form, as well as additional detailed questions relating to the social, economic, and housing characteristics of each individual and household. Information derived from the long form is referred to as sample data, and is tabulated for geographic entities as small as the block group level in 1980, 1990, and 2000 census data products.

Related terms: [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Sample data](#), [Short form](#),

**Marital status**

Adults are generally classified by marital status as being married, never married, separated, divorced or widowed.

**Mean**

This measure represents an arithmetic average of a set of numbers. It is derived by dividing the sum of a group of numerical items by the total number of items in that group. For example, mean family income is obtained by dividing the total of all income reported by people 15 years and over in families by the total number of families.

Related term: [Derived measures](#)

**Mean income**

Mean income is the amount obtained by dividing the total income of a particular statistical universe by the number of units in that universe. Thus, mean household income is obtained by dividing total household income by the total number of households. For the various types of income, the means are based on households having those types of income.

Related term: [Income](#)

**Median**

This measure represents the middle value (if n is odd) or the average of the two middle values (if n is even) in an ordered list of data values. The median divides the total frequency distribution into two equal parts: one-half of the cases fall below the median and one-half of the cases exceed the median.

Related term: [Derived measures](#)

**Median age**

This measure divides the age distribution in a stated area into two equal parts: one-half of the population falling below the median value and one-half above the median value.

Related term: [Age](#)

**Median income**

The median income divides the income distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and other having incomes below the median.

Related term: [Income](#)

**Metadata**

Information about the content, quality, condition, and other characteristics of data.

Metadata related to tables presented in American FactFinder can be found by clicking on column headings or by clicking "Help" and then "Census Data Information."

**Metropolitan**

Refers to those areas surrounding large and densely populated cities or towns.

**Metropolitan area (MA)**

A collective term, established by the federal Office of Management and Budget, to refer to metropolitan statistical areas, consolidated metropolitan statistical areas, and primary metropolitan statistical areas.

**Metropolitan statistical area (MSA)**

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies, based on the concept of a core area with a large population nucleus, plus adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Qualification of an MSA requires the presence of a city with 50,000 or more inhabitants, or the presence of an Urbanized Area (UA) and a total population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). The county or counties containing the largest city and surrounding densely settled territory are central counties of the MSA. Additional outlying counties qualify to be included in the MSA by meeting certain other criteria of metropolitan character, such as a specified minimum population density or percentage of the population that is urban. MSAs in New England are defined in terms of minor civil divisions, following rules concerning commuting and population density.

Related terms: [Consolidated metropolitan statistical area \(CMSA\)](#), [Primary metropolitan statistical area \(PMSA\)](#)

**Microdata files**

Files with non-aggregated data about the units sampled. For surveys of individuals, microdata files contain records for each individual interviewed; for surveys of organizations, the microdata contain records for each organization.

To ensure confidentiality, the Census Bureau publishes microdata only after it is stripped of all identifying information.

**Migration**

Migration includes all changes of residence including moving into, out of, or within a given area. Foreign country, or state, county and city of previous residence is collected and coded. In 12 states, minor civil division (MCD) is also coded.

*International Migration*

Movement of people across international borders.

Related terms: [Immigrants](#), [Residence 5 years ago](#)

**Mining areas**

A set of boundaries available in Reference Map that focus on geographies relevant to the census of mineral industries within the Economic census.

Related term: [Reference map](#)

**Minor civil division (MCD)**

A primary governmental and/or administrative subdivision of a county, such as a township, precinct, or magisterial district. MCDs exist in 28 states and the District of Columbia.

In 20 states, all or many MCD's are general-purpose governmental units: Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Most of these MCD's are legally designated as towns or townships.

Related Terms: [Census county division \(CCD\)](#), [County subdivision](#), [Unorganized territory](#)

**Mortgage status**

"Mortgage" refers to all forms of debt where the property is pledged as security for repayment of the debt, including deeds of trust, trust deed, contracts to purchase, land contracts, junior mortgages, and home equity loans.

**Multi-unit structure**

A building that contains more than one housing unit (for example, an apartment building).

**Municipio**

Primary legal divisions of Puerto Rico. These are treated as county equivalents.

Related term: [County and equivalent entity](#)

**Nationality**

The status of belonging to a particular nation by birth, origin or naturalization.

Related terms: [Ancestry](#), [Place of birth](#)

**Native population**

The native population includes people born in the United States, Puerto Rico, or U.S. Island Areas; as well as those born in a foreign country who had at least one parent who was a U.S. citizen.

Related term: [Foreign born](#)

**New England County Metropolitan Area (NECMA)**

A county-based alternative to the city-and-town-based metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) and consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSAs) of New England. (Outside of New England, all MSAs and CMSAs are county-based.)

**Noninstitutionalized population**

Includes all people who live in group quarters other than institutions.

Examples: college dormitories, rooming houses, religious group homes, communes, and halfway houses.

Related terms: [Group quarters \(GQ\)](#), [Group quarters population](#), [Institutionalized population](#)

**Nonmetropolitan**

The area and population not located in any Metropolitan area (MA).

Related term: [Metropolitan area \(MA\)](#)

**Nonrelatives**

Any household member, including foster children, living in the housing unit but not related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Related terms: [Family](#), [Foster children](#), [Household](#),

**Nonsampling error**

Errors that occur during the measuring or data collection process. Nonsampling errors can yield biased results when most of the errors distort the results in the same direction. Unfortunately, the full extent of nonsampling error is unknown. Decennial censuses traditionally have experienced nonsampling errors, most notable undercount, resulting from people being missed in the enumeration processes.

**North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)**

NAICS classifies industries using 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, and 6- digit levels of detail. Two-digit codes represent sectors, the broadest classifications. Six-digit codes represent individual industries in the U.S. The North American Industry Classification System was developed by representatives from the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and replaces each country's separate classification system with one uniform system for classifying industries. In the United States, NAICS replaces the Standard Industrial Classification, a system that federal, state, and local governments, the business community, and the general public have used since the 1930s.

Related term: [Economic census](#)

**Not in labor force**

Not in labor force includes all people 16 years old and over who are not classified as members of the labor force. This category consists mainly of students, housewives, retired workers, seasonal workers interviewed in an off season who were not looking for work, institutionalized people, and people doing only incidental unpaid family work (less than 15 hours during the reference week).

Related term: [Labor force](#)

**Number of employees**

Equivalent to the number of paid employees for census purposes. Paid employees consists of full-time and part-time employees, including salaried officers and executives of corporations. Included are employees on paid sick leave, paid holidays, and paid vacations; not included are proprietors and partners of unincorporated businesses. The definition of paid employees is the same as that used on IRS Form 941.

Related term: [Economic census](#)

**Number of establishments**

An establishment is a single physical location at which business is conducted and/or services are provided. It is not necessarily identical with a company or enterprise, which may consist of one establishment or more. Economic census figures represent a summary of reports for individual establishments rather than companies. For cases where a census report was received, separate information was obtained for each location where business was conducted. When administrative records of other federal agencies were used instead of a census report, no information was available on the number of locations operated. Each economic census establishment was tabulated according to the physical location at which the business was conducted. For the 1997 Economic Census data displayed in American FactFinder, the count of establishments represents those in business at any time during 1997.

When two activities or more were carried on at a single location under a single ownership, all activities generally were grouped together as a single establishment. The entire establishment was classified on the basis of its major activity and all data for it were included in that classification. However, when distinct and separate economic activities (for which different industry classification codes were appropriate) were conducted at a single location under a single ownership, separate establishment reports for each of the different activities were obtained in the census.

Related terms: [Economic census](#), [Establishment](#)

**Number of workers in family in (designated calendar year)**

The term "worker" as used for these data is defined based on the criteria for [Worked in \(designated calendar year\)](#).

**Number of workers in family in the past 12 months**

The term "worker" as used for these data is defined based on the criteria for [Worked in the Past 12 Months](#).

**Occupation**

Occupation describes the kind of work the person does on the job. For employed people, the data refer to the person's job during the reference week. For those who worked at two or more jobs, the data refer to the job at which the person worked the greatest number of hours. Some examples of occupational groups shown in this product include managerial occupations; business and financial specialists; scientists and technicians; entertainment; healthcare; food service; personal services; sales; office and administrative support; farming; maintenance and repair; and production workers.

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Occupied housing unit**

A housing unit is classified as occupied if it is the usual place of residence of the person or group of people living in it at the time of enumeration.

Related terms: [Housing unit](#), [Vacancy status](#)

**Offshore Areas**

Areas that are seaward of the coastal line for the United States. Within the 1997 Economic census, the census of mineral industries presents some statistics on petroleum and natural gas industries for selected offshore areas (as well as by State).

Related term: [Economic census](#)

**Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area (OTSA)**

Statistical entities identified and delineated by federally recognized American Indian tribes in Oklahoma that formerly had a reservation but do not now have a reservation in that state. The boundary of an OTSA will be that of the former reservation in Oklahoma, except where modified by agreements with neighboring tribes for statistical data presentation purposes. They may cross the boundary of Oklahoma and include territory in a neighboring state but not territory in any reservation. Replaces the Tribal Jurisdiction Statistical Areas (TJSAs) of 1990.

**Other relative**

Any household member related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption, but not specifically included in any other relationship category. Can include grandchildren, parents, in-laws, cousins, etc.

**Outlying areas**

See [Island Areas](#)

**Own children**

A child under 18 years old who is a son or daughter by birth, marriage (a stepchild), or adoption. For 100-percent tabulations, own children consist of all sons/daughters of householders who are under 18 years of age. For sample data, own children consist of sons/daughters of householders who are under 18 years of age and who have never been married, therefore, numbers of own children of householders may be different in these two tabulations.

Related terms: [Child](#), [Related children](#)

**Owner-occupied housing unit**

A housing unit is owner occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for.

Related term: [Housing unit](#), [Renter-occupied housing unit](#)

**Parish**

A type of governmental unit that is the primary legal subdivision of Louisiana, similar to a county in other states.

Related term: [County and equivalent entity](#)

**Part**

When appearing in parenthesis after a geographic name, such as "Houston city (part)", this term indicates that only a portion of the named geography is represented. The full name reveals the geographic context which produced the part, such as "Houston city (part), Harris County, Texas", indicating that the only the portion of Houston city within Harris County is represented.

Parts can result when two or more geographic types that do not have a hierarchical relationship (e.g., county and place) are crossed against each other to produce a new geographic type. That new geographic type contains the phrase "(or part)" to indicate the crossing of hierarchies (e.g., State-County-Place (or part))

**People in family**

Total number of people living in one household and related to the householder.

Related terms: [Family](#), [Household](#)

**People in household**

Total number of people living in one housing unit.

Related terms: [Household](#), [Housing unit](#)

**Per capita income**

Average obtained by dividing aggregate income by total population of an area.

**Percentage**

This measure is calculated by taking the number of items in a group possessing a characteristic of interest and dividing by the total number of items in that group, and then multiplying by 100.

Related term: [Derived measures](#)

**Period of military service**

These periods represent officially recognized time divisions relating to wars or to legally-relevant peacetime eras. The data pertain to active-duty military service. In most tabulations of these data, people serving in combinations of wartime and peacetime periods are classified in their most recent wartime period.

Related term: [Veteran status](#)

**Place**

A concentration of population either legally bounded as an incorporated place, or identified as a Census Designated Place (CDP) including comunidades and zonas urbanas in Puerto Rico. Incorporated places have legal descriptions of borough (except in Alaska and New York), city, town (except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin), or village.

Related terms: [Census designated place \(CDP\)](#), [City](#), [Comunidad](#), [Incorporated place](#), [Town](#), [Zona urbana](#)

**Place of birth**

The U. S. state or foreign country where a person was born. Used in determining citizenship.

Related terms: [Citizenship status](#), [Foreign born](#), [Native population](#),

### **Plumbing facilities**

The data on plumbing facilities were obtained from both occupied and vacant housing units. Complete plumbing facilities include: (1) hot and cold piped water; (2) a flush toilet; and (3) a bathtub or shower. All three facilities must be located in the housing unit.

### **Population**

All people, male and female, child and adult, living in a given geographic area.

### **Population density**

Total population within a geographic entity divided by the number of square miles of land area of that entity measured in square kilometers or square miles.

### **Population Estimates**

The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program publishes population numbers between censuses. Estimates usually are for the past, while projections are estimates of the population for future dates. July 1 estimates are published for years after the last decennial census (2000), as well as those for past decades. Data for births, deaths, and domestic and international migration are used to update the decennial census base counts. These estimates are used in federal funding allocations; as inputs to other federal agencies' statistics and per capita time series; as survey controls; and in monitoring recent demographic changes. With each new issue of July 1 estimates, the estimates for the years since the last census are revised.

Additional population estimates that include components of change and rankings, are available at <http://www.census.gov/popest/>.

### **Portable Document File (PDF)**

A type of computer file that looks the same on the screen and in print, regardless of what kind of computer or printer is being used, and what kind of software package was originally used to create it.

Most American FactFinder technical documentation is available in PDF format.

### **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 detect who is poor. If the total income for a family or unrelated individual falls below the relevant poverty threshold, then the family or unrelated individual is classified as being "below the poverty level."

Related term: [Income](#)

### **Primary metropolitan statistical area (PMSA)**

A geographic entity defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies. If an area meets the requirements to qualify as a metropolitan statistical area and has a population of one million or more, two or more PMSAs may be defined within it if statistical criteria are met and local opinion is in favor. A PMSA consists of one or more counties (county subdivisions in New England) that have substantial commuting interchange. When two or more PMSAs have been recognized, the larger area of which they are components then is designated a consolidated metropolitan statistical area.

Related terms: [Consolidated metropolitan statistical area \(CMSA\)](#), [Metropolitan statistical area \(MSA\)](#)

**Privacy Act**

A 1974 act that places restrictions on the collection, use, maintenance, and release of information about individuals. It gives individuals the right to see records about themselves, to obtain copies of their records, to have records corrected or amended with Census Bureau approval, and to have a statement of disagreement filed in their records if the Census Bureau does not approve the correction or amendment.

**Products**

This term is used in two ways in FactFinder:

- to refer to data products produced by the Census Bureau which present statistics and/or maps about the subjects covered in the various censuses and surveys conducted by the Bureau. These products can be in a variety of media: printed reports, CD-ROM, DVD, or on the internet;

- to refer to the products produced by manufacturing or mining, as well as retail and wholesale trade industries in the context of the 1997 economic census.

**Public Law 103-430 (P.L. 103-430)**

The public law that amends Title 13, U.S. Code, to allow designated local and tribal officials access to the address information in the master address file to verify its accuracy and completeness. This law also requires the U.S. Postal Service to provide its address information to the Census Bureau to improve the master address file.

Related term: [Census \(decennial\)](#)

**Public Law 105-119 (P.L. 105-119)**

A law enacted in 1997 which requires the Census Bureau to make publicly available a second version of decennial census data that does not include statistical correction for overcounts and undercounts measured in the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#)

**Public Law 94-171 (P.L. 94-171)**

Public Law (P.L.) 94-171, enacted in 1975, directs the Census Bureau to make special preparations to provide redistricting data needed by the fifty states. Within a year following Census Day, the Census Bureau must send the data agreed upon to redraw districts for the state legislature to each state's governor and majority and minority legislative leaders.

To meet this legal requirement, the Census Bureau set up a voluntary program that enables participating states to receive data for voting districts (e.g., election precincts, wards, state house and senate districts) in addition to standard census geographic areas such as counties, cities, census tracts, and blocks.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Census day](#), [Reapportionment](#), [Redistricting](#)

**Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA)**

An area that defines the extent of territory for which the Census Bureau tabulates public use microdata sample (PUMS) data.

**Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files**

Computerized files containing a small sample of individual records, with identifying information removed, from the census long form and from the American Community Survey showing the population and housing characteristics of the people included on those forms.

**Puerto Rico**

The U.S. Census Bureau treats the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as the equivalent of a state for data presentation purposes. Puerto Rico is divided into legal government municipios, which are statistically equivalent to counties.

Related term: [Censo 2000 Puerto Rico en Español](#)

**Query**

A request for information; inquiry.

**Questionnaire**

The census or survey form on which a respondent or enumerator records information requested by the Census Bureau for a specific census or special survey.

**Quick Tables (QT)**

Predefined tables with frequently requested information for a single geographic area. The information includes numerical data and derived measures (e.g., percent distributions, medians). Users may choose more than one geographic area and more than one table that display and print in a scrolling list.

Related terms: [Basic Facts](#), [Demographic profile](#), [Geographic comparison tables \(GCT\)](#)

**Race**

Race is a self-identification data item in which respondents choose the race or races with which they most closely identify.

**Rate**

This is a measure of occurrences in a given period of time divided by the possible number of occurrences during that period.

**Ratio**

This is a measure of the relative size of one number to a second number expressed as the quotient of the first number divided by the second.

**Reapportionment**

The redistribution of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives among the several states on the basis of the most recent decennial census as required by Article 1, section 2 of the Constitution. Reapportionment does not affect Puerto Rico.

Related term: [Apportionment](#)

**Redistricting**

The process of revising the geographic boundaries of areas from which people elect representatives to the U.S. Congress, a state legislature, a county or city council, a school board, and the like, to meet the legal requirement that such areas be as equal in population as possible following a census.

Related terms: [Apportionment](#), [Voting District \(VTD\)](#)

**Redistricting Data Program**

A decennial census program that permits state officials to identify selected map features they want as block boundaries and specific areas, such as voting districts, for which they need census data.

Related term: [Voting district \(VTD\)](#)

**Reference map**

A map that shows selected geographic boundaries with identifiers along with selected features of a geographic area.

**Region**

Four groupings of states (Northeast, South, Midwest, and West) established by the Census Bureau in 1942 for the presentation of census data.

Northeast Region: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

South Region: Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas

Midwest Region: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio

West Region: Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii

Puerto Rico and the Island areas are not part of any region.

Related term: [Division](#)

**Related children**

Includes all people in a household under the age of 18, regardless of marital status, who are related to the householder. Does not include householder's spouse or foster children, regardless of age.

Related terms: [Child](#), [Own children](#)

**Remainder**

The portion of a geographic area of one geographic type (e.g., a county subdivision) which is not covered by any geographic area of a second geographic type (e.g., place). For example, the two places of Oak Ridge town and Old Appleton town exist within the county subdivision of Apple Creek township in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. That portion of Adair township that is not covered by either place is called "Remainder of Adair township".

**Rental vacancy rate**

The proportion of the rental inventory which is vacant for rent. It is computed by dividing the number of vacant units for rent by the sum of the renter-occupied units and the number of vacant units for rent, and then multiplying by 100.

Related term: [Homeowner vacancy rate](#), [Renter-occupied housing unit](#)

**Renter-occupied housing unit**

All occupied units which are not owner occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter-occupied.

Related term: [Owner-occupied housing unit](#)

**Residence 5 years ago**

Indicates the area of residence 5 years prior to the reference date for those who reported that they lived in a different housing unit.

Related term: [Migration](#)

**Resident population**

An area's resident population consists of those persons "usually resident" in that particular area (where they live and sleep most of the time).

Related term: [Apportionment population](#)

**Respondent**

The person supplying survey or census information about his or her living quarters and its occupants.

**Rural**

Territory, population and housing units not classified as urban. "Rural" classification cuts across other hierarchies and can be in metropolitan or non-metropolitan areas.

Related terms: [Metropolitan](#), [Urban](#)

**Sample data**

Population and housing information collected from the census long form for a one in six sample of households in the United States and Puerto Rico, and on a continuous basis for selected areas in the American Community Survey.

Related terms: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#), [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Long form](#)

**Sampling error**

Errors that occur because only part of the population is directly contacted. With any sample, differences are likely to exist between the characteristics of the sampled population and the larger group from which the sample was chosen. Sampling error, unlike nonsampling error, is measurable.

**School District**

Geographic entities within which state, county, or local officials provide public educational services for the area's residents. The boundaries and names are provided by state officials.

**School enrollment**

Enrollment in regular school, either public or private, which includes nursery school, kindergarten, elementary school, and schooling which leads to a high school diploma or college degree.

Related terms: [Educational attainment](#), [Grade in which enrolled](#)

**Sector (economic)**

In the 1997 economic census data are classified into 20 NAICS sectors, using a 2 digit code. These sectors are subdivided into 96 sub-sectors, using a 3 digit code.

Related term: [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

**Sex**

An individual's gender classification - male or female.

**Sex ratio**

A measure derived by dividing the total number of males by the total number of females, and then multiplying by 100.

**Short form**

The decennial census questionnaire, sent to approximately five of six households for the 1980, 1990, and 2000 censuses. For Census 2000, the questionnaire asked population questions related to household relationship, sex, race, age and Hispanic or Latino origin and housing questions related to tenure, occupancy, and vacancy status. The 1990 short form contained a question on marital status. The questions contained on the short form also are asked on the long form, along with additional questions.

Related terms: [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Long form](#)

**Spanish/Hispanic/Latino**

A self-designated classification for people whose origins are from Spain, the Spanish-speaking countries of Central or South America, the Caribbean, or those identifying themselves generally as Spanish, Spanish-American, etc. Origin can be viewed as ancestry, nationality, or country of birth of the person or person's parents or ancestors prior to their arrival in the United States.

Spanish/Hispanic/Latino people may be of any race.

Related terms: [Ancestry](#), [Race](#)

**Spouse**

A person legally married to another person.

**Standard deviation**

A measure which shows the average variability in population from the mean. It is defined as the square root of the variance.

**Standard error (ACS)**

The standard error is a measure of the deviation of a sample estimate from the average of all possible samples.

Related terms: [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#), [Confidence interval \(ACS\)](#), [Estimates \(American Community Survey\)](#)

**Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)**

Industry classification system that was used in Economic Censuses prior to 1997. This system identifies establishments by the principal activity in which they are engaged. SIC has been replaced by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in the 1997 Economic Census.

Related terms: [Economic census](#), [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

**State and equivalent entity**

The primary legal subdivision of the United States. The District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas (the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands) are each treated as the statistical equivalent of a state for census purposes.

**State data center (SDC)**

A state agency or university facility identified by the governor of each state and state equivalent to participate in the Census Bureau's cooperative network for the dissemination of census data. A SDC also may provide demographic data to local agencies participating in our statistical areas.

**State Designated American Indian Statistical Area (SDAISA)**

A statistical entity for state recognized American Indian tribes that do not have a state recognized reservation. SDAISAs are identified and delineated for the Census Bureau by a designated state official. They generally encompass a compact and contiguous area that contains a concentration of individuals who identify with a state recognized American Indian tribe and in which there is structured or organized tribal activity. New for the 2000 Census.

**State legislative district (SLD)**

An area from which members are elected to state legislatures. The SLDs embody the upper (senate) and lower (house) chambers of the state legislature. (Nebraska has a unicameral legislature that is represented as an upper chamber legislative entity.)

*State Senate District not defined*- The name assigned to an area of unpopulated coastal water within a state that belongs to no state senate district.

*State House District not defined*- The name assigned to an area of unpopulated coastal water within a state that belongs to no state house district.

**Stepfamily**

A "married couple" family in which there is at least one stepchild of the householder present. If the child has been adopted by the householder, that child is classified as an adopted child and the family is not classified as a stepfamily, unless another non-adopted stepchild is present.

Related terms: [Adopted child](#), [Family](#)

**Subbarrio**

The primary legal subdivision of the barrios-pueblo and some barrios in Puerto Rico. There is no United States equivalent.

Related terms: [Barrio](#), [Barrio-Pueblo](#)

**Subfamily**

A married couple (with or without children) or a single parent with one or more never-married children under the age of 18, residing with and related to the householder, but not including the householder or the householder's spouse.

When grown children move back to the parental home with their own children or spouse, they are considered a subfamily.

Related terms: [Family](#), [Householder](#)

**Sub-sector (economic)**

In the 1997 economic census data are classified into 96 sub-sectors using a 3 digit NAICS code.

Related term: [North American Industry Classification System \(NAICS\)](#)

**Summary file (SF)**

Statistics for a large number of geographic areas that are designed to show great subject matter detail presented in tabular form. There are four main summary files produced from the data collected during Census 2000.

See the individual definitions for Summary Files 1, 2, 3, and 4 for a more in-depth explanation of each.

Related term: [Census \(decennial\)](#)

**Summary File 1 (SF 1)**

This file presents 100-percent population and housing figures for the total population, for 63 race categories, and for many other race and Hispanic or Latino categories. This includes age, sex, households, household relationship, housing units, and tenure (whether the residence is owned or rented). Also included are selected characteristics for a limited number of race and Hispanic or Latino categories. The data are available for the U.S., regions, divisions, states, counties, county subdivisions, places, census tracts, block groups, blocks, metropolitan areas, American Indian and Alaska Native areas, tribal subdivisions, Hawaiian home lands, congressional districts, and ZIP Code Tabulation Areas. Data are available down to the block level for many tabulations, but only to the census-tract level for others. Available on CD-ROM, DVD, and American FactFinder.

The Census 2000 Summary File 1 data are released in three stages. Individual state files and two national files are released. The state-level data are released first,

followed by the *Advance National File*, which covers the same data subjects, but includes national level summary data such as ZCTAs, whole metropolitan areas, whole American Indian areas, etc. The *Final National File* contains the same data subjects and geographic areas as the *Advance National File*, but adds the first available urban/rural and urbanized area data. For the most current release dates for these files, see the "Census 2000 Release Schedule" link on the AFF Main Page.

Related term: [Census \(decennial\)](#)

#### **Summary File 2 (SF 2)**

This file presents data similar to the information included in Summary File 1. These data are shown down to the census tract level for 250 race, Hispanic or Latino, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribe categories. For data to be shown in SF 2, a population category must meet a population size threshold of 100 or more people of that specific population category in a specific geographic area. Available on CD-ROM, DVD, and American FactFinder.

Related term: [Census \(decennial\)](#)

#### **Summary File 3 (SF 3)**

This file presents data on the population and housing long form subjects such as income and education. It includes population totals for ancestry groups. It also includes selected characteristics for a limited number of race and Hispanic or Latino categories. The data are available for the U.S., regions, divisions, states, counties, county subdivisions, places, census tracts, block groups, metropolitan areas, American Indian and Alaska Native areas, tribal subdivisions, Hawaiian home lands, congressional districts, and Zip Code Tabulation Areas. Available on CD-ROM, DVD, and American FactFinder.

Related terms: [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Long form](#)

#### **Summary File 4 (SF 4)**

This file presents data similar to the information included in Summary File 3. These data are shown down to the census tract level for 336 race, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian and Alaska Native tribe, and ancestry categories. For data to be shown in SF 4, there must be at least 50 unweighted sample cases of a specific population category in a specific geographic area. In addition, the data for the specific population category for the specific geographic area must also have been available in Summary File 2. Available on CD-ROM, DVD, and American FactFinder.

Related terms: [Census \(decennial\)](#), [Long form](#)

#### **Summary table**

A collection of one or more data elements that are classified into some logical structure either as dimensions or data points.

#### **Summary Tape Files 1-4 (STFs 1-4)**

Summary tape files are products of the 1990 Census of Population and Housing. They are summary tabulations of 100-percent and sample population and housing data available for public use on computer tape and CD-ROM. Summary Tape Files 1 and 3 also are available through American FactFinder.

Related terms: [100-Percent data](#), [Products](#)

#### **Tenure**

Refers to the distinction between owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units.

Related terms: [Housing unit](#), [Owner-occupied housing unit](#), [Renter-occupied housing unit](#)

**Thematic map**

A map that reveals the geographic patterns in statistical data.

**Title 13 (U.S. Code)**

The law under which the Census Bureau operates and that guarantees the confidentiality of census information and establishes penalties for disclosing this information. It also provides the authorization for conducting the census in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.

Related terms: [Confidentiality](#), [Decennial census](#), [Privacy Act](#)

**Town**

A type of minor civil division in the New England states, New York, and Wisconsin and a type of incorporated place in 30 states and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

Related term: [County subdivision](#)

**Tract**

See [Census tract](#).

**Tract number**

Used to uniquely identify a census tract within a county.

**Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ)**

An area delineated by state and/or local transportation officials for tabulating traffic-related data – especially journey-to-work and place-of-work statistics. Usually consists of one or more census blocks, block groups, or census tracts.

Related term: [Journey to work](#)

**Tribal Block Group (BG)**

A subdivision of a tribal census tract, a tribal block group is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates sample data. Tribal BGs are delineated by American Indian tribal participants or the Census Bureau, and average about 1,000 people. A tribal BG consists of all the census blocks within a tribal census tract with the same beginning number.

Example: Tribal BG 3 within a tribal census tract consists of all blocks numbered from 3000 to 3999.

In situations where an American Indian reservation or trust land crosses county or state lines, the same tribal BG number (within a tribal census tract) may be assigned on both sides of the county/state line.

**Tribal Census Tract**

A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a federally recognized American Indian reservation and/or off-reservation trust land, delineated by American Indian tribal participants or the Census Bureau for the purpose of presenting data. Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions, tribal census tracts average about 2,500 people.

A tribal census tract must consist of territory located on a reservation/trust land. The boundaries of tribal census tracts may cross state and/or county lines, and normally follow visible features, but may follow governmental unit boundaries and other nonvisible features in some instances. The Census Bureau has reserved the numbers 9400 to 9499 for tribal census tracts delineated on reservations/trust lands that are located in more than one county, but tracts numbered in the 9400 range do not necessarily cross county lines.

**Tribal Designated Statistical Area (TDSA)**

A statistical entity identified and delineated for the Census Bureau by a federally recognized American Indian tribe that does not currently have a legally established land base. A TDSA encompasses a compact and contiguous area that contains a concentration of individuals who identify with a federally recognized American Indian tribe and which there is structured or organized tribal activity.

**Tribal Jurisdiction Statistical Area (TJSA)**

A statistical area identified and delineated for the 1990 decennial census by American Indian tribal officials in Oklahoma. They encompass the area that includes the American Indian population over which the tribe has jurisdiction. TJSAs replaced the Historic Areas of Oklahoma recognized by the Census Bureau for the 1980 decennial census. Beginning with Census 2000 these areas are called Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas (OTSAs).

**Tutorial**

An on-line mini-course, part of the American FactFinder Help system, which demonstrates how to accomplish various important tasks using the FactFinder site.

**Type of institution**

Institutions are those facilities designed for group quarters living. Institutions may specialize in one specific type of service such as a prison, or may offer varied services such as Veteran's Administration hospitals.

Related terms: [Group quarters \(GQ\)](#), [Institutionalized population](#)

**Type of school**

Schools are designated as public or private institutions and are separated by levels of education offered, including: college, pre-primary, elementary or high school.

Related term: [Educational attainment](#), [School enrollment](#)

**Unemployed**

All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness.

Related terms: [Employed](#), [Labor Force](#)

**United States**

The 50 states and the District of Columbia.

**Units in structure**

A structure is a separate building that either has open spaces on all sides or is separated from other structures by dividing walls that extend from ground to roof. In determining the number of units in a structure, all housing units, both occupied and vacant, are counted.

**Universe**

The total number of units, e.g., individuals, households, businesses, in the population of interest.

**Unmarried-partner household**

Household in which the householder and his or her partner are not legally married or participating in a common law marriage.

Related terms: [Household](#), [Householder](#)

**Unorganized Territory**

Occur in 10 minor civil division (MCD) states where portions of counties are not included in any legally established MCD or independent incorporated place. The pieces are recognized as one or more separate county subdivisions for statistical data presentation purposes.

**Unrelated individual**

Person, sharing a housing unit, who is not related to the householder by birth, marriage or adoption. Includes foster children.

Related terms: [Foster children](#), [Householder](#), [Nonrelatives](#)

**Urban**

All territory, population and housing units in urbanized areas and in places of more than 2,500 persons outside of urbanized areas. "Urban" classification cuts across other hierarchies and can be in metropolitan or non-metropolitan areas.

Related terms: [Metropolitan](#), [Rural](#)

**Urban Area**

Collective term referring to all areas that are urban. For Census 2000, there are two types of urban areas: urban clusters and urbanized areas.

**Urban Cluster**

A densely settled territory that has at least 2,500 people but fewer than 50,000. New for Census 2000.

**Urban Growth Area**

Legally defined entity in Oregon. Defined around incorporated places and used to regulate urban growth. They are delineated cooperatively by state and local officials and then confirmed by state law. New for Census 2000.

**Urbanized area**

(UA) An area consisting of a central place(s) and adjacent territory with a general population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile of land area that together have a minimum residential population of at least 50,000 people. The Census Bureau uses published criteria to determine the qualification and boundaries of UAs.

**Usual hours worked per week worked in (designated calendar year)**

The data pertain to the number of hours a person usually worked during the weeks worked in the designated calendar year. The respondent was to report the number of hours worked per week in the majority of the weeks he or she worked in the designated calendar year. If the hours worked per week varied considerably during the designated calendar year, the respondent was asked to report an approximate average of the hours worked per week. People 16 years old and over who reported that they usually worked 35 or more hours each week during the weeks they worked are classified as "Usually worked full time"; people who reported that they usually worked 1 to 34 hours are classified as "Usually worked part time."

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Usual hours worked per week worked in the past 12 months**

The data pertain to the number of hours a person usually worked during the weeks worked in the past 12 months. The respondent was to report the number of hours worked per week in the majority of the weeks he or she worked in the past 12 months. If the hours worked per week varied considerably during the past 12 months, the respondent was asked to report an approximate average of the hours worked per week. People 16 years old and over who reported that they usually worked 35 or more hours each week during the weeks they worked are classified as "Usually worked full time"; people who reported that they usually worked 1 to 34

hours are classified as "Usually worked part time."

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Usual residence**

The living quarters where a person spends more nights during a year than any other place.

Related term: [Living quarters](#)

**Usual residence elsewhere**

A housing unit temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people with a usual residence elsewhere is classified as vacant. The occupants are classified as having a "Usual residence elsewhere" and are counted at the address of their usual place of residence.

Related term: [Housing unit](#)

**Vacancy status**

Unoccupied housing units are considered vacant. Vacancy status is determined by the terms under which the unit may be occupied, e.g., for rent, for sale, or for seasonal use only.

Related terms: [Housing unit](#), [Occupied housing unit](#),

**Vacant housing unit**

A housing unit is vacant if no one is living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people who have a usual residence elsewhere are also classified as vacant.

Related terms: [Housing unit](#), [Usual residence elsewhere](#), [Occupied housing unit](#)

**Value**

Value is the respondent's estimate of how much the property (house and lot, mobile home and lot, or condominium unit) would sell for if it were for sale.

**Veteran status**

A "civilian veteran" is a person 18 years old or over who has served (even for a short time), but is not now serving, on active duty in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or the Coast Guard, or who served in the U.S. Merchant Marine during World War II. People who served in the National Guard or military Reserves are classified as veterans only if they were ever called or ordered to active duty, not counting the 4-6 months for initial training or yearly summer camps. All other civilians 16 years old and over are classified as nonveterans.

Related term: [Years of military service](#)

**Village**

A type of incorporated place in 20 states and American Samoa. The Census Bureau treats all villages in New Jersey, South Dakota, and Wisconsin and some villages in Ohio as county subdivisions.

Related term: [County subdivision](#), [Incorporated place](#),

**Visible feature**

A feature that can be seen on the ground, such as, a street or road, railroad track, power line, stream, shoreline, fence, ridge, or cliff. A visible feature can be a man-made or natural feature.

Related term: [Feature](#)

**Voting District (VTD)**

Any of a variety of areas, such as election districts, precincts, legislative districts, or wards, established by states and local governments for voting purposes.

*Voting Districts not defined*- The name assigned to an area within a county for which no voting district information is known by the Census Bureau. This designation is used if the state government chose not to provide the Census Bureau with voting district boundaries (e.g., in California), or if that portion of a county (as reported by the state government) is truly devoid of voting districts (e.g., the coastal waters of Sussex County, DE).

Related terms: [Redistricting](#), [Redistricting Data Program](#)

**Weeks worked in (designated calendar year)**

The data pertain to the number of weeks during the designated calendar year in which a person did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation, paid sick leave, and military service) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business.

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Weeks worked in the past 12 months**

The data pertain to the number of weeks during the past 12 months in which a person did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation, paid sick leave, and military service) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business.

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Without Correction for ICM**

Statistical sampling was addressed in the 1998 appropriations bill (Public Law 105-119) which was passed by the House of Representatives in 1997. According to PL 105-119, the population count produced without using statistical methods, whether for Census 2000, or simulations that prepare for it, must be publicly available for all levels of census geography. ICM is a quality check survey program designed to produce statistically valid estimates that correct for undercoverage.

Related term: [Integrated Coverage Measurement \(ICM\)](#)

**Worked in (designated calendar year)**

People 16 years old and over who did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation, paid sick leave, and military service) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business at any time from January to December of the designated calendar year are classified as "worked in (designated calendar year)." All other people 16 years old and over are classified as "Did not work in (designated calendar year)."

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Worked in the past 12 months**

People 16 years old and over who did any work for pay or profit (including paid vacation, sick leave, and military service) or worked without pay on a family farm or in a family business at any time during the past 12 months are classified as "worked in the past 12 months." All other people 16 years old and over are classified as "Did not work in the past 12 months."

Related term: [Employed](#)

**Worker**

This term appears in connection with several subjects: journey-to-work items, class of worker, work status in the past 12 months, weeks worked in the past 12 months, and number of workers in family in the past 12 months. Its meaning varies and, therefore, should be determined in each case by referring to the definition of the subject in which it appears.

Related terms: [Class of worker](#), [Employed](#), [Journey to work](#)

**Year of entry**

All people born outside the United States were asked for the year in which they came to live in the U.S. This includes: people born in Puerto Rico and U.S. Island Areas; people born abroad of a U.S. citizen parent(s); and the foreign born.

Related terms: [Foreign born](#), [Immigrants](#), [Place of birth](#)

**Year structure built**

The data on year structure built were obtained from both occupied and vacant housing units. Year structure built refers to when the building was first constructed, not when it was remodeled, added to, or converted. The data relate to the number of units built during the specified periods that were still in existence at the time of enumeration.

Related term: [Housing unit](#)

**Years of military service**

This is a measure of the total amount of time a person has spent on active duty service in the U.S. Armed Forces. The measure excludes any breaks in active-duty service.

Related term: [Veteran status](#)

**ZIP Code**

A ZIP (Zone Improvement Plan) Code is a five-, seven-, nine-, or eleven-digit code assigned by the U.S. Postal Service to a section of a street, a collection of streets, an establishment, structure, or group of post office boxes, for the delivery of mail.

The Census Bureau uses only 5-digit ZIP codes for the addresses and address ranges in most Census 2000 operations.

**ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)**

A ZIP Code Tabulation Area is a geographic area that approximates the delivery area for a five-digit or a three-digit ZIP Code. ZCTAs do not precisely depict the area within which mail deliveries associated with that ZIP Code occur.

A five-digit ZCTA ending in "HH" (e.g., "006HH") represents the water area within a three-digit ZCTA that is not associated with any mail delivery route.

A five-digit ZCTA ending in "XX" (e.g., "006XX") represents the land area within a three-digit ZCTA that is not associated with any mail delivery route.

**Zona Urbana**

Represents a census designated place that is the governmental center of each municipio in Puerto Rico. There are no incorporated places in Puerto Rico.

Related term: [Municipio](#)