

Administrative Records and the ACS: Future Directions

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What I heard so far ...

We are
already using
administrative
data.

Where to
start?

We need to
do something
now!

We don't have
data on everybody

Think of
change
management!

The data are filled
with
measurement
error and we
have no control.

1. You need to know your (inferential) goal

2. Dare to combine (imperfect) data

3. Empower your team

1. You need to know your inferential goal

Inferential Goals: Products

- Description
- Causation
- Prediction

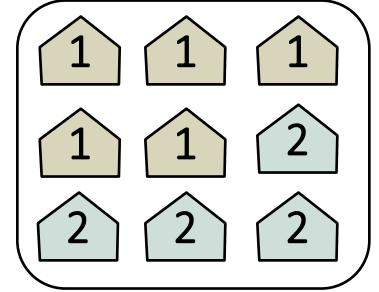
Inferential Goals: Units

- Individuals
- Blocks
- Communities
 - ... all geocoded

1. You need to know your inferential goal

2. Dare to combine (imperfect) data

Imperfect data



- Surveys: filled with measurement error
- Administrative data: filled with error
- Found data: filled with error

... we are used to that

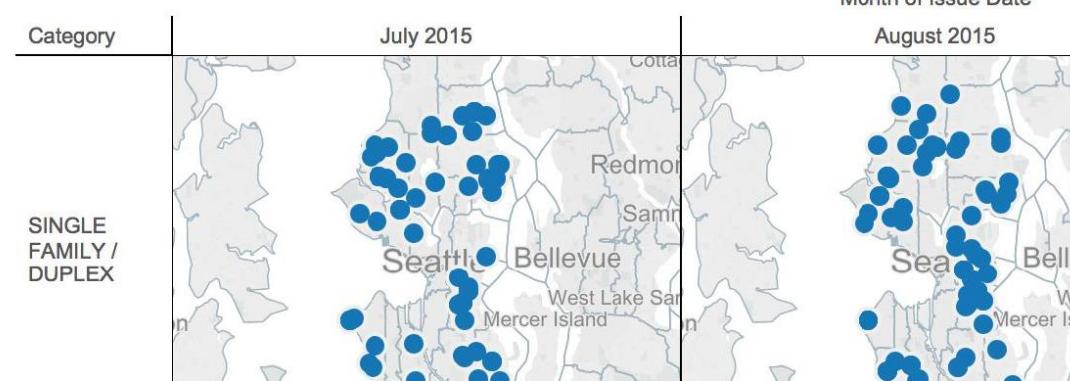
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Big Data for Federal Agencies



Learning modules

Output, Inference & Ethics

Modelling & Analysis

Data Curation/Storage

Data Capture

Research Question



Learn how to communicate results and distribute your data. Know its limitations.

Learn a variety of analysis methods suited for different data types: Network/Text

Learn how to curate and manage data. Understand the advantage of databases.

Understand how to collect data yourself, and how data are generated through administrative and other processes. Learn how to link data. APIs

Be very clear about your research goal and investigate which data are best suited.

Content key words

Output,
Inference & Ethics

Modelling & Analysis

Data Curation/Storage

Data Capture

Research Question



Visualization, disclosure control, ethics, privacy

Statistical methods, machine learning,
Bayesian, hierarchical, small area estimation

Practical training in data base management, SQL,
editing, coding, imputation, etc.

Designed (survey and admin) and organic data
(transaction and aspirational), linkage, matching

Economics, public policy, criminology,
journalism, public health, sociology, etc.

Executive training in the works: NYU – U of Chicago - UMD

- Teams: across disciplines and across academia/gov/private sector
- Learning around data + topic: ACS could be one
- Workshops on modules combined with data work in-between
- Problem + output oriented

