
Presentations



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
June 14–15, 2012 • Washington, DC

□

This compilation does not include materials from every workshop speaker—some presented without the use of slides, and others used only one or two images as pure illustration. Note that all of the workshop presentations, and discussion, will be described in the workshop summary to be produced and released later this year.

□

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Monitoring Health Access using the American Community Survey

Kathleen Thiede Call

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the
American Community Survey

June 14, 2012

Washington, DC

Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Federal and State Agencies

About SHADAC

- We help states collect and analyze data to inform state health policy decisions relating to health insurance coverage and access to care
- Our goal: To help states bridge the gap between health data and the policy-making process
- Based at the University of Minnesota
- Funded primarily by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



States' needs for monitoring coverage

- Consistent estimates
- Trends over time
 - Monitor impacts of health reform
- Comparisons across states
- Subpopulation analysis
 - Race/ethnicity, poverty, age
 - Counties/sub-state areas
- Access to micro-data

Key federal survey data sources

- General household survey
 - ACS: American Community Survey
- Employment/Income survey
 - CPS: Current Population Survey (ASEC)
- Health surveys
 - NHIS: National Health Interview Survey
 - MEPS-HC: Medical Expenditure Panel Survey-Household Component
 - BRFSS: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System



CPS: the good, the bad and the ugly

Good

- Historic trends
- State-level estimates
- Several control variables available
- State-specific public health insurance program names
- Timely data release



Bad

- Low sample in smaller states
- 10% of respondents have entire supplement imputed

Ugly

- Concerns about the coverage questions



ACS to the rescue

- **SAMPLE SIZE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
- Sub-state estimates
- Robust subpopulation analysis
- Representativeness
- Current coverage measured



↑
**The ACS Sample
is almost
15 TIMES GREATER
than the
CPS Sample**
↓

Questions SHADAC helps states answer

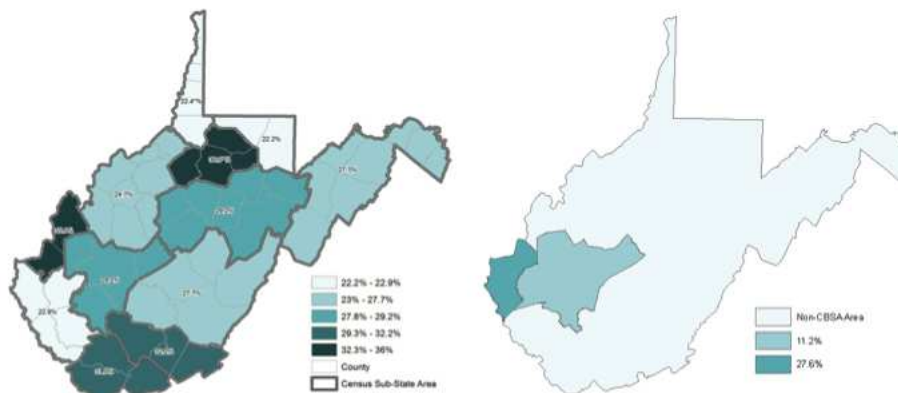
- How many uninsured are in my state and where do they live? What is their demographic profile?
- How many kids in each county are eligible for CHIP or Medicaid but not enrolled?
- How many people in my state will be eligible for Medicaid under ACA?

Where should we allocate funds for community clinics?

% Uninsured in West Virginia, Age 0-64, $\leq 200\%$ of poverty

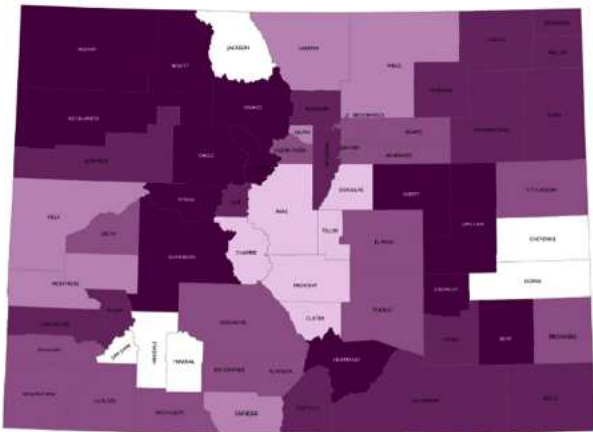
American Community Survey

Current Population Survey



Source: 2009 American Community Survey; 2011 Current Population Survey

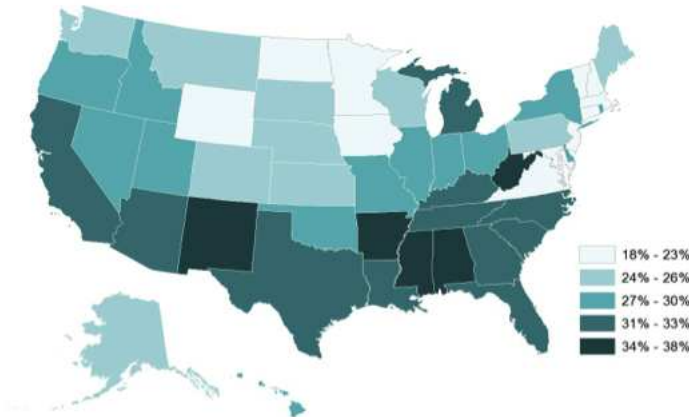
How many uninsured kids in Colorado are eligible for CHIP but not enrolled?



Source: Colorado Health Institute Analysis of 2008-2010 American Community Surveys



What percent of adults will be eligible for Medicaid?



Eligibility based only on health insurance unit income at or below 138% of poverty
Source: 2010 American Community Survey



Unmet needs with American FactFinder

- Does not provide all health policy-relevant measures
 - Health insurance unit rather than Census family
 - Federal poverty *guidelines* (HHS) rather than thresholds
 - FPG cuts at policy-specific levels (138%, 200%)
- Not user-friendly

SHADAC's technical assistance for states

- SHADAC's Data Center
 - Online table and chart generator of policy-relevant tables of health insurance coverage estimates from the ACS and CPS
- Education and capacity building for states
- Relevant to health policy
 - For example, assign family relationships according to health plan eligibility

SHADAC's Data Center

Choose Your Data & Filters

Choose Your Tables

Your Results

Export Tables:

Excel (.csv file)

PDF

Save:

Search Settings

Login Required

Health Insurance Coverage Estimates, ACS, 0-64 Years, All Poverty Levels, Ohio: Calendar Year 2010

	Population			Uninsured			Insured			Private Coverage						Public Coverage									
	Total			Total			Total			Employer			Individual			Total			Medicaid			Medicare			
	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	Count	%	SE	
Race and Ethnicity																									
Hispanic	333	87	26.3	1.66	243	73.7	1.66	135	46.3	1.66	144	43.3	1.82	16	4.8	0.35	102	30.8	1.64	97	29.2	1.62	6	1.8	0.3
White Alone	7,850	1,032	13.1	0.22	6,819	86.9	0.22	5,799	73.9	0.31	5,386	68.6	0.32	599	7.6	0.13	1,268	16.2	0.26	1,060	13.5	0.23	206	2.6	0.0
Black Alone	1,218	214	17.6	0.57	1,003	82.4	0.57	567	46.6	0.94	535	43.9	0.94	66	5.4	0.35	484	39.8	0.94	439	36.0	0.95	52	4.3	0.2
Asian Alone	183	23	12.7	1.50	160	87.3	1.50	152	83.1	1.69	128	69.7	1.98	30	16.4	1.42	10	5.4	0.98	9	4.9	0.96	1	0.7	0.2
Multiple/other non-Hispanic	226	25	11.2	1.15	201	88.8	1.15	129	56.9	1.93	120	53.0	1.94	13	5.7	0.70	83	36.6	1.87	77	34.1	1.85	5	2.3	0.3
Total	9,809	1,382	14.1	0.20	8,427	85.9	0.20	6,801	69.3	0.30	6,311	64.3	0.31	723	7.4	0.14	1,948	19.9	0.26	1,682	17.1	0.26	271	2.8	0.0
Filtered Total	9,809	1,382	14.1	0.20	8,427	85.9	0.20	6,801	69.3	0.30	6,311	64.3	0.31	723	7.4	0.14	1,948	19.9	0.26	1,682	17.1	0.26	271	2.8	0.0

www.shadac.org/datacenter



Conclusions

- Due to large and representative sample the ACS fills a gap in state-level data to inform policy decisions
 - Statewide and locally
 - Subpopulations; small minority, age or income groups
- The ACS is widely accessible
 - Don't need to be a data programmer
- The ACS is a great tool for modeling/linking with other data to develop state-level estimates
- Benchmarking and sub-population analysis will be compromised if ACS becomes voluntary



Wish list for future versions of the ACS

- Data updates during the year
 - e.g., NHIS midyear reporting
- Self reported health status
- Access measure




Sign up to receive our
newsletter and updates at
www.shadac.org



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
School of Public Health




**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH and MENTAL HYGIENE**

Using the ACS at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

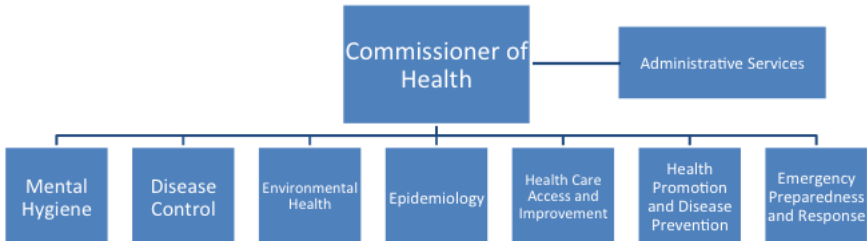
James Stark
Kevin Konty

June 14, 2012




1

DOHMH

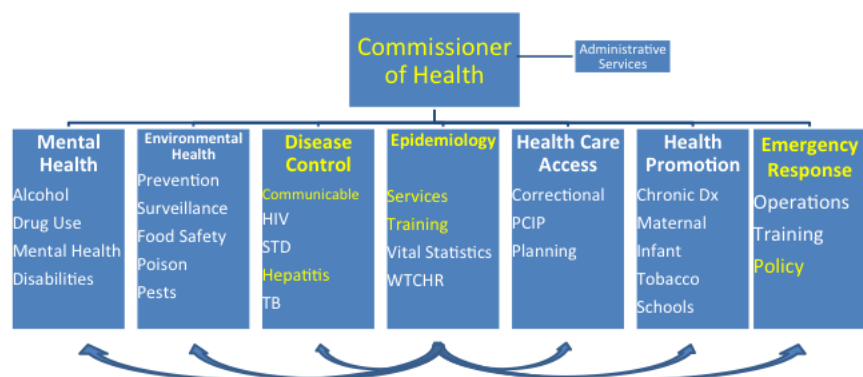


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graph TD; CH[Commissioner of Health] --- AS[Administrative Services]; CH --- MH[Mental Hygiene]; CH --- DC[Disease Control]; CH --- EH[Environmental Health]; CH --- EP[Epidemiology]; CH --- HCAI[Health Care Access and Improvement]; CH --- HPDP[Health Promotion and Disease Prevention]; CH --- EPR[Emergency Preparedness and Response];
```



2

Who Uses the ACS



3



Areas of Interest

1. Demographic detail
 - Custom population descriptions
 - Surveys
 - Denominators
2. Area-based poverty measures
3. Epidemiology
4. Model-based estimation
5. Emergency preparedness

4



Demographic Details



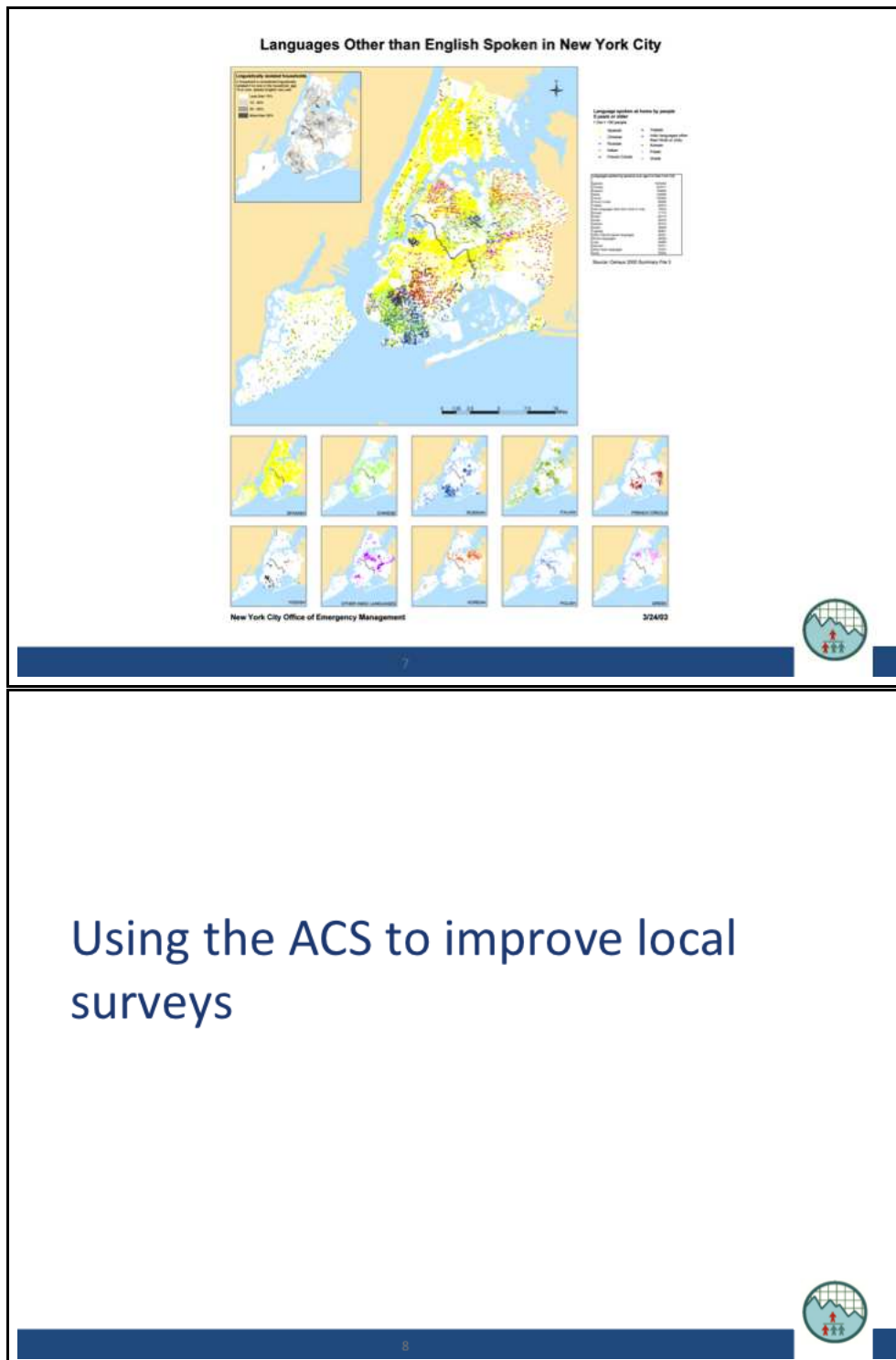
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Populations

- BY:
 - Occupation
 - Household composition for public employees
 - Recent Immigrants
 - Private /public school status
 - Disability status
 - Language spoken
 - Native American classification
- For
 - Small areas
 - Surrounding counties
 - The nations as a whole



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Inputs to NYC Community Health Survey (CHS)

Surveys

- CHS
- Physical activity and transit
- Youth risk behavioral factor surveillance system
- NYC HANES
- Control totals for post-stratification weighting:
 - Boro x Education status
 - Boro x Marital status
 - Boro x Household size
- Use changes in population data from ACS to help update measures of cell phone-only users

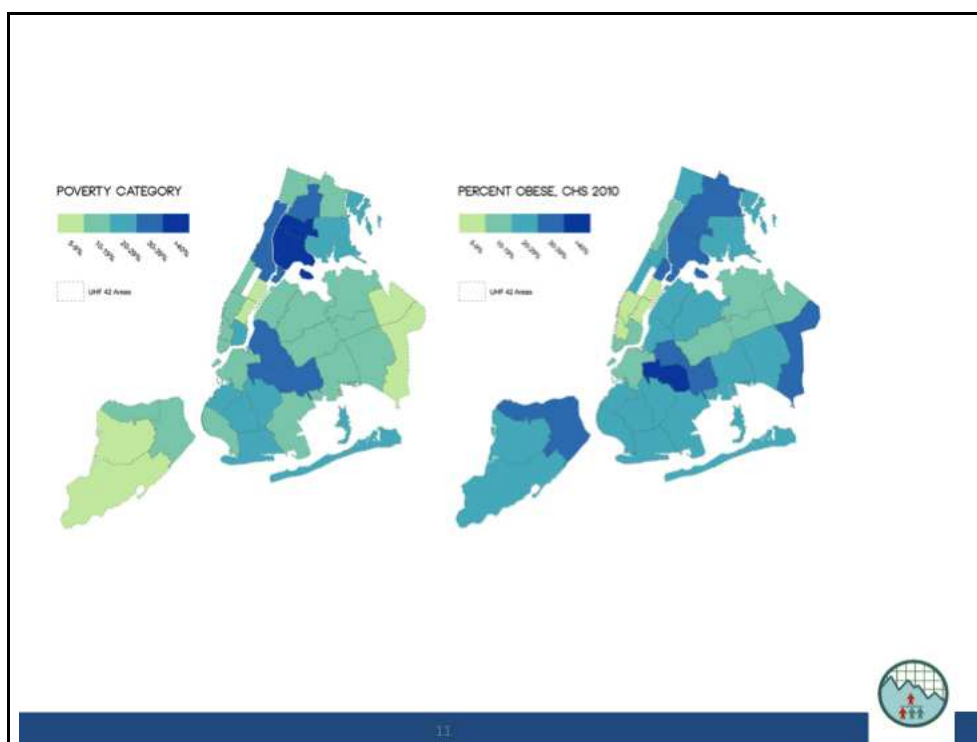


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Area-based Poverty Measures



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Using the ACS to study the
epidemiology of specific diseases

Legionnaire's Disease

- Hypothesis: occupations associated with plumbing, air cooling systems and working outdoors are associated with an elevated risk of LD
- Cases classified into occupational categories used by ACS

ACS Occupational Categories	Number of Cases (%)	Number in NYC Population (%)	Odds Ratio (95% CI)
Cleaning and Janitorial	24 (7.6)	214562 (4.7)	1.63 (1.08,2.48)
Healthcare	21 (6.7)	381459 (8.3)	.77 (.49,1.19)
Machinery/Construction/Manufacturing	83 (26.3)	736147 (15.9)	1.81 (1.41,2.33)
Office	125 (39.7)	2519016 (54.7)	.51 (0.41,0.64)
Service Work/Personal Care	34 (10.8)	475045 (10.3)	1.02 (.71,1.45)

Andrea Farnham, draft do not cite



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Using the ACS for model-based estimation



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Model based estimation context

1. Lack data to produce direct estimates
2. Have data to construct a model (eg NHANES)
3. Have auxiliary information that describes the population and are predictors in the model (eg ACS)

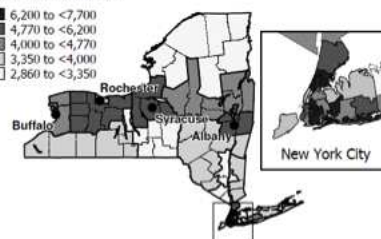
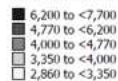


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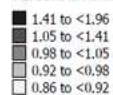
Percent chronic HCV



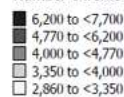
Number chronic HCV



Percent chronic HCV



Number chronic HCV



Rachel Hart-Malloy, NY State Department of Health, draft do not cite



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Using the ACS to prepare for and respond to emergencies

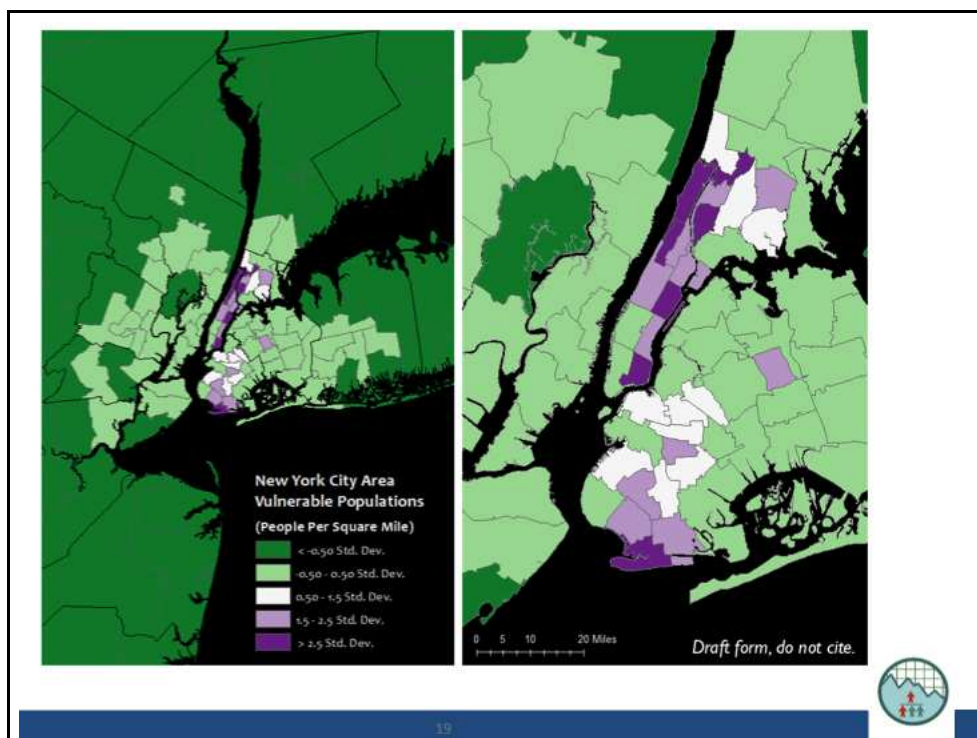


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	Person A	Person B	Person C
Individual			
Over 80 Years	✓		
Under 10 Years		✓	
Does Not Speak English Well			✓
Vision Difficulty	✓		
Hearing Difficulty			✓
Independent Living Difficulty	✓	✓	
Ambulatory Difficulty	✓		
Cognitive Difficulty	✓		✓
No Health Insurance		✓	
Self Care Difficulty		✓	
Household			
Incomplete Plumbing Facilities		✓	
Rural or Suburban and No Car	✓		
Grandparent Headed HHD	✓		
Poverty			
Total	7	5	3



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Thank you

jstark@health.nyc.gov

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ACS APPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES PLANNING

*Richard K. Thomas, Ph.D.
Health and Performance Resources
University of Mississippi*

BACKGROUND

- *Healthcare consultant*
- *Health services researcher*
- *Demography instructor*
- *Author of 20+ books on demography and healthcare*

BACKGROUND

- *Ph.D. in medical sociology*
- *40+ years experience in healthcare (both public and private sectors)*
- *NO formal demography training*

OVERVIEW OF ACS APPLICATIONS

- *Community profiles*
- *Health status assessment*
- *Health services demand estimates*
- *Determination of need (e.g., CONs)*
- *Site selection*
- *Business development*
- *Health planning (various)*



RELEVANT ACS DATA

- *Basic demographic/socioeconomic data*
- *Project-relevant data*
- *Health-specific data*



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

- *ABC Health Network wants to add a new clinic in an area thought to be underserved*
- *ABC needs to understand the overall characteristics of the target community*
- *ABC needs to determine if the population meets its criteria*
- *ABC needs to determine the type*
- *and volume of services required*



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

Technical Note 1:

While this presentation involves the establishment of a new facility, the same process could be used to assess the feasibility of adding, modifying, expanding or even eliminating a site or a service



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

Technical Note 2:

Data considerations:

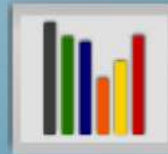
- *Past/present/future timeframes*
- *Typically use 5-year average (with “verification”)*
- *Focus on county or census tract (depending on...)*
- *Access to other sources of data to supplement ACS data*



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

Creating a demographic profile:

- Population size
- Population distribution
- Age distribution
- Sex distribution
- Race/ethnicity



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

Creating a socioeconomic profile:

- Household structure
- Marital status
- Education level
- Income level
- Employment status



CASE STUDY: PLANNING FOR A NEW HEALTH CLINIC

Screening for eligibility:

- Race/ethnicity
- Poverty rate
- Unemployment rate
- Educational level
- Single-parent households
- Fertility



ADVANCED APPLICATION: ESTIMATING MORBIDITY AND HEALTH SERVICES DEMAND

Morbidity status:

- Overall level of sickness within area
- Types of health problems within area
- Conditions for which services may be sought



ADVANCED APPLICATION: ESTIMATING MORBIDITY AND HEALTH SERVICES DEMAND

Health services demand:

- *Type and volume of services required*
- *Type and number of practitioners required*
- *Type of equipment needed*
- *Type and volume of prescription drug utilization*



ADVANCED APPLICATION: ESTIMATING MORBIDITY AND HEALTH SERVICES DEMAND

Methodology 1:

- *Obtain age-sex distribution (5-year intervals) from ACS*
- *Determine region of the U.S.*
- *Apply NCHS incidence/prevalence rates (by age/sex/region) to target area's population*
- *Generate number of cases for relevant health conditions*



ADVANCED APPLICATION: ESTIMATING MORBIDITY AND HEALTH SERVICES DEMAND

Methodology 2:

- Obtain age-sex distribution (5-year intervals) from ACS
- Determine region of the U.S.
- Apply NCHS utilization rates (by age/sex/region) to target area's population
- Generate number of utilization episodes for a wide range of services and practitioners



ACS APPLICATIONS: OVERALL ASSESSMENT

- Only source for much of the data
- Relatively timely
- Adequate detail
- Appropriate geographic levels
- Easily accessible
- Considered the “standard” (and, thus, acceptable to federal agencies)
- Large margin of error



ACS APPLICATIONS: SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

- Increase sample size
- Speed up turnaround time
- Reassess questions (based on user input)
 - Add some
 - Delete others



ACS APPLICATIONS: THE FUTURE IN HEALTHCARE

- Increasing need for data for a variety of uses
- Legal reporting requirements for NFP hospitals
- Expanded federal funding of health services/facilities
- Growing emphasis on marketing
- Increased need to understand the healthcare consumer



**ACS APPLICATIONS:
CONTACT INFORMATION**

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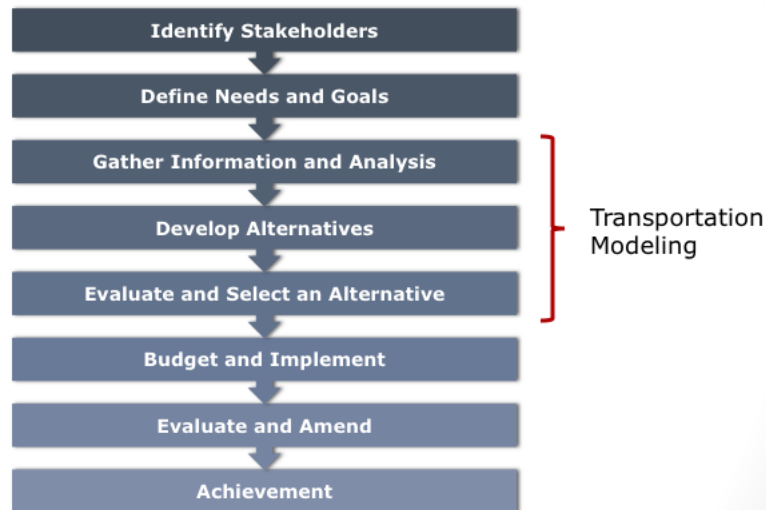
San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)

- SANDAG is the MPO/COG for the San Diego region
- Board of Directors composed of voting members from each city and the county plus advisory representatives
- Focus on issues of regional significance, including:
 - Transportation planning
 - Air quality and environmental planning
 - Housing
 - Census Data Center

[2]

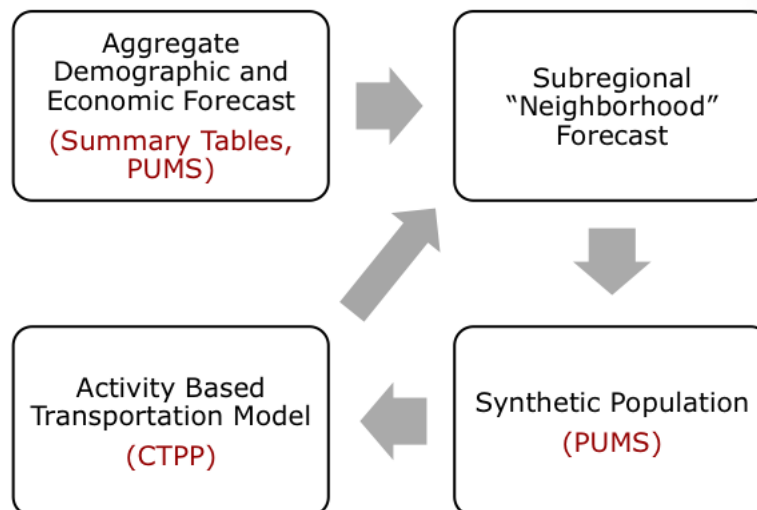


Basic Steps in Transportation Planning Process



[3]

Transportation Modeling Process



[4]

Predicting Future Population: PUMS

Aggregate
Demographic and
Economic Forecast
(Summary Tables,
PUMS)



- Key variables:
 - Headship
 - Group quarters characteristics
 - School enrollment
 - Housing structure choice
 - Military and dependent demographic characteristics



[5]

Predicting Future Travel Patterns: PUMS

Synthetic Population
(PUMS)



- Key variables:
 - Auto ownership
 - Family structure (presence of children)
 - Labor force status (number of workers in household)
 - Income



[6]

Developing and Calibrating Models: CTPP

Activity Based
Transportation Model
(CTPP)

- Key variables:
 - Commute flows
 - Mode choice



[7]

CTPP = Census Transportation Planning Products

Special ACS Tabulation for
Transportation Community



CTPP is an umbrella program of

1. Data products
2. Custom data tabulations
3. Training
4. Technical assistance
5. Research for the transportation community



[8]

CTPP Overview



- 3-year and 5-year products
- More detailed transportation tables than ACS standard products
 - **Only source of small area trip data**
- Subject to Census Bureau Disclosure Review Board
 - Title 13

[9]



CTPP: What would happen if ACS were voluntary?

"Nothing in Nothing out"

Smaller sample size = more data suppression

Smaller sample size = unreliable estimates



[10]



ACS data also crucial for evaluation

Transportation plan must be shown to provide equivalent benefits and to impose no disparate burdens on minority and low income communities

[11]



Environmental Justice and Social Equity Analysis

"No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (1964)

"To the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review, each Federal agency shall make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States and its territories and possessions..."

Executive Order 12898 (1994)

[12]



Communities of Concern

- Users expect small-area detail:
 - Language spoken at home
 - incl. detail used to guide outreach campaigns
- Income and poverty
- Race/ethnicity
- Age
- Disability status



[13]

Concluding Thoughts

- Modeling and reporting requirements demand data with increasing spatial and demographic detail
- A larger sample size would be ideal to support:
 - the work required by federal, state, and local regulations
 - the high quality analysis needed to plan for critical infrastructure needs

SANDAG

[14]

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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Updating Title VI Reports Using the ACS A Status Update

National Research Council
Of the National Academies
June 14, 2012

Vincent L. Sanders
Lead Transportation Systems Planner
Metropolitan Transit Authority, Harris County, Texas

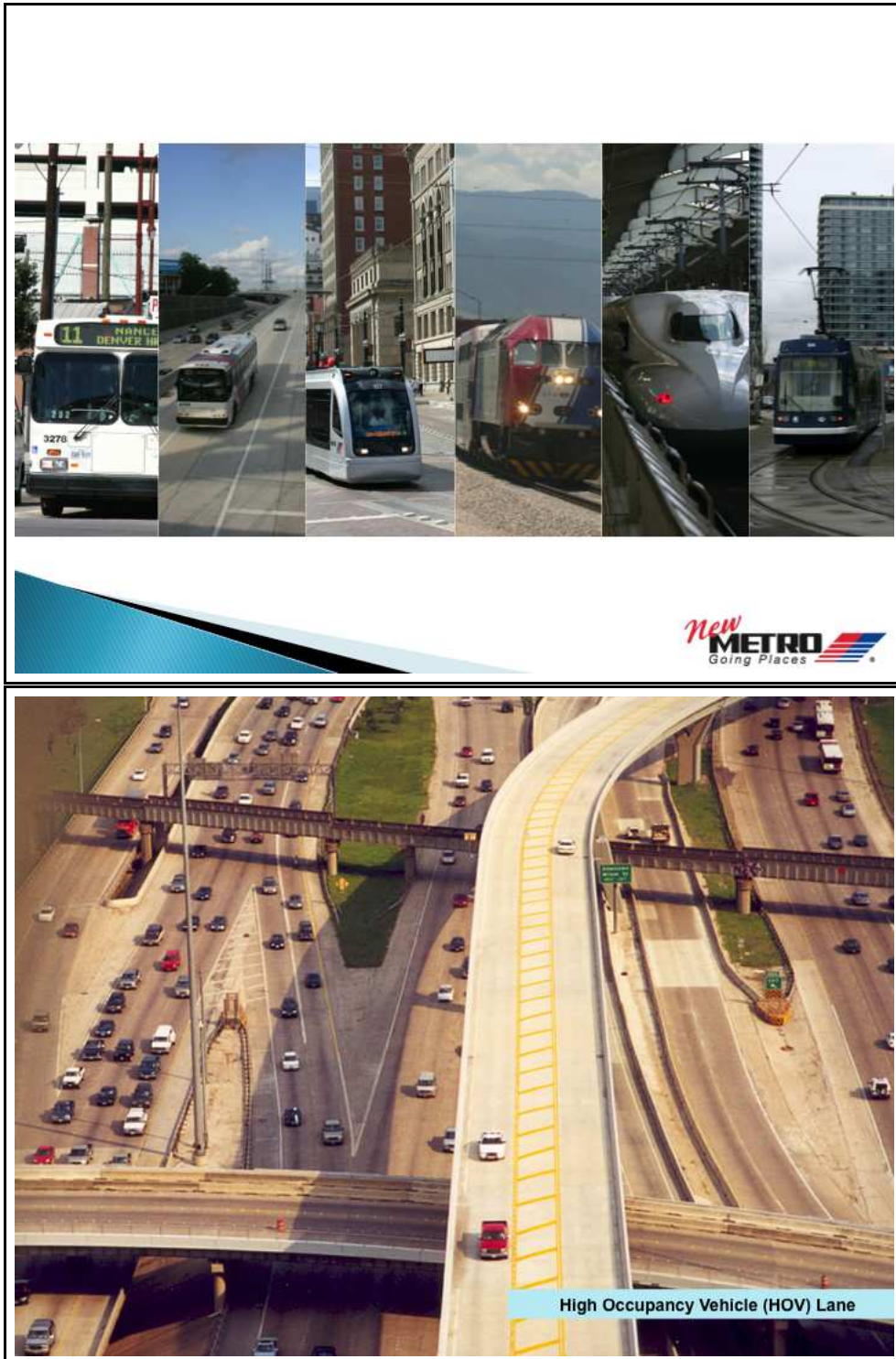


Who is METRO?

- ▶ METRO is one of the nation's largest public transportation systems, serving a 1,285 square mile service area
- ▶ METRO provides bus, light rail, HOV, carpool/van services and demand responsive public transportation services in the Harris County, Texas Region.
 - Bus Routes 130
 - Bus Fleet 1,248
 - Rail Fleet size 18
 - Park & Ride Lots 29
 - Transit Centers 20
 - Vanpool Vehicles 708
 - Total Fixed Route Boardings (Bus & Rail) 76,952,283



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Executive Order 12898 (1994)

11

Title VI Dependent Guidelines for FTA Recipients

- ▶ The Federal Transit Authority (FTA) references the DOT Guidance in its Circular 4702.1A, "Title VI and Title VI-Dependent Guidelines for FTA Recipients." The circular, published on April 13, 2007:
 - This guideline requires that we provide services to individual that are Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and we develop language implementation plan
- ▶ The DOT LEP Guidance sets out four factors that recipients of Federal funds, including METRO, should consider. These are:
 1. The number and proportion of LEP persons served or encountered in the eligible service population
 2. The frequency with which LEP individuals come into contact with METRO's programs, activities, and services
 3. The importance to LEP persons of METRO's program, activities, and services
 4. Assessing the current resources available and costs to provide language assistance services



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Factor One: Identifying Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Persons in the METRO Service Area (MSA)

- ▶ DOT Guidance: "The greater the number of LEP persons from a particular language group served or encountered in the eligible service population, the more likely language services are needed."



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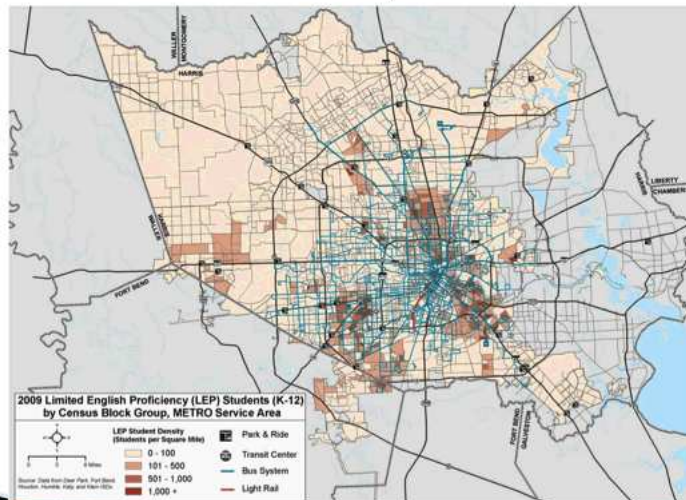
LEP

- ▶ Individuals who:
 - Do not speak English as their primary language
 - Have a limited ability to read, speak, write, or understand English
 - Census: “A person who speaks another language other than English at home and does not speak English well or not at all”

The Triennial Review Process

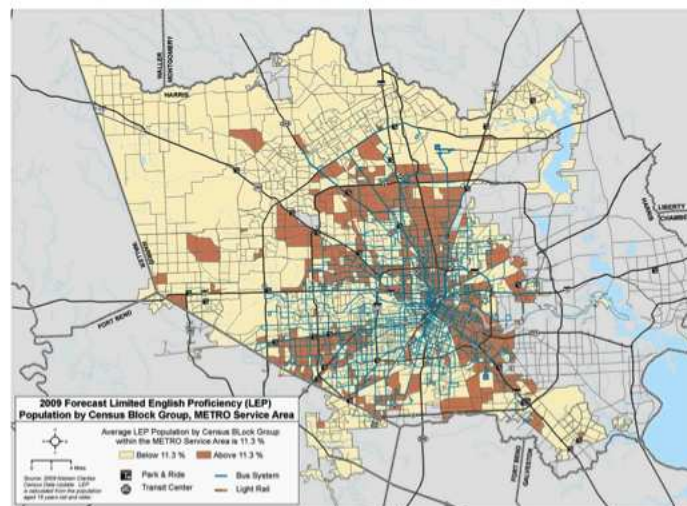
- ▶ The data sources we used in 2009:
 - Census 2000
 - School District Data
 - Nielsen Claritas Census Data Update 2009

LOCATIONS OF LEP STUDENTS IN THE METRO SERVICE AREA (Using school district data)



16 **New METRO**
Going Places

2009 LEP POPULATION BY CENSUS BLOCK GROUP (Using Claritas data)



17 **New METRO**
Going Places

Data Source for METRO's 2012 Title VI Reports:

- ▶ The American Community Survey to the rescue!!!
 - The ACS collects and produces population information every year instead of every ten years.



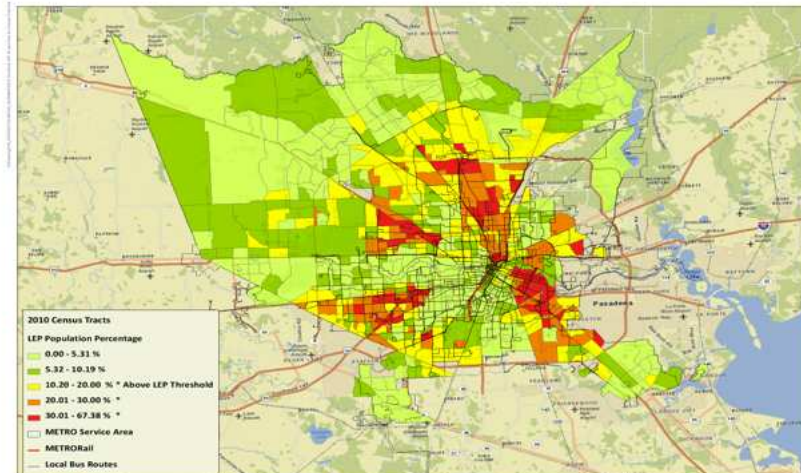
Top Five Languages Spoken in Harris County

Language	Number of People	Percent of Population
Spanish	1,177,115	31.10%
Vietnamese	59,131	1.66%
Chinese	36,454	1.02%
French	15,351	0.43%
Tagalog	14,894	0.41%

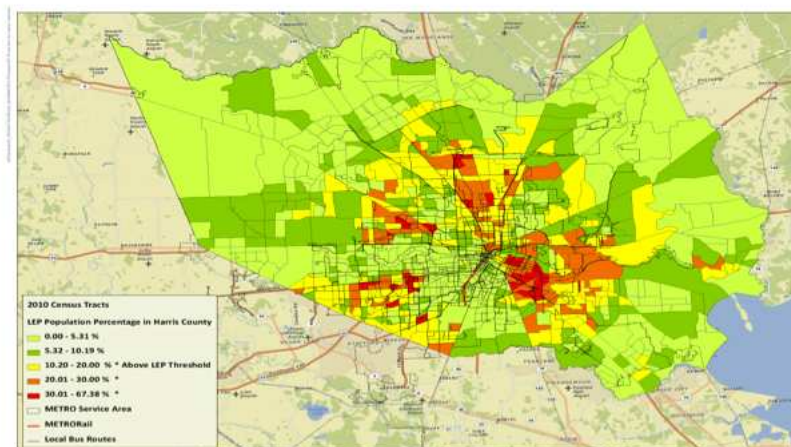
Source: ACS 2006–2010 Estimate



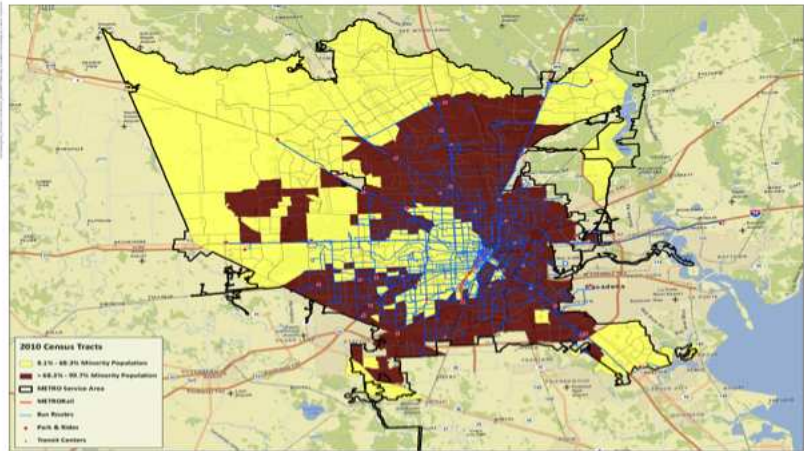
LEP Population % in the MSA



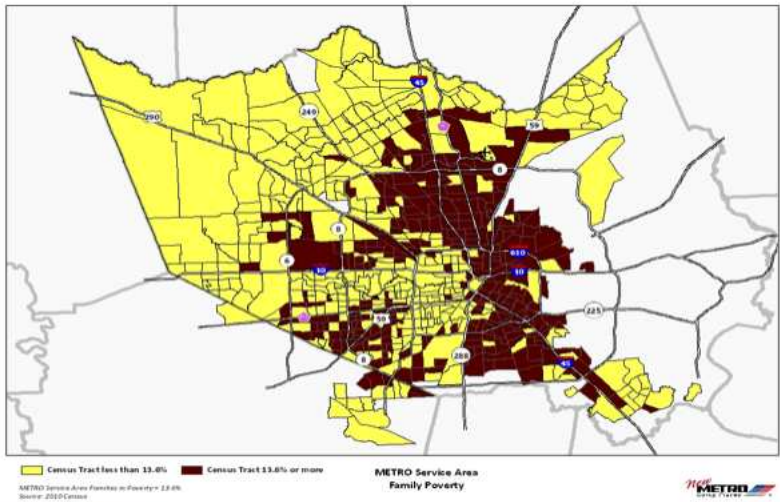
LEP Population % in Harris County



Minority Population in MSA



Family Poverty Levels in MSA



Other Title VI Reports we updated using ACS data are:

- ▶ **Percentage of Individual categories for Minority Groups**
 - Hispanic, African American, Asian and Other
- ▶ **Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English – Harris County and the METRO Service Area**



More data results from ACS

- ▶ In the METRO Service area 12.69% of the population is LEP.
 - THE AVERAGE PERCENT POP IS CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:
(Total LEP Population)/(Total surveyed recipients)
- ▶ Approximately half of the population in the METRO service area are located within ¼ mile of route service and have a LEP percentage higher than the threshold average.



YES HOUSTON and METRO NEED THE ACS!!!!



THANK YOU!!!



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Studying Safety Net Policies with the ACS Data

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey, June 14, 2012

Linda Giannarelli



This Presentation

- CPS vs. ACS for studying social safety net programs
 - Income, employment, and benefit data
 - Sample sizes
- Safety net analysis allowed by the ACS
- Urban Institute safety net analysis with the ACS data
 - Impacts of current policies
 - “What if” analyses of alternative policies

ACS vs. CPS for Studying Safety Net Programs

- CPS Annual Social and Economic Supplement:
 - Source of official poverty statistics
 - Lots of detail on annual income, family structure
 - But.... Sample size not big enough for most state analysis of low-income families
- American Community Survey
 - Less detail on income and family structure
 - But ... *Very large samples* allow state and substate analysis of low-income families and subgroups

Some Weaknesses of ACS Data (vs. CPS) for Safety Net Analysis

- Income data
 - All types of welfare collected in one variable
 - Several income types of income are collected in an “all other income” variable—child support, unemployment comp, workers comp, others
- Employment data
 - Weeks of work asked in ranges
 - No question on weeks of looking for work
- Benefits
 - No question on value of food stamps
 - No question on public housing

State Sample Sizes, 2009 CPS-ASEC vs. 2008 ACS (# of people*)

<i>Selected States</i>	All		<200% Poverty	
	CPS	ACS	CPS	ACS
Georgia	5,467	91,855	2,062	28,007
Illinois	8,148	123,120	2,591	30,418
Massachusetts	4,058	62,462	925	11,850
Wisconsin	4,497	56,572	1,098	13,236

* Person counts exclude people in group quarters

Safety Net Analysis Allowed by the ACS Data

- Persons/families in poverty - official and expanded (SPM) measures
 - Numbers, characteristics
- Characteristics of families / persons receiving benefits (TANF, SSI, SNAP), by measures not available in administrative data
- Families / persons who appear to be eligible for programs, but not receiving benefits
- “What if” analyses

State-Level Eligibility Estimates

- CCDF state-level estimates
 - Currently use 2 year combined CPS data
 - Very large standard errors
- WIC state-level eligibility estimates
 - Now using combination of CPS and ACS

The ACS allows...

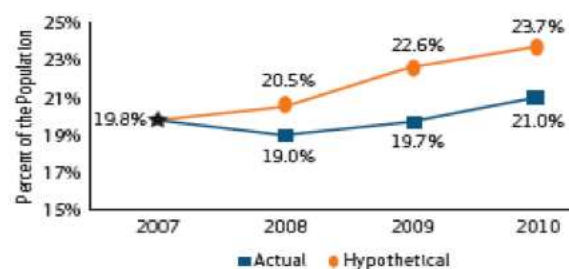
- Not only state analysis, but also substate analysis (depending on whether 1, 3, or 5-year data)
- Analysis of subgroups of low-income families

Some ACS-based Safety Net Analyses

- New York
 - Tracking poverty using expanded definition, year by year
 - New York Center for Economic Opportunity: developed methods, applied to New York City
 - New York state: NYC methods adapted to state level
- Institute for Research on Poverty
 - Wisconsin Poverty measure
 - Statewide and sub-areas of the state

New York CEO Safety Net Analysis

FIGURE TWO
Actual and Hypothetical CEO Poverty Rates,
2007 - 2010



Source: American Community Survey Public Use Micro Sample as augmented by CEO.

"The CEO Poverty Measure, 2005-2010", http://www.nyc.gov/html/ceo/downloads/pdf/CEO_Poverty_Measure_April_16.pdf

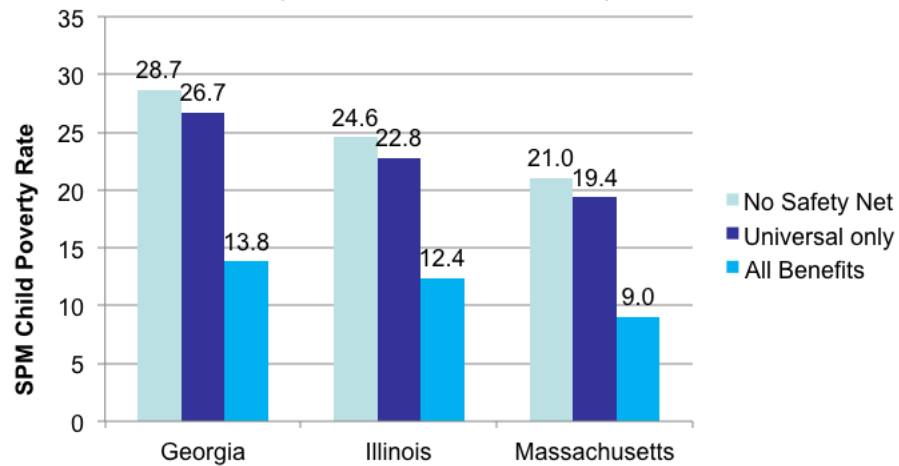
Urban Institute Analysis with the ACS Data

- Understanding the impact of current safety net programs at the state level
- Estimating the impact of possible changes in safety net programs at the state level

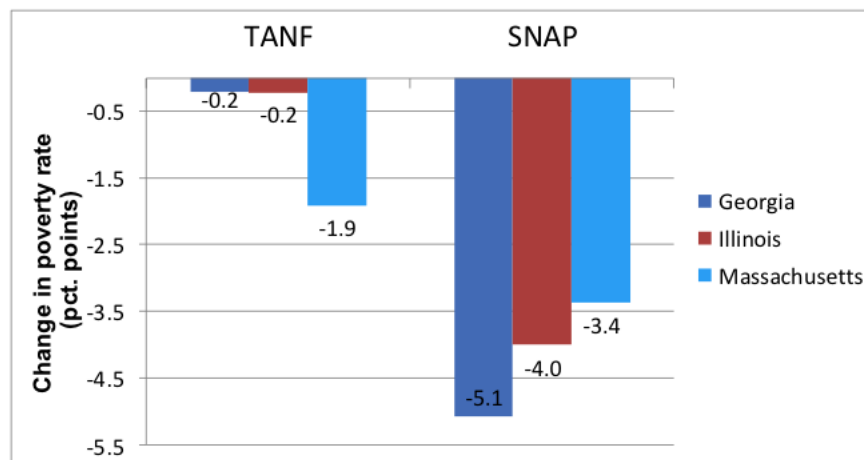
An Analysis of Current Safety Net Policies

- Question: How do states' safety net policies affect child and non-elderly adult poverty?
- Focal states: GA, IL, MA (narrow, medium and broad safety nets)
- 2008 ACS data, supplemented with data from the TRIM3 microsimulation model
- State-level SPM-type poverty measures
- Funded by the Annie E. Casey foundation

The Safety Net Reduces the Child Poverty Rate by Half (2008 ACS, 3 states)



Effects of TANF and SNAP on the SPM Child Poverty Rate (2008 ACS, 3 states)



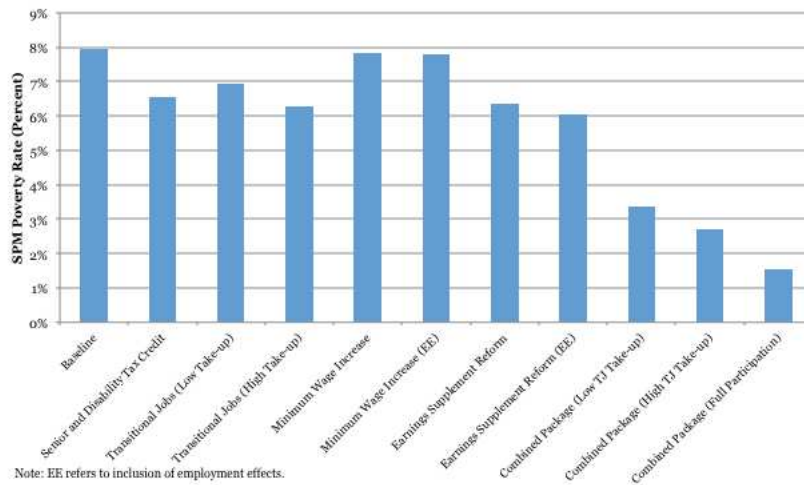
“What if” Analysis

- Initial “what if” state poverty analysis used CPS
 - Analyses for Connecticut and Minnesota poverty commissions in 2008/2009
 - Simulations of potential policies with the TRIM3 simulation model
 - Had to combine 2 years of CPS data for sufficient sample - samples still small
 - Very limited ability to look at subgroups of low-income population
- In 2009/2010, adapted TRIM3 model to use the ACS data (funding from Casey foundation)
 - Minnesota 2006 data used as test case

“What if” projects with ACS data

- Illinois (for Heartland Alliance)
- Wisconsin (for Community Advocates)
- Both projects used
 - 2008 ACS data
 - ACS version of the TRIM3 model
 - SPM poverty definition

Change in Wisconsin SPM Poverty Rate by Policy (draft, do not cite)



SPM Poverty Estimates, Wisconsin

	Baseline	All Alt. Policies
TOTAL	8.0%	1.5%
By race/ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	6.5%	1.4%
Black, non-Hispanic	18.5%	2.9%
Hispanic	15.3%	2.3%
Family structure		
In a family w/kids	6.4%	0.7%
In single-head family w/kids	23.2%	4.3%
In a family with head 65+	9.0%	1.9%
Educational status (persons 25+)		
< high school	15.2%	1.8%
high school	7.1%	1.1%
> high school	4.2%	0.6%

Conclusion

- ACS income and benefit data have some limitations relative to CPS, but...
- Large sample size is invaluable for state and local analysis
- ACS allows state and local analysis of
 - Operation and impact of current policies
 - Potential impact of alternative policies
 - Impacts on subgroups of low-income population
- Interest from other states in analyses similar to Illinois and Wisconsin analyses

USING THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR DATA-INFORMED DECISION MAKING AROUND SOCIAL SERVICES

Amy Terpstra | Social IMPACT Research Center

Social IMPACT Research Center

- dynamic research and analysis
- on today's most pressing social issues and solutions
- to help equip policy decision makers
- in efforts towards a just global society



www.heartlandalliance.org/research

Use the ACS to...

Educate and Promote Policy Change

Reports on Illinois Poverty



1 2011 Report on Illinois Poverty

Illinois Poverty Profile: It's a Statewide Concern

Poverty and hardship in Illinois are not limited to one region of the state; counties all across Illinois struggle with poverty-related issues. Visit www.illinois.gov/poverty to access county-level data and download the state poverty map.

Scale of Illinois Poverty, 2010¹

764,391 at 15% of household income below poverty level (50% of the federal poverty threshold)	+	967,320 at 17% of household income below 20% and 30% of the federal poverty threshold	=	1,731,711 (13.8%) of Illinois's total population
1,105,801 at 7.5% of household income below 10% and 20% of the federal poverty threshold	+	1,114,980 at 10% of household income below 10% and 20% of the federal poverty threshold	=	2,220,781 (17.7%) of Illinois's total population

Illinois Poverty Rates Over Time²

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2007	2010
Number	1,107,346	1,258,641	1,249,791	1,761,548	1,498,748	1,731,711
Percent	16.2	11.6	11.9	16.7	11.9	13.8

Populations in Poverty, 2010³

Group ⁴	Population ⁵	Percent of State Population	Number Below Poverty	Percent of Below Poverty Population	Percent in Poverty
Illinois Total	12,543,437	100.0	1,731,711	100.0	13.8
Children (0-17)	3,085,918	24.6	600,645	34.7	19.4
Working-Age Adults (18-64)	7,405,758	59.0	1,031,778	60.1	13.7
Seniors (65+)	1,549,763	12.4	125,036	7.5	5.4
White Non-Hispanic	7,962,473	63.5	682,436	39.4	8.7
Hispanic	1,781,587	14.2	168,316	9.7	9.4
Asian	875,076	7.0	66,252	3.9	7.8
Hispanic	7,099,386	56.6	408,346	23.6	3.3

¹ACS may not be a perfect measure.

²Population and poverty rates are calculated using the 2010 Census data and are not adjusted for the effects of the 2010 Census on the 2000 Census data.

³Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of the United States, 2010, Summary File 1, and the 2010 Census of the United States, Summary File 1, and the 2010 Census of the United States, Summary File 1.

⁴Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of the United States, 2010, Summary File 1, and the 2010 Census of the United States, Summary File 1.

⁵Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of the United States, 2010, Summary File 1, and the 2010 Census of the United States, Summary File 1.

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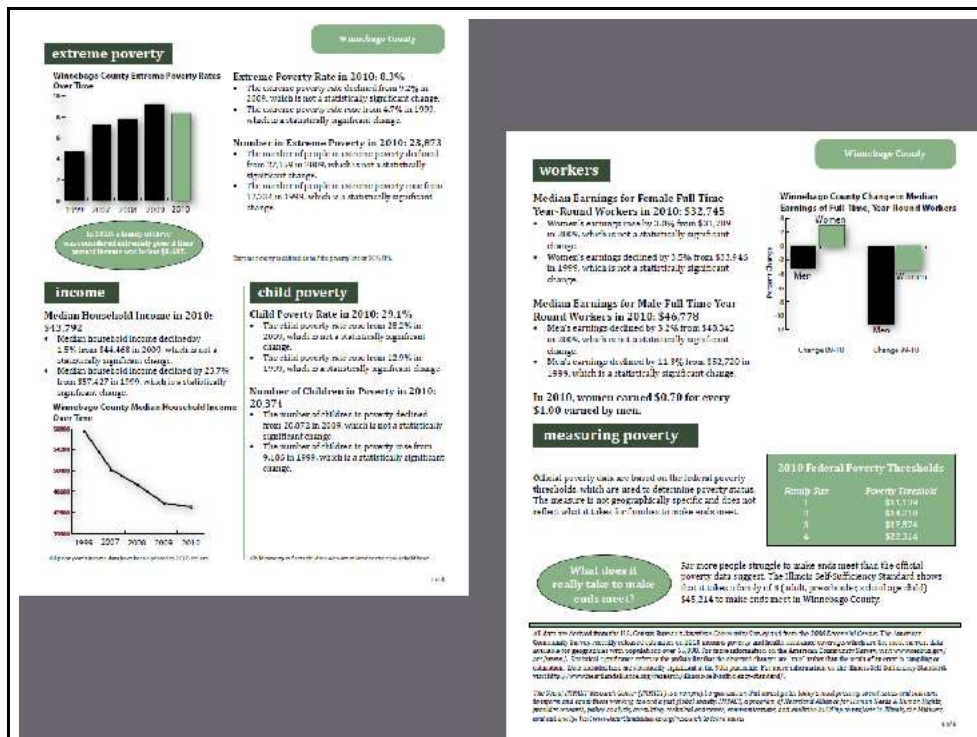
Use the ACS to...

Understand Local Trends

Fall Census Data Release



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



SOCIAL IMPACT RESEARCH CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 22, 2011
CONTACT: Amy Russell
Social Impact Research Center at Heartland Alliance
Phone: 312.370.4997

The Recession's Toll: Significant Poverty Growth and Income Declines throughout Illinois and the Midwest

Immediate, Expert Analysis Available

The U.S. Census Bureau released new local information on income, poverty rates, and health insurance coverage from the American Community Survey on Thursday, September 22.

Thursday, September 22 and Friday, September 23 experts on poverty issues from the Social Impact Research Center will be available to provide analysis of the new data and discuss their context and implications.

IMPACT is also summarizing the new information in customized fact sheets based on local data for all Illinois counties and places with populations over 60,000 and Midwest states, including a 2010 snapshot and trend over time analysis. These fact sheets will be available on request and will also be made available throughout the day on Thursday, September 22 and Friday, September 23 at <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/research/current-local-data/local-fact-sheets.html>.

While the recession temporarily ended in 2009, these new data show declining incomes, stubbornly high unemployment, and record numbers experiencing poverty persist across Illinois and throughout the Midwest, leading to increasing hardship and need in local communities. The number of people experiencing poverty in Illinois has increased by 439,753 people from 1999 to 2010. It is clear that economic troubles are far from over for working individuals and families throughout the Midwest, with data highlighting further the human consequences of the recession. Some notable findings from today's release include:

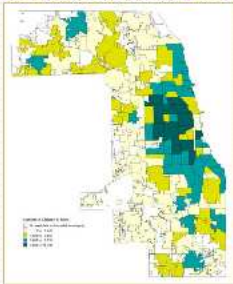
- 1,731,731 people living in Illinois experienced poverty in 2010, a rate of 23.8%, up from 23.7% in 2000 and 10.7% in 1999.
- The 2010 household median income for Illinois is \$52,972, which is \$7,995 below the median income in 1999.
- Overall 24.6% of Midwesterners are living in poverty. The number of people in poverty in the Midwest dramatically grew by 3,127,812 people from 1999 to 2010.

[more](#)

Use the ACS to...

Drive Informed, Solutions-Based Change

Greater Chicago Food Depository & Data Requests



Hunger Among Seniors in Cook County

An Analysis of Older Adult Federal Nutrition Programs

Study conducted for the Greater Chicago Food Depository
by the Social IMPACT Research Center
May 2012



Map 1. Program Coverage: Total Meals Served in Relation to Need by Suburban Cook County Townships and Chicago Community Areas

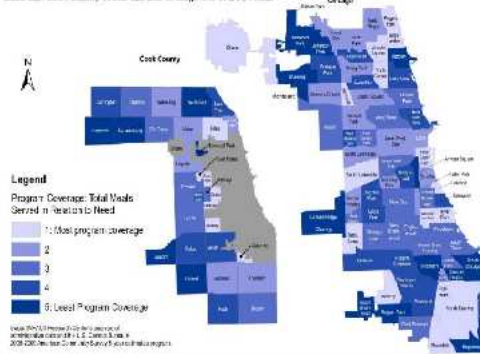


Table 1. Program Coverage: Total Meals Served in Relation to Need by Chicago Community Areas (CCA)

CCA	Number of Total Meals Served	Number of Economically Vulnerable Older Adults	Ratio of Meals Served to Older Adults in Need
Harold L. Brown	14,371	1,444	9.95:1
Palmer Park	40,031	261	153.38:1
Capital Ridge	237,022	1,031	230.18:1
Chicago	1,144	894	1.27:1
Greater Chicago Food Depository	17,721	1,114	15.91:1
Harold L. Brown	14,371	1,444	9.95:1
Palmer Park	40,031	261	153.38:1
Capital Ridge	237,022	1,031	230.18:1
Chicago	1,144	894	1.27:1
Greater Chicago Food Depository	17,721	1,114	15.91:1

Table 2. Program Coverage: Total Meals Served in Relation to Need by Suburban Cook County Townships

Township	Number of Total Meals Served	Number of Economically Vulnerable Older Adults	Ratio of Meals Served to Older Adults in Need
Harold L. Brown	14,371	1,444	9.95:1
Palmer Park	40,031	261	153.38:1
Capital Ridge	237,022	1,031	230.18:1
Chicago	1,144	894	1.27:1
Greater Chicago Food Depository	17,721	1,114	15.91:1
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Individuals in Households with Incomes below 100% FPL (Poverty)

Source: Social/NASNET Analysis Center's analysis of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2000 Decennial Census and 2006-2010 5 year American Community Survey

Community Area Name	CCA Number	Majority Minority	2006-2010			2000			Percent Change from 2000 to 2006-2010		
			Total Population	In Poverty (below 100% FPL)	Rate	Total Population	In Poverty (below 100% FPL)	Rate	Total Population	In Poverty (below 100% FPL)	Rate
Regina Park	1		52,617	13,667	25.9%	80,067	17,365	21.6%	-15.2%	6.5%	-21.4%
West Ridge	2		71,871	12,455	17.3%	72,010	10,314	14.3%	9.7%	21.1%	20.1%
Uptown	3		54,523	14,520	26.6%	122,007	22,360	18.3%	-25.0%	-44.4%	-23.4%
North Center	4		38,673	4,307	11.1%	43,765	4,391	10.0%	-13.0%	-17.6%	-1.7%
Lincoln Park	5		33,331	7,415	22.2%	31,863	7,731	24.2%	-4.6%	-11.5%	-15.4%
North Center	6		36,519	10,451	28.6%	34,553	8,303	24.0%	7.5%	27.1%	24.3%
Lincoln Park	7		80,825	7,455	9.2%	81,823	5,305	6.5%	1.8%	41.3%	-13.7%
North Center	8		74,423	10,575	14.2%	71,043	10,792	15.2%	-4.7%	-2.6%	-6.4%
North Center	9		11,656	465	4.0%	11,243	770	6.8%	-1.6%	80.7%	83.7%
North Center	10		37,613	2,177	5.8%	37,033	1,511	4.1%	-0.1%	34.6%	34.6%
Jefferson Park	11		26,613	1,370	5.1%	25,832	1,270	4.9%	3.1%	7.9%	-4.8%
Forest Glen	12		18,833	1,059	5.6%	18,111	683	3.8%	3.8%	135.2%	128.8%
North Park	13		8,125	2,072	25.5%	17,679	1,841	10.4%	3.7%	12.5%	8.6%
Albany Park	14	White	51,216	10,094	19.7%	56,003	10,350	18.5%	-3.6%	6.6%	-10.9%
Albany Park	15	White	88,590	9,265	10.5%	85,007	5,194	6.1%	-0.2%	79.6%	82.6%
Living Park	16		51,172	6,071	11.9%	58,023	8,511	14.7%	8.6%	7.2%	0.8%
Lincoln Park	17		42,221	3,249	7.7%	41,912	2,100	5.0%	1.0%	50.0%	40.0%
Lincoln Park	18		13,617	1,517	11.1%	17,434	553	3.2%	4.6%	119.0%	108.8%
Lincoln Park	19	White	70,475	16,207	22.9%	77,438	8,705	11.2%	2.6%	87.3%	82.6%
Lincoln Park	20	White	74,610	4,877	6.5%	76,668	4,457	5.8%	-6.1%	6.5%	-18.9%
Lincoln Park	21	White	56,615	6,281	11.1%	12,611	7,176	56.9%	7.0%	15.9%	9.8%
Lincoln Park	22	White	75,022	10,021	13.4%	10,222	10,249	100.0%	-2.7%	3.6%	0.3%
Lincoln Park	23	White	54,167	17,674	32.6%	65,417	20,367	31.1%	-17.3%	-13.1%	6.0%
West Town	24		87,777	14,465	16.5%	86,877	15,306	17.6%	-5.3%	-16.7%	-15.7%
Austin	25	Black	68,507	27,300	39.8%	115,595	27,850	24.1%	-14.8%	2.6%	-15.1%
West Garfield Park	26	Black	18,179	7,615	42.0%	22,713	5,161	22.7%	-15.7%	6.5%	-11.1%
West Garfield Park	27	Black	9,458	6,078	64.3%	20,407	7,170	35.1%	-4.7%	12.5%	-18.1%
West Garfield Park	28	Black	48,331	13,365	27.6%	43,007	15,140	35.2%	-17.7%	-26.8%	-26.8%
West Garfield Park	29	Black	34,759	14,775	42.5%	40,618	15,405	37.9%	-15.0%	-20.3%	-45.7%
West Garfield Park	30	Black	81,267	10,055	12.4%	79,393	21,267	26.8%	-22.7%	14.1%	-11.2%
West Garfield Park	31	Black	2,460	1,021	41.5%	11,341	2,199	19.4%	-17.1%	7.0%	-7.0%
West Garfield Park	32	Black	18,446	3,268	17.7%	14,713	1,754	11.9%	-25.2%	20.2%	3.2%
West Garfield Park	33	Black	17,701	7,090	39.8%	5,461	3,358	61.3%	-37.8%	-63.6%	-63.6%
West Garfield Park	34	Black	18,856	4,975	26.4%	17,078	5,746	33.6%	-13.0%	9.4%	-5.7%
West Garfield Park	35	Black	18,712	4,801	25.7%	23,511	9,896	42.1%	-23.9%	82.5%	33.2%
West Garfield Park	36	Black	1,020	1,567	153.6%	6,050	2,170	35.9%	-23.5%	-24.9%	-24.9%
West Garfield Park	37	Black	3,760	1,475	39.2%	3,395	1,174	34.6%	-3.0%	21.4%	34.7%
West Garfield Park	38	Black	21,476	6,614	30.8%	27,213	17,267	63.5%	-21.4%	-48.6%	-33.0%
West Garfield Park	39	Black	17,673	4,455	25.2%	18,167	5,368	29.6%	-1.6%	1.6%	3.1%
West Garfield Park	40	Black	10,438	4,335	41.5%	14,081	7,276	51.7%	-25.9%	40.7%	19.5%
West Garfield Park	41	Black	23,401	5,000	21.4%	30,057	4,420	14.7%	-10.7%	14.7%	20.5%
West Garfield Park	42	Black	27,750	6,964	25.1%	26,667	10,723	40.2%	-13.2%	-36.5%	-26.0%
West Garfield Park	43	Black	43,601	14,678	33.6%	60,732	15,431	25.4%	-24.2%	-11.7%	-23.0%
West Garfield Park	44	Black	34,611	8,551	24.7%	37,118	8,580	23.1%	8.0%	30.3%	38.7%
West Garfield Park	45	Black	9,647	1,567	16.2%	11,002	925	8.4%	-11.1%	104.0%	129.5%
West Garfield Park	46	Black	32,153	10,031	31.2%	38,267	11,360	29.7%	-15.5%	4.4%	-4.4%
West Garfield Park	47	Black	3,433	1,051	30.6%	3,758	340	9.1%	-3.3%	13.9%	8.1%
West Garfield Park	48	Black	14,630	2,167	14.8%	15,045	1,307	8.7%	-5.4%	16.6%	22.6%
West Garfield Park	49	Black	18,615	10,905	58.6%	51,771	9,397	18.1%	-10.0%	16.6%	33.2%

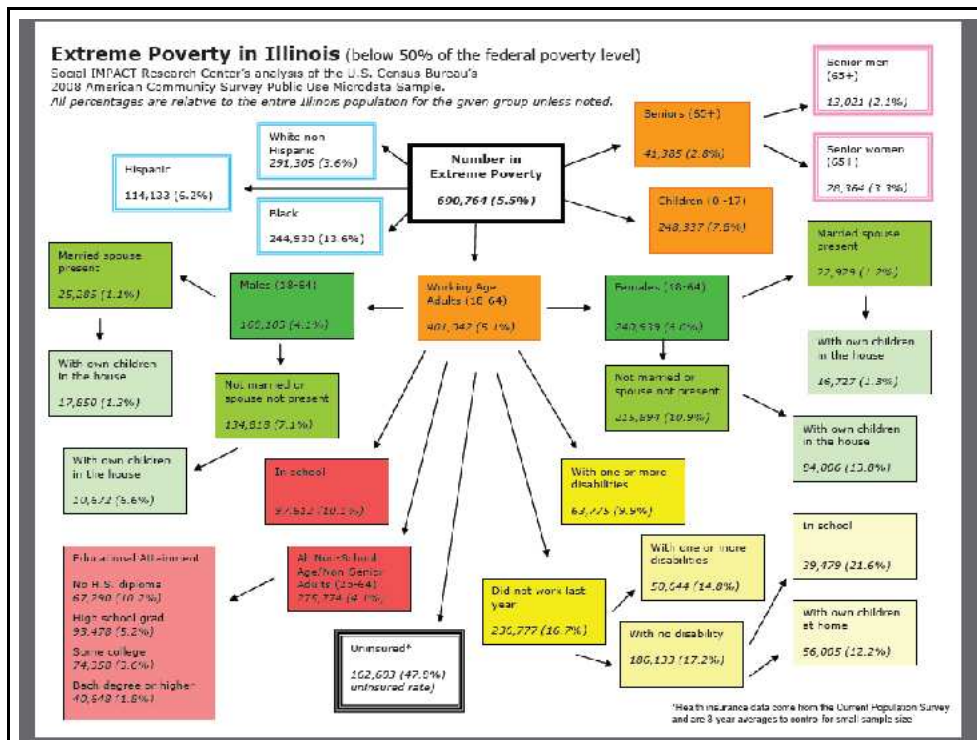
Use the ACS to...

Inform Targeted Poverty Reduction Strategies

The Commission on the Elimination of Poverty & Human Services System



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14-15, 2012



2011

Social IMPACT Research Center
and University of Illinois

NEED FOR HUMAN SERVICES IN ILLINOIS

SOCIAL IMPACT
RESEARCH CENTER

Need for Disability Services

Summary/Executive Summary

The number of disability services is increasing rapidly.

1. The number of disability services is increasing rapidly. This is due to the fact that the number of people with disabilities is increasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing. This is due to the fact that the number of people who are able to work is decreasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing.
2. The number of disability services is increasing rapidly. This is due to the fact that the number of people with disabilities is increasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing. This is due to the fact that the number of people who are able to work is decreasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing.
3. The number of disability services is increasing rapidly. This is due to the fact that the number of people with disabilities is increasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing. This is due to the fact that the number of people who are able to work is decreasing, and the number of people who are able to work is decreasing.

Summary/Results

Table 1. Disability Services by County

County	Population	Number of Disability Services
Adams	10,000	100
Albany	10,000	100
Alton	10,000	100
Amador	10,000	100
Butte	10,000	100
Calaveras	10,000	100
Colusa	10,000	100
Contra Costa	10,000	100
El Dorado	10,000	100
Essex	10,000	100
Glenn	10,000	100
Humboldt	10,000	100
Imperial	10,000	100
Inyo	10,000	100
Kern	10,000	100
Kings	10,000	100
Los Angeles	10,000	100
Madera	10,000	100
Mariposa	10,000	100
Mendocino	10,000	100
Merced	10,000	100
Monterey	10,000	100
Napa	10,000	100
Nevada	10,000	100
Orange	10,000	100
Placer	10,000	100
Plumas	10,000	100
San Bernardino	10,000	100
San Diego	10,000	100
San Francisco	10,000	100
San Joaquin	10,000	100
San Luis Obispo	10,000	100
San Mateo	10,000	100
Santa Clara	10,000	100
Santa Cruz	10,000	100
Sutter	10,000	100
Tulare	10,000	100
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Table 1. Disability Services by County

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Summary/Executive Summary

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Summary/Results

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under	
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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



www.heartlandalliance.org/research

IMPACT

RESEARCH THAT HELPS LEADERS CREATE CHANGE

SOCIAL IMPACT
RESEARCH CENTER

Amy Terpstra
aterpstra@heartlandalliance.org



ACS data for disaster recovery

Dr. Allison Plyer

www.gnocdc.org

allisonp@gnocdc.org

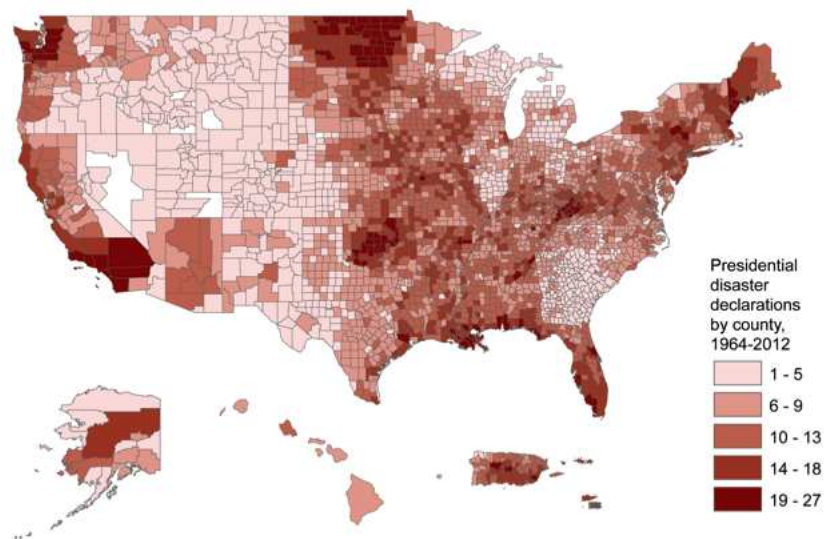
The ACS provides a measure of change that is more frequent than once every 10 years. This is important for disaster recovery because...

- Policymakers and philanthropies need reliable data to help inform resource provision and distribution.
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- Updated demographic data can influence public discourse about the region and the pace and nature of recovery.

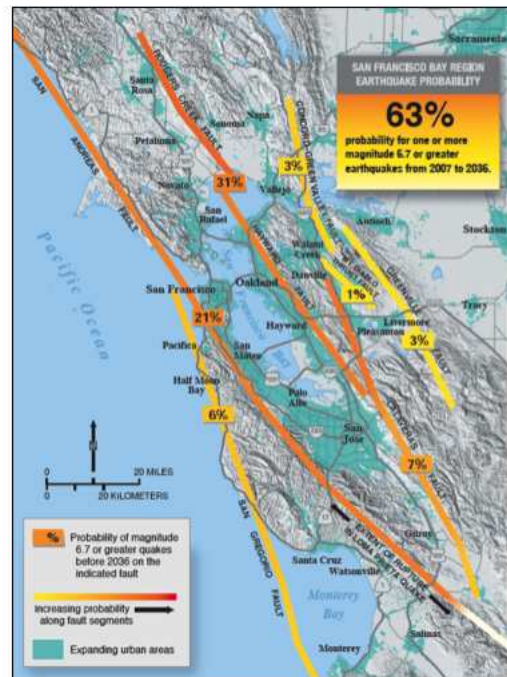


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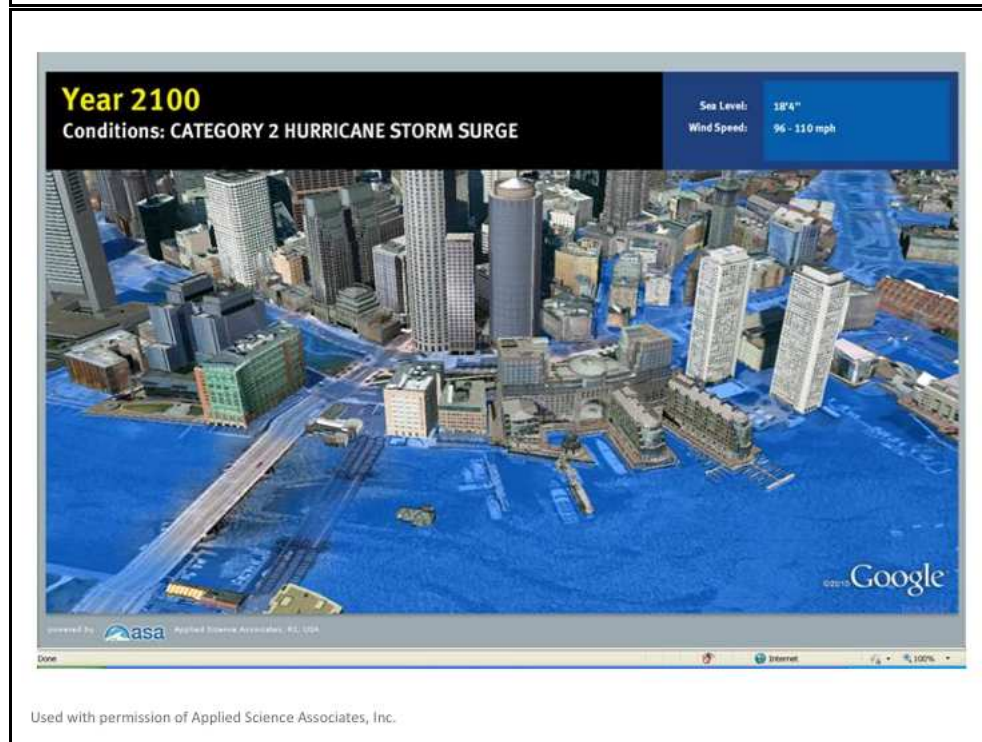
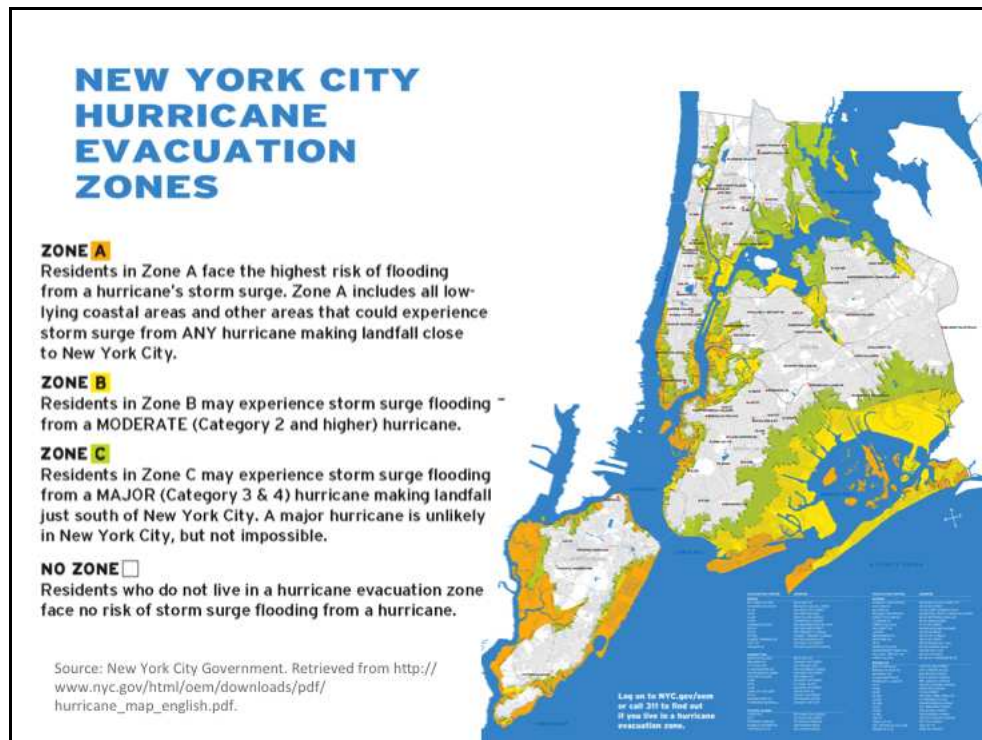


Source: FEMA. Retrieved from <http://gis.fema.gov/DataFeeds.html>.



Source: USGS. Retrieved from <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/nca/ucert/>.

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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



What data is needed after a disaster?

Data vacuum hinders decision-making around short-term priorities, resource allocation and long-term recovery planning.

(National Research Council, 2007)



Smiley N. Pool, Dallas Morning News

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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



Alex Brandon, *Times Picayune*



Irwin Thompson, *Times Picayune*



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/babybare11/5766495699/>

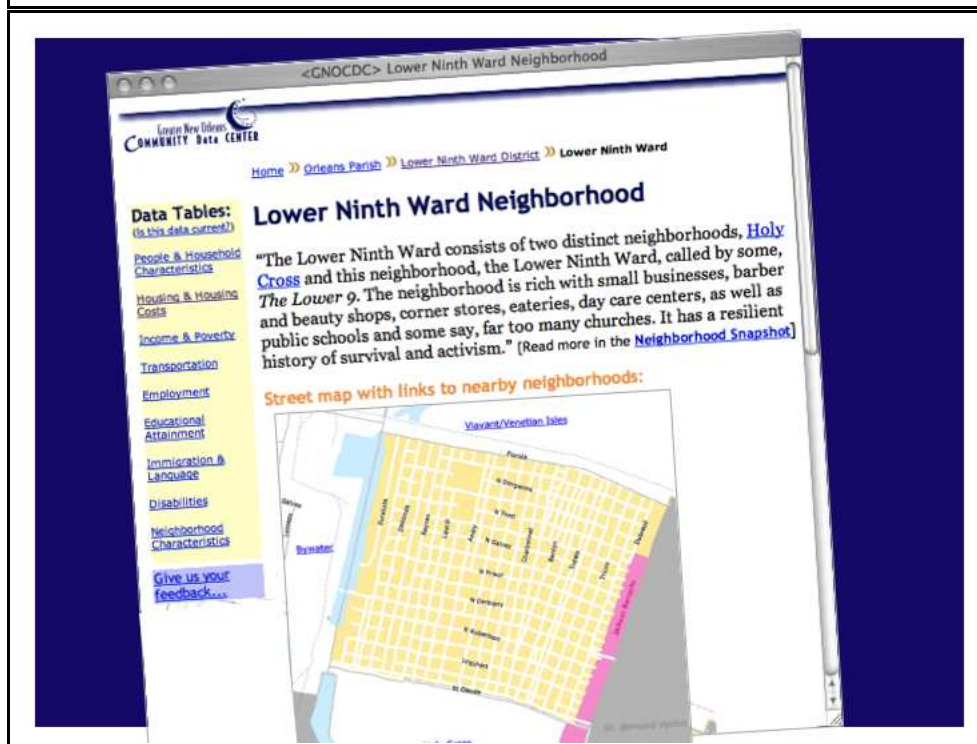
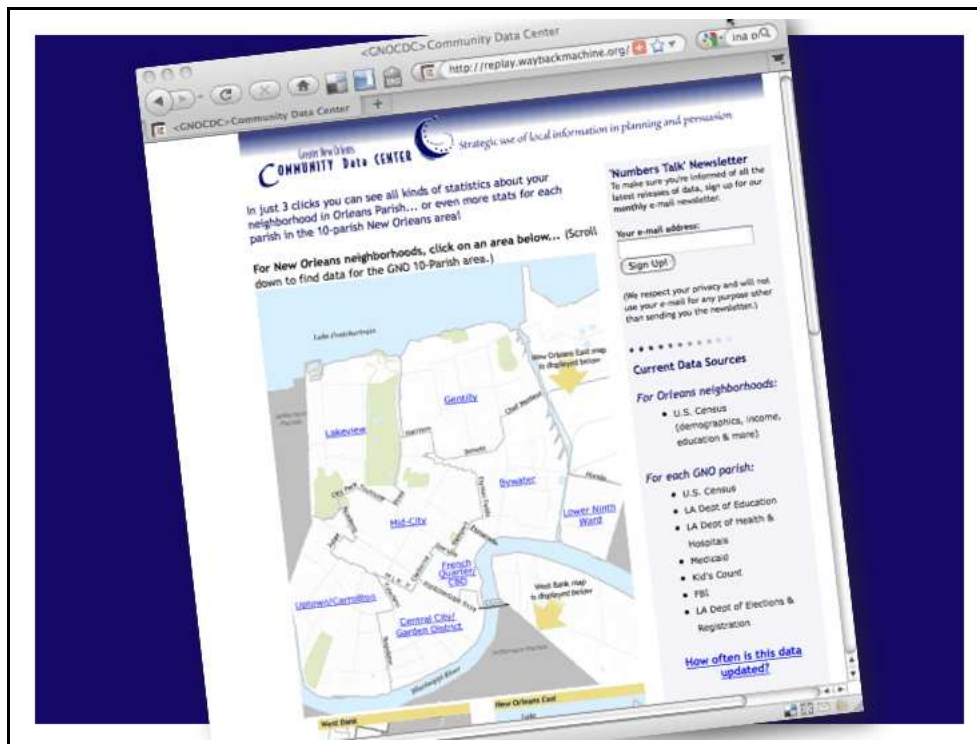


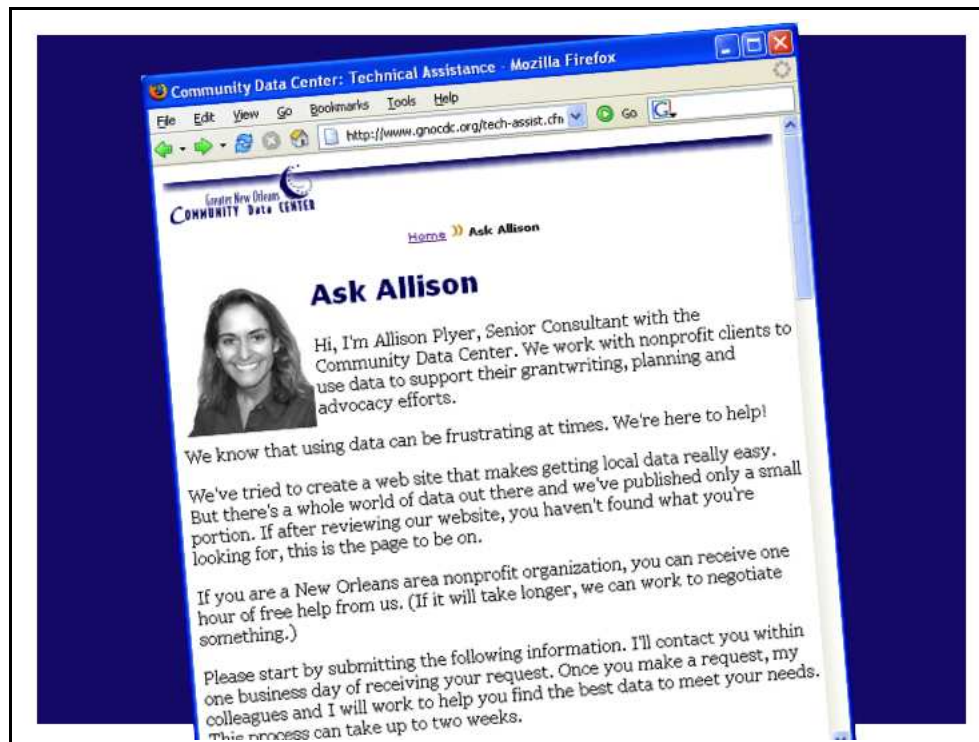
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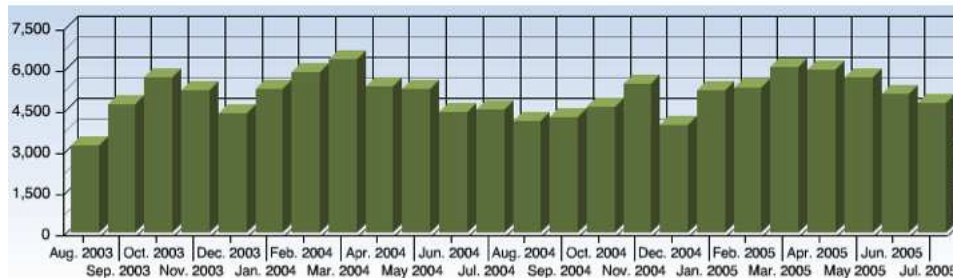
Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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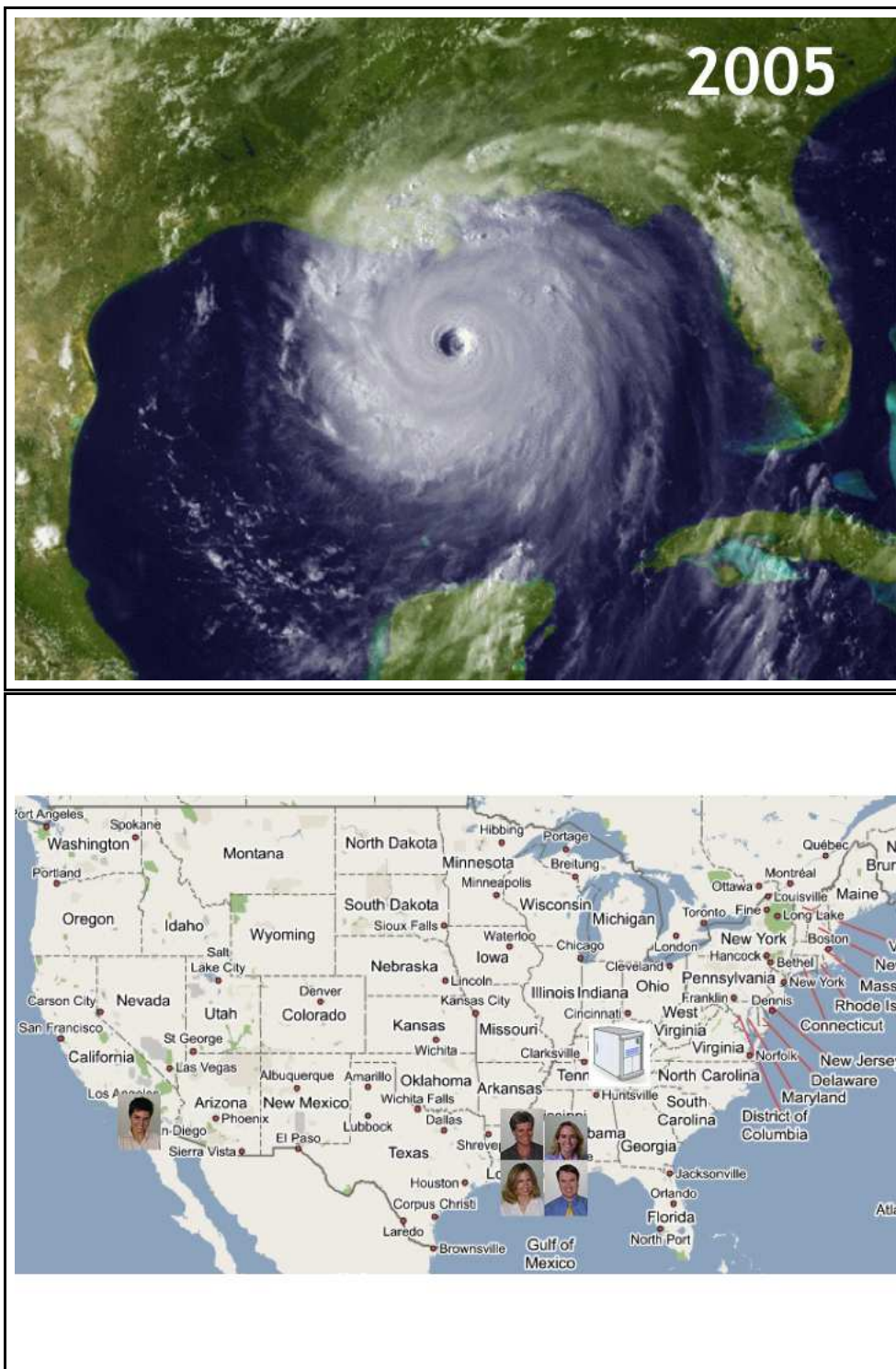
Visits to gnocdc.org

For the two years preceding Katrina

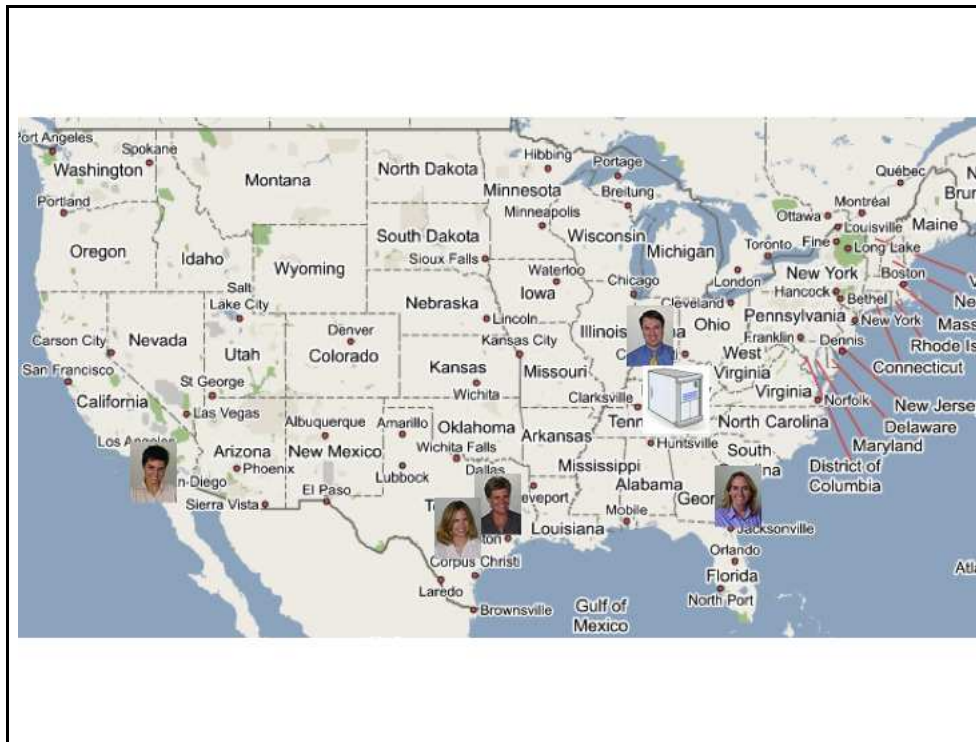


Approx 5,000 visits/month

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
 Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



2005 visits to gnocdc.org



Questions coming in...

"We need post-Katrina demographic information for the New Orleans area. I am particularly interested in data to estimate potential demand for Hispanic-oriented nonprofit services, language classes, clinics, etc."

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"We'd like to know demographic trends on the West Bank of Jefferson Parish. We'd like to bring a particular major national client into this market by showing that the West Bank has boomed post Katrina."

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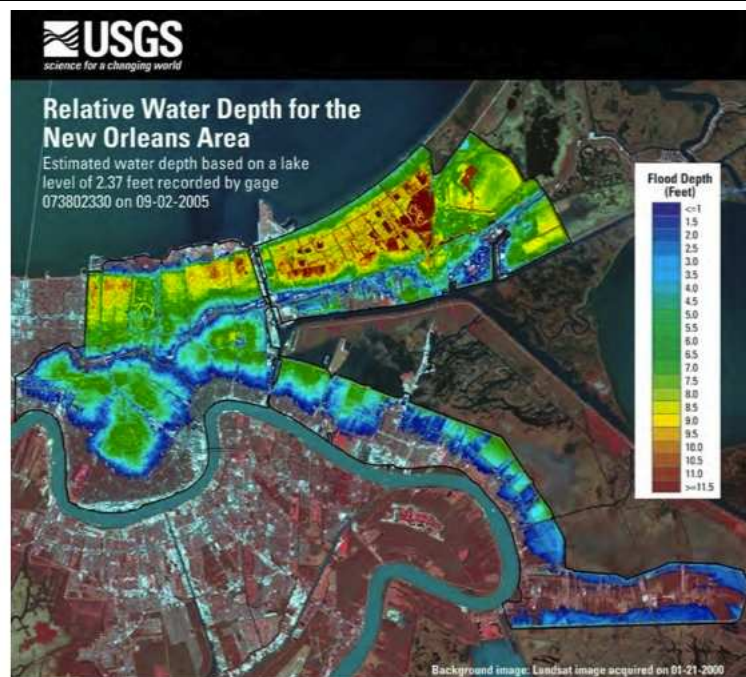
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"As the statistician for Louisiana OPH HIV/AIDS Program, I am interested in obtaining the latest demographics available. In order to create program-wide plans for community outreach, surveillance and behavioral survey efforts, geographic breakdowns at any level would be immensely useful. In the face of our recovery, these data are of key importance."

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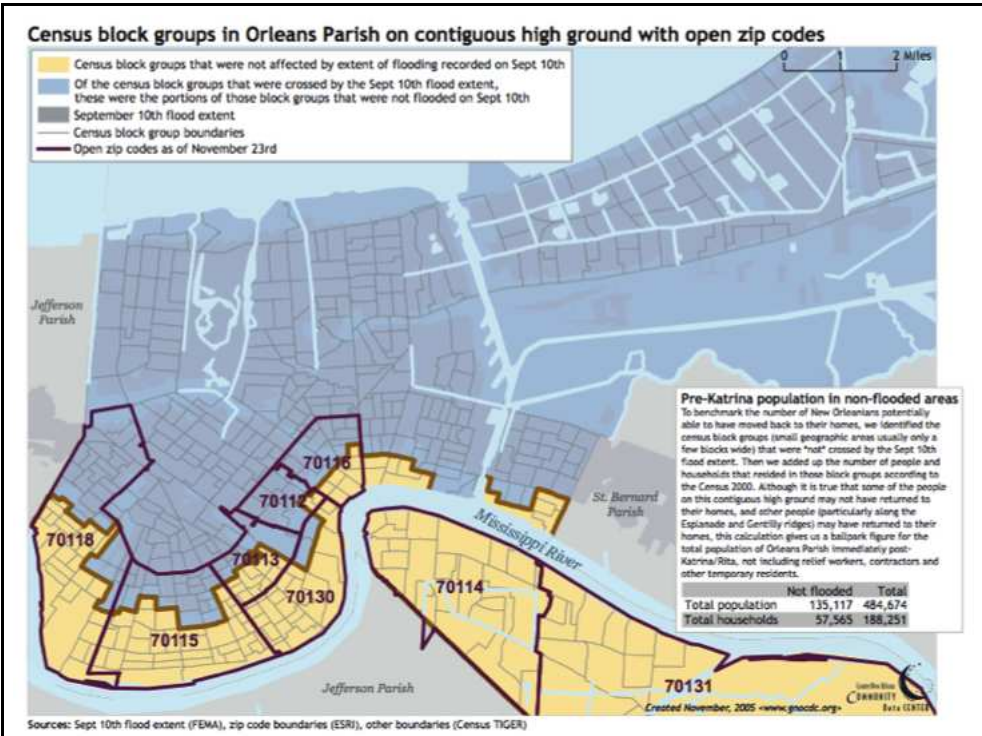
Tough questions...

little good data

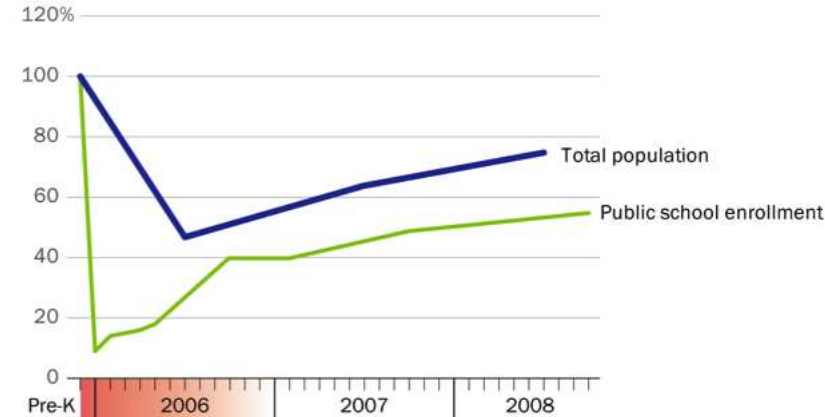


Source: http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1306/pdf/c1306_ch3_g.pdf

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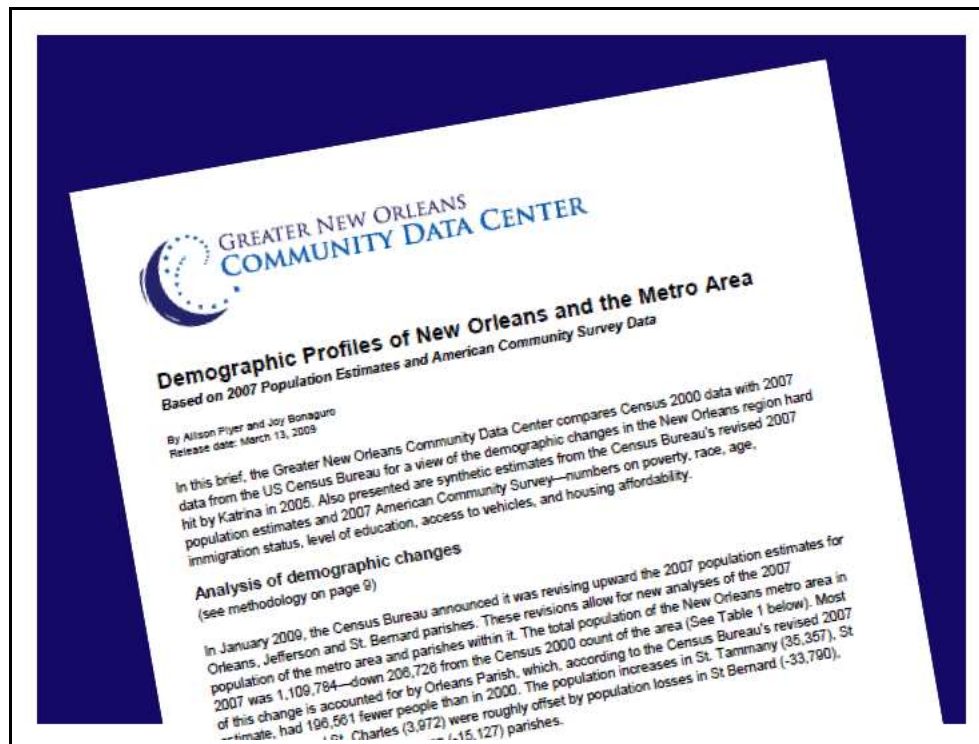


Population and public school enrollment
 in Orleans Parish

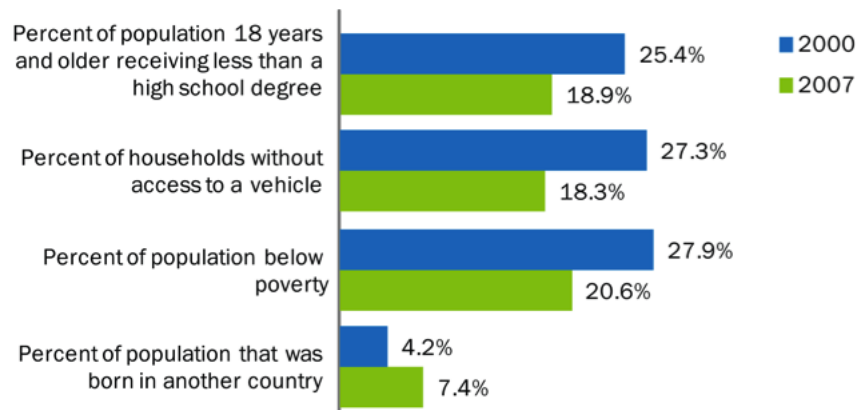


Sources: GNOCDC analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program (2005-2008), and Louisiana Department of Education school enrollment data.

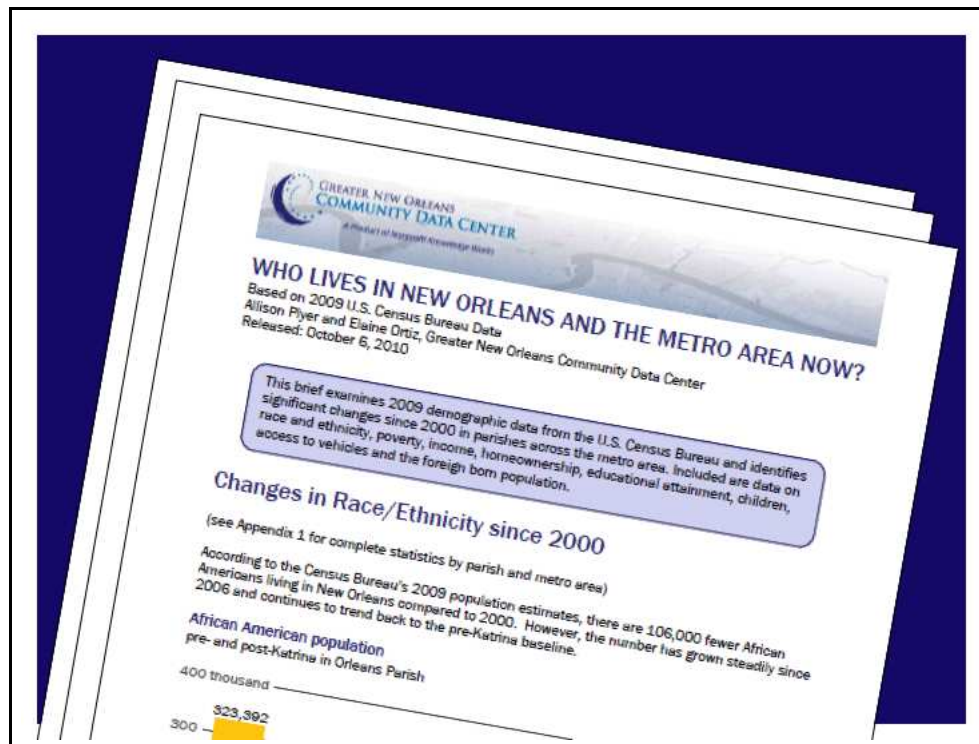
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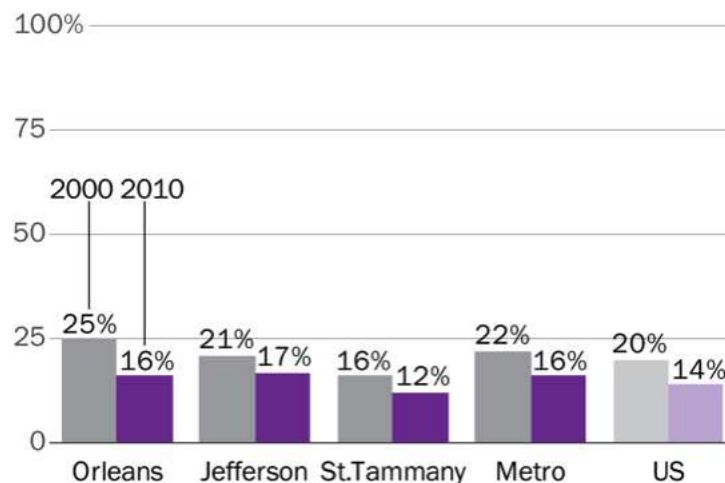
American Community Survey data
for Orleans Parish



Sources: GNOCDC analysis of data from U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey data (2000 and 2007).



Less than a high school degree for the population 25 years and older

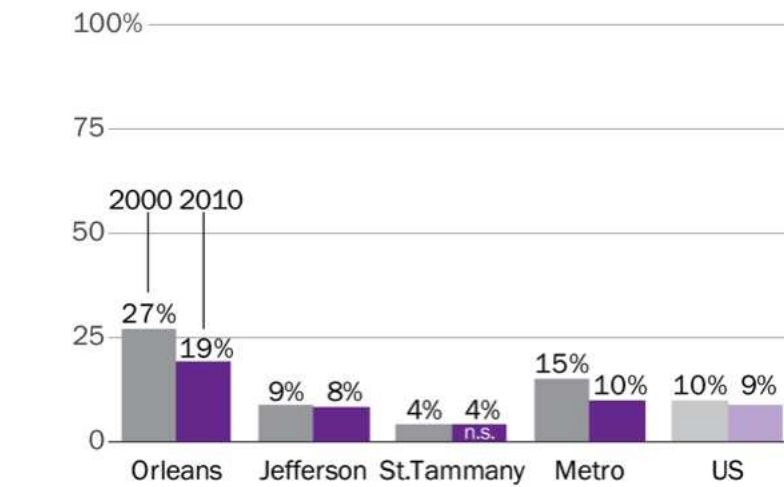


*n.s.= Difference between 2000 and 2010 is not significant at 95% confidence interval.

*Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from Census 2000 SF3 and American Community Survey 2010.

Households without access to a vehicle

in the three most populous parishes, the metro, and the United States

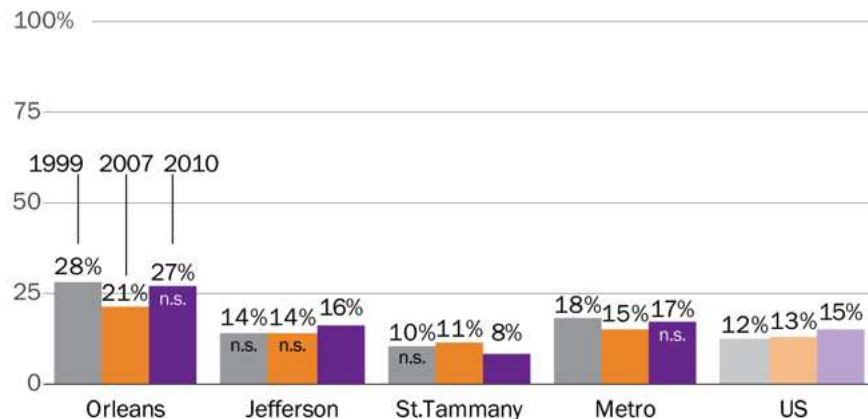


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Poverty rate

for the population for whom poverty status is determined

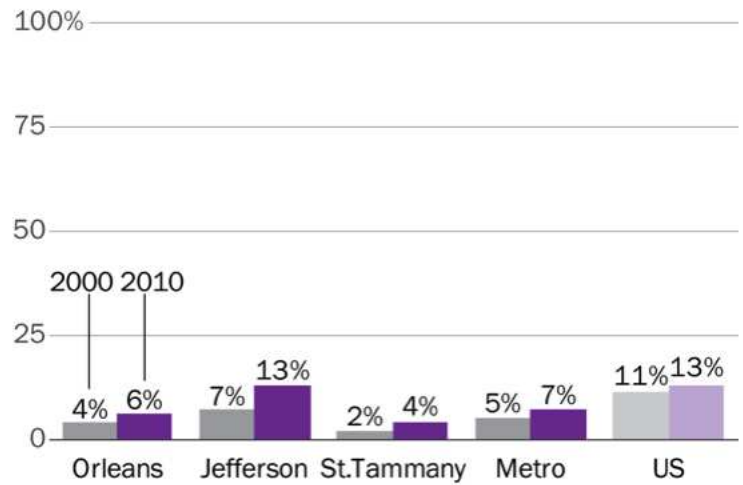


*n.s.= On the 1999 bar, n.s. indicates change between 1999 and 2007 is not significant; on the 2007 bar, n.s. indicates change between 2007 and 2010 is not significant; and on the 2010 bar, n.s. indicates change between 1999 and 2010 is not significant.

*Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from Census 2000 SF3, American Community Survey 2007, and American Community Survey 2010.

Population not U.S. citizens at birth

in the three most populous parishes, the metro, and the United States



*n.s.= Difference between 2000 and 2010 is not significant at 95% confidence interval.
 *Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from Census 2000 SF3 and American Community Survey 2010.

Housing reports



New Orleans homeowners, even those without mortgages, have sharply higher housing costs since 2004.

Median monthly housing costs for homeowners
in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars, Orleans Parish

With Mortgage



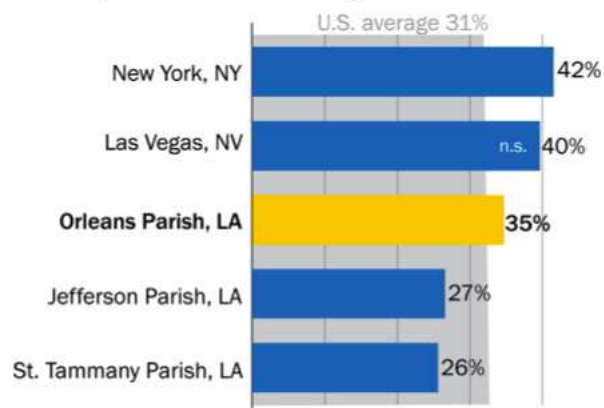
Without Mortgage



Sources: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from American Community Survey 2004 and 2010.
Note: Data are in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars using the CPI-U-RS.

35 percent of New Orleans homeowners are cost-burdened.

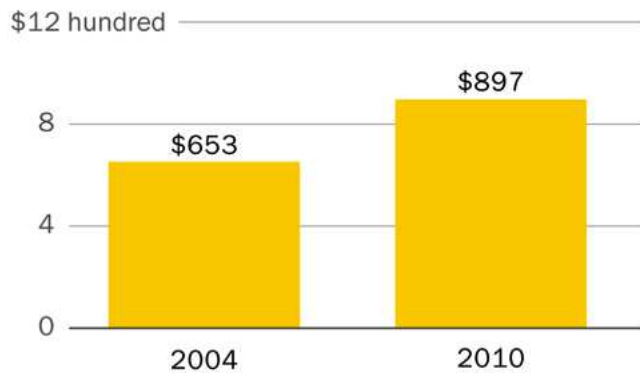
Homeowners paying unaffordable housing costs
30% or more of pre-tax income on housing, 2010



Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from American Community Survey 2010.
n.s.=indicates difference from Orleans is not significant at 95% confidence interval.

Renter costs spiked 37 percent since 2004.

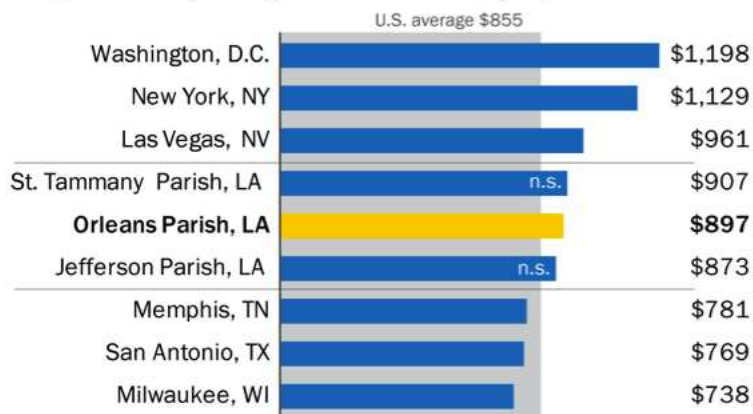
Median monthly housing costs for renters
in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars, Orleans Parish



Sources: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from American Community Survey 2004 and 2010.
Note: Data are in 2010 inflation-adjusted dollars using the CPI-U-RS.

Renter costs in New Orleans are well above similar cities.

Rent comparison across cities
median gross monthly housing costs for rentals of any size, 2010



Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from the American Community Survey 2010.
n.s.=indicates difference from Orleans is not significant at 95% confidence interval.

New Orleans renters pay 5 percent more than the U.S. average for housing from incomes that are 20 percent lower.

Annual housing costs vs. income
for renters, 2010

Housing Costs



Median Household Income



Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from the American Community Survey 2010.

Due to a prevalence of low-wage jobs, Orleans renters are more likely to pay at least half their income on housing than New York renters.

Percent of renters paying unaffordable housing costs
50% or more of income on housing, 2010



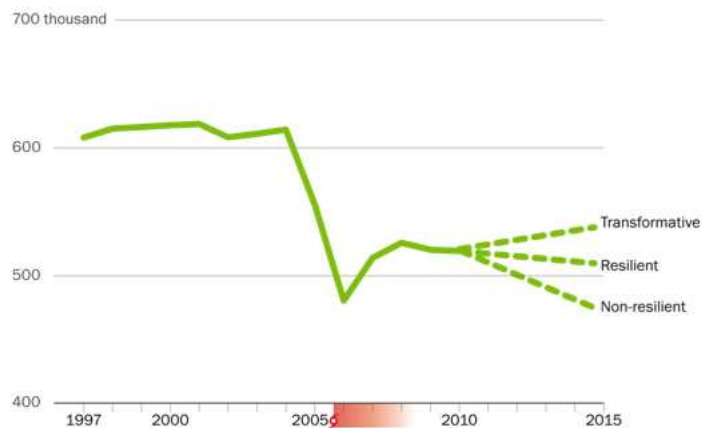
Source: GNOCDC analysis of U.S. Census Bureau data from the American Community Survey 2010.
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Disasters tend to accelerate pre-existing trajectories.

Economic resilience

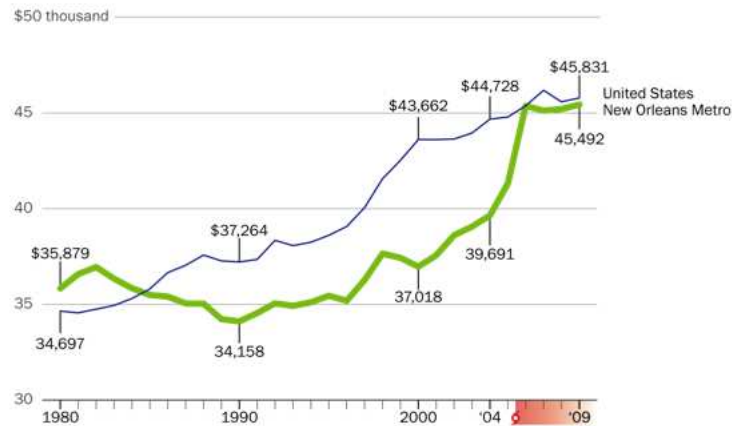
Total jobs in the New Orleans Metro



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Moody's Analytics (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: CES, QCEW). R.W. Kates et al., "Reconstruction of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina: A Research Perspective," *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 103 (40) (2006): 14653-14660.

Average wages increased 15% from 2004 to 2009 – accelerating a trend that began in 2000.

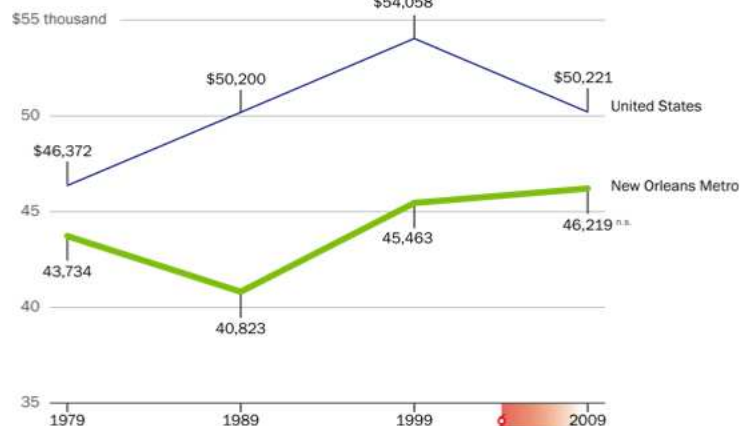
Average annual wages
2009 inflation-adjusted dollars



Source: Regional Economic Information System, Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S. Department of Commerce.

While median household income fell 7 percent nationally from 1999 to 2009, in the New Orleans metro incomes held steady.

Median household income
2009 inflation-adjusted dollars

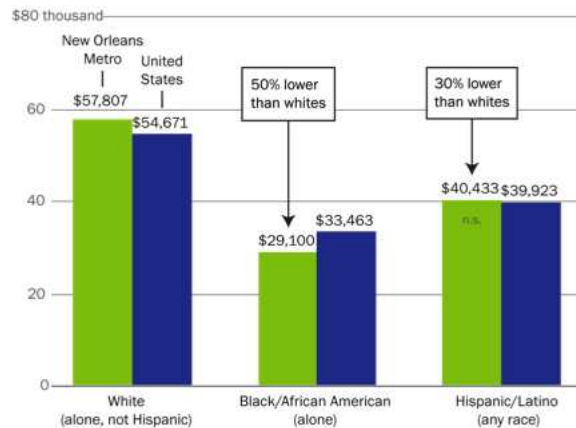


Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census & American Community Survey 2009.

n.s. = The difference between 1999 and 2009 is not statistically significant for the New Orleans metro.

In the New Orleans metro, African American and Hispanic households earn 50 percent and 30 percent less than white households, respectively.

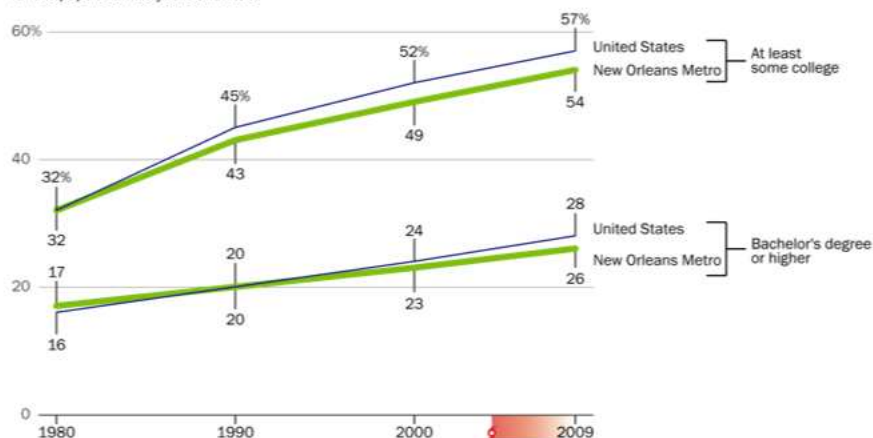
Median household income by race/ethnicity
2009 inflation-adjusted dollars



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census & American Community Survey 2009. n.s. = The difference between the United States and the New Orleans metro in 2009 is not statistically significant for Hispanic/Latino (any race).

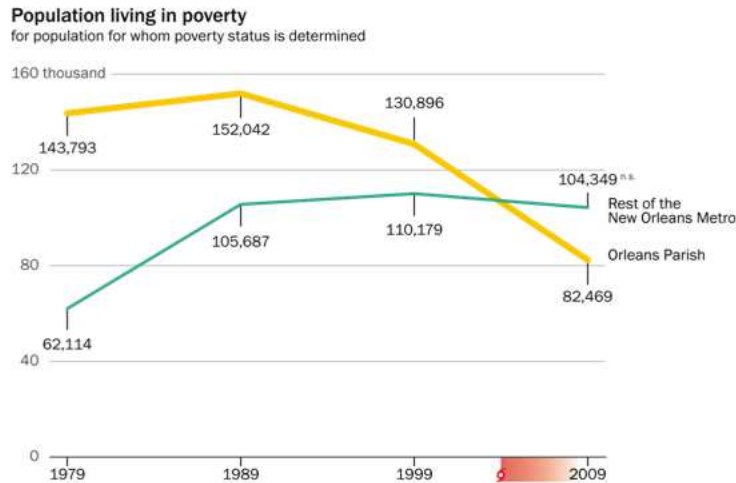
The share of adults with a college education in the metro area has grown every decade since 1980. However, these gains lag national gains.

Educational attainment
for the population 25 years and older



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census & American Community Survey 2009.

From 1989 to 2009, the number of people living in poverty declined in the city while it grew in the rest of the metro area.



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Decennial Census & American Community Survey 2009. n.s. = The difference between 1999 and 2009 is not statistically significant for the rest of the New Orleans metro. The difference between the rest of the New Orleans metro and the United States is not significant in 2009.

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Without ACS data, after Katrina all these groups would have had been *flying blind* for 5 years.



Source: Microsoft PowerPoint Clip Art.

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- Publicly available data can inform and also catalyze private sector rebuilding activity.
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GNOCDC.org



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Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Educational Attainment

[Definitions and source links](#)

[How do I combine schooling level categories and calculate the new margin of error \(MOE\)?](#)

Level of schooling, 18+	Algiers Point			Orleans Parish			United States		
	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*
Less than 9th grade	3.3%	6.7%	+/- 16.3%	7.2%	5.1%	+/- 0.3%	7.1%	5.7%	+/- 0%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	9.2%	7.7%	+/- 10%	18.2%	11.6%	+/- 0.5%	13.2%	9.5%	+/- 0%
High school diploma or GED	23.4%	14.1%	+/- 7.8%	24.0%	27.2%	+/- 0.7%	28.6%	29.3%	+/- 0%
Some college, no degree	29.8%	20.1%	+/- 8.4%	24.2%	24.0%	+/- 0.8%	22.8%	22.9%	+/- 0%
Associate's degree	4.3%	2.9%	+/- 14.2%	3.3%	3.6%	+/- 0.3%	6.0%	7.1%	+/- 0%
Bachelor's degree	17.4%	21.6%	+/- 10.2%	13.9%	17.2%	+/- 0.6%	14.5%	16.4%	+/- 0%
Graduate or professional degree	12.5%	26.8%	+/- 9.1%	9.2%	11.4%	+/- 0.4%	7.8%	9.0%	+/- 0%

Source Citation: GNOCDC analysis of data from U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3) and 2006-2010 American Community Survey

* Margins of error (MOE) for the 2006-2010 ACS data are based on a 90% confidence level.

Educational Attainment

[Definitions and source links](#)

[How do I combine schooling level categories and calculate the new margin of error \(MOE\)?](#)

Level of schooling, 18+	Algiers Point			Orleans Parish			United States		
	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*
Less than 9th grade	3.3%	6.7%	+/- 16.3%	7.2%	5.1%	+/- 0.3%	7.1%	5.7%	+/- 0%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	9.2%	7.7%	+/- 10%	18.2%	11.6%	+/- 0.5%	13.2%	9.5%	+/- 0%
High school diploma or GED	23.4%	14.1%	+/- 7.8%	24.0%	27.2%	+/- 0.7%	28.6%	29.3%	+/- 0%
Some college, no degree	29.8%	20.1%	+/- 8.4%	24.2%	24.0%	+/- 0.8%	22.8%	22.9%	+/- 0%
Associate's degree	4.3%	2.9%	+/- 14.2%	3.3%	3.6%	+/- 0.3%	6.0%	7.1%	+/- 0%
Bachelor's degree	17.4%	21.6%	+/- 10.2%	13.9%	17.2%	+/- 0.6%	14.5%	16.4%	+/- 0%
Graduate or professional degree	12.5%	26.8%	+/- 9.1%	9.2%	11.4%	+/- 0.4%	7.8%	9.0%	+/- 0%

Source Citation: GNOCDC analysis of data from U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3) and 2006-2010 American Community Survey

* Margins of error (MOE) for the 2006-2010 ACS data are based on a 90% confidence level.

What is margin of error (MOE)?

Neighborhood data from the American Community Survey (ACS) comes from a survey mailed to a small percentage of households in each neighborhood.

The margin of error (MOE) is an indicator of the reliability of ACS estimates. Adding the MOE to the estimate provides an upper limit and subtracting the MOE from the estimate provides a lower limit of the range where the true value of the estimate most likely actually falls.

How do I write about margin of error (MOE) in a grant report?

Here are some examples of how you can write about this data in a grant report:

- "From 2006 to 2010, somewhere between 59.1% and 59.9% of people commuted less than 30 minutes to work."
- "From 2006 to 2010, at least 26% (or no more than 35%) of people in a neighborhood live below the poverty line."
- "From 2006 to 2010 the Census estimates that 38.6% of people travelled between 30 and 60 minutes, although this percentage could range from 39.3% to 39.9%."

Making comparisons taking into account the margin of error (MOE).

The margin of error (MOE) makes it tricky to compare different places or timeframes. For instance, it is hard to tell if a poverty rate of 16% (+/- 2%) is really higher than a poverty rate of 7% (+/- 2%) even though the two estimates are different.

The widget below will do a calculation for you and let you know if the two estimates are statistically different. You can impress your funders, by telling them whether the difference between the two data points is "statistically significant."

Test Statistical Significance

1. Enter the percent (%) or dollar amounts (\$) that you want to compare and the margin of error (MOE) for each.

Important: Only include numbers. Include a zero before the decimal point for numbers less than one. Do not include a comma, or \$, % or +/-.

Percents (%) or dollar amounts (\$)	Margin of error (MOEs)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

2. [Click here to calculate](#)

3. Is the difference "statistically significant at the 90% confidence interval?"

4. Be sure to write down your results on a piece of paper.

[Close](#)

How do I write about "statistical significance" in a grant report?

Here are some examples of how you can write about statistical significance in a grant report:

- "From 2006 to 2010 the poverty rate in area X was between X% and X% which is significantly higher than the poverty rate for Orleans Parish at the 90% confidence interval."
- "From 2006 to 2010, X% of residents had less than a 9th grade level, which is significantly higher than in 2000 at the 90% confidence interval."

Source: American Community Survey (ACS) Data, Integration Area Planning Council. Results of Dec 17, 2013 from <http://civis.usmc.edu/home/DataHub/Data/ACF/Results.aspx?area=00000000000000000000>

Note: For technical users, note that the Census 2010 Summary File 3 data has a small margin of error that is not provided in our neighborhood statistical view profiles. As a result, to save time, the widget now provide a false positive for statistical significance. The information on how to calculate the margin of error for census files, please see Chapter F of the Census Bureau's Technical Documentation available at <http://www.census.gov/ipeds/www/ipeds2010.pdf>

Test Statistical Significance

- Enter the percents (%) or dollar amounts (\$) that you want to compare and the margin of error (MOE) for each.
Important: Only include numbers. Include a zero before the decimal point for numbers less than one. Do not include a comma, or \$, % or +/-.

Percents (%) or dollar amounts (\$):	Margins of error (MOEs):
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="6.7"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="16.3"/>
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="5.1"/>	<input style="width: 100%;" type="text" value="0.3"/>
-
- Is the difference "statistically significant at the 90% confidence interval"?

No, the difference is not statistically significant.
- Be sure to write down your results on a piece of paper.

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey

Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Definitions and source links

How do I combine multiple income categories and calculate the new margin of error (MOE)?

Income Distribution	Algiers Point			Orleans Parish			United States		
	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*	2000	2006-2010	MOE*
Less than \$10,000	8.5%	0.9%	+/- 1.4%	21.0%	13.9%	+/- 1.5%	9.5%	7.2%	+/- 0.2%
\$10,000-14,999	8.0%	3.4%	+/- 2.6%	9.6%	8.0%	+/- 0.8%	6.3%	5.5%	+/- 0%
\$15,000-19,999	6.9%	4.1%	+/- 3%	8.3%	7.3%	+/- 0.5%	6.3%	5.3%	+/- 0%
\$20,000-24,999	6.6%	0.8%	+/- 1.1%	7.5%	6.7%	+/- 0.6%	6.6%	5.5%	+/- 0%
\$25,000-29,999	5.6%	8.7%	+/- 5.7%	7.2%	6.3%	+/- 0.6%	6.4%	5.2%	+/- 0%
\$30,000-34,999	5.9%	7.0%	+/- 5.5%	6.3%	5.3%	+/- 0.6%	6.4%	5.3%	+/- 0%
\$35,000-39,999	10.2%	1.8%	+/- 2%	5.4%	4.6%	+/- 0.4%	5.9%	4.9%	+/- 0%
\$40,000-44,999	5.8%	3.2%	+/- 2.6%	4.6%	5.0%	+/- 0.4%	5.7%	4.9%	+/- 0%
\$45,000-49,999	7.5%	9.9%	+/- 6.5%	4.0%	3.9%	+/- 0.5%	5.0%	4.3%	+/- 0%
\$50,000-59,999	8.7%	3.6%	+/- 2.9%	6.1%	7.0%	+/- 0.3%	9.0%	8.2%	+/- 0%
\$60,000-74,999	9.0%	15.0%	+/- 7.7%	6.5%	8.3%	+/- 0.5%	10.4%	10.3%	+/- 0%
\$75,000-99,999	7.6%	11.2%	+/- 4.6%	5.7%	8.5%	+/- 0.5%	10.2%	12.3%	+/- 0%
\$100,000-124,999	3.9%	12.9%	+/- 6.5%	2.8%	4.9%	+/- 0.6%	5.2%	7.8%	+/- 0%
\$125,000-149,999	2.1%	8.9%	+/- 3.5%	1.4%	3.2%	+/- 0.4%	2.5%	4.5%	+/- 0%
\$150,000-199,999	1.5%	3.2%	+/- 2.9%	1.4%	2.9%	+/- 0.4%	2.2%	4.4%	+/- 0%
\$200,000 or more	2.2%	5.4%	+/- 3.2%	2.2%	4.2%	+/- 0.3%	2.4%	4.2%	+/- 0%

Source Citation: GHOCD analysis of data from U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF3) and 2006-2010 American Community Survey

* Margins of error (MOE) for the 2006-2010 ACS data are based on a 90% confidence level.

How do I combine categories (income levels, education levels, types of transportation, etc.) and calculate a new margin of error (MOE)?

While adding together two or more data points is simple, calculating the new margin of error requires a complex mathematical formula. The widget below will do the math for you!

Combine multiple data points and calculate the new MOE

1. Select the number of data points you want to combine.

3

2. Enter each percent (%) or dollar amount (\$) and its margin of error (MOE).

Important: Only include numbers. Include a zero before the decimal point for numbers less than one. Do not include a comma, or \$, % or +/-.

Percents (%) or dollar amounts (\$):

0.9

3.4

4.1

Margins of error (MOEs):

1.4

2.6

3

3. [Click here to calculate](#)

4. See estimate for combined data below.

Percent (%) or dollar amount (\$):

0.4

Margin of error (MOE):

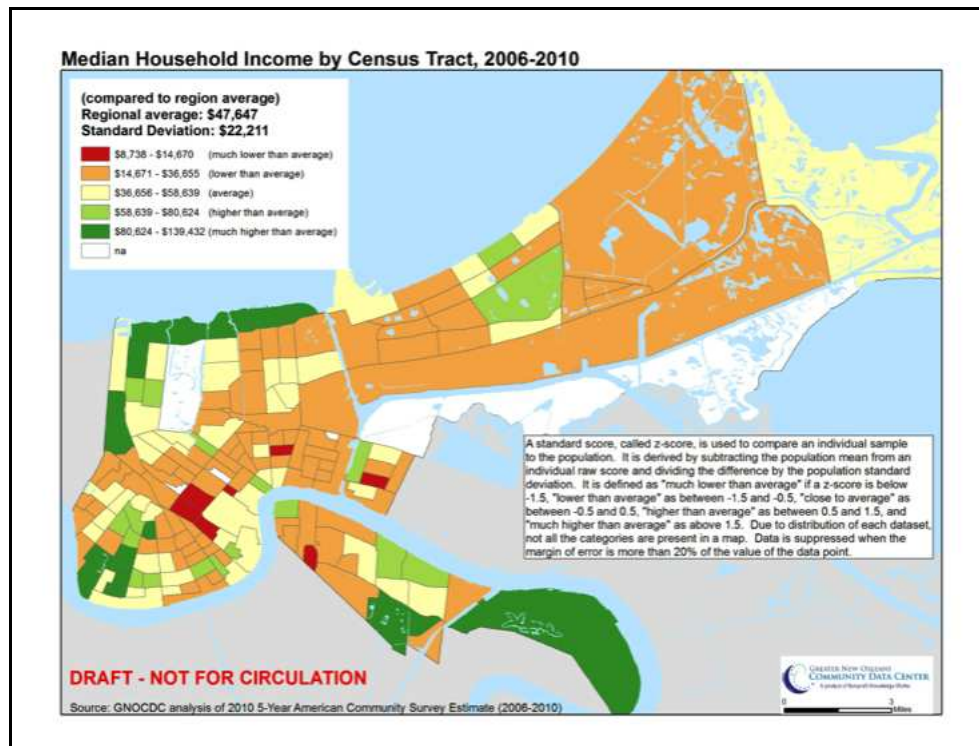
4.2

5. Be sure to write down your results on a piece of paper.

[Reset](#)

[Close](#)

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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Use of ACS Data in Red Cross Services

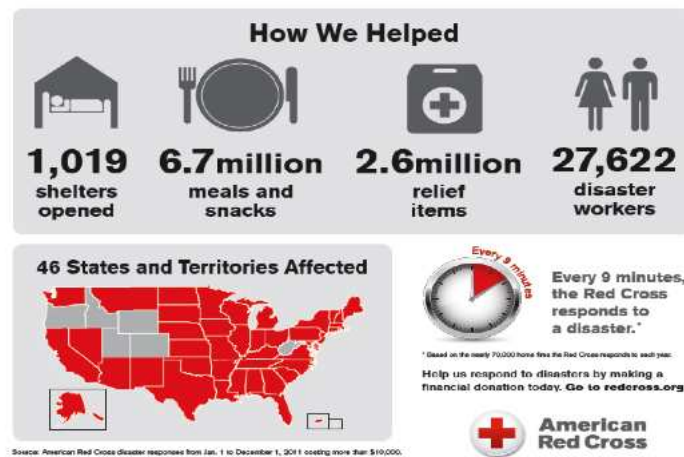
June 14, 2012

American Red Cross

Overview

- Entire disaster cycle
 - Response
 - Recovery
 - Preparedness
- Blood services

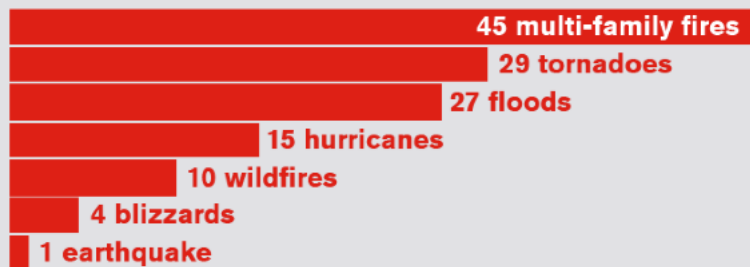
Disaster Response



Disaster Response

2011 Large-Scale Disasters

Response Operations by Disaster Type



Disaster Response

- Projections, decision-making with:
 - Services: sheltering, feeding
 - Planning: staffing, budgeting, funding needs
- Ad hoc reports
- Use to generate quarterly updates for reporting, normalizing chapter reports



Disaster Response, Example

Following a large disaster event (e.g., tornado):

- Run demographic profiles at a county, then more granular level to predict who is affected.
- Sample of data extracted:
 - population density
 - age breakout (focus on elderly)
 - potential language barriers
 - ethnicity that could affect feeding
 - income and poverty level to predict client base; renters vs. owners; median rent paid; housing vacancies (including seasonal)
- Using these data, map affected community to focus services and resources on most acute service need



Disaster Recovery

- Communities change with big events
- 10-year-old data not good for planning, targeting
- Monitoring change is key
- Basics: population, income levels



Disaster Preparedness

- Community Resilience Strategy, a four-step process.
- First step is community assessment.
- First sub-step is demographics.
- Building on that, map vulnerabilities, assets, gaps, then address.

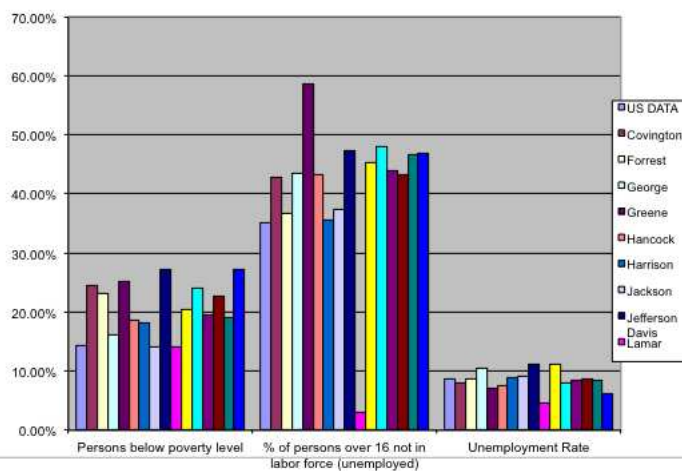


Preparedness – Data Sample

- Total population
- Age
- Ethnicity/Race
- Foreign born
- Language other than English spoken at home
- Level of education
- Households
- Median household income
- Population living in mobile home
- Population with no phone service
- Population with no vehicle available
- Persons over 16 not in labor force (unemployed)



Preparedness – Sample Use



Preparedness, Importance of Data

- Gives ‘big picture’ of the community.
- Assists Red Cross staff in focusing on areas of greatest need.
- Allows informed decision-making about assets and vulnerabilities.



Blood donations

- Projecting population by blood-type using race, ethnicity demographics
 - Donor market for blood collections
 - Recipient market for area hospitals
- Donor center locations
- Collection rates in certain demographics



Thank You

Russ Paulsen
Executive Director
Community Preparedness and Resilience
American Red Cross

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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Playing with Fire: Immigrants, the Economy and ACS

Ronald Campbell
The Orange County Register
rcampbell@ocregister.com

Case study

- ☐ Goal: Determine impact of immigrants on California economy.
 - ☐ We knew at the outset that immigrants were 1/3 of labor force.
 - ☐ We knew that, no matter how careful we were, readers would give us hell.
-

How we got there

- ☐ Four decades of microdata (1970-2008) from decennial censuses and American Community Survey.
 - ☐ Statistical test: 95% confidence interval, 5% margin of error.
 - ☐ All numbers posted online; those that failed our test were highlighted in red.
 - ☐ “Nerd box” explaining methodology.
-

MOE is us

- ☐ Many “apple-to-apple” comparisons between decennial census and ACS flunked our statistical test.
 - ☐ Work-arounds:
 - Use 2006-2008 instead of 2008 alone.
 - Use percentages instead of raw numbers.
 - Ignore smaller geographies.
-

Tyranny of numbers

- ❑ Not one of 233 PUMA's had reliable numbers for immigrant workers.

County	Native	Foreign-born	Total	#MOE	#Low	#High	#MOE%
Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc Lassen	45,446	3,180	48,626	1,347	1,833	4,527	9.3%
Humboldt	60,462	3,613	64,075	1,435	2,178	5,048	7.7%
Shasta	78,896	4,035	82,931	1,517	2,518	5,552	6.6%
Mendocino, Lake	61,897	8,869	70,766	2,249	6,620	11,118	15.7%
Trinity, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa	43,519	10,601	54,120	2,459	8,142	13,060	24.3%
Butte	95,099	10,622	105,721	2,461	8,161	13,083	12.3%
Plumas, Sierra, Nevada	60,590	3,368	63,958	1,386	1,962	4,754	7.4%

Tyranny of numbers, cont.

- ❑ All but 17 of 233 PUMAs had reliable percentage of minority workers.

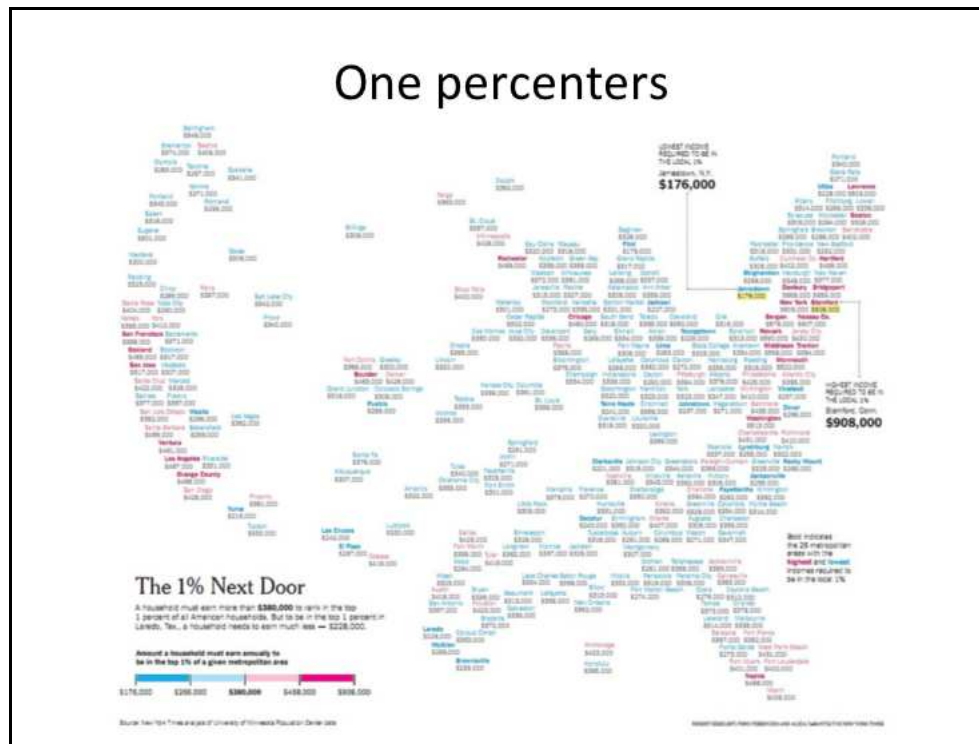
County	Native	Foreign-born	Total	Foreign%	%MOE	%Low	%High
Del Norte, Siskiyou, Modoc Lassen	45,446	3,180	48,626	6.5%	2.7%	3.9%	9.2%
Humboldt	60,462	3,613	64,075	5.6%	2.2%	3.5%	7.8%
Shasta	78,896	4,035	82,931	4.9%	1.8%	3.1%	6.6%
Mendocino, Lake	61,897	8,869	70,766	12.5%	3.0%	9.6%	15.5%
Trinity, Tehama, Glenn, Colusa	43,519	10,601	54,120	19.6%	4.1%	15.5%	23.7%
Butte	95,099	10,622	105,721	10.0%	2.2%	7.8%	12.3%
Plumas, Sierra, Nevada	60,590	3,368	63,958	5.3%	2.1%	3.2%	7.4%

Too powerful to ignore

- The potential of ACS for reporting
- The real deal: Too often we write about trends at macro levels and have to guess at the real trend
 - “Queens immigrants up probably because of influx in Flushing Asian neighborhoods.”
 - Small areas tell the tale
- Discovering trends that are nowhere else apparent; background reporting
- Narrative writing and correctible errors

ACS Microdata

- PUMS
- Family project
 - <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/06/19/nyregion/how-many-households-are-like-yours.html>
 - Five year ACS, minimum sample size around 50
 - <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/06/17/nyregion/maps-of-family-types.html?ref=nyregion>
 - IPUMS metro areas
- Segregation indices...very stable, very telling
 - <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/05/11/nyregion/segregation-in-new-york-city-public-schools.html>
- One percenters by city
 - Scatterplot of 1st percentile and 95th percentile



Small Areas

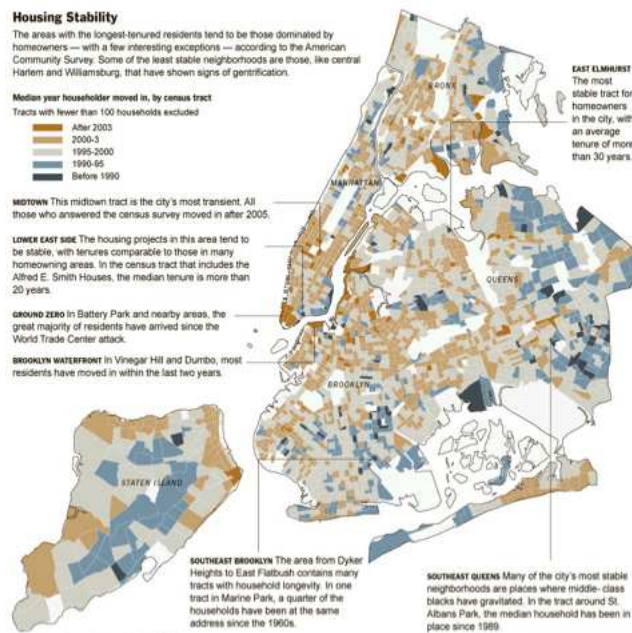
- How we learned to stop worrying about sampling error and embrace the ACS
 - As long as the Census Bureau produces it, we're going to use it
 - Map scales
 - Usually we're depicting small area data at a resolution at which individual sampling problems are not apparent
 - Borrowing visually from nearby geography, effectively
- <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/01/23/nyregion/20110123-nyc-ethnic-neighborhoods-map.html>

- Custom geographies
 - NYC “neighborhoods”
 - Generalized areas of similar demography
<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/05/11/nyregion/segregation-in-new-york-city-public-schools.html>
- Text generalities
 - Using the data for background reporting that we then present in generalized areas, and generalized statements
 - <http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/11/05/nyregion/the-evolving-neighborhoods-along-the-marathon.html>



Journalist on the loose

- Housing Stability...
- Commuting by bicycle



ACS: Perspectives from GAO

Ron Fecso
Chief Statistician

Kathleen Padulchick
Senior Analyst

U. S. Government Accountability Office

Discussion at
Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
June 14–15, 2012
Keck Center of the National Academies
Washington, DC

1

What is GAO?

Mission

- Support Congress in meetings its responsibilities; improve the performance and ensure the accountability of the federal government
- GAO provides Congress with information that is objective, fact-based, non-partisan, fair, and balanced, non-partisan, fair, and balanced

Products

- Primarily written reports and testimonies before Congress
- Products include:
 - Audits of agency operations
 - Assessments of how well government programs and policies are meeting their objectives
 - Policy analyses and outlining of options for Congressional consideration

2



Data Reliability

GAO's data reliability standards vary according to the planned use for the data

When using data collected by other organizations, we consider many factors, including:

- the competence of the source
- the reasonableness of the estimate and how it was derived – for example, we look at whether data estimates are precise enough for our purposes and whether the margin of error is relatively small

If the data do not meet our standards, we cannot use them.

3



EXAMPLES OF GAO USE

CONSIDER from the examples that follow:

- the usefulness of the ACS, and
- is the ACS issue
- Burden or breadth
- Privacy/confidentiality or depth to inform

4

GAO
Accountability Integrity Reliability
Highlights
Highlights of GAO-07-1012, a report to congressional committees

August 2007

RENTAL HOUSING

Information on Low-Income Veterans' Housing Conditions and Participation in HUD's Programs

Report analyzes veterans' housing characteristics and need for affordable housing.

GAO used ACS data to determine characteristics of veterans' households:

- income
- housing characteristics
- other demographics

Percentage of Low-Income Veteran Renter Households with Housing Affordability Problems, by State, 2005

Source: GAO analysis of sample survey data from 2005 American Community Survey; Art Explosion (map).

5

GAO
Accountability Integrity Reliability
Highlights
Highlights of GAO-07-925, a report to congressional requesters

July 2007

HIGHER EDUCATION

Information Sharing Could Help Institutions Identify and Address Challenges That Some Asian American and Pacific Islander Students Face

Report focuses on differences in education and income among Asian and Pacific Islander subgroups.

GAO used ACS data to examine the educational attainment and incomes of these subgroups, and also analyzed attainment controlling for factors such as gender and age.


Education and Average Income, by Asian American and Pacific Islander Subgroup (2005)

Asian American and Pacific Islander subgroup	Estimated percent of ethnic group with a college degree (%)	Estimated average income (Dollars in thousand)
Asian Indian	68	66
Korean	54	52
Pakistani, Bangladeshi, and Sri Lankan	54	48
Chinese	53	56
Filipino	48	46
Other	47	51
Japanese	44	59
Indonesian, Malaysian, and Thai	44	40
Vietnamese	25	41
Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander	17	38
Laotian, and Hmong	13	32

Source: GAO analysis of ACS data.

6

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



Highlights
Highlights of GAO-09-20, a report to the Ranking Member, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate

November 2008

FLOOD INSURANCE

Options for Addressing the Financial Impact of Subsidized Premium Rates on the National Flood Insurance Program


Report examines flood insurance policies covered by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

GAO used ACS data to inform its selection of case study counties, which were used to more fully understand similarities and differences in how the NFIP operates at the local level.

Table 5: Demographics and Other Characteristics of the Five Counties Selected for Site Visits

	Pinellas County, Florida	Harris County, Texas	Washington County, Ohio	Jefferson County, Missouri	Sonoma County, California
2006 ACS estimates*					
County population	924,413	3,886,207	61,867	216,469	466,891
Median household income	\$41,945	\$47,129	\$34,275	\$53,434	\$60,821
Median value of owner occupied home	\$205,200	\$126,000	\$80,400	\$150,900	\$618,500

7



Highlights
Highlights of GAO-09-798, a report to congressional requesters

September 2009

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FUNDING FORMULA

Options for Improving Equity in State Grants and Considerations for Performance Incentives

Report focuses on potential methodologies for distributing vocational rehabilitation funding.

GAO used ACS data to estimate disability rates by state, a measure that could be used to determine vocational rehabilitation funding.

Table 3: Breakdown of the Total U.S. Population into Components of our Measure of the Need Population for the VR program, 2007

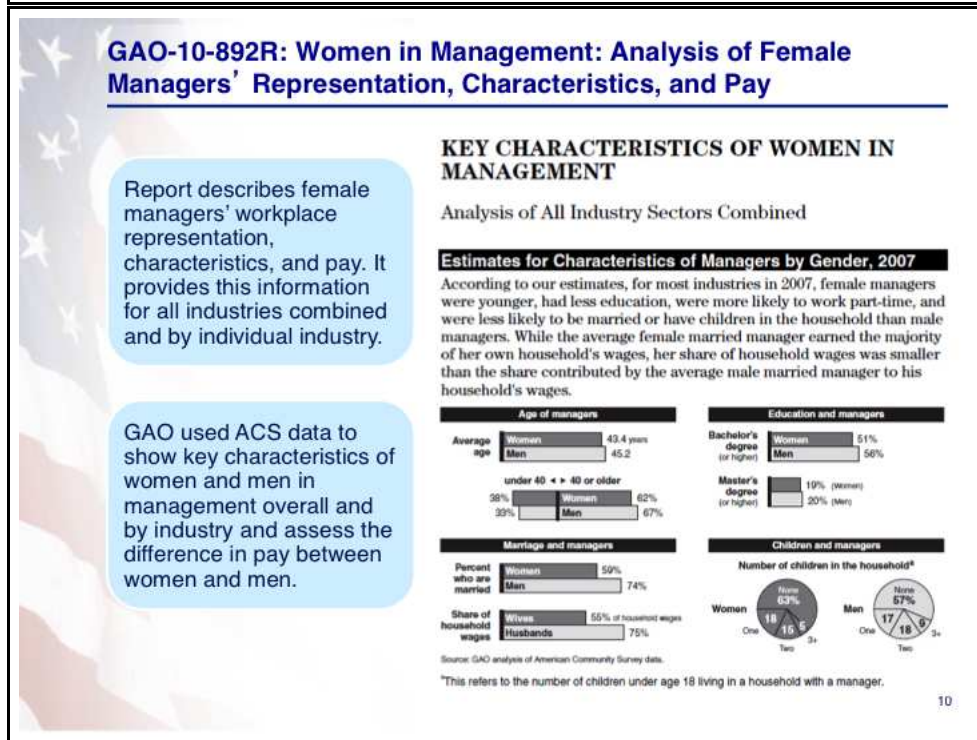
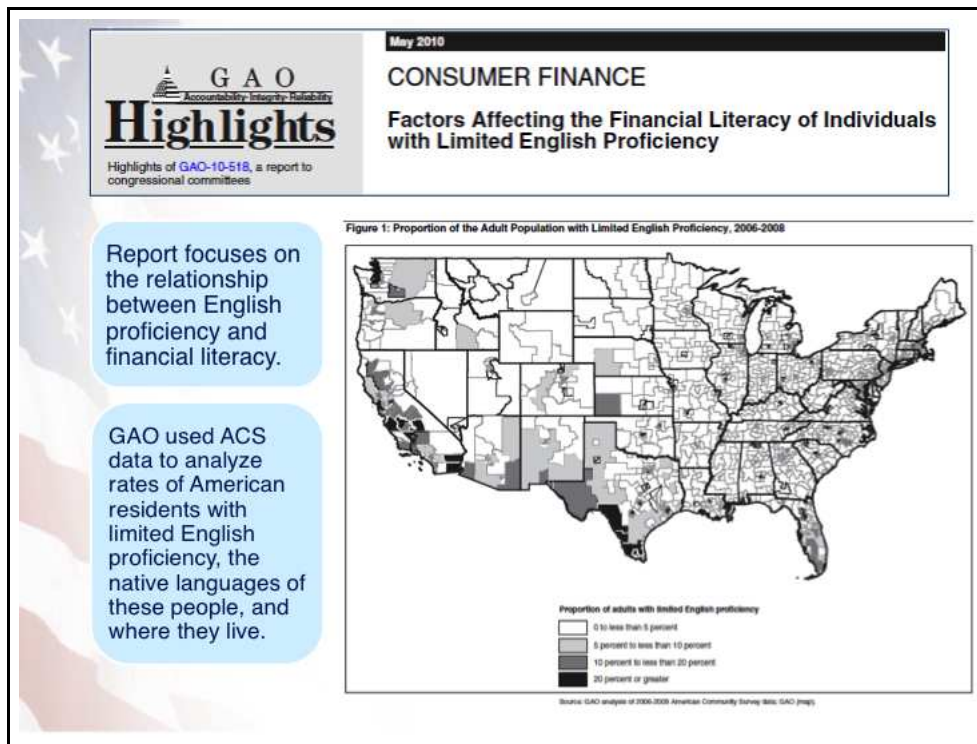
	Population	Percentage of total population
Total U.S.	301,621,159	100
Civilian working-aged (16 to 64)	197,630,139	65.5
Civilian working-aged with a disability* (16 to 64)	22,886,919	7.6

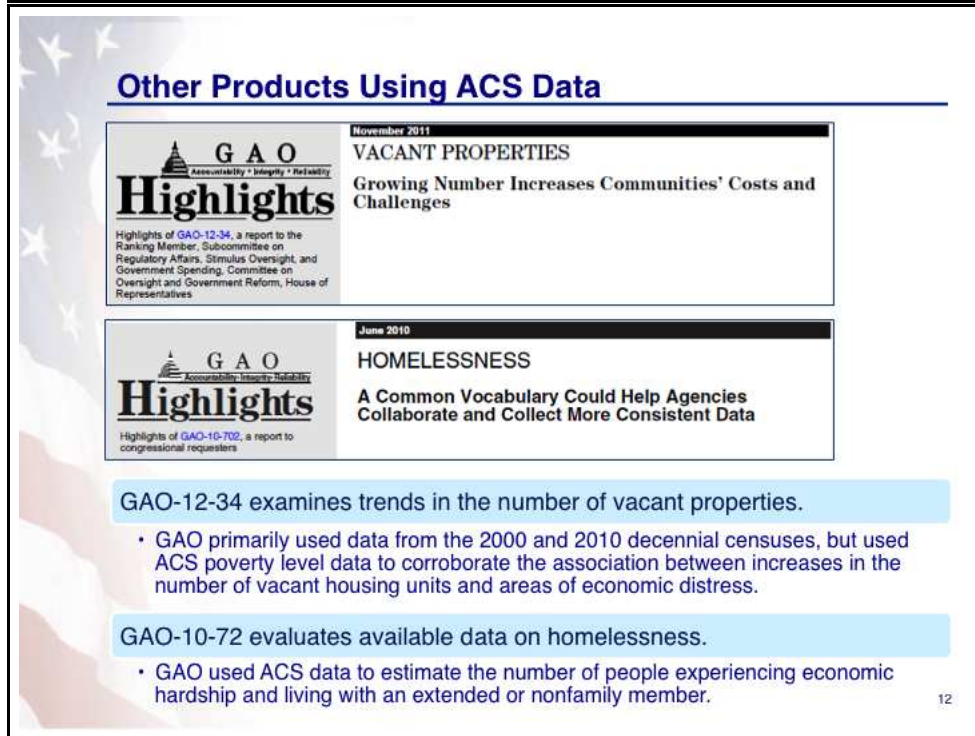
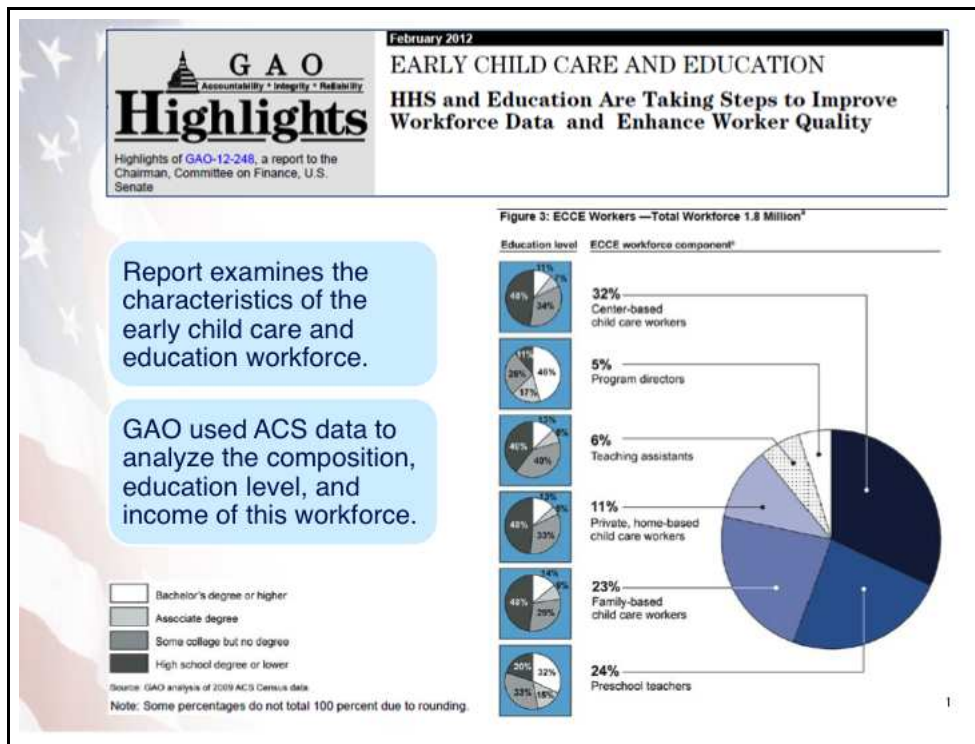
Source: GAO analysis of data from the Census Bureau's ACS.

*For purposes of this study, the population of people with disabilities is based upon data from five disability questions asked in the 2007 ACS. We did not include data from a sixth question on difficulty working.

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Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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Earlier reports focused on potential uses of ACS data and resources by other surveys.

Reports that focused on technical aspects of ACS use include:

- B-289852: Legal Authority for the American Community Survey
- GAO-02-956R: The American Community Survey: Accuracy and Timeliness Issues
- GAO-07-62: Federal Information Collection: A Reexamination of the Portfolio of Major Federal Household Surveys Is Needed

13



GAO
Accountability • Integrity • Reliability
Highlights

Highlights of [GAO-12-54](#), a report to the Chairman, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate

February 2012
FEDERAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM
Agencies Can Make Greater Use of Existing Data, but Continued Progress Is Needed on Access and Quality Issues

Sample is currently too small to use for other follow up survey designs

Adding questions??? It worked for NSCG but is that in play?

Current and Alternative Sources of Data on the Science and Engineering Workforce
Working Paper - SRS 07-202, June 2007 <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/srs07202/>
Ronald S. Fecso (formerly Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation), G. Hussain Choudhry, Graham Kalton, Adam Chu, and Richard Phelps

14



Implication of Reduced ACS Quality

- Reduced sample – lower quality
- More difficult to meet data reliability guidelines
- That's what we're all about
- Could we still do the work?
- Difficult to imagine ACS could be used for other survey work

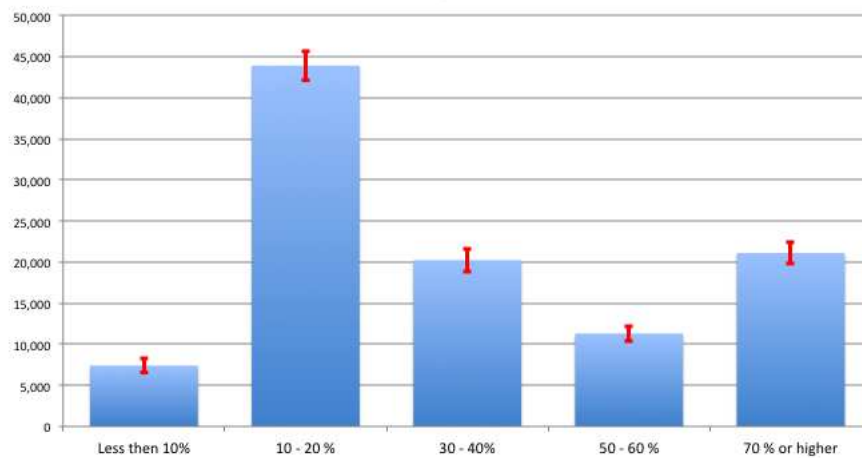
15

Georgia Division of Aging Services

Estimating Regional Demand for Home Health Care Services for Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities

Prepared by Warren Brown, Ph.D., Cornell University, e: wab4@cornell.edu

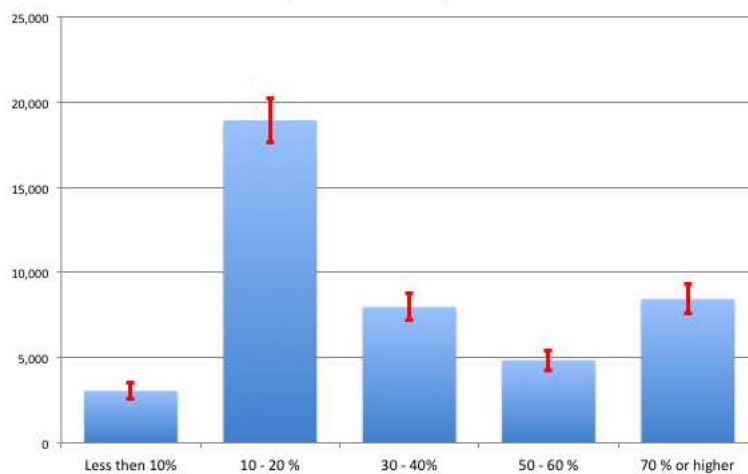
**Veterans By Service-Connected Disability Rating
State of Georgia, 2008-2010**



Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010, Table B21100

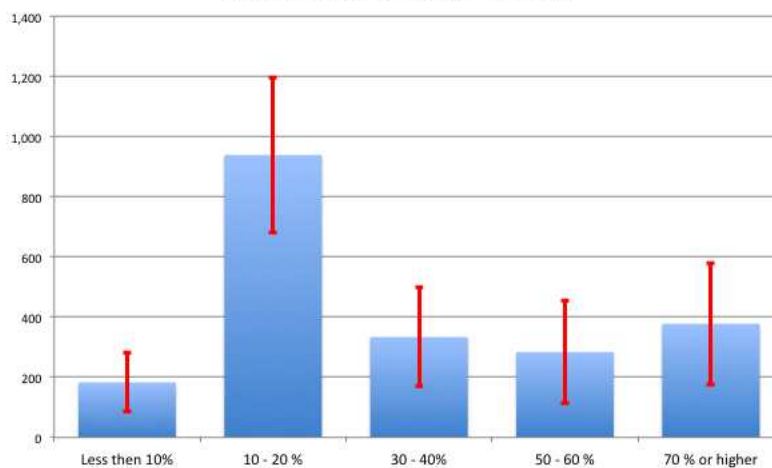
Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14-15, 2012

**Veterans By Service-Connected Disability Rating
Atlanta, GA Metro Area, 2008-2010**



Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010, Table B21100

**Veterans By Service-Connected Disability Rating
Macon, GA Metro Area, 2008-2010**



Source: American Community Survey, 2008-2010, Table B21100

Reducing Respondent Burden of the American Community Survey

Presentation to the National Research Council
Workshop on the Benefits and Burdens of the ACS
June 15, 2012

Kenneth Darga, State Demographer
Michigan Department of Technology, Management, and Budget
DargaK@michigan.gov

Overview

Respondent burden includes:

- time and effort
- revealing personal information

My comments are intended place these burdens in the context of other demands that are made for our time, effort, and personal information.

Ideas for reducing respondent burden will also be proposed.

1. Time and Effort

The various levels of government demand our time and effort as well as our money, including:

- Compulsory military service
 - Mandatory school attendance
 - Waiting at traffic lights
 - Waiting in line for TSA
 - Keeping our lawn mowed and our snow shoveled
 - Answering the ACS about once every 45 years
- But reasons for participating in the ACS are not obvious to many people.

1. Time and Effort

For most households, filling out the ACS takes about as much time as cutting the grass . . .

. . . but for some households, it can be equivalent to cutting the grass several times, because of:

- Language barriers
- Literacy issues
- Inability to deal with numbers and data
- Household size

1. Time and Effort

The relevant question:

Is filling out the ACS once every 45 years or so as important as spending the same number of minutes:

- Cutting grass
- Waiting at traffic lights
- Doing the other things that governments require us to do for the public good.

2. Personal Information

- a) For some people, some of the information requested by the ACS can be sensitive.
- b) What the Census Bureau really wants is aggregate information, not personal information.
- c) **Information requested by the ACS is already known to many individuals and organizations.**
- d) Information about specific individuals is not available from the ACS (and it would not be very useful if it was).

2. Personal Information

If the FBI wants information about me and my household, they can get it from:

- Tax records - Social Security records
- Employer records - Local assessor records
- Bank records - Personal observation
- Driver records - Neighbors
- The Internet

If Big Brother wants information about me, he does not really need the ACS

2. Personal Information

Anyone who wants information about me can forget about getting it from the ACS.

1. No one can look up information about individuals
2. My household has not gotten an ACS survey yet.

The ACS is not designed to be useful as a national masterfile. It will never have current information on a large percentage of the population.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

The Census Bureau is already doing a pretty good job:

- ☒ Keep information confidential and publicize safeguards that prevent disclosure.
- ☒ Explain why each question is asked.
- ☒ Have a telephone response option for people with literacy or language issues.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

- a) Improve the layout of the form to make it easier to report information for large families.**
 - The current form is 27 pages long because questions are repeated 5 times.
 - After reading through the questions 5 separate times, a large family has to wait for a phone call to provide information on additional family members over the phone.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

a) Improve the layout of the form to make it easier to report information for large families.

It would be easier to read each question ONCE and then answer that question for each family member.

- Less respondent burden for large families
- A shorter and less imposing form for everyone.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

b) Make better provisions for complex households.

It is not easy to answer all of the questions on the ACS for a household with 20 unrelated residents.

After answering all the questions for 5 people, the respondent has to wait for a call and then report information for the other 15 over the phone.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

b) Make better provisions for complex households.

- We cannot assume that household members will be willing to provide personal information to a housemate.
- We should not expect people to provide large amounts of information over the phone.
- We cannot expect every complex household to have a secretary who will take responsibility for answering surveys appropriately.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

b) Make better provisions for complex households.

- Ask the respondent to list all household members
- Give them the option of putting a check mark by names of people for whom a separately addressed form is needed.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

b) Make better provisions for complex households.

This approach would be helpful for cases where:

- Some people do not want to provide personal information to a housemate.
- Some household members are unavailable while the form is being filled out.
- It is not feasible for one person to provide information for all household members.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

c) Suggest an alternative for people who do not want to provide their legal names.

People can choose a nickname, for example, but it should be recognizable to other household members if a follow-up worker calls to verify or clarify any responses.

3. Reducing Respondent Burden

d) A financial incentive might help reverse attitudes toward participating in the ACS.

Tax credits are more feasible than direct expenditures.

A tax credit would be appropriate compensation for people who have submitted a complete ACS form.

This should:

- Increase response rates
- Reduce incomplete submissions
- Reduce follow-up costs
- Increase willingness to participate.

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Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



The American Community Survey in State Government: Examples from Minnesota

Susan Brower, Minnesota State Demographer
June 2012

ACS, What have you done for us lately?



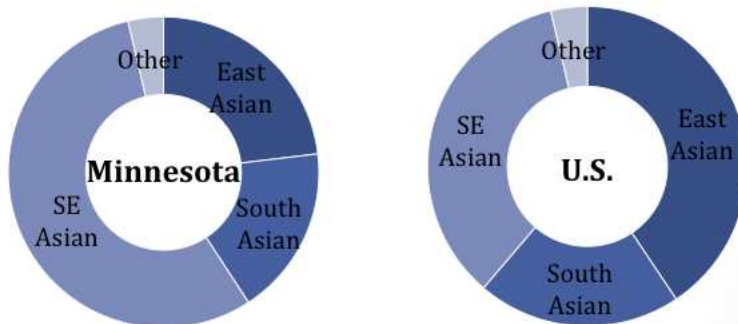
- **April 2012:** Report - State of the Asian Pacific Minnesotans
- **April & May 2012:** Analyses used distribute state funds
- **June 2012:** Report - The Time for Talent



State of the Asian Pacific Minnesotans

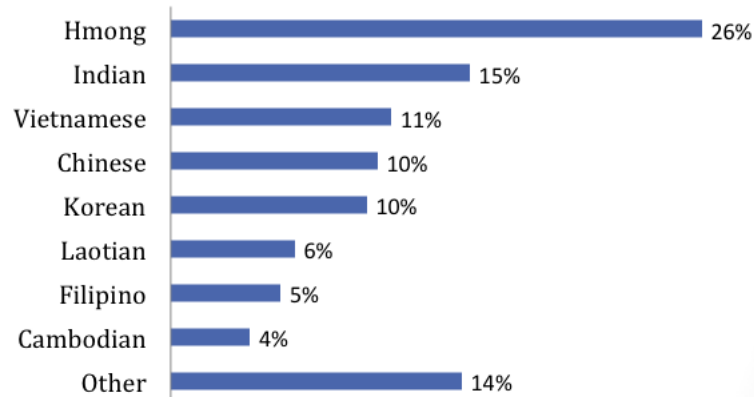
Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans
April 2012

Minnesota's Asian population is
unlike the U.S. Asian population



Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

Asian population by Ancestry Minnesota, 2008-2010



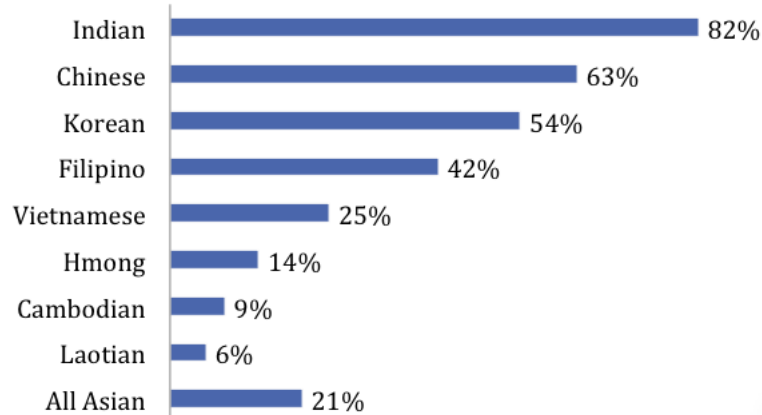
Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

Report Analysis



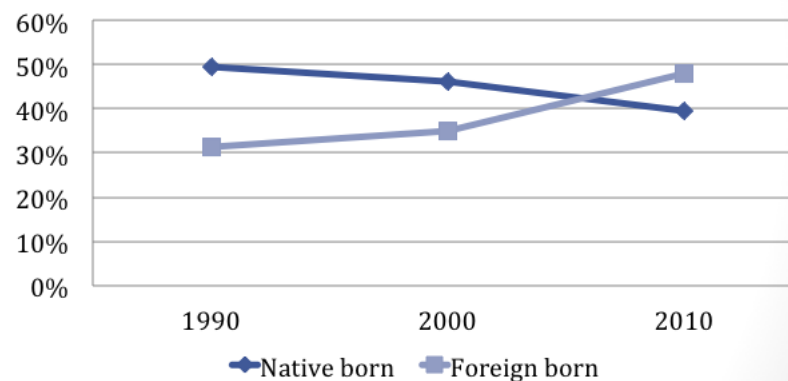
- 2008-2010 ACS Public Use Microdata Sample
- Identify Asian groups using ancestry, birthplace and nativity
- Report descriptive statistics that are not available in published tables

Percent with a B.A. or higher by Asian Ancestry, 2008-2010



Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

Percent with a B.A. or higher by Nativity Asian Minnesotan, 1990-2010



Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

ACS analyses used to inform policy and distribute funds

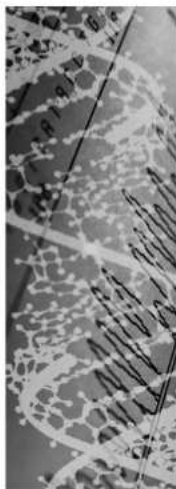


- **Equal Opportunity Compliance in Construction Projects**
- **Analyzed 2006-2010 Public Use Microdata Sample to inform EEO hiring goals**
- **Small Cities Development Grants**
- **Compiled 2006-2010 tabular poverty data to score grant applications**



The Time For Talent Minnesota State Demographic Center June 2012

Report Analysis



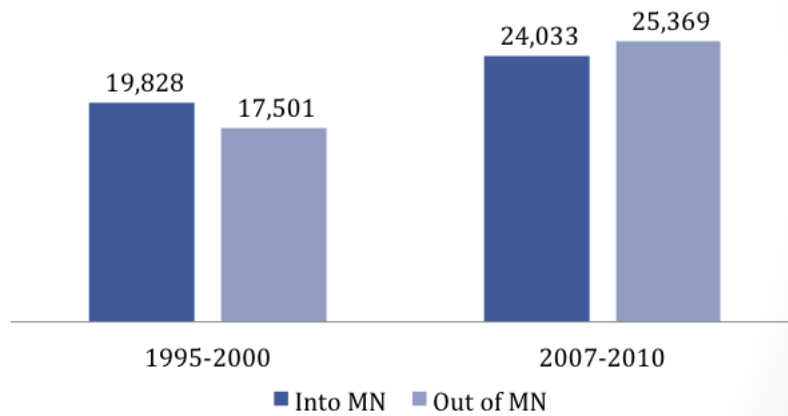
- 2007-2010 single-year ACS Public Use Microdata Samples
- Identify talent by educational attainment and occupation
- Use migration data to track movement of talent workers in and out of the state

Degreed Migrants to Minnesota by Sending State/Abroad (Annual Average)

State	1995-2000	2007-2010
Wisconsin	16,207	19,764
Abroad	14,366	17,296
North Dakota	8,191	6,360
Florida	1,930	5,800
California	6,760	5,680
Illinois	7,936	5,526
Iowa	8,169	5,069
Texas	3,426	3,718
South Dakota	3,843	3,341
Colorado	2,574	2,996

Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

Average Annual Number of Degreed Migrants



Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

Percent of Degreed Workers Living in State of Birth, 2007-2010

State	Percent
Texas	69.7
California	65.7
North Carolina	61.0
Minnesota	59.1
Georgia	58.7
Utah	57.4
Washington	56.0
Tennessee	55.4
South Carolina	55.1
Wisconsin	54.1

Source: Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, 2008-2010

State government relies heavily on ACS data.

In Minnesota:

1. Population profiles of Minnesota-specific groups
2. Analyses to help regulate state contracts and distribute funds
3. Special reports that help with long-term planning

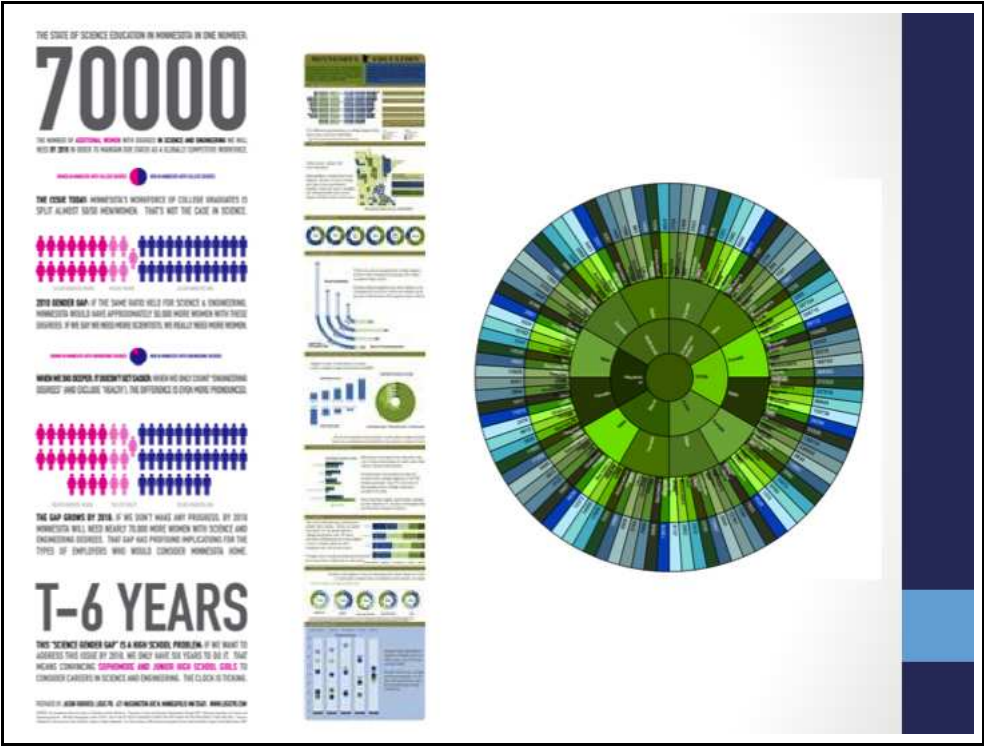
Minnesota Data Opener

Chat: Visualizing Educational Attainment in Minnesota



The screenshot shows a live chat interface. At the top, there are three icons: a person, a gear, and a speech bubble. Below these is a small profile picture of a man. To the right of the profile picture, the text reads: **LIVE CHAT: Tuesday June 12 from noon to 1:00pm**. Below this, it says: "Let's talk about educational attainment in Minnesota. Join contestants and policy experts for a conversation here on Tuesday at noon that will include an announcement of the winners from the [Minnesota Data Opener](#)." At the bottom, it says: "by Michael Olson, MPR News June 12 at 11:57 AM".

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14-15, 2012



Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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The Geography of Need: *Identifying Human Service Needs in Rural America*

Kathleen Miller
Program Director
Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI)

Presented at the
*Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the
American Community Survey*
National Research Council, National Academies
June 14-15, 2012



- Collaboration with Dr. Colleen Heflin (University of Missouri), funded by the Kresge Foundation
 - Recent events / conditions
 - Great Recession
 - Federal / State budget deficits
 - Understanding human services needs
 - Do characteristics of needs differ in rural and urban places?
 - What types of needs occur in combination?
 - How do the types of needs differ across geographic regions?

project goals

- Human service needs depend on the characteristics of the population in need
 - Needs vary across the life course
 - Different subpopulations have different needs (veterans, elderly, young children)
- Specific local conditions affect provision of human services
 - Cultural differences, language barriers, transportation needs
 - Geographic dispersion / isolation
- Human service needs are also a function of the economic structure of an area

rationale

- What geographic area is the unit of analysis?
 - States? Counties? Tracts? PUMAs? Block groups?
- What are our indicators of need?
 - How do we capture needs across the life course?
 - How do we capture economic, cultural differences across space?
- How do we define “need”
- How will we capture the combinations of need?

research questions

- Advantages
 - Stable boundaries over time
 - Reflect human services provision boundaries
 - Data readily available and accessible
 - Study coinciding with the first five year release of ACS data
- Disadvantages – western states have larger counties
 - Less reflective of the rural nature of communities
 - Larger counties more likely to include variation – lower probability of meeting needs/risk criteria

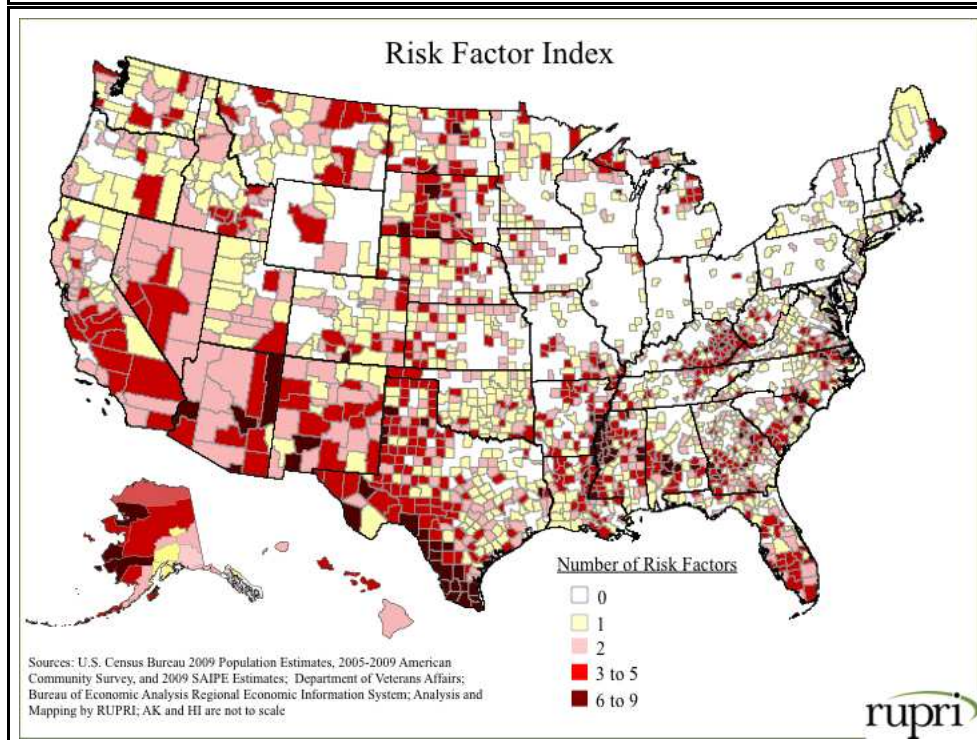
unit of analysis: county

- American Community Survey
 - Educational attainment
 - Populations in subfamilies
 - Fertility
 - Foreign born populations
 - Housing units lacking vehicle
 - Households receiving SNAP benefits
- Other county-level data sources
 - Population estimates program (age, race, ethnicity)
 - Veterans Affairs
 - SAIPE (poverty estimates)
 - Bureau of Economic Analysis (transfer payments)

primary data sources

- Human Services Need Index - Composite index of demographic and economic needs
 - The bottom 10% of all counties on each particular indicator get a point on the index
 - Additive index – the higher the number, the more needs exist in the county
 - 8 demographic indicators; 4 economic indicators
 - Possible score 0 to 12

methods

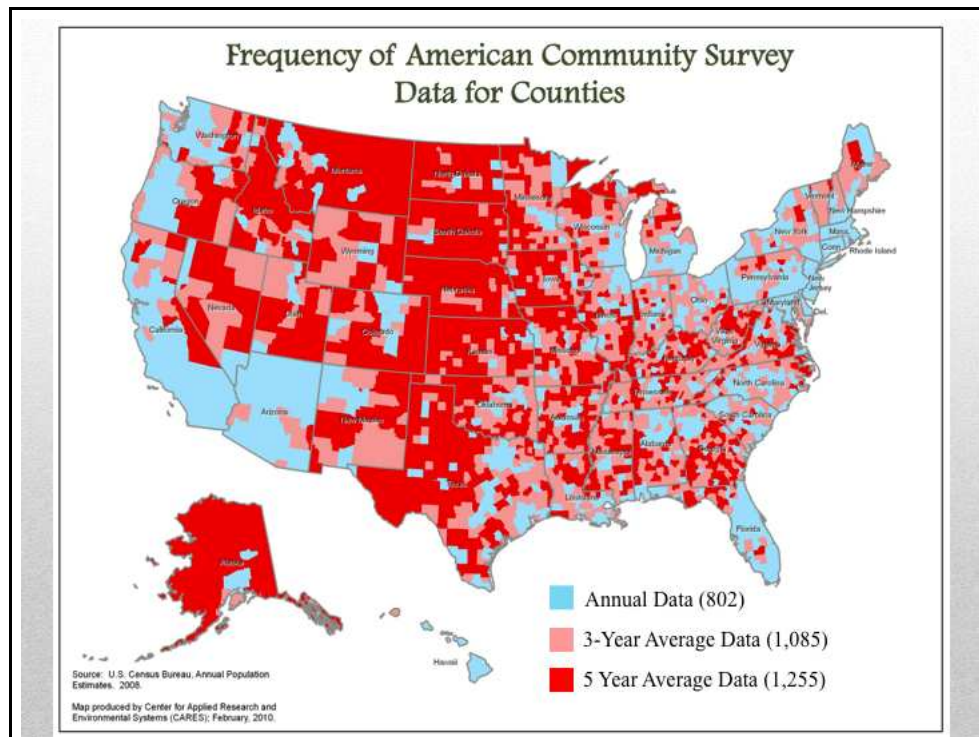


Number of Risk Factors	Metro Counties	Nonmetro Counties
0	585 (53.2%)	690 (33.8%)
1	267 (24.3%)	464 (22.7%)
2	149 (13.5%)	346 (16.9%)
3 to 5	91 (8.3%)	459 (22.5%)
6 to 9	8 (0.7%)	84 (4.1%)

rural/urban differences

- Despite concerns with the ACS for rural and small area data analysis, it's the best data we have for understanding rural America

the ACS and rural data



- This study relies heavily on the use of ACS data to understand the breadth and depth of human service needs in rural America
- No other data source can allow such a comprehensive look at demographic and economic indicators
- Broad interest in this work
- Absent the ACS, understanding rural America will be nearly impossible
- It's not perfect, but it's critical!

conclusions



THANK YOU

Kathleen Miller
Program Director
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miller@rupri.org

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Squeezing blood from a stone?

Seemingly quixotic attempts to map small area ACS estimates

*Presentation at the Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of
the American Community Survey*

June 15, 2012 • Washington, DC

Steven Romalewski

CUNY Mapping Service

The Graduate Center / City University of New York

1

The tease...

The American Community Survey offers
the promise of frequent small-area
data.

- ❖ No more stale long-form data!
- ❖ Tract (and even block group) data at
least every five years!

2

The reality...

- ❖ Incredibly rich data set, but...
- ❖ Sometimes unacceptably high margins of error *especially* at the tract (and block group!) level, even for gross measures.
- ❖ 5 year aggregations mean you can't compare within or across 5-year ACS releases.

3

Our approach ...

- ❖ *Center for Urban Research*: academic setting but projects for & with local orgs, agencies, and researchers with practical data needs.
- ❖ *CUNY Mapping Service*: focus on online, interactive mapping applications (including block-group spatial patterns).

4

Putting small area ACS data to the test...

❖ Do we need to denote “high MOE” tracts/BGs separately (cross-hatching, etc)?

- Can we create robust choropleth maps even with uncertain data?

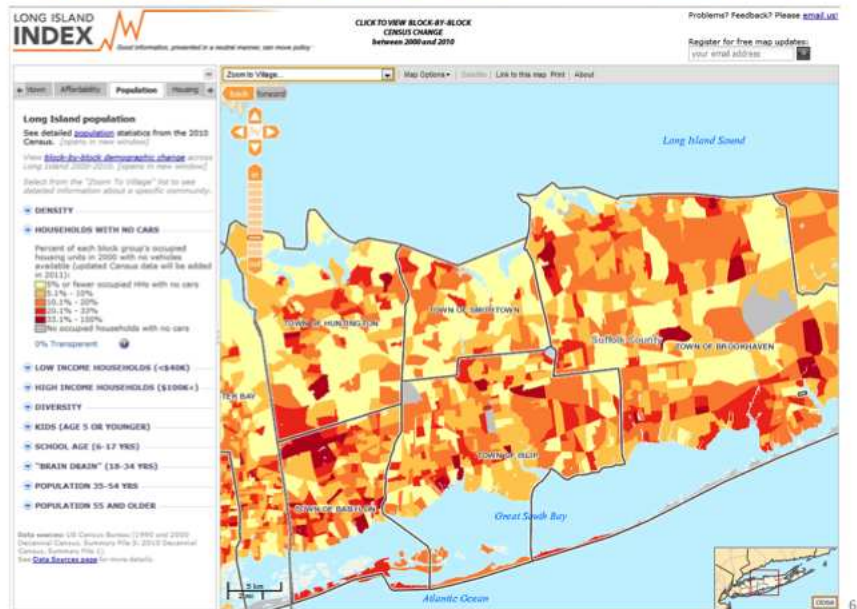
❖ Is geographic aggregation necessary?

- Can we still use tracts, even BGs, and visualize spatial patterns with confidence?

5

What we would like to map (Long Island example)

www.longislandindexmaps.org



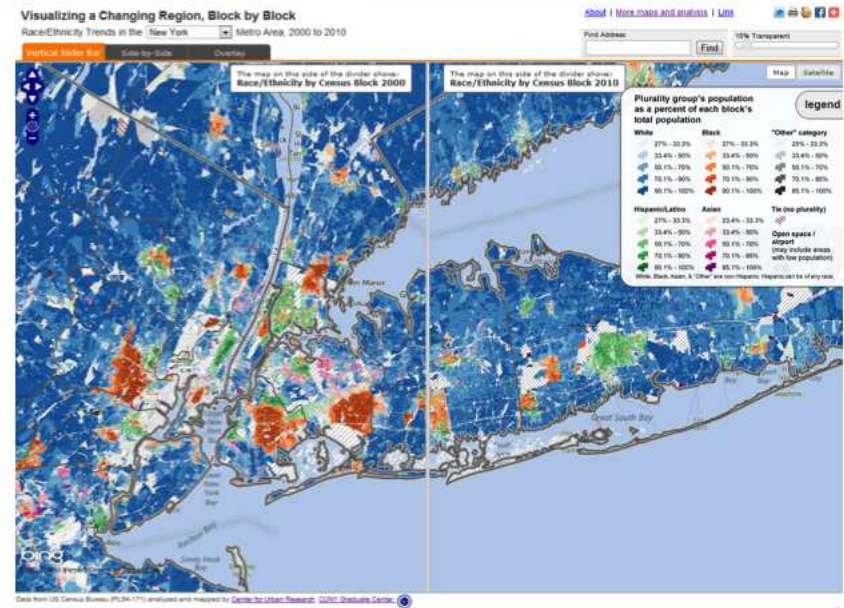
6

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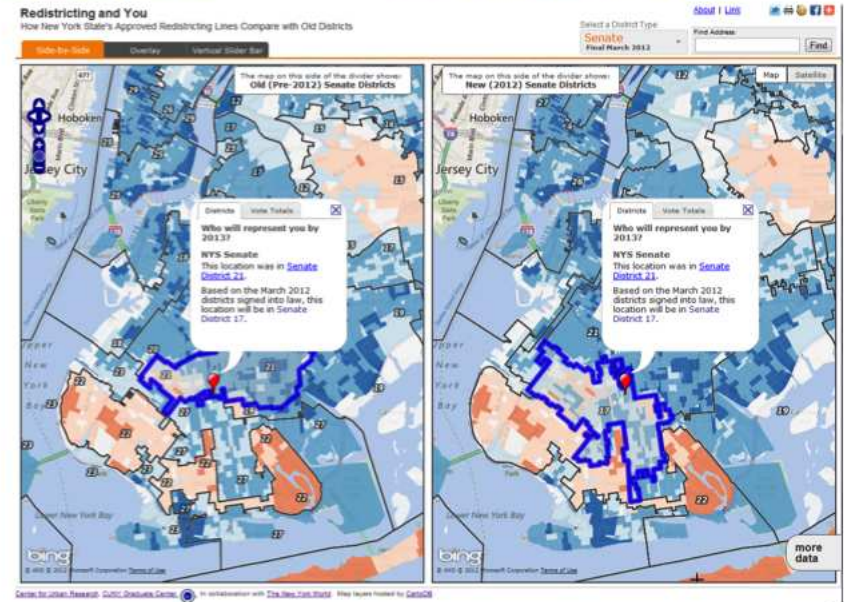
Block-level interactive example

www.urbanresearchmaps.org/comparator/pluralitymap.htm

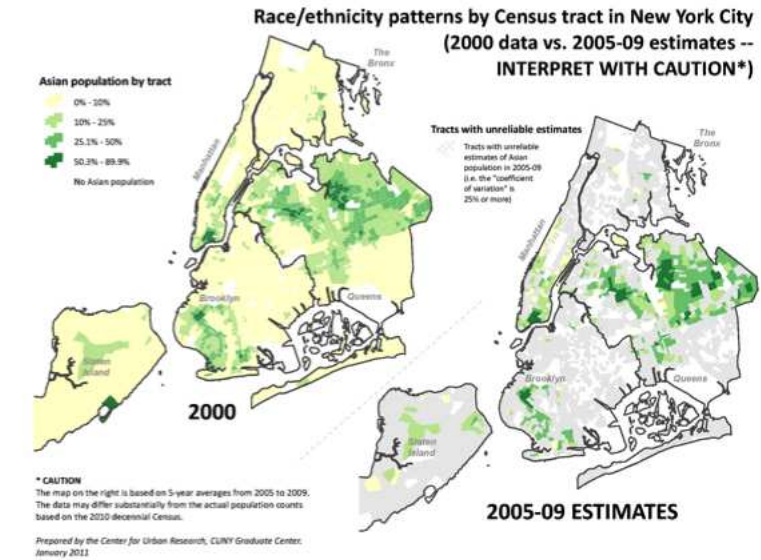


Redistricting example

www.urbanresearchmaps.org/nyredistricting/map.html

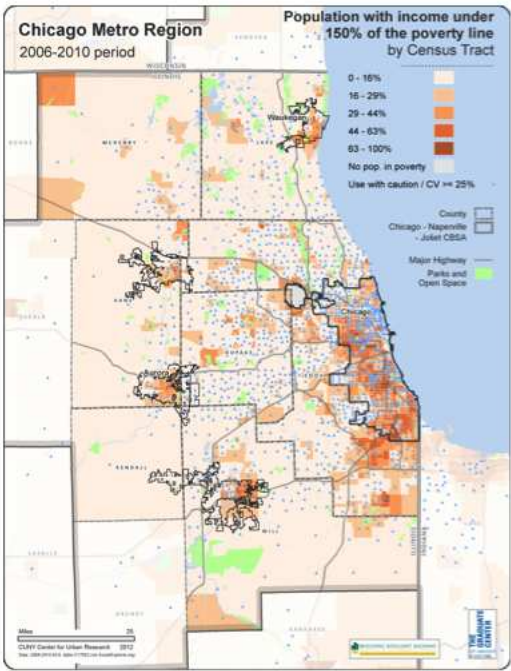


What we've tried to map (race / ethnicity example)

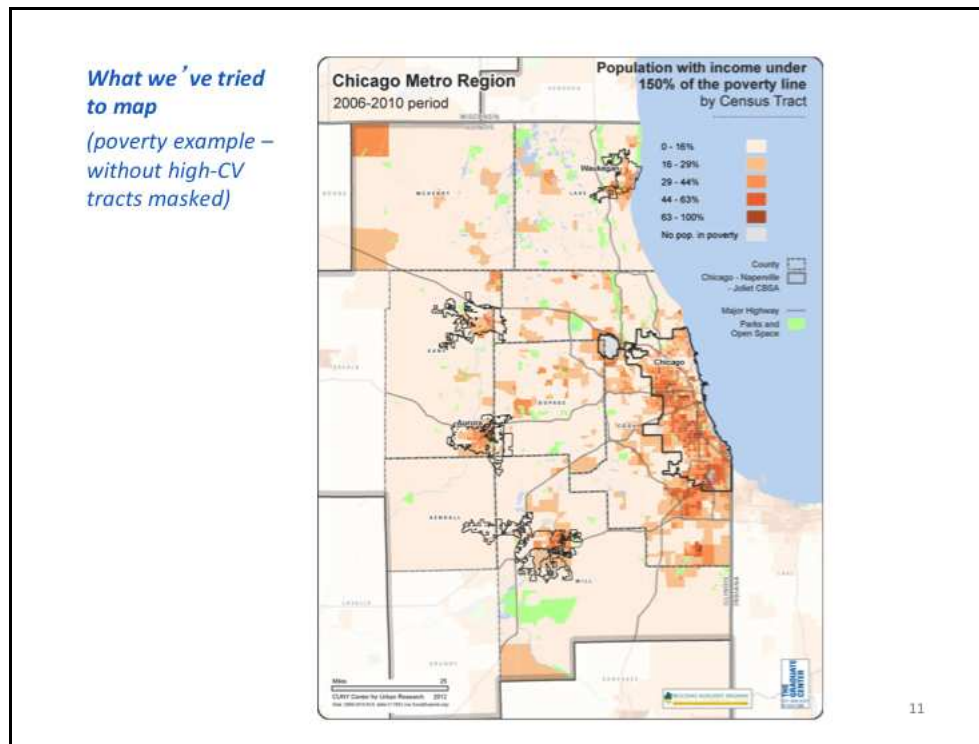


9

*What we've tried
to map
(poverty example –
with high-CV tracts
masked)*



10



Methodological references

❖ Wong/Sun ArcGIS extension

- Testing significance of differences across choropleth ranges

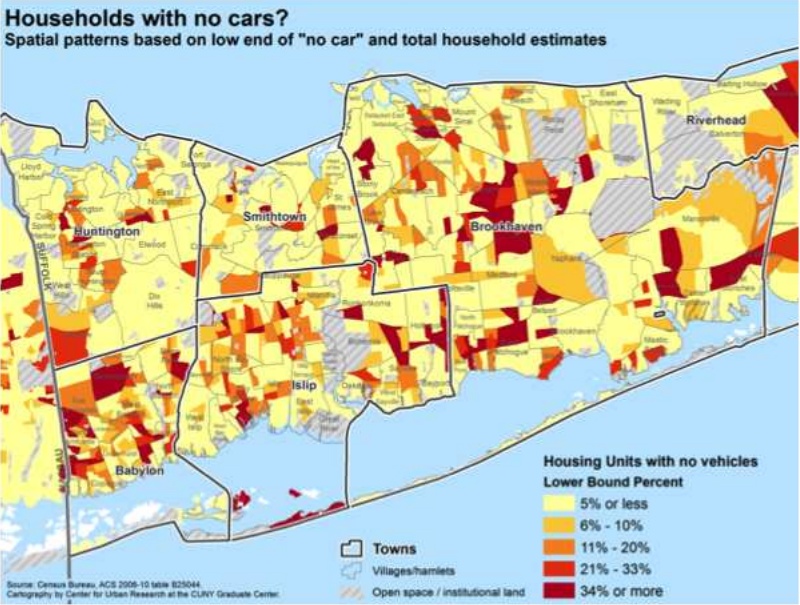
❖ Cornell's Program on Applied Demographics

- Exploring visualization techniques
- Framework of options

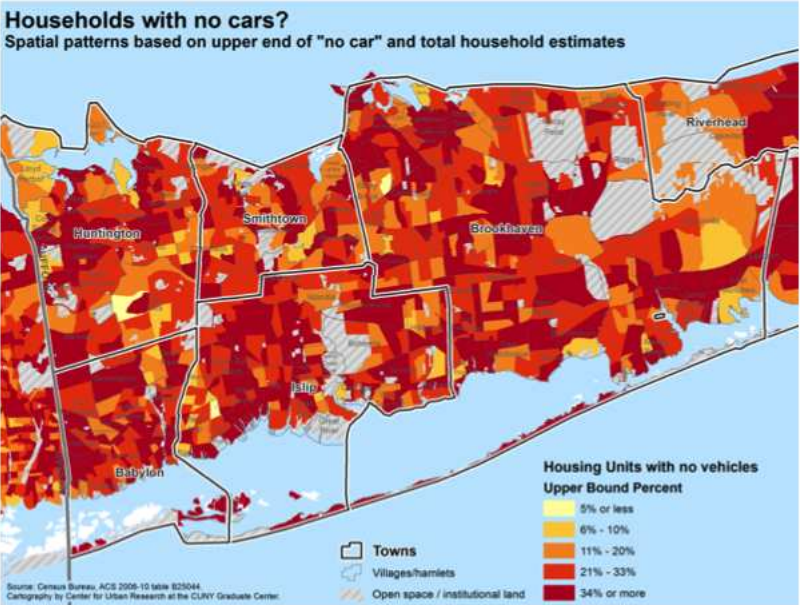
❖ Informal NYC working group

12

Illustrating the problem: households with no cars

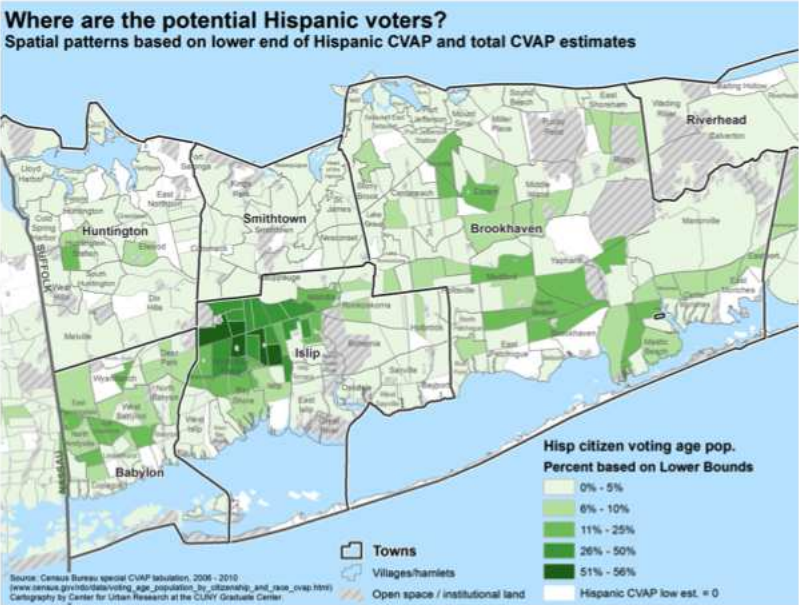


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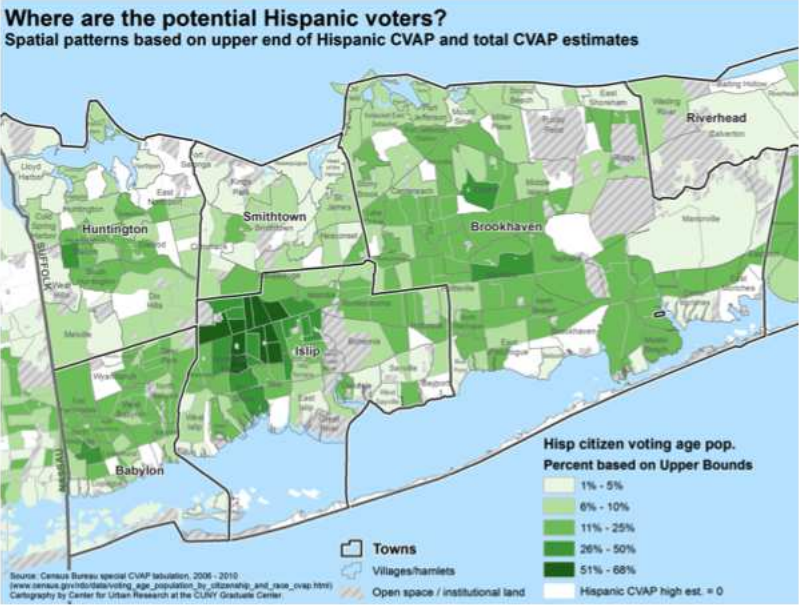


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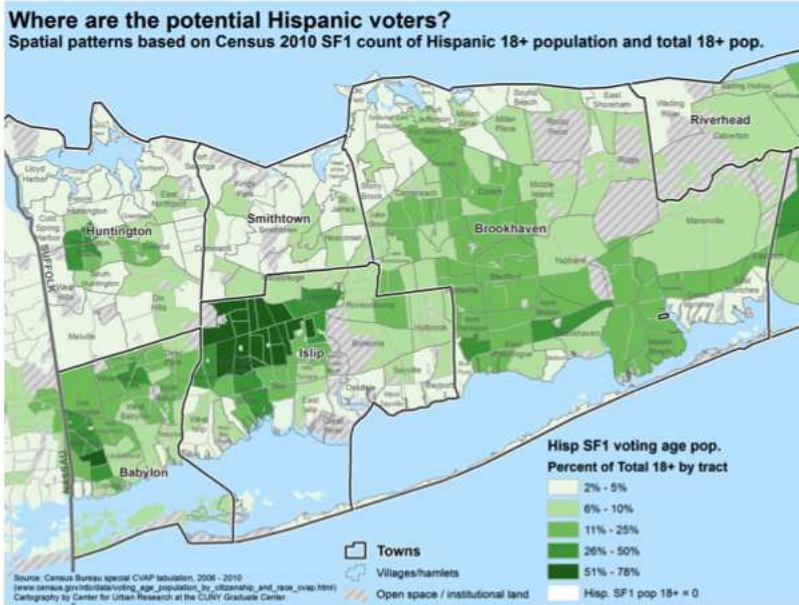
Illustrating the problem: CVAP for civic engagement



15

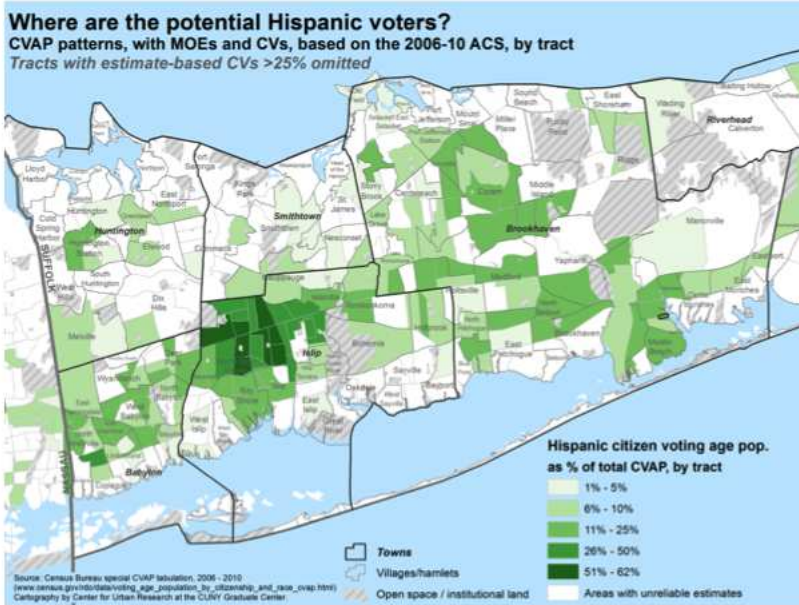


16



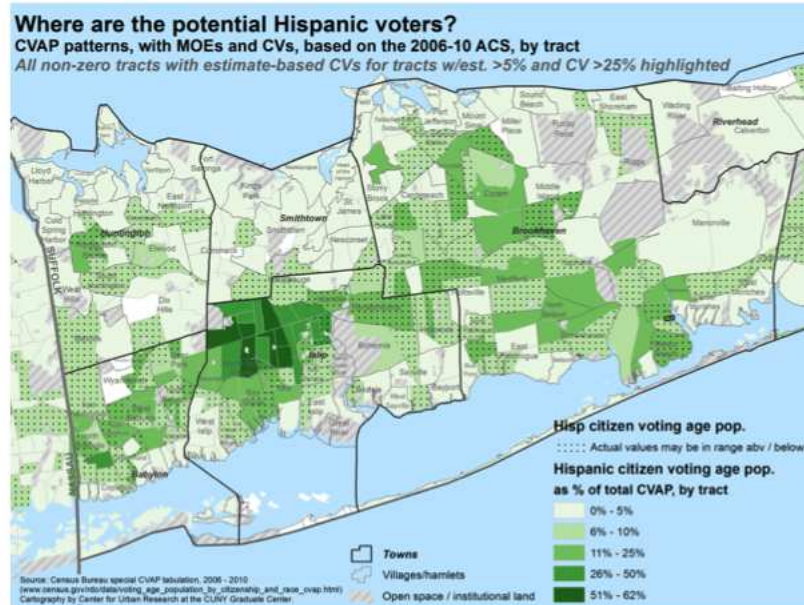
17

Omitting geographies with unreliable estimates?



18

Cartographic techniques to denote unreliability?



19

Spreadsheet demo

- ❖ Initial attempt at constructing choropleth ranges that respect MOEs

Triangulate with 100% data

- ❖ CVAP block group examples (earlier slides)

Interactive display

- ❖ Build on Cornell PAD techniques

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Contact Info

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Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
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ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE OF THE NAVAJO NATION, PART I.

The Navajo Nation
Division of Economic Development
Support Services

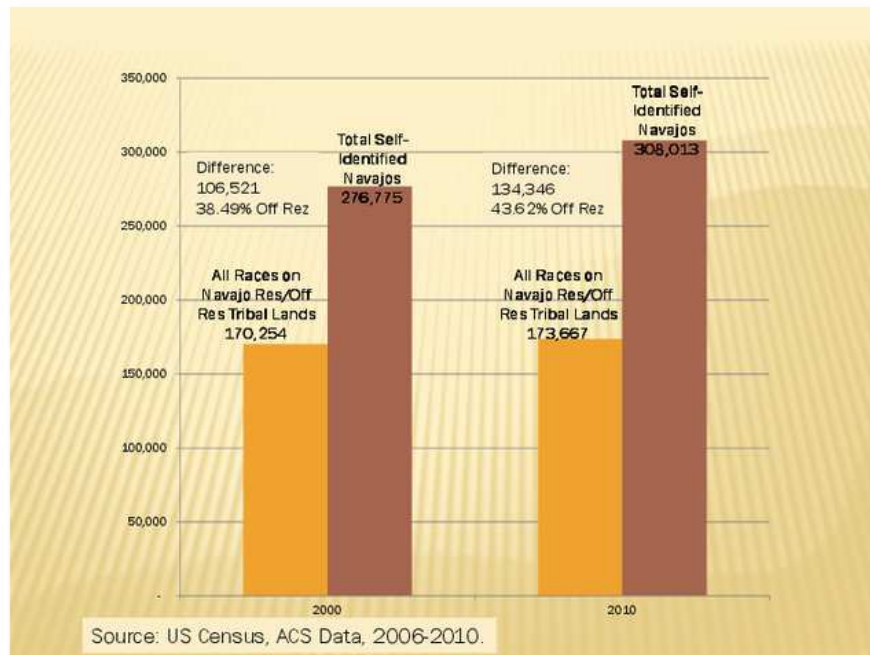
Raymond Nopah
Chief Financial Officer
Lester K. Tsosie, MPA, MBA
Principle Economic Development Specialist

Resource Development Committee Meeting
St. Michaels, Navajo Nation (AZ)
April 24, 2012

NAVAJO ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE, PART I

- ✧ What is the population at Navajo?
- ✧ What does the economic landscape look like?
- ✧ Who are the key players?
- ✧ What are some important factors that shape the landscape?
- ✧ What are some ways to measure these factors?
- ✧ What are some changes being developed by DED?

ACCORDING TO US CENSUS, WHAT IS THE POPULATION AT NAVAJO?



WHO ARE KEY PLAYERS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT NAVAJO?

- ✧ Navajo Nation Government (Executive, Legislative)
- ✧ Navajo Nation Enterprises (NTUA, NECA, NAPI)
- ✧ Indian Health Service
- ✧ Bureau of Indian Affairs
- ✧ Small Businesses
- ✧ Schools
- ✧ Health Care
- ✧ Navajo Gaming
- ✧ "Bordertowns"
- ✧ Flea Markets
- ✧ Other Initiatives (Grant funding, Collaborations)



**WHAT ARE SOME FACTORS THAT DEFINE THE
ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE AT NAVAJO?**



WHAT DOES POVERTY LOOK LIKE AT NAVAJO?

**NAVJO NATION
DIVISION OF
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SUPPORT SERVICES**

Poverty - All Families

Legend

- 5% - 14%
- 15% - 24%
- 25% - 34%
- 35% - 44%
- 45% - 54%
- 55% - 64%
- 65% - 74%
- 75% - 100%

United States Below Poverty Rate - 13.8%
Navajo Nation Below Poverty Rate - 37.7%
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 ACS, April 2012.

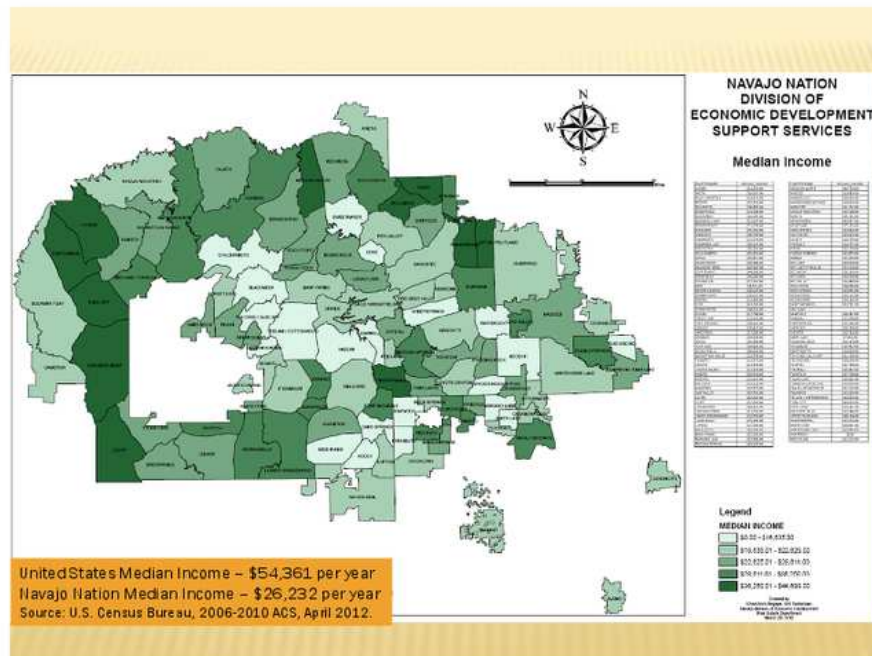
Census Tract	Poverty Rate
001	15.2
002	12.8
003	18.5
004	10.1
005	22.3
006	14.7
007	11.9
008	16.4
009	13.5
010	17.8
011	19.2
012	14.1
013	16.7
014	12.3
015	15.6
016	18.9
017	11.4
018	13.7
019	16.1
020	14.5
021	17.3
022	12.6
023	15.9
024	18.4
025	11.7
026	14.2
027	16.8
028	13.1
029	15.4
030	17.6
031	12.9
032	15.1
033	18.7
034	11.2
035	13.4
036	16.3
037	14.8
038	17.1
039	12.5
040	15.7
041	18.2
042	11.6
043	13.9
044	16.5
045	14.3
046	17.4
047	12.7
048	15.3
049	18.6
050	11.3
051	13.6
052	16.2
053	14.6
054	17.5
055	12.4
056	15.5
057	18.1
058	11.5
059	13.8
060	16.4
061	14.9
062	17.2
063	12.6
064	15.8
065	18.3
066	11.4
067	13.7
068	16.1
069	14.5
070	17.3
071	12.9
072	15.1
073	18.7
074	11.2
075	13.4
076	16.3
077	14.8
078	17.1
079	12.5
080	15.7
081	18.2
082	11.6
083	13.9
084	16.5
085	14.3
086	17.4
087	12.7
088	15.3
089	18.6
090	11.3
091	13.6
092	16.2
093	14.6
094	17.5
095	12.4
096	15.5
097	18.1
098	11.5
099	13.8
100	16.4
101	14.9
102	17.2
103	12.6
104	15.8
105	18.3
106	11.4
107	13.7
108	16.1
109	14.5
110	17.3
111	12.9
112	15.1
113	18.7
114	11.2
115	13.4
116	16.3
117	14.8
118	17.1
119	12.5
120	15.7
121	18.2
122	11.6
123	13.9
124	16.5
125	14.3
126	17.4
127	12.7
128	15.3
129	18.6
130	11.3
131	13.6
132	16.2
133	14.6
134	17.5
135	12.4
136	15.5
137	18.1
138	11.5
139	13.8
140	16.4
141	14.9
142	17.2
143	12.6
144	15.8
145	18.3
146	11.4
147	13.7
148	16.1
149	14.5
150	17.3
151	12.9
152	15.1
153	18.7
154	11.2
155	13.4
156	16.3
157	14.8
158	17.1
159	12.5
160	15.7
161	18.2
162	11.6
163	13.9
164	16.5
165	14.3
166	17.4
167	12.7
168	15.3
169	

WHAT DOES UNEMPLOYMENT LOOK LIKE AT NAVAJO?

[illegible]

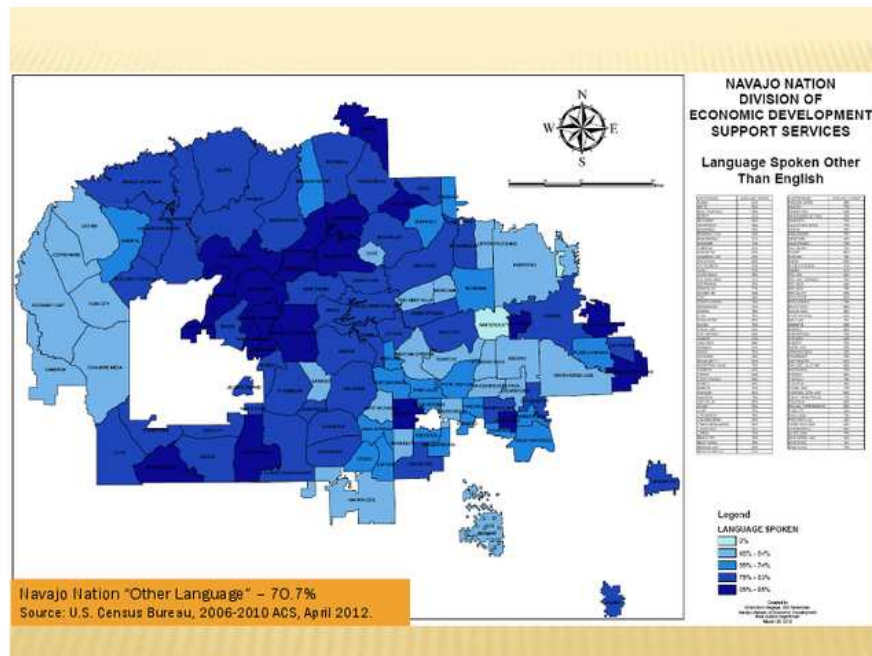
WHAT DOES MEDIAN INCOME LOOK LIKE AT NAVAJO?

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
 Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012



**WHAT DOES LANGUAGE SPOKEN LOOK LIKE
AT NAVAJO?**

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14-15, 2012



CONTACT

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(928) 871-6544
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SUPPORT SERVICES
(928) 871-6544
(928) 871-7394

Economic Development Uses of ACS Data

Drew Conrad, CEcD
The Institute for Decision Making
The University of Northern Iowa



Regional Workforce Analysis

- **Regional workforce analysis and planning processes**

- Texoma Region – OK & TX
- Cedar Valley Region – IA
- Siouxland Region – IA, NE & SD



- **ACS data utilized:**

- Population by age, gender, race & ethnicity
- Earnings by educational attainment
- Travel time and means of transportation to work data
- Income & poverty status data
- County, state and U.S. level geography



Neighborhood Economic Development

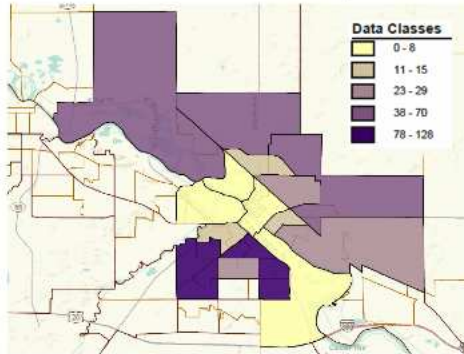


- **Most diverse neighborhoods in Iowa**

- **ACS data utilized:**

- Population by age, gender, race & ethnicity, and educational attainment
- Income & poverty data
- Industry & employment data
- Housing characteristics data
- Block group and tract level geography

Self-Employed Individuals by Census Tract in northeast Waterloo, IA



- **Data used with prospective businesses and micro-enterprise entrepreneurs**



Statewide and Regional Asset Mapping

- **Developed for state, regional and local economic development organizations**

- An analysis of the competitive strengths and weaknesses of economic development regions



- **ACS data utilized:**

- Population by age, gender race and ethnicity data
- Travel time data
- Data on educational attainment
- Income & poverty data
- Data on health insurance coverage
- Housing values and rents
- County, state and U.S. level geography used

Regional Metrics Analysis and Report

- **Details the economic growth and stability of the Iowa City area region**
 - Benchmark to gauge the effect of future economic development activity
- **ACS data utilized:**
 - Population by age, gender, race & ethnicity
 - Earnings by educational attainment
 - Travel time and means of transportation to work data
 - Income & poverty status data
 - Place, county, state and U.S. level geography



Iowa Competitiveness Index

- **An assessment of historical and current economic prosperity and growth of Iowa**
 - economic growth, education and workforce readiness, governance and fiscal matters, health and well-being, and workforce demographics and diversity
- **ACS data utilized:**
 - Population by age, race & ethnicity
 - Educational attainment
 - State and U.S. level geography used



Take Aways

- **Economic development is a process and the decisions in this process are so data driven!**
 - ACS data directly
 - Other data sources that are reliant on the ACS for their development
- **So, do we want our entrepreneurs, businesses, communities and governments making informed decisions?**



Thank You!

Drew Conrad, CEcD
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The University of Northern Iowa
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The American Community Survey from the IPUMS

Katie Genadek
Minnesota Population Center
University of Minnesota
kgenadek@umn.edu

ACS Workshop
June 15, 2012



The IPUMS projects are funded by the National Science Foundation
and the National Institutes of Health



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POPULATION CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

MPC Data Projects

MPC Minnesota Population Center

Home of the IPUMS and other data projects

The MPC is one of the world's leading developers of demographic data resources. We provide population data to thousands of researchers, policymakers, teachers, and students. All MPC data are available free over the internet.

Integrated Public Use Microdata Series



IPUMS-International
Harmonized data for 1960 forward,
covering 279 million people in 130
censuses from around the world



IPUMS-USA
Harmonized data on people in the U.S.
census and American Community
Survey, from 1850 to the present



IPUMS-CPS
Harmonized data on people in the
Current Population Survey, every
March from 1962 to the present

Other MPC Projects



North Atlantic Population Project
Complete-count data from 1800s
censuses of Canada, Great Britain,
Norway, Sweden, and the U.S.



**National Historical Geographic
Information System**
Tabular U.S. census data and GIS
boundary files from 1790 to 2000



**Integrated Health Interview
Series**
Annual harmonized data on people in
the U.S. National Health Interview
Survey from the 1960s to the present



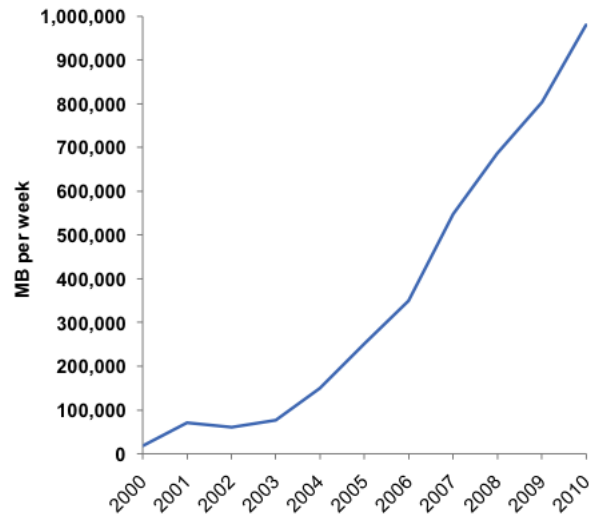
American Time Use Survey-X
Annual harmonized data from 2003
forward on how U.S. adults divide their
time among activities

<http://www.ipums.org/>

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MPC Data Dissemination



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What is IPUMS?

Integrated - consistent codes, labels, and documentation

Public Use - anonymized, downloadable

Microdata - individual-level

Series - pooled data over time and place

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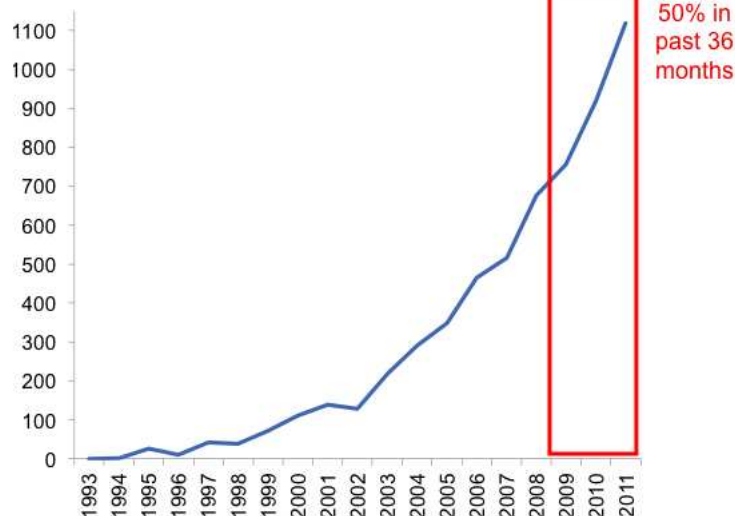
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

IPUMS-USA

- U.S. decennial censuses (1850-2000)
- American Community Survey (2000-2010)
 - Public Use Microdata Sample
 - Full survey responses for 1% of US population
 - Yearly samples, multi-year samples
- Most widely used MPC database
- 30,000 users

Publications from MPC Data

Google Scholar annual citations of IPUMS, NAPP, and NHGIS



IPUMS Value-Added

- Integration
 - Consistent codes and labels
- Comprehensive Online Documentation
 - Sample Descriptions
 - Extensive Variable Descriptions
 - Universes
 - Comparability across samples
 - Questionnaire text
- Constructed Variables
 - Family Interrelationships
 - Occupation and Industry

IPUMS System

- Online Extraction System
 - Users pick samples and variables
 - Creates custom SAS, Stata, SPSS, CSV files
- Online Analysis System
 - SDA software
 - Can analyze all IPUMS-USA microdata online
- User Support
 - Team answers email and telephone inquiries about the data
 - ~2,500 emails regarding IPUMS ACS data

IPUMS ACS Data Extracts

Total ACS data:

- 137,029 extracts including 1-year ACS
- 5,726 extracts with 3-year ACS (2007-2010)
- 2,141 extracts with 5-year ACS (2009-2010)

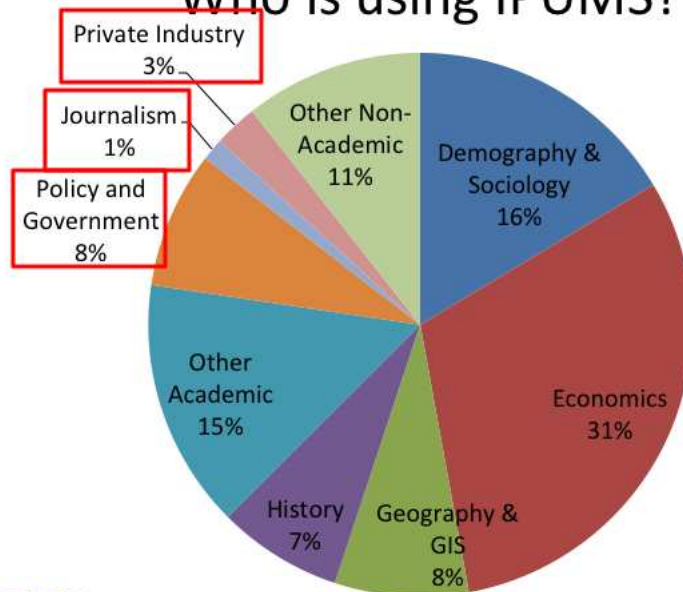
ACS included in:

- 55% of IPUMS-USA extracts

ACS Online Analysis:

- 250,000 ACS tables made
- 13,000 last month

Who is using IPUMS?



What IPUMS ACS users doing with the data?

- Academic Journal Articles
 - Over 1000 articles published using IPUMS ACS
- Policy Reports
- Government Policy Analyses
- Demographics for Local Governments
- Dissertations and Theses
- Class Assignments

What are the most common ACS variables?

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Race | • Relationship to household head |
| • Employment Status | • Metro Area |
| • Age | • State |
| • Birthplace | • Marital Status |
| • Education | • Income |
| • Sex | • Language |
| • Hispanic | |

What are the most common question topics of ACS users?

- Poverty
- Geography
- Migration
- Subfamilies
- Occupation
- Disability
- Income
- Income adjustment
- Weighting
- Allocation Flags
- Variance Estimation
- Multiyear samples

What to IPUMS users want from the data?

- Survey month
- Detailed relationship
- Variables previously available:
 - Children ever born
 - Parental birthplace
- Minimal change in the future!

National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS)

- Summary tables for Census Data 1790-2000
- GIS Boundary files available
- Can extract multiple tables from multiple years at once
- Free (like all MPC data)

NHGIS ACS

- 2010 1-year summary file
 - Full dataset
 - GIS files
- 2006-2010 5-year summary file
 - Full dataset
 - Extract system provides access to block groups
 - GIS files
- Plan to disseminate all ACS summary files

Questions – email us

IPUMS User Support
ipums@umn.edu

Contact:

Katie Genadek
kgenadek@umn.edu

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Acxiom and the American Community Survey

Matthew Christenson, Ph.D.
June 15, 2012

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Acxiom Background

- > Founded in 1969
- > Public in 1983: NASDAQ (ACXM)
- > Headquarters: Little Rock, Arkansas
- > Locations across the U.S. and in 12 countries on 5 continents
- > 6,100 associates worldwide
- > FY 2012 revenue: \$1.131 billion



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Acxiom Clients

- > 8 of top 10 auto original equipment manufacturers (OEMS)
- > 8 of top 10 property and casualty (P&C) insurers
- > 7 of top 8 credit card issuers
- > 7 of 10 top technology companies
- > 7 of top 10 lodging companies
- > 6 of top 10 retailers
- > 6 of top 10 telcom/media companies
- > 4 of top 10 life/health insurance providers
- > 4 of top 10 pharmaceutical manufacturers
- > 4 of top 5 gaming companies
- > 4 of top 5 retail banks
- > 3 of 5 top domestic airlines
- > 3 of top 10 brokerage companies
- > 5 of the largest 13 U.S. federal government agencies

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What Acxiom Does

>Recognition Services

Solutions to recognize customers and link their information together to enable improved relationships and to prevent fraud

>Marketing Services

Solutions to identify the best customers and reach them effectively

>Information Management Services

Solutions for hosting and managing information in a secure, reliable, and accessible environment

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What Acxiom Does

>Acxiom's Data Products

- Part of the Marketing Services Business
- InfoBase Enhancement
 - Individual-level and household-level data for appends to name and address records
- InfoBase List
 - Acxiom's register of the economically active individuals and households in the U.S.
- Acxiom provides access to ACS data along side these products
 - Individual-level and household-level data are more valuable to our clients.
 - However, ACS data is still very valuable because of its breadth, detail, and completeness.

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Acxiom and the American Community Survey

What We Use:

1. 5-Year Summary ACS Files*
 - All states
 - All files
2. 1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) ACS Files*
 - Elements from both Household and Population Samples

*Updated annually

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Acxiom and the American Community Survey

How We Use It:

1. Direct to clients – “Market Indices” product
 - Data appends to address records
 - File installs
2. Input to individual-level and household-level modeled elements.
 - Pre-built elements
 - Custom elements

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Acxiom's Market Indices Product

Product Summary

- > 500+ pre-processed ACS elements
 - Counts
 - Percents
 - Means
 - Medians
 - Per-Capita
- > Available at various levels of geography
 - Smallest = Block Group
 - Largest = Nation

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Acxiom's Market Indices Product

Element Categories

Population		
Age and Sex	Race, Ethnicity and Ancestry	Means and Travel Time to Work
Race, Ethnicity and Ancestry	Industry, Occupation and Worker Class	Health Insurance
Marital Status	School Enrollment	Poverty
Mobility and Citizenship	Educational Attainment	Disability Status
Place of Birth	Labor Force Participation / Employment	Military and Veteran Status
Language Spoken		
Households		
Householder Characteristics	Poverty / Food Stamps Usage	Mortgage Status
Size	Rent	Homeowner Expenses
Composition (Relationship of Members)	Home Value	Vehicles Available
Income (Amount, Type)		
Housing Units		
Occupancy	Age / Year Built	Facilities (Telephone, Kitchen, Bath)
Size (Rooms)	Bedrooms	Heating Source
Type (Number of Units)		

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Acxiom's Market Indices Product

Uses

- > Hundreds of millions of records are appended with Market Indices data every month for a large percentage of our customer base.
- > Used by our clients to build algorithms for scoring routines to help in decision-making
 - Off-line and on-line targeting for direct-marketing
 - Prospect lists
 - Customer care
 - Reduction of customer churn
 - Cross-sell/up-sell opportunities
- > File installs also used for trade-area analysis (in geo-spatial tools)

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Acxiom's Modeled Elements

Product Summary

- > 75+ pre-built modeled elements include ACS (Market Indices) inputs
 - Custom elements using ACS data built on an ongoing basis by Acxiom's consulting organization
- > Methods for incorporating ACS data:
 - Input to models (e.g., regression, decision-tree, segmentation)
 - Evaluation of model accuracy (distributions)
 - Area-level defaulting (filling in for missing data)
- > Value
 - Improving precision
 - Making algorithms more manageable

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Smartening demographic research

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Acxiom's Modeled Elements

Element Categories

- > Demographic Characteristics
 - Age, Race/Ethnicity, Education, Marital Status, Children, Household Size, Tenure, Length of Residence
- > Economic Characteristics
 - Income, Net Worth, Home Value
- > Market Relationships
 - Investor, Under-banked
- > Market Behaviors
 - Media Preferences, Buying Channel Preferences
- > Online Behaviors
 - Facebook, Twitter
- > Segmentation Systems

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Acxiom's Modeled Elements

Uses

- > Billions of records are appended with these modeled elements every month for most of Acxiom's customer base.
- > As with the Market Indices product, modeled elements are used by Acxiom's clients to build algorithms for scoring routines to help in decision-making.
 - Off-line and on-line targeting for direct-marketing
 - Prospect lists
 - Customer care
 - Reduction of customer churn
 - Cross-sell/up-sell opportunities

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Observations

The ACS is Very Important to Acxiom and its Clients

- > The breadth, detail, and completeness of ACS data make it a uniquely useful source.
- > Particularly useful aspects of ACS:
 - Annual updates
 - Small-area summary files (5-year data)
 - 1-year PUMS files
- > ACS data will become even more valuable should the regulations on the use of individual-level and household-level data be tightened.

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Using ACS Data at The Conference Board

June 15th, 2012



Overview

The combination of the size of the ACS and the variety of topics it covers, makes it useful for several research projects:

1. Teleworking – working from home
2. Wage inequality by state
3. Housing and household formation

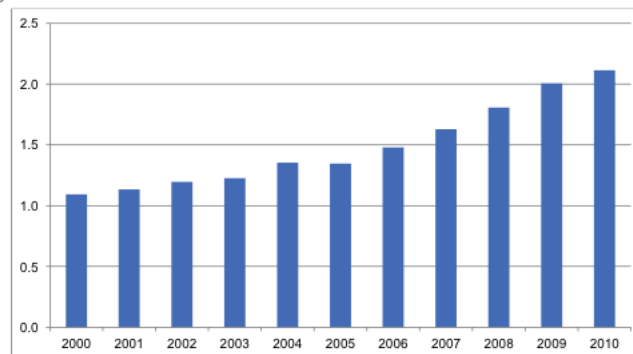




Teleworking

The percent working primarily from home doubled in the past decade

Percent of teleworkers on the rise
Percentage values



Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Full time employed workers



Workers in certain occupations are more likely to work at home

Percent of teleworkers across occupations
Percentage values

Occupation	2010	Occupation	2010
Medical transcriptionists	44.6%	Computer and information systems managers	6.3
Sales engineers	17.7	Advertising sales agents	6.1
Personal care aides	10.9	Computer support specialists	5.6
Sales representatives, wholesale and manufacturing	10.8	Software developers, applications and systems software	5.6
Travel agents	10.5	Insurance underwriters	5.4
Web developers	9.9	Database administrators	5.3
Management analysts	9.4	Real estate brokers and sales agents	5.2
Writers and authors	9.3	Chief executives and legislators	5.0
Childcare workers	9.1	Securities, commodities, and financial services sales agents	4.7
Claims adjusters, appraisers, examiners, and investigators	8.9	Network and computer systems administrators	4.2
Marketing and sales managers	8.8	First-line supervisors of non-retail sales	4.1
Computer network architects	8.2	Insurance sales agents	4.0
Computer systems analysts	7.9	Personal financial advisors	3.8
Information security analysts	7.7	Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	3.5
Technical writers	7.6	Human resources, training, and labor relations specialists	3.4
Property, real estate, and community association managers	7.4	Public relations specialists	3.3
Market research analysts and marketing specialists	7.4	Electrical and electronics engineers	3.1
Computer hardware engineers	7.2	Credit counselors and loan officers	2.8
Editors	6.9	Customer service representatives	2.6
Computer programmers	6.5	Retail salespersons	2.6

Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey



Teleworking is spreading into occupations where employees did not use to telework

Percent working from home
Percentage values

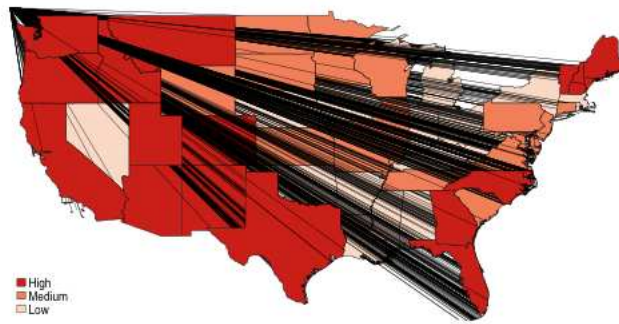
Occupation	2001 - 2003 Average	2008 - 2010 Average	Percent Change
Records clerks	0.9	5.5	516%
Insurance underwriters	1.2	4.5	275%
Transportation ticket and reservation agents	1.8	5.9	232%
Bill and account collectors	0.6	1.8	212%
Lawyers	0.7	2.0	166%
Computer and peripheral equipment operators	1.0	2.5	156%
Health record tech specialists	1.0	2.5	143%
Management support occupations	1.4	3.2	132%
Computer software developers	2.7	6.1	127%
Repairers of data processing equipment	1.2	2.7	122%
Computer systems analysts and computer scientists	2.5	5.4	114%
Personnel, HR, training, and labor relations specialists	1.5	3.3	111%
Electrical engineer	1.4	2.9	106%
Inspectors and compliance officers, outside construction	1.3	2.5	99%
Editors and reporters	2.6	5.0	95%
Real estate sales occupations	2.9	5.6	88%
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	3.3	6.0	80%
Advertising and related sales jobs	3.8	6.7	74%
Writers and authors	5.9	9.2	57%
Management analysts	6.2	9.5	53%
Door-to-door sales, street sales, and news vendors	5.1	7.1	38%
Clergy and religious workers	6.7	6.2	-7%
Child care workers	10.2	9.3	-9%

Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey



Teleworking is more common in the West

Likelihood of teleworking across states (2000 – 2010)



Source: Census Bureau, American Community Survey

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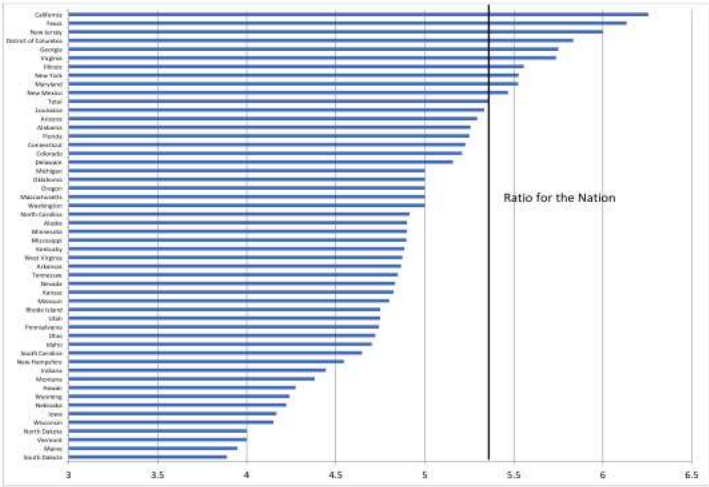


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Wage inequality

90/10 wage percentiles ratio by state

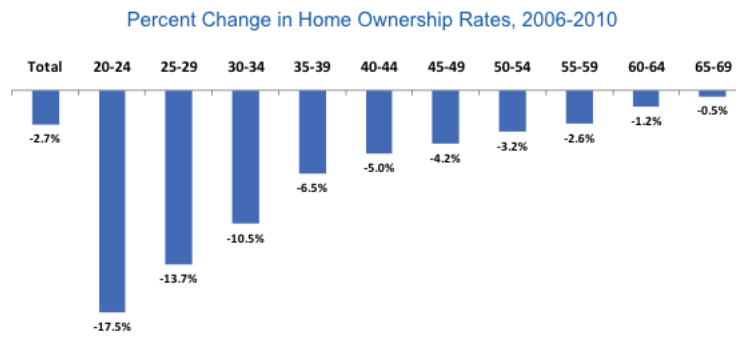


Source: ACS



Housing and household formation

We have already seen declining home ownership rates, particularly among younger households



Source: US Census ACS

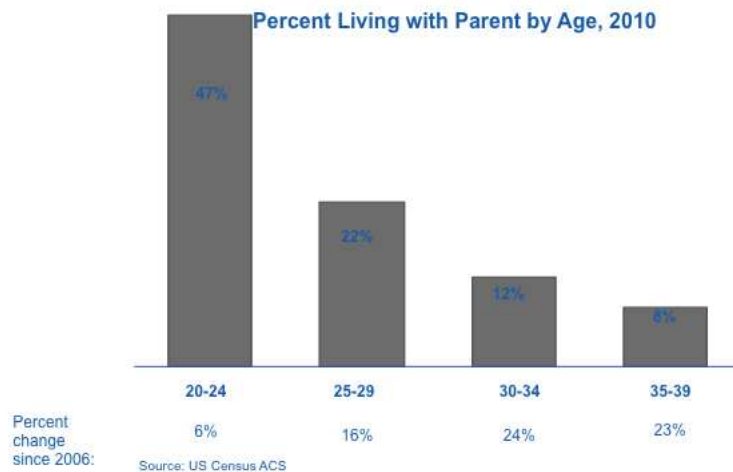
The Demand Institute

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Younger Households Are Postponing Independent Household Formation, and Are Likely to Continue



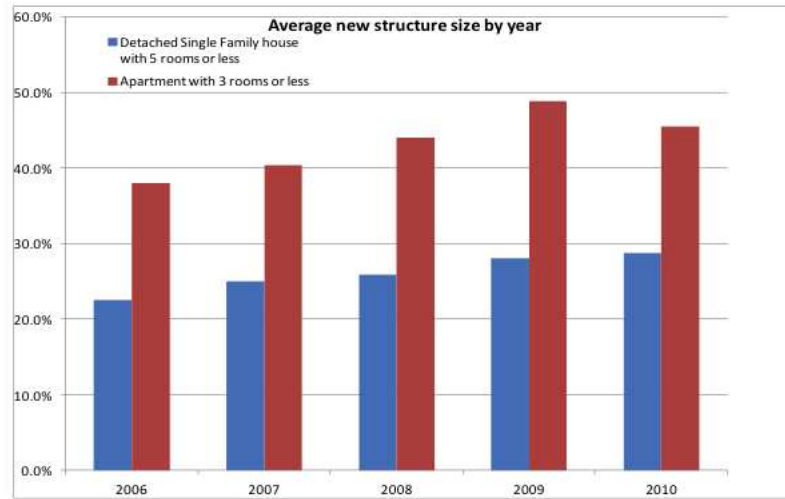
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Home sizes fell during the housing crisis



Source: ACS

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The Critical Role of ACS Data in Catastrophe Modeling

Cheryl Hayes
Senior Research Manager
AIR Worldwide



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Agenda

- About AIR
- The American Community Survey (ACS) and the Industry Exposure Database (IED)
- Key variables from ACS used in development
- The importance of ACS data in catastrophe modeling
- Summary



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About AIR Worldwide

- AIR, founded the catastrophe modeling industry in 1987, and today models the risk from natural catastrophes and terrorism in more than 90 countries
- More than 400 insurance, reinsurance, financial, corporate, and government clients rely on AIR software and services for catastrophe risk management
- AIR is a member of the Verisk Insurance Solutions group at Verisk Analytics

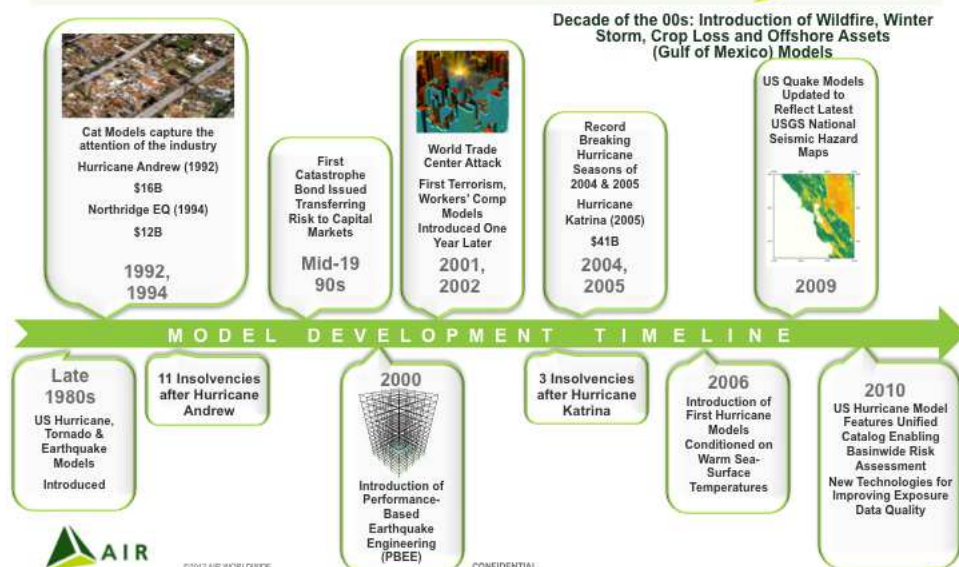


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A Brief History of Catastrophe Modeling in the U.S.



One of the Most Valuable Components of AIR's Catastrophe Models Is the Industry Exposure Databases

- The primary sources of data used to build the U.S. industry exposure database are the Decennial Census and ACS
- Industry Exposure Databases provide a view of the built environment
 - Building counts
 - Physical characteristics of the buildings
 - Occupancy
 - Construction
 - Size
 - Building replacement values
- First Industry Exposure Database for the U.S. was created in 1987, and it has been updated annually since

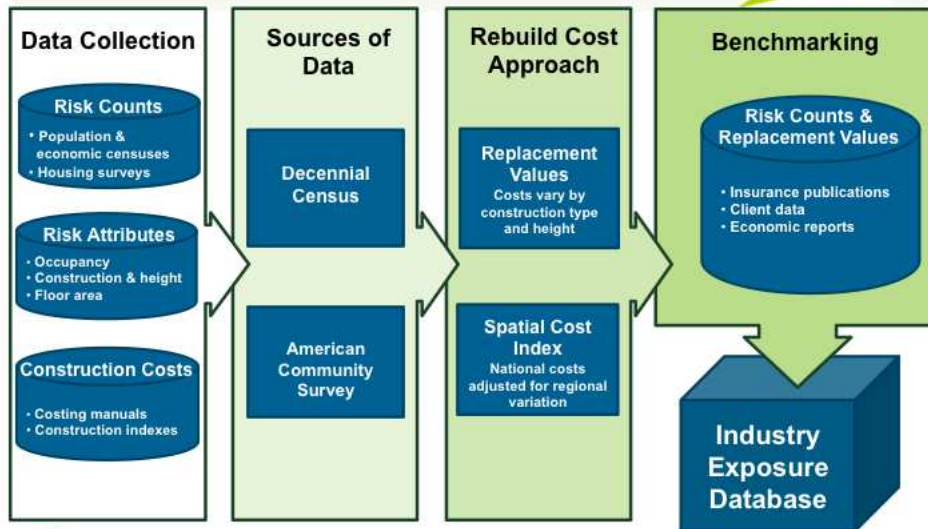


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AIR Employs a Robust Approach for Building Industry Exposure Databases



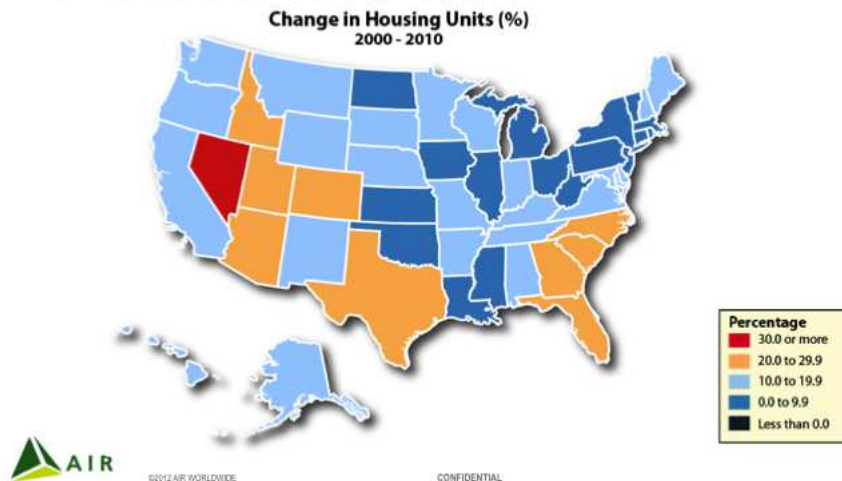
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The U.S. Decennial Censuses Provide a Portrait of America...

- Basic data on population and housing
- New data available every 10 years

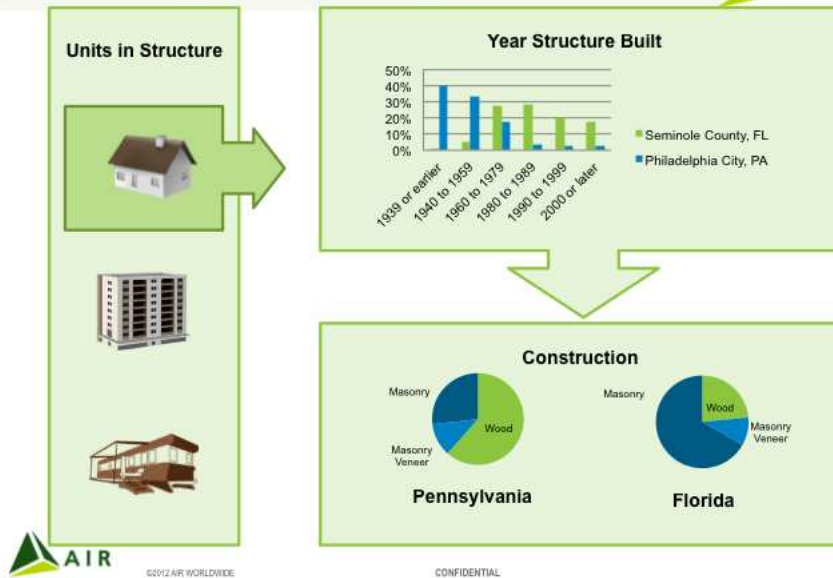


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...While the American Community Survey (ACS) Provides a Detailed View

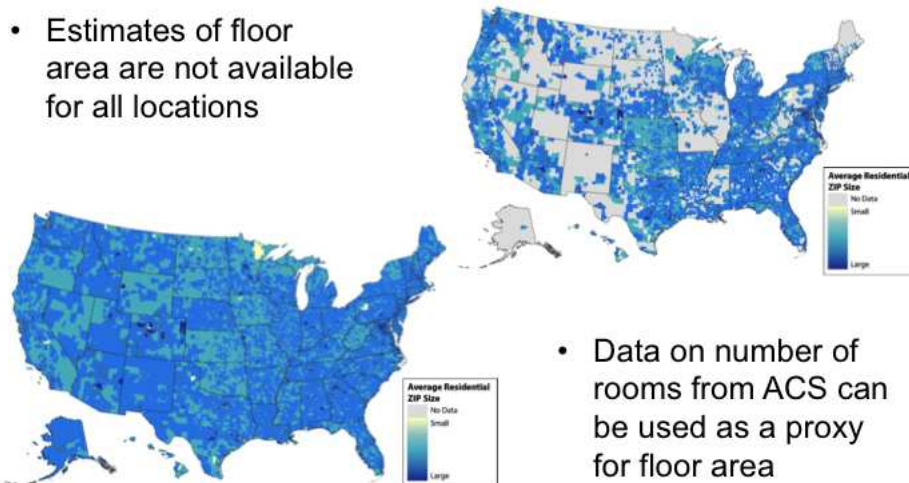
	Estimates of total housing counts	Units in Structure	Year Structure built	Number of Rooms	Vehicles Available Per Home	Insurance Penetration	Per Capita Income	Unemployment
Decennial Census	✓							
ACS		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

The ACS Enables Quantification of Building Vulnerability at a High Geographic Resolution



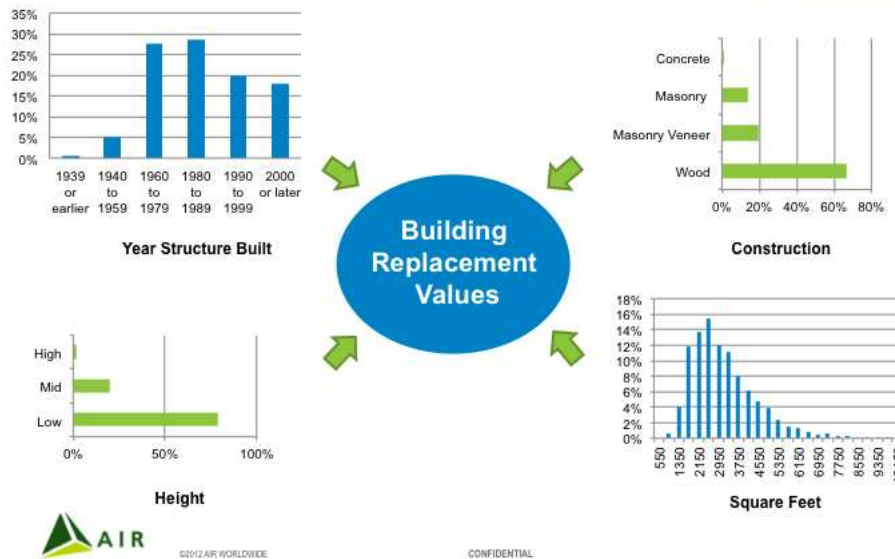
Data from the ACS Offers a Complete Picture of Dwelling Sizes in the U.S.

- Estimates of floor area are not available for all locations



- Data on number of rooms from ACS can be used as a proxy for floor area

AIR Obtains Key Variables Used in the Derivation of Building Replacement Values from the ACS



ACS Data Is Critical for Catastrophe Modeling

- AIR annually produces a robust Industry Exposure Database of the U.S. using data from the census and ACS
- Industry Exposure Databases provide the foundation for risk management and more reliable loss estimates
- AIR uses the Industry Exposure Databases for
 - Developing and validating models
 - Estimating industry losses for historic and real-time events
 - Validating losses for individual companies
 - Assessing exposure data quality for individual companies



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Primary Driver of Growing Catastrophe Losses Is the Increase in Numbers and Values of Properties at Risk



"The total value of insured properties in coastal states continues to grow at an average annual rate of 7%, which will result in a doubling every decade"

From AIR's report *The Coastline at Risk: 2008 Update to the Estimated Insured Value of U.S. Coastal Properties*



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State	Total Value (\$ billion)	% Coastal Counties
Alabama	745	12%
Connecticut	750	64%
Delaware	171	36%
Florida	3,120	79%
Georgia	1,573	5%
Louisiana	638	35%
Maine	250	59%
Maryland	1,078	1%
Massachusetts	1,426	54%
Mississippi	395	13%
New Hampshire	237	23%
New Jersey	1,875	34%
New York	3,851	62%
North Carolina	1,432	9%
Rhode Island	189	29%
S. Carolina	698	28%
Texas	3,493	26%
Virginia	1,409	11%
All Above States	23,332	38%
Total U.S.	53,495	17%

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Summary

- ACS and decennial census data are used to identify areas of risk and capture changes over time
- ACS data is used in many components of the Industry Exposure Database and becomes an integral part of AIR's products
- AIR is dedicated to helping our clients (more than 400 insurance, reinsurance, financial, corporate, and government entities) mitigate the impact of catastrophes and develop risk management strategies that promote financial stability, maximize growth, and improve overall results
- <http://www.air-worldwide.com/>



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14

Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American Community Survey
Presentations/Agenda Book * June 14–15, 2012

Providing Language Services for the Asian Indian Population

Implementation of Voting Rights Act (Section 203) in Queens, New York

Joseph Salvo
Peter Lobo
Population Division



Objective: Target Areas in Need of Language Services

- **Poll sites with concentrations of Asian Indians:**
 - Citizens 18 years and Over
 - Are Limited English Proficient (LEP)
- **We call this the CVLEP Population**

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2010 ACS Race and Language Questions

From 2010 ACS Questionnaire:

6 What is Person 1's race? Mark (X) one or more boxes.

☐ White

☐ Black, African Am., or Negro

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe. _____

☐ Asian Indian

☐ Chinese

☐ Filipino

☐ Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on. _____

☐ Some other race — Print race: _____

☐ Japanese

☐ Korean

☐ Vietnamese

☐ Native Hawaiian

☐ Guamanian or Chamorro

☐ Samoan

☐ Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on. _____

14 a. Does this person speak a language other than English at home?

☐ Yes

☐ No → SKIP to question 15a

b. What is this language? _____

For example: Korean, Italian, Spanish, Vietnamese

c. How well does this person speak English?

☐ Very well

☐ Well

☐ Not well

☐ Not at all

**Speakers of South Asian Languages
Citizens Ages 18+ LEP by Race
Queens, 2010**

	Citizens 18+ LEP		
	Asian Indians	Others	Total (All Persons)
Top 5 Languages	11,668	8,567	20,235
Bengali	4,223	3,901	8,124
Panjabi	3,603	740	4,343
Hindi	1,919	405	2,324
Gujarati	1,427	204	1,631
Urdu	496	3,317	3,813

Ultimate Decisions: Asian Indians Only; Bengali (written assistance); All Others Groups (Hindi oral language assistance)

Source: 2010 American Community Survey PUMS

Five Major Tasks

1) Creating tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population for Asian Indian Language Groups (DCP Estimates)

2) Comparing DCP Estimates to Special Tabulations from the Census Bureau

3) Running Asian Indian surname list (for each of the major Asian Indian languages) against the voter rolls to get counts of each language group at the poll site level

4) Converting DCP tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population to the poll site level using voter data

5) Selecting Poll sites for language assistance based on both CVLEP and voter data.

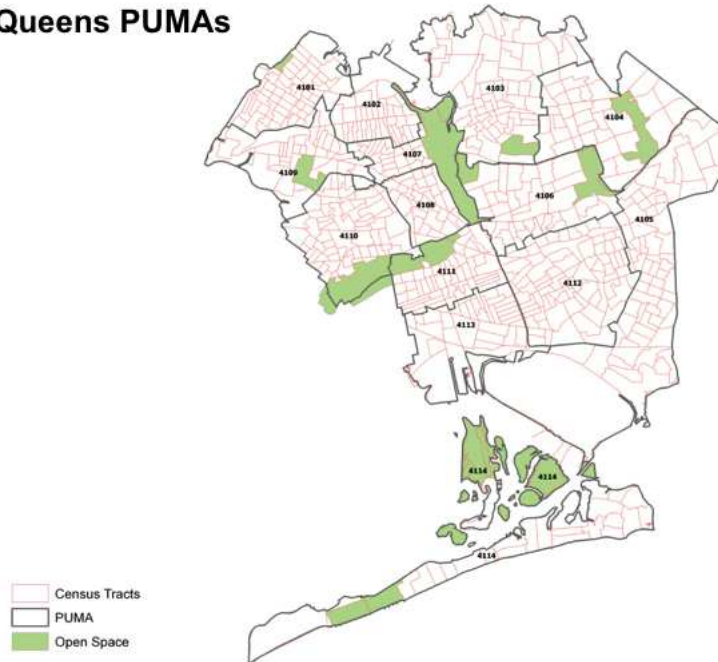
Census Tract Data Available for South Asian Languages in the 2006-2010 ACS

CTract	PUMA	Gujarati, 5+		Hindi, 5+		Urdu, 5+		Other Indic, 5+	
		Total	LEP	Total	LEP	Total	LEP	Total	LEP
028900	4102	176	87	40	0	44	27	926	638
028300	4102	101	32	232	85	0	0	414	333
037700	4102	98	42	22	0	0	0	0	0
027700	4102	60	60	26	16	14	14	297	186
040100	4102	59	0	0	0	85	55	297	146
027900	4102	43	11	19	19	0	0	394	268
040300	4102	41	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
030904	4102	26	0	217	35	28	28	207	143
028700	4102	20	13	165	128	36	4	613	358

No tract-level data available for the
top 2 languages, Bengali and Panjabi

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Queens PUMAs



**Language Detail Available by Census Tract and PUMA
2006-2010 ACS**

Bengali and Panjabi language speakers are not available at the tract level, so they will be calculated as a share of Other Indic Languages, which is available at the tract level

Indic Language Detail by Census Tract

Total Speakers, 5+ in Queens

Hindi	19,868
Gujarati	6,942
Urdu	19,262
Other Indic Languages	71,054

Indic Language Detail by PUMA

Total Speakers, 5+ in Queens

Hindi	20,458
Gujarati	7,267
Urdu	17,746
Total Other Indic Languages	68,560
Bengali	40,004
Panjabi	21,202
Marathi	509
Sinhalese	801
Nepali	3,952
India not elsewhere classified	1,668
Pakistan not elsewhere classified	424

Estimating Bengali Speakers 5+



PUMA 4102

Bengali speakers 5+
Other Indic Language speakers 5+

= 5,025
8,080

= .622

= 62.2% of Other Indic Language speakers in
PUMA 4102 are Bengali speakers

CTract	PUMA	ACS Estimates						DCP Estimates	
		Gujarati, 5+		Hindi, 5+		Urdu, 5+		Bengali, 5+	Punjabi, 5+
		Total	LEP	Total	LEP	Total	LEP	Total	Total
028900	4102	176	87	40	0	44	27	576	313
028300	4102	101	32	232	85	0	0	257	140
037700	4102	98	42	22	0	0	0	0	0
027700	4102	60	60	26	16	14	14	185	100
040100	4102	59	0	0	0	85	55	185	100
027900	4102	43	11	19	19	0	0	245	133
040300	4102	41	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
030904	4102	26	0	217	35	28	28	129	70
028700	4102	20	13	165	128	36	4	381	207

Five Major Tasks

1) Creating tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population for Asian Indian Language Groups (DCP Estimates)

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3) Running Asian Indian surname list (for each of the major Asian Indian languages) against the voter rolls to get counts of each language group at the poll site level

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5) Selecting Poll sites for language assistance based on both CVLEP and voter data.

**Top Languages Spoken by Asian Indians who are Citizens Ages 18+ LEP
Queens, 2010**

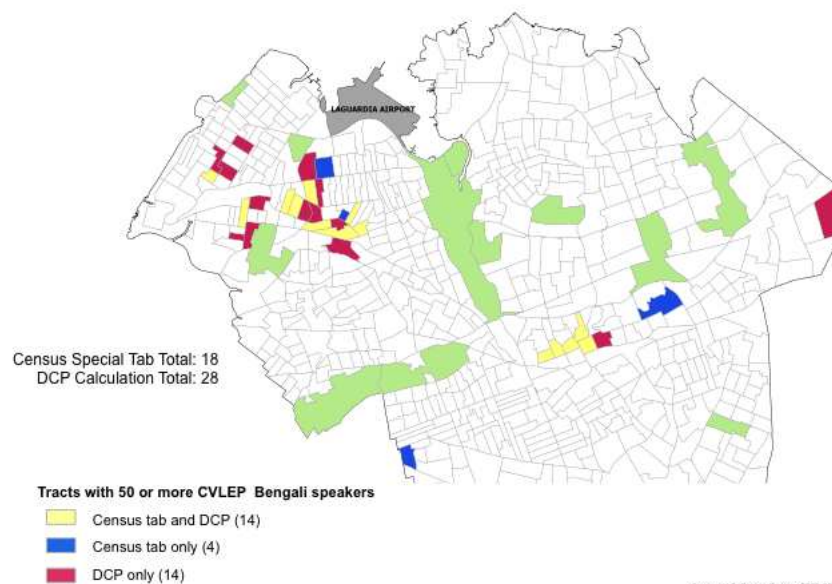
	Asian Indians, Citizens 18+ LEP
Top 5 Languages	11,668
Bengali	4,223
Panjabi	3,603
Hindi	1,919
Gujarati	1,427
Urdu	496

Source: ACS 2010 PUMS

- For above languages, NYC asked the Census Bureau for a special tabulation of CVLEP estimates at the census tract level.
- We were aware of disclosure issues with special tabulation data.

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**Asian Indians Who Speak Bengali, Citizens Ages 18+ LEP
Census Bureau Special Tabulation vs. DCP Estimates by Census Tract
Queens, 2006-2010**



12
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey
Population Division-New York City Department of City Planning

What the Comparison Revealed

For the major languages spoken by Asian Indians:

- Tract concentrations of CVLEP populations found using DCP estimates largely mirror those found by Census Bureau special tabulation estimates.
- The DCP methodology tends to overestimate the number of tracts with a CVLEP population of 50 or more. (This is because PUMA averages used at the tract level tend to reduce CVLEP estimates at the extremes and move them to the center of the distribution.)

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Five Major Tasks

1) Creating tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population for Asian Indian Language Groups (DCP Estimates)

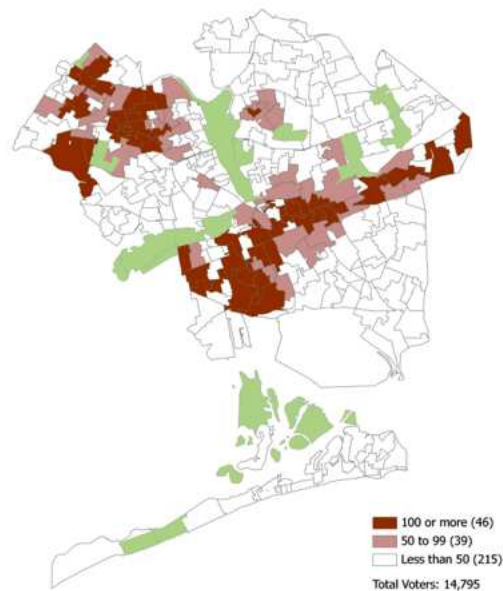
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Bengali Surnamed Voters in Queens by Poll site



Five Major Tasks

1) Creating tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population for Asian Indian Language Groups (DCP Estimates)

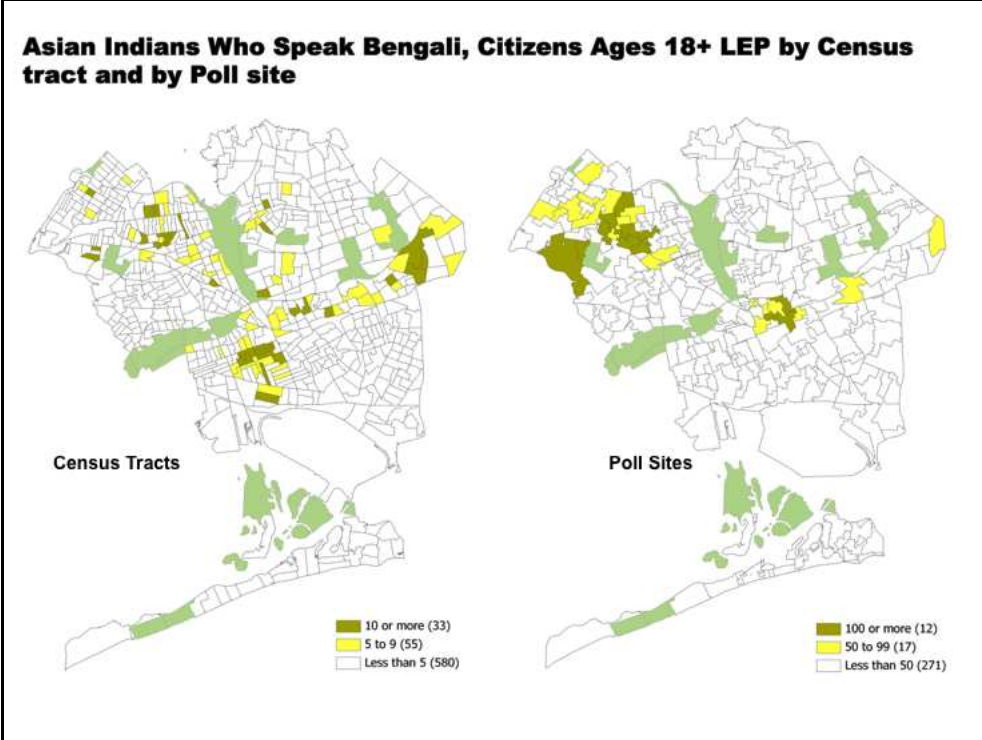
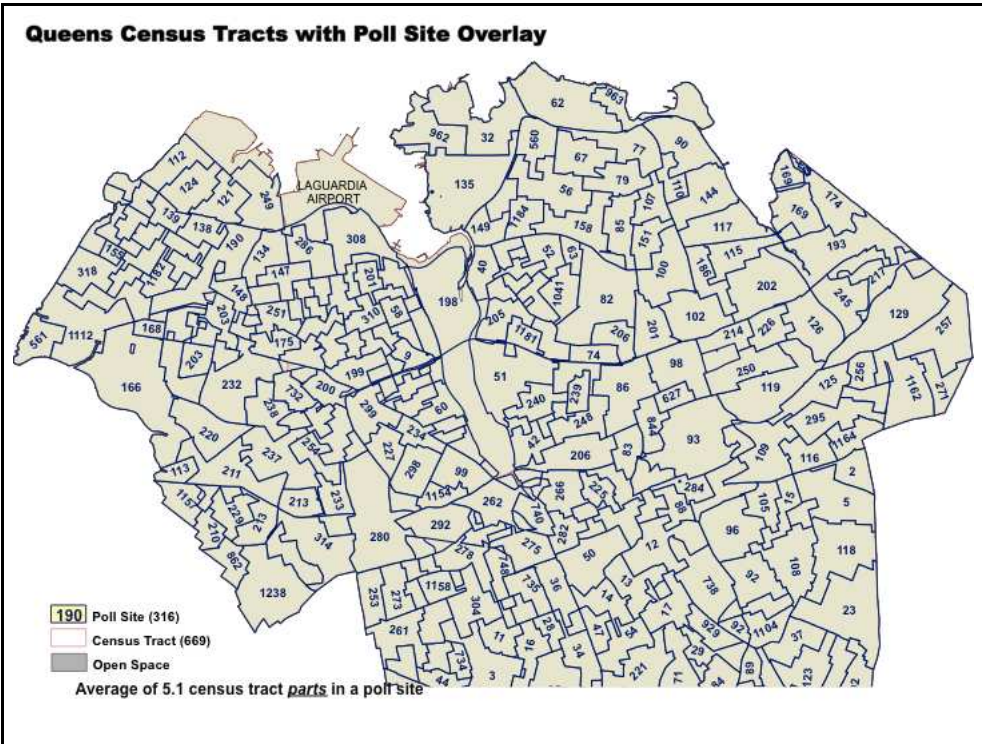
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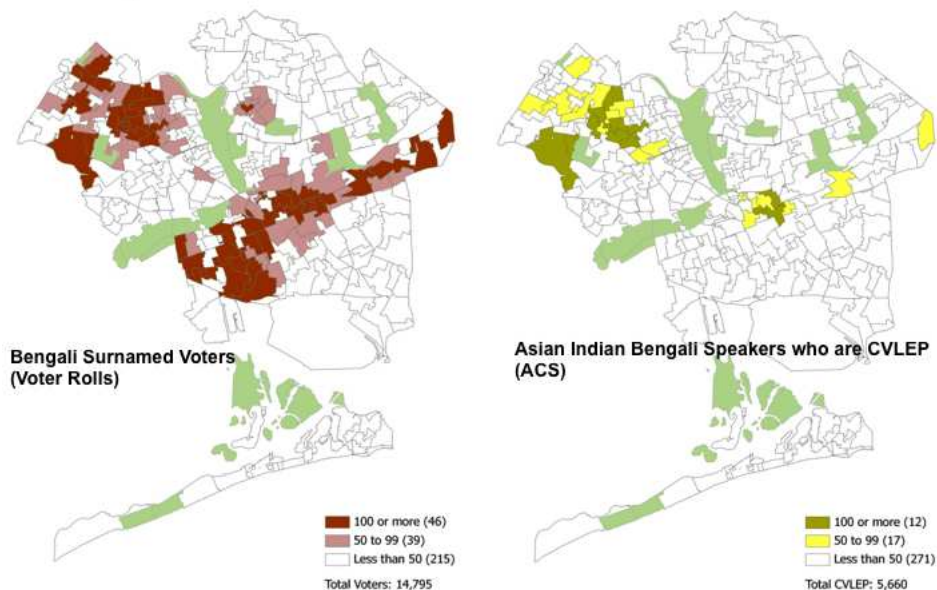
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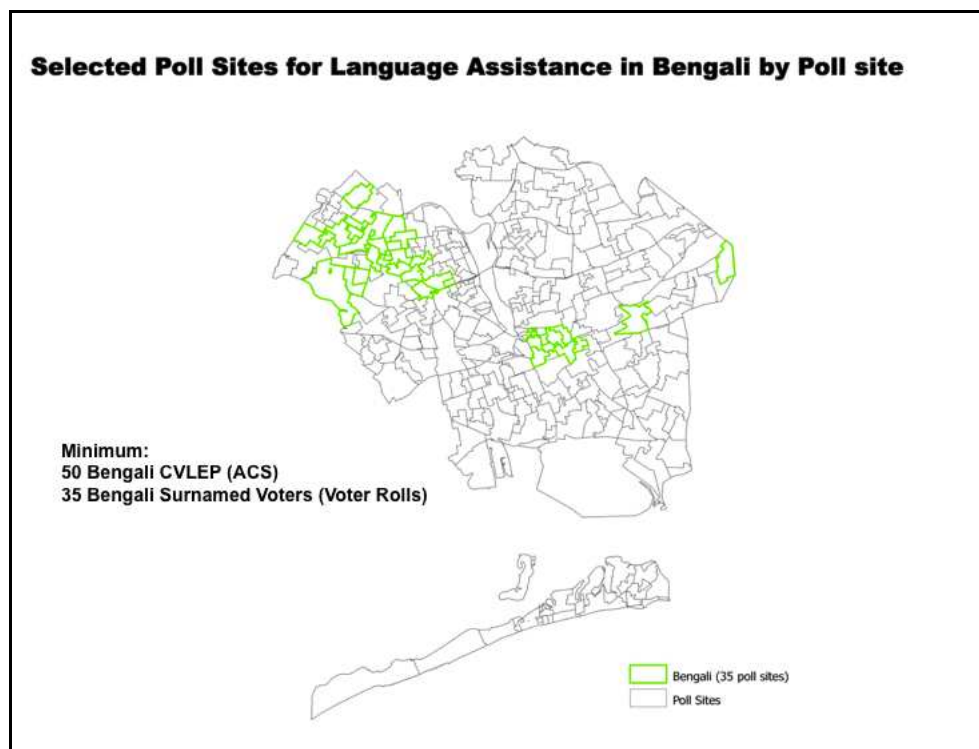
Five Major Tasks

- 1) Creating tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population for Asian Indian Language Groups (DCP Estimates)**
- 2) Comparing DCP Estimates to Special Tabulations from the Census Bureau**
- 3) Running Asian Indian surname list (for each of the major Asian Indian languages) against the voter rolls to get counts of each language group at the poll site level**
- 4) Converting DCP tract-level estimates of the CVLEP population to the poll site level using voter data**
- 5) Selecting Poll sites for language assistance based on both CVLEP and voter data.**

Bengali Surnamed Voters and Asian Indian Bengali Speakers who are CVLEP by Poll site



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Using ACS Citizenship Estimates in Political Redistricting

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National Research Council of the National Academies of Science
Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the
American Community Survey

June 14-15, 2012

**We have used American Community Survey
data for several years in our applied
demography work to measure/ evaluate:**

- **Housing discrimination**
- **Jury selection systems**
- **Private school enrollment rates in public
school districts**
- **Racially polarized voting**
- **Political redistricting scenarios**

Three redistricting case studies involving ACS estimates are discussed here:

- Case 1: Can districts with Hispanic majorities be drawn?
- Case 2: Which redistricting scenario best complies with the Voting Rights Act?
- Case 3: Does information about voters from local sources tell us as much as the ACS?

Each case study is of a California county's Board of Supervisors redistricting. Each county has a large Hispanic population, including many immigrants. ACS estimates of the Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP), by ethnicity, were essential in all three cases.

Background: Political redistricting scenarios must comply with Section 2 of the Federal Voting Rights Act (1965)

The Voting Rights Act requires that

1. Political districts be drawn if there are enough members of protected (minority) groups to elect representatives of their choice in single-member districts, and
2. During redistricting, lines must be drawn in ways that do not weaken the political power of members of protected (minority) groups.

In order to do these things, we need to know how many members of protected groups there are who are eligible to vote (citizens of voting age) in a jurisdiction, and where they live. *This requires citizenship data that are available only from the American Community Survey.*

Procedural notes: Challenges

1. ACS data are not available for Census blocks, which most line-drawers use in redistricting.
2. It is usually not wise to use ACS estimates for Census block groups, the smallest geographical unit for which estimates are available. This is because small geographical units tend to have small populations, with rather large margins of error (MOE) of estimates.
3. The procedure for estimating MOEs for aggregated geographical units like political districts is a bit complex.

Procedural notes: Solutions

1. Use 5-year ACS estimates (not 1- or 3-year), and estimates for Census *tracts* (not block groups).
2. Use Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) Special Tabulation* (with Hispanic-exclusive categories) from the 5-Year American Community Survey to estimate citizenship rates for Census tracts (not block groups).
3. Calculate citizenship rates, dividing the voting age population (VAP) by the citizen voting age population (CVAP) in each race/ethnic group.
4. Apply these rates to Census 2010 VAP counts, by race/ethnicity, at the Census block level.

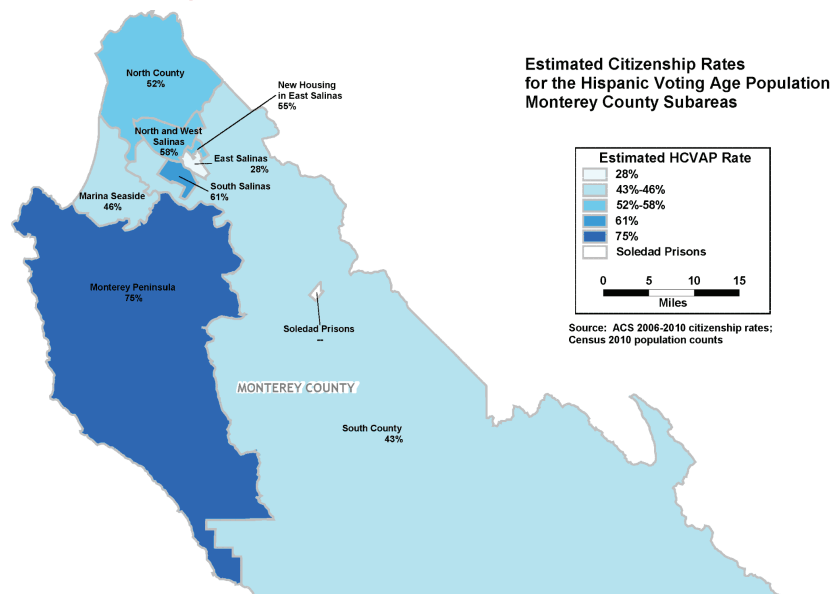
*http://www.census.gov/rdo/data/voting_age_population_by_citizenship_and_race_cvap.html

Case Study 1: Can districts with Hispanic majorities be drawn (to comply with the Voting Rights Act)?

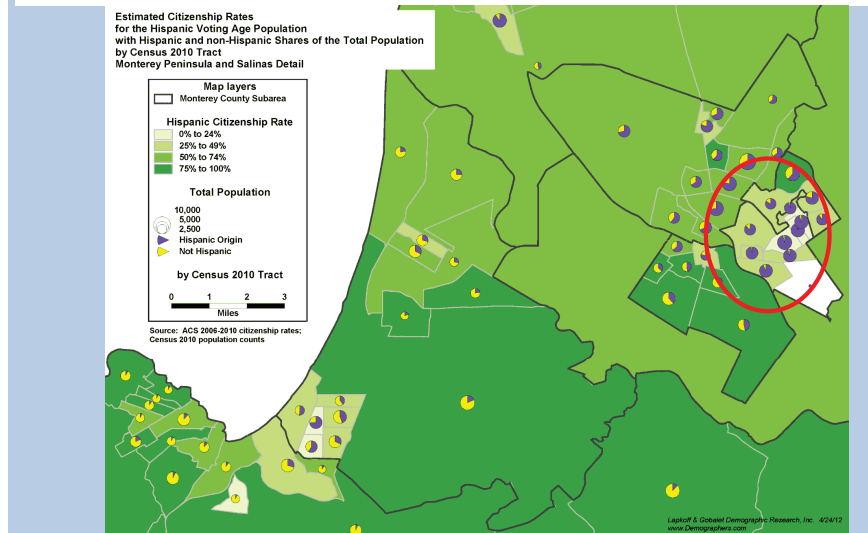
In order to answer this question, we

- Mapped the Hispanic CVAP rates in various subareas of the county.
- Compared Hispanic CVAP rates in various subareas of the county with the share of the voting age population that was Hispanic.

Sample of a map showing ACS 2006-10 Hispanic citizenship rates by subarea of a county - used to understand how to draw the lines.



Sample of a map showing the (negative) correlation between Hispanic citizenship rates and Hispanic population shares – line drawing here is challenging because the regions with large Hispanic concentrations tend to have the lowest citizenship rates.



Case Study 1: The bottom line

Can districts with Hispanic majorities be drawn (to comply with the Voting Rights Act)?

We found that:

- Areas with highest Hispanic concentrations had the lowest citizenship rates.
- Districts meeting Voting Rights Act requirements needed to have extremely large Hispanic population shares. (Some might misinterpret this as “packing.”)

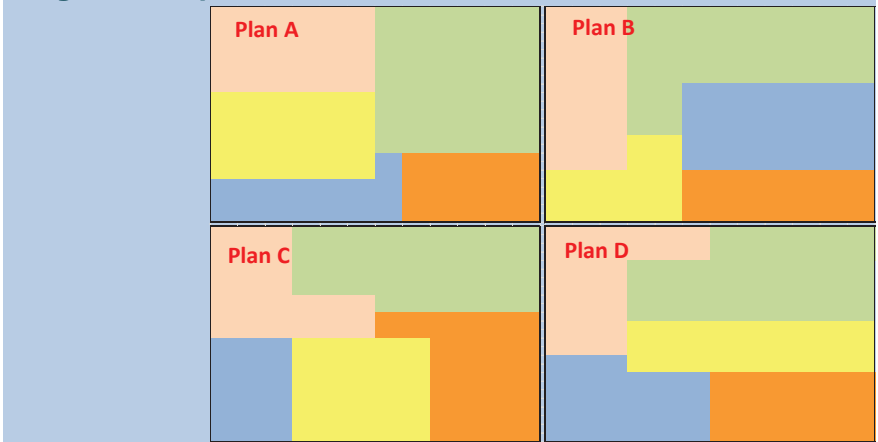
Case Study 2: How well did each of four redistricting scenarios meet Federal Voting Rights Act requirements?

In order to answer this question, we

- Defined Hispanic “ability to elect” as an estimated 50%+ Hispanic share of those eligible to vote (HCVAP > 50% of total CVAP)
- Developed estimates of HCVAP for each election district in each redistricting plan
- Computed margins of error for HCVAP estimates (90% confidence intervals)
- Compared plans A, B, C, and D

Case Study 1:

To what extent did each of four redistricting plans provide a county’s Hispanics the opportunity to elect representatives of their choice in either one or two supervisorial districts? This is a Section 2 Voting Rights Act question.



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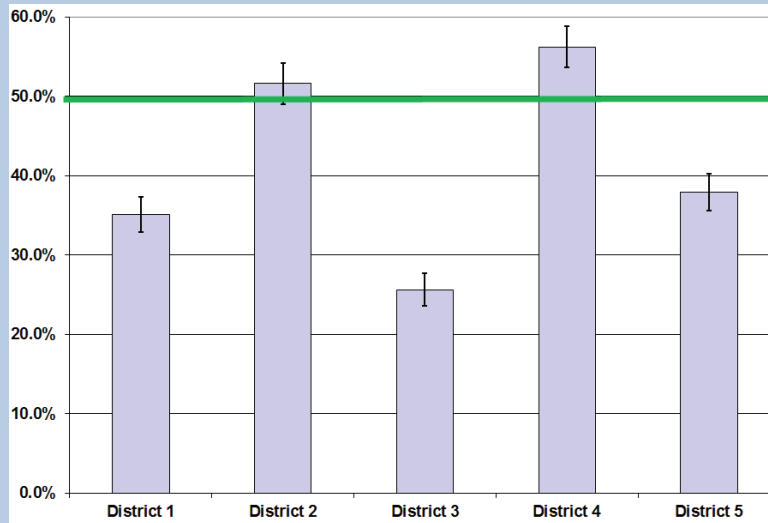
We reported the Hispanic shares of:

- Total population
- Voting Age Population (VAP)
- Citizen Voting Age Population (CVAP) - with confidence intervals

Highlighting indicates Hispanic CVAP shares of 50%+

Percent of District's population that was Hispanic					
District	Total pop	VAP	estimated Hispanic CVAP share	90% confidence interval lower limit for HCVAP share	90% confidence interval upper limit for HCVAP share
Plan A					
1	72.5%	67.3%	49.2%	46.8%	51.6%
2	64.3%	57.8%	41.6%	38.9%	44.3%
3	39.6%	33.9%	25.4%	23.4%	27.4%
4	67.7%	63.1%	48.8%	46.4%	51.3%
5	58.8%	51.8%	37.7%	35.4%	40.0%
Plan B					
1	75.7%	70.4%	49.1%	46.5%	51.7%
2	57.8%	51.4%	38.6%	36.1%	41.0%
3	38.9%	33.3%	26.1%	24.1%	28.0%
4	72.5%	67.7%	54.3%	51.8%	56.7%
5	57.9%	51.1%	38.2%	35.9%	40.6%
Plan C					
1	56.5%	50.3%	35.1%	32.8%	37.3%
2	74.1%	68.8%	51.6%	49.0%	54.2%
3	41.8%	35.7%	25.6%	23.5%	27.7%
4	72.5%	68.5%	56.2%	53.6%	58.8%
5	58.0%	51.3%	37.9%	35.6%	40.3%
Plan D					
1	70.8%	65.3%	46.4%	43.9%	48.8%
2	64.1%	57.7%	41.4%	38.7%	44.1%
3	39.5%	33.8%	26.0%	24.1%	28.0%
4	67.7%	63.0%	48.8%	46.4%	51.3%
5	61.0%	54.2%	41.0%	38.6%	43.4%

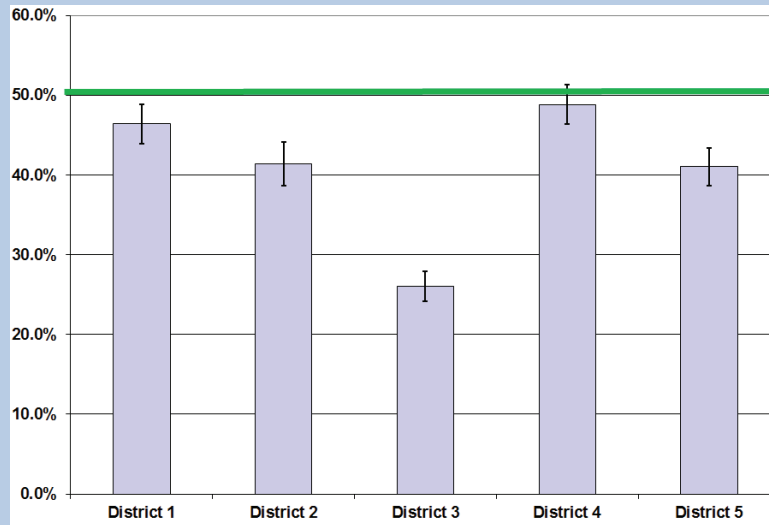
Plan C had two “Latino supermajority districts” with HCVAP shares of 50% or more (or maybe not, given the margins of error):



Estimated Hispanic Share of CVAP, with 90% Confidence Intervals

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Plan D was adopted – communities of interest trumped HCVAP shares:



Estimated Hispanic Share of CVAP, with 90% Confidence Intervals

But *none* of the plans came close to having even one district in which Spanish-surnamed voters comprised a majority:

Nevertheless, there have been suggestions that voting rights litigation might occur here.

District	Percent of District's population that was Hispanic			Percent of District's voters with Spanish Surnames			
	Total pop	VAP	estimated Hispanic CVAP share	Registered voters 2008	Actual voters Nov 2008	Registered voters 2010	Actual voters Nov 2010
Plan A							
1	72.5%	67.3%	49.2%	43.2%	37.0%	45.0%	35.0%
2	64.3%	57.8%	41.6%	37.7%	33.5%	38.9%	29.8%
3	39.6%	33.9%	25.4%	21.8%	19.2%	22.8%	16.6%
4	67.7%	63.1%	48.8%	42.1%	36.6%	43.7%	32.6%
5	58.8%	51.8%	37.7%	28.5%	24.7%	32.0%	23.2%
Plan B							
1	75.7%	70.4%	49.1%	44.3%	38.4%	47.5%	37.4%
2	57.8%	51.4%	38.6%	33.7%	29.7%	35.1%	26.7%
3	38.9%	33.3%	26.1%	21.8%	19.4%	22.6%	16.6%
4	72.5%	67.7%	54.3%	44.7%	38.6%	47.6%	36.4%
5	57.9%	51.1%	38.2%	29.7%	25.9%	31.8%	23.2%
Plan C							
1	56.5%	50.3%	35.1%	29.6%	25.2%	31.5%	22.3%
2	74.1%	68.8%	51.6%	45.2%	40.6%	48.3%	40.8%
3	41.8%	35.7%	25.6%	22.8%	20.0%	24.0%	17.4%
4	72.5%	68.5%	56.2%	47.5%	41.6%	49.2%	38.2%
5	58.0%	51.3%	37.9%	29.6%	25.8%	32.1%	23.4%
Plan D							
1	70.8%	65.3%	46.4%	40.1%	33.9%	42.0%	31.2%
2	64.1%	57.7%	41.4%	36.8%	32.7%	38.9%	29.8%
3	39.5%	33.8%	26.0%	21.7%	19.1%	22.7%	16.6%
4	67.7%	63.0%	48.8%	42.0%	36.5%	43.7%	32.5%
5	61.0%	54.2%	41.0%	31.9%	27.9%	34.6%	25.8%

Case Study 2: The bottom line

How well did each of four redistricting scenarios meet Federal Voting Rights Act requirements?

We found that:

- None of the scenarios had two districts with Hispanic CVAP-majority districts after margins of error were considered.
- Even districts with very high Hispanic concentrations did not have majorities of the voters with had Spanish surnames.

Case Study 3:

Does information about voters from local sources tell us as much as the ACS? Can local administrative data on voters be used instead of/in addition to ACS data for Voting Rights Act purposes?

The answer is mostly of academic interest; so far the courts have examined CVAP shares rather than shares estimated using surname analysis when evaluating whether districting plans meet Section 2 requirements.

Case Study 3: The method

We estimated the share of registered and actual voters who have Spanish surnames:

- ✓ Using California Statewide Database (<http://swdb.berkeley.edu/>) information for Census blocks or precincts, and/or
- ✓ Geocoding and Spanish surname matching voters ourselves, and then summing counts to the block level.

We compared the shares of registered and actual voters with Spanish surnames with the share of the CVAP that is Hispanic.

Note that this approach cannot be used for African Americans (surnames are not distinctive), and has limited utility for identifying Asian American voters.

Case Study 3: Comparison of ACS Hispanic CVAP estimates and share of voters with Spanish surnames in 2 redistricting plans.

		Hispanic share of		Spanish Surname share of				Comparison	
Plan	District	Estimated Citizen Voting Age Population (based on 2005-2009 rates)	Estimated Citizen Voting Age Population (based on 2006-2010 rates)	Registered Voters Nov 2008	Actual Voters Nov 2008	Registered Voters Nov 2010	Actual Voters Nov 2010	2006-2010 CVAP and Registered 2008	2006-2010 CVAP and Registered 2010
Adopted Redistricting Plan									
	1	65%	65%	64%	61%	65%	59%	1%	0%
	2	45%	46%	42%	39%	43%	36%	4%	3%
	3	63%	65%	64%	59%	65%	58%	1%	0%
	4	22%	23%	20%	18%	21%	17%	3%	2%
	5	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	5%	1%	1%
Alternative Proposal									
	1	51%	51%	48%	45%	50%	43%	3%	2%
	2	52%	52%	49%	45%	51%	42%	3%	2%
	3	50%	50%	45%	40%	47%	39%	5%	3%
	4	28%	29%	25%	23%	26%	21%	3%	3%
	5	7%	7%	6%	5%	6%	5%	1%	1%

Darker shading indicates districts with higher concentrations of Hispanics/Spanish surname voters.
Lighter shading indicates district with lower concentration of Hispanics.

Case Study 3: the bottom line

Can local administrative data be used instead of/in addition to ACS data for evaluating Voting Rights Act compliance?

We found that

- Hispanic CVAP shares and Spanish-surname registered voter shares can be quite similar, so it may not be necessary to rely on Hispanic CVAP data. However, we need CVAP data for other protected groups whose surnames are not distinctive.
- The share of Spanish-surnamed registered voters who actually vote can be low, making it difficult for candidates backed by Hispanics to be elected.

Case Studies 1-3: the bottom line

ACS CVAP estimates are essential in political redistricting (in areas with large noncitizen populations) in order to assure compliance with the letter and the intent of the Federal Voting Rights Act.

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Using ACS Data to Analyze Disparate Impact in Housing and Other Areas

Andrew A. Beveridge, Queens College and Graduate
Center CUNY and *Social Explorer, Inc*

Presented at Workshop on the Benefits (and Burdens) of the American
Community Survey, Committee on National Statistics, Division of
Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education, National Research Council
of the National Academies, June 14-15, 2012

ACS Excellent to Assess Differences Among Groups

- Tabulated data has much information regarding differences among racial and ethnic groups (including Hispanic)
- Even more powerful to use ACS PUMS data
 - Gives on the ability to chose how tabulation is done
 - Possible to tailor areas (the extent to which PUMA areas are useful) to question of interest
- ACS data better than the Census “long form” since more frequent
- Here give an example of use in housing cases

Analysis of Disparate Impact of Housing Policies

- Housing policies, such as the decision to build or not to build publicly subsidized housing or demolish subsidized housing
- Even more powerful to use ACS PUMS data
 - Gives on the ability to chose how tabulation is done
 - Possible to tailor areas (the extent to which PUMA areas are useful) to question of interest
- ACS data better than the Census “long form” since more frequent
- Here give an example of use in housing cases

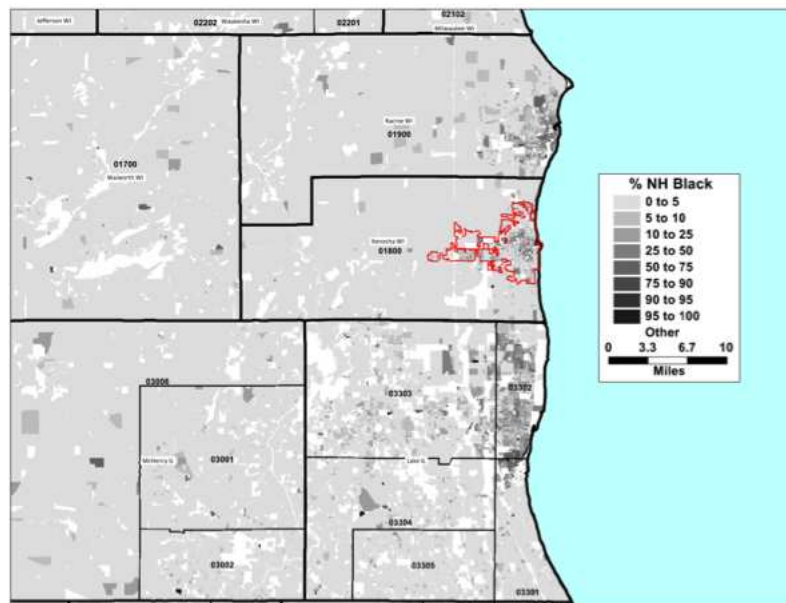
Standards for Disparate Impact

- General: Facially neutral government policy or action has a disparate impact on minority groups (e.g., blacks or Hispanics) or disabled
 1. Action affects minority group members more (e.g., demolition of low-income public housing, as in New Orleans, Hartford, Mt. Holly, New Haven) or blocking the ability to build housing aimed at lower income
 2. Such housing is more likely occupied or to be occupied by groups defined as minority (or disabled)
 3. The destruction (or failure to build) such housing stock would have a disparate impact on such groups in general

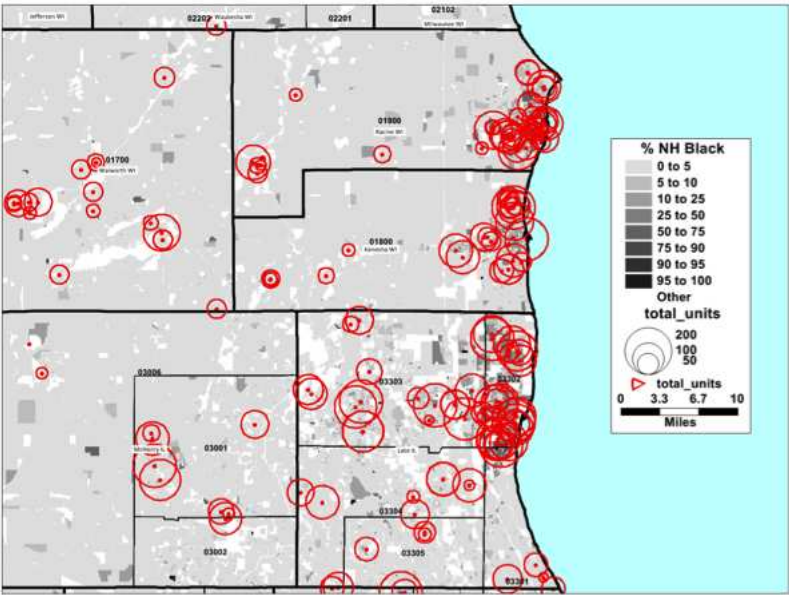
Example: Recent Filing in Case to Block Development

- Proposal to build subsidized housing in Kenosha, WI
- Housing using Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
- Project approved but met with serious public opposition
- Developer sues to force development
- Need to assess disparate impact of blocking the housing
- LIHTC is targeted towards those who make below 60% of Income
- Some also aimed a disabled, who are already on a Section 8 subsidy
- ACS data used to defined groups
- PUMAs used to define areas

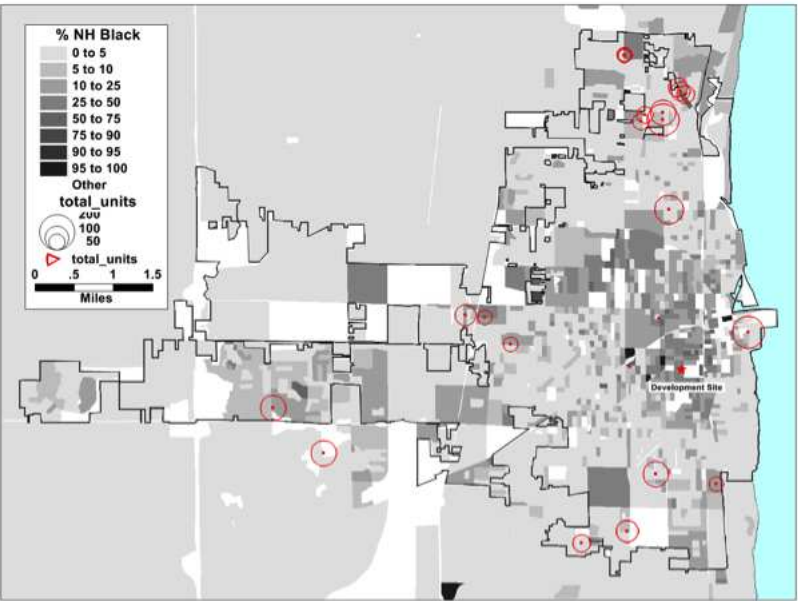
Percent Black Kenosha Area



Projects and Percent Black Kenosha Area



Kenosha and Proposed Site

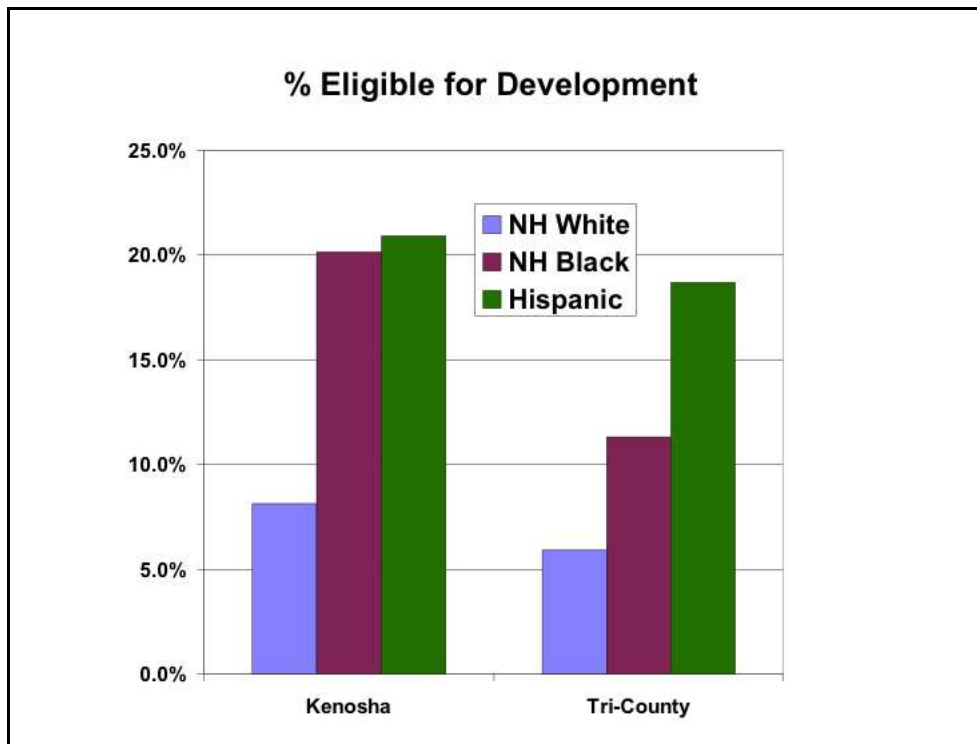


Comparison of Wait List and ACS

Percent of Households by Race and Hispanic on Waiting List of Total Households in Kenosha County			
A. Kenosha County			
	NH White	NH Black	Hispanic
Total	51,678	2,443	4,179
Waiting List	1,424	1,831	388
	2.8%	74.9%	9.3%
Source: American Community Survey, Public Use Micro-Data, 2005 to 2009 and S8 Housing Choice Voucher Wait List of August 2, 2011			

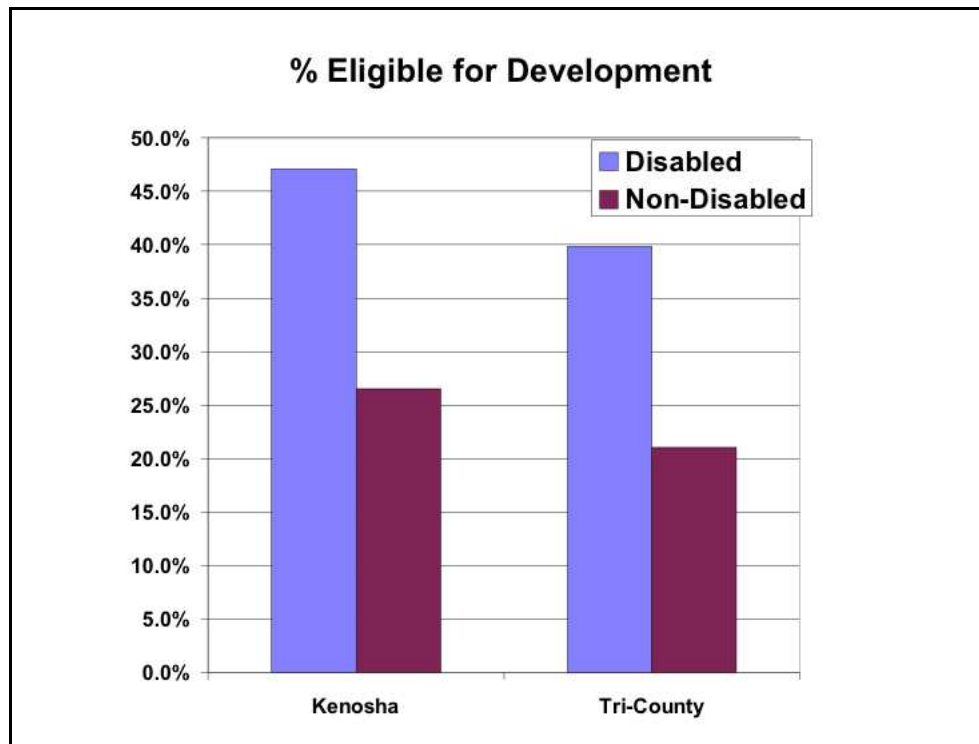
Using Income Limits and Income to Compute Disparate Impact

- Uses Income Limits for Area Median Family Income—computed by HUD using ACS data
- Eligibility computed by using PUMS (or CHAS tables) from ACS those at various levels of Income
 - Eligible to live in the Brass Development Household Income not Exceeding 60 percent
 - Median Rent not Exceeding 30 percent of Income



Eligibility for Disabled is Different

- Must have one member classified as disabled (new question in ACS 2008)
- Must have income not exceeding 60 percent of median
- Such individuals are eligible for Section 8
- Kenosha County indicated that they had a dire need of accessible housing for disabled



Disparate Impact is Established

- For African American and Hispanic households
- For households with disabled individuals
- Thus the policy of not building the LIHTC housing, which has eligibility criteria with respect to income has a disparate impact on these groups

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