Census Data, Data Tools and Tips

Census Workshop
Puget Sound Regional Council
May 15, 2019

Heidi Crawford
Data Dissemination Specialist
U.S. Census Bureau
Outline

• Vision
• Current Snapshot
• Using data.census.gov: live demo and tips
• Looking Ahead
• Q&A
New Enterprise Dissemination

✓ Streamline access to data
✓ Maintain the best of our current tools
✓ Reduce redundancies and operational costs
✓ Provide greater access to Census Bureau API
Current Snapshot
Data in the New Platform: American Community Survey

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Data in the New Platform: Decennial and Econ

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<tr>
<td>Decennial Census (Summary File 1, 113th &amp; 115th Congress Detailed Tables)</td>
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<td>Economic Census US Basic Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Survey of Business Owners (Company Summary &amp; Characteristics of Business Owners)</td>
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## Upcoming Milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring 2019</th>
<th>Summer 2019</th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• First data releases exclusively on new platform (Nonemployer and Public Sector)</td>
<td>• End of new data releases on American FactFinder</td>
<td>• Major releases 2018 ACS &amp; 2017 Economic Census</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
census.gov
Feedback on data.census.gov we recently implemented

“No easy way to change years or datasets when looking at a table.”

“Occasionally I had to wait five whole minutes for it to load. The system was often slow and froze.”

“Advanced Search: Find results with...is very confusing.”

“If you hadn't said something about the tiny "t", I would have kept thinking that the only data loaded in EDDE were data for 2017 ACS 1-Year.”

“The table names are truncated and you have to do a lot of clicking to find the table you need.”

“Seems to be no back buttons to change search variables, just browser buttons.”

“There seems to be a lot of white space in the tables, limiting how much is visible when first navigating to the table.”
Live Demo and Tips
Single Search - Quick Wins for All Users

Use for quick wins to find things like:

- **Simple statistics**
  e.g. health insurance in Arizona

- **Profile for a single geography**
  e.g. Arizona profile

- **NAICS**
  531110

- **Table ID**
  B19001

- **Groups of tables**
  CP

**Explore Census Data**

The Census Bureau is the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy.

🔍 I'm looking for ...

Advanced Search
Search for Groups of Tables

**CP**: Provides all 5 Comparison Profiles

**B27**: Provides all 32 Detailed Tables for Health Insurance

**B19001**: Provides main table plus race iterations B19001A-I

Wildcard (*) functionality is still in the process of being added, but many searches already behave as expected [census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/which-data-tool/table-ids-explained.html](census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/which-data-tool/table-ids-explained.html)
### Geography Area Series: County Business Patterns: 2016

**Survey/Program:** Economic Annual Surveys  
**Year:** 2016  
**TableID:** CB1600A11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Area Name</th>
<th>2012 NAICS code</th>
<th>Meaning of 2012 NAICS code</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of establishments</th>
<th>Paid employees for period ending in March 12 (in $)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allegany County, Maryland</td>
<td>4451</td>
<td>Grocery stores</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel County, Maryland</td>
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<td>Grocery stores</td>
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<td>Grocery stores</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>Grocery stores</td>
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<td>Caroline County, Maryland</td>
<td>4451</td>
<td>Grocery stores</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Advanced Search – More Complex Searches

- **Survey/Program or Table Type**
  e.g. ACS 1-Year Detailed Tables

- **Geographies with complex names**
  e.g. Census Tract 100.01, Bibb County, AL

- **Collections of geographies**
  e.g. All places in the United States

- **Cross tabulations**
  e.g. Health insurance by full/part-time by sex

- **Detailed pop groups**
  Race, Tribal, Hispanic Origin, Ancestry, and country of birth groups

Explore the new layout of topics in the advanced search
Looking Ahead
“After backing out and starting over, I received the message “Sorry, that table is too large to display.””

“The geo selection feature in data.census.gov is very poorly designed as of right now!”

“Is it possible to have the column heading wrap in a cell rather than have to be 'stretched' out because it is on one line?”

“When selecting geographies, the list also is somewhat in alphabetical order but also somewhat not. It is confusing.”

“I get that many users don't want to bother with MOEs...but as a scientific bureau, we should have MOEs displayed as a default. They're very important for understanding an estimate.”

“I want the ability to select more geographies in bulk like “All census tracts in the US and PR””
Plans to Improve the Geo Filter

Make it easier for users to:

• Select their desired geographic level
• Select geographies from long lists of results

*This is a wireframe only to show some of the user needs that we are working to meet. The exact build may differ and could come incrementally across multiple future releases.
Plans to Improve the Geo Filter

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Plans to Add More Checkboxes to Select All Geos in a List
Development Depends on **YOUR** Feedback

Check out our preview platform at [data.census.gov](http://data.census.gov) and provide comments at [cedsci.feedback@census.gov](mailto:cedsci.feedback@census.gov).
Learn More – Release Notes and FAQs

Includes:
• Answers to common questions
• Chart of available data
• List of features and functionality
• Known Issues

data.census.gov/assets/faqs-release-notes.pdf
Upcoming Webinars

**data.census.gov Update**
June 2019

**Using the Census API with the ACS**
June 26 at 2pm

**Census Academy Series**
April-June 28, 2019
(conducted webinar 4/9)

census.gov/data/academy/webinars/upcoming.html
Resources: Need Assistance?

U.S. Census Bureau
Data Dissemination Specialist

Heidi Crawford
(202) 774-4445
heidi.r.crawford@census.gov

Toll-free number:
1-844-ASK-DATA
(1-844-275-3282)

For general questions:
census.askdata@census.gov
Questions?