ACS, Decennial and Data.census.gov

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US Census Bureau
“Current” Surveys

- American Housing Survey (AHS) -> HUD
- Housing Vacancy Survey (HVS) -> NYC
- Consumer Expenditure -> US Dept Labor
- Current Population Survey (CPS) -> US Dept Labor
- Nat’l Crime Vicitimization Survey (NCVS) -> US Dept Justice
- Nat’l Health Interview (HIS) -> CDC
- Survey of Income & Program Participation (SIPP) -> Census
- Nat’l Ambulatory Medical Cure Survey -> CDC
- Nat’l Hospital Ambulatory Medical Cure -> CDC
- American Community Survey (ACS) -> Census
Decennial Census

- A snapshot every 10 years
- Official count of the population
- Basic Characteristics.
- In tables “2010 Data” or “SF-2, -3, -4, etc.”
- Block-level availability
DECCENIAL VS. ACS

- American Community Survey
  - A moving picture: monthly
  - Impartial address selection
  - Sample count based on population thresholds.
  - “Deep” Characteristics
  - In tables, refer to: “B-, C-, S-, and DP” id’s
  - Tract-level availability
ACS

- Social Characteristics (DP02)
  - Educational Attainment
  - Marital Status
  - Fertility
  - Grandparents/Caregivers
  - Veterans
  - Disability
  - Place of Birth
  - Citizenship Status
  - Language
  - Ancestry/Tribal
  - School Enrollment
  - Degree
Economic Characteristics (DP03)

- Income & Earnings
- Class of Worker
- Employment Status
- Occupation
- Industry
- Commute
- Place of Work
- Health Insurance
- Food stamps/SNAP
- Housing Characteristics (DP04)
  - Tenure
  - Occupancy & Structure
  - Housing Value
  - Taxes & Insurance
  - Utilities
  - Mortgage/Monthly Rent
  - Year Structure Built
  - Year Householder moved
  - Vehicles
  - Monthly costs
The ACS Questionnaire

Questions 5 & 6

- Is Person X of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin?

- What is Person X’s race?
Questions 13 & 14

-What is this person’s ancestry or ethnic origin?

-Does this person speak a language other than English at home?
Thresholds for ACS data

65,000
Large Cities
County
Congressional District
PUMAs

4,000
Census Tract
County
Place/MCD
ZCTA’s

ACS 1-year data
ACS 5-year data

Geographies available – large MOE”s
Census Geographies in a Nutshell

Others:

-ZCTA
-Place
-MCD
-Congressional District

In NJ:
-County Subdivision=
  Municipality
Table ID’s explained

Initial character=
Type of Table
B = Base
DP = Data Profile
S = Subject
Etc.

Next 2 digits
Identify
Subject of Table

B050003A

Next 3 digits
Uniquely i.d.
Topic within
Subject area

Suffix – indicates
Table repeated
for 9 major races.

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance/which-data-tool/table-ids-explained.html
www.census.gov/academy

factfinder.census.gov
data.census.gov

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