

Finding Census Data for Libraries

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Census Bureau exhibit booths at Public Library Association (PLA)
and Annual Library Association (ALA) Conferences in 2026

Outline

- Overview of Census Data
- Data Found in data.census.gov
- Live demo of data.census.gov
- Resources and Q&A



Overview of Census Data

The United States Census Bureau

Who are we?

The U.S. Census Bureau is the federal government's largest statistical agency.



Censuses & Surveys

We conduct more than 100 censuses & surveys each year, including:

- The Decennial Census
- The American Community Survey
- The Economic Census



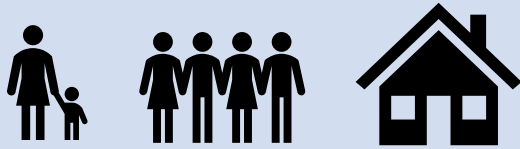
Our Mission

Our mission is to serve as the nation's leading provider of quality data about its people & economy.



Different Sources of Census Data

- Decennial Census (conducted every 10 years)
- Economic Census (conducted every 5 years)
- Demographic Surveys (conducted annually)
 - American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Current Population Survey (CPS)
 - Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
- Economic Surveys (conducted annually)
 - Annual Business Survey (ABS)
 - Annual Integrated Economic Survey (AIES)
 - Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS)
 - Annual Survey of Public Employment and Payroll (ASPEP)
 - Commodity Flow Survey (CFS)
 - County Business Patterns (CBP)

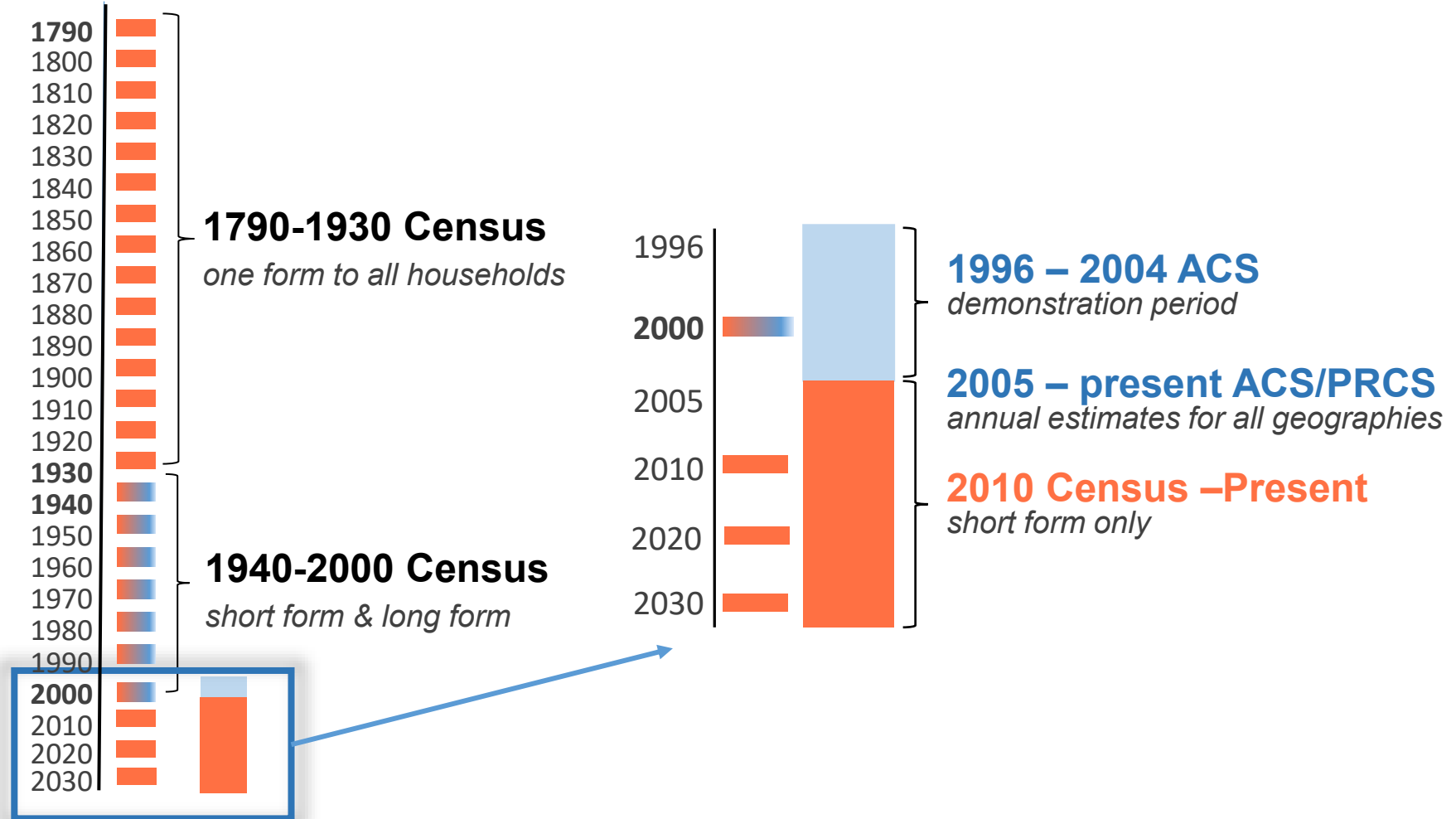
Demographic	Economic
• Individuals • Families • Households • Housing (characteristics)	• Businesses • Governments • Housing (construction)
	

The American Community Survey

- The American Community Survey (ACS) is the premier source of detailed information about the nation's people and housing.
- Surveys **3.5 million** addresses to produce annual social, economic, housing, and demographic estimates for communities throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico
- Covers **40+ topics** — Collects detailed information previously collected by the decennial census each decade
- Data released the year after collection as 1-year and 5-year estimates
- Officially started in 2005 (1-year estimates = 2005; 5-year 2005-2009)
- Helps inform how trillions of dollars in federal funds are distributed each year, supports over **300** evidence-based federal government uses

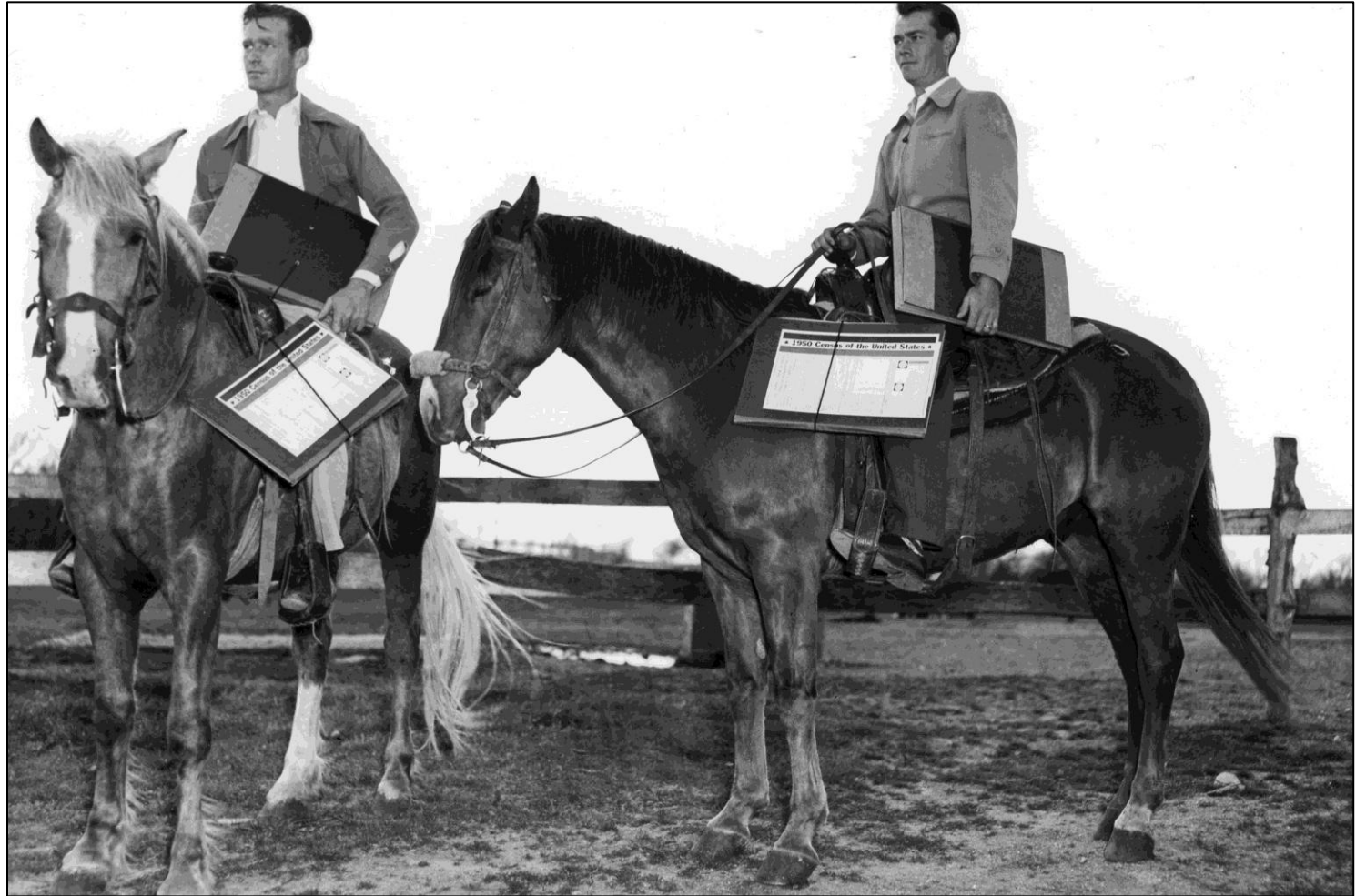
The image displays two versions of the American Community Survey interface. The top screenshot shows the website's login page, titled 'United States Census Bureau American Community Survey'. It includes a 'Welcome! Start here to respond:' section with a link to 'Respond online today at: respond.census.gov/acs'. Below this is a field for 'User ID' and a 'Login' button. A 'Can't find the User ID?' section explains that the 10-digit code appears above the address and to the right, with an example provided: '10000-00000' and '10000-00000'. The bottom screenshot shows a paper form titled 'Start Here'. It provides instructions on how to respond (online or by mail) and includes a section for 'Your response is required by law.' with details about the survey's purpose and legal requirements. The form also includes a section for 'How many people are living or staying at this address?' with checkboxes for 'INCLUDE' and 'DO NOT INCLUDE' and a field for 'Number of people'. The form is dated 'Form ACS-1(2024) 06-15-2024' and 'OMB No. 0507-0010 06-15-2024'.

Census and American Community Survey



Historical Census Data

- Individual census records from 1790 to 1950 are maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration, not the U.S. Census Bureau.
- The United States has collected data about its population since 1790 and continues to collect data every 10 years. Currently, the National Archives has the 1790 to 1950 census records available to the public.
- Search Census Records Online at NARA: <https://www.archives.gov/research/census/online-resources>



The American Community Survey – Content Overview

POPULATION			HOUSING
Social	Economic	Demographic	• Bedrooms • Computer & Internet Use • Costs (Mortgage, Rent, Taxes, Insurance) • Electric Vehicles • House Heating Fuel • Kitchen/Plumbing Facilities • Occupancy/Vacancy Status • Occupants per Room • Rooms • Solar Panels • Telephone Service Available • Tenure (Owner/Renter) • Units in Structure • Value of Home • Vehicles Available • Year Householder Moved Into Unit • Year Structure Built
• Ancestry • Citizenship Status • Citizen Voting-Age Population • Disability Status • Educational Attainment • Fertility • Grandparents as Caregivers • Language Spoken at Home • Marital History and Status • Migration/Residence 1 Year Ago • Place of Birth • School Enrollment • Undergraduate Field of Degree • Veterans Status; Period of Military Service • Year of Entry	• Class of Worker • Commuting and Place of Work • Employment Status • Food Stamps (SNAP) • Health Insurance Coverage • Income and Earnings • Industry and Occupation • Poverty Status • Weeks Worked Last Year	• Age • Group Quarters Population • Hispanic or Latino Origin • Race • Relationship to Householder • Sex • Total Population	

ACS 1-Year vs. 5-Year Estimates

1-Year ACS Estimates

- 12 months of collected data
- e.g., collected between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024
- Released annually 2005-present
- Data for areas with a population of 65,000 or more

5-Year ACS Estimates

- 60 months of collected data
- e.g., collected between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2024
- Released annually 2009-present
- Data for all areas

Data Found in data.census.gov

What is data.census.gov?



<https://data.census.gov>

- The primary platform to access data from the U.S. Census Bureau
- Makes data available from one centralized place
- Census data is disseminated through the Census Bureau's API (Application Programming Interface)
- This streamlined approach means that data users have access to the Census Bureau data and content in a single place

Data on data.census.gov

General Data Availability:

- Decennial Census: 2000-Present
- American Community Survey (ACS): 2010-Present
- Econ Census and Selected Surveys: 2012-Present

<https://www2.census.gov/data/api-documentation/what-data-are-available-in-data-census-gov.pdf>

	2000	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ACS 1-Year Detailed Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Data Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Comparison Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Subject Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Selected Population Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year American Indian and Alaska Native Tables		✓					✓						✓			
ACS 5-Year Selected Population Tables		✓					✓						✓			
ACS 5-Year Detailed Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Data Profiles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Comparison Profiles							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Subject Tables		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 5-Year Equal Employment Opportunity										✓						
ACS Supplemental Estimates						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
ACS 1-Year Supplemental Data Profiles for Congressional Redistricting															✓	
Decennial Demographic Profile												✓				
Decennial Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC)												✓				
Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File A (Detailed DHC-A)												✓				
Detailed Demographic and Housing Characteristics File B (Detailed DHC-B)												✓				
Supplemental Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (S-DHC)												✓				
Decennial Summary File 1 (SF1), Summary File 2 (SF2)	✓	✓														
Decennial Summary File 3 (SF3), Summary File 4 (SF4)	✓															
Decennial Summary File 2 (SF2), Summary File 3 (SF3), File 4 (SF4) Demographic Profile	✓															
Decennial National Redistricting Data		✓														
Decennial Redistricting Data (PL 94-171)	✓	✓										✓				
Decennial American Indian and Alaska Native Demographic Profile	✓															
Decennial American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Island, and U.S. Virgin Islands Demographic Profile and Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC)												✓				

data.census.gov Demo

1. Single Searches for Library Strategic Plans

Example: Salt Lake City, Utah Geography Profile

Example: Salt Lake City, Utah American Community Survey Data Profiles

2. Comparing Across Geographies in a Table

Example: Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access in Putnam Township, Pinckney Village, and ZIP Code Tabulation Area 48169

3. Detailed Language Data

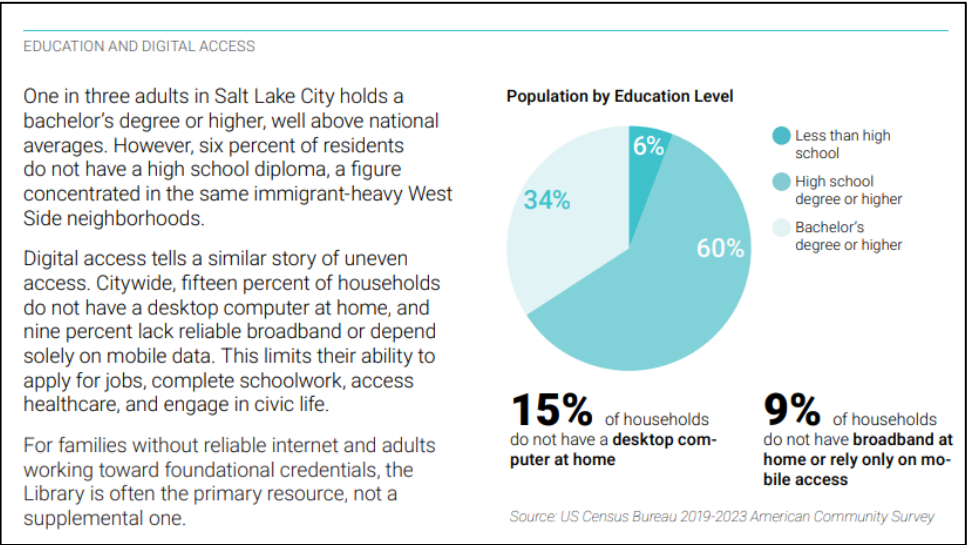
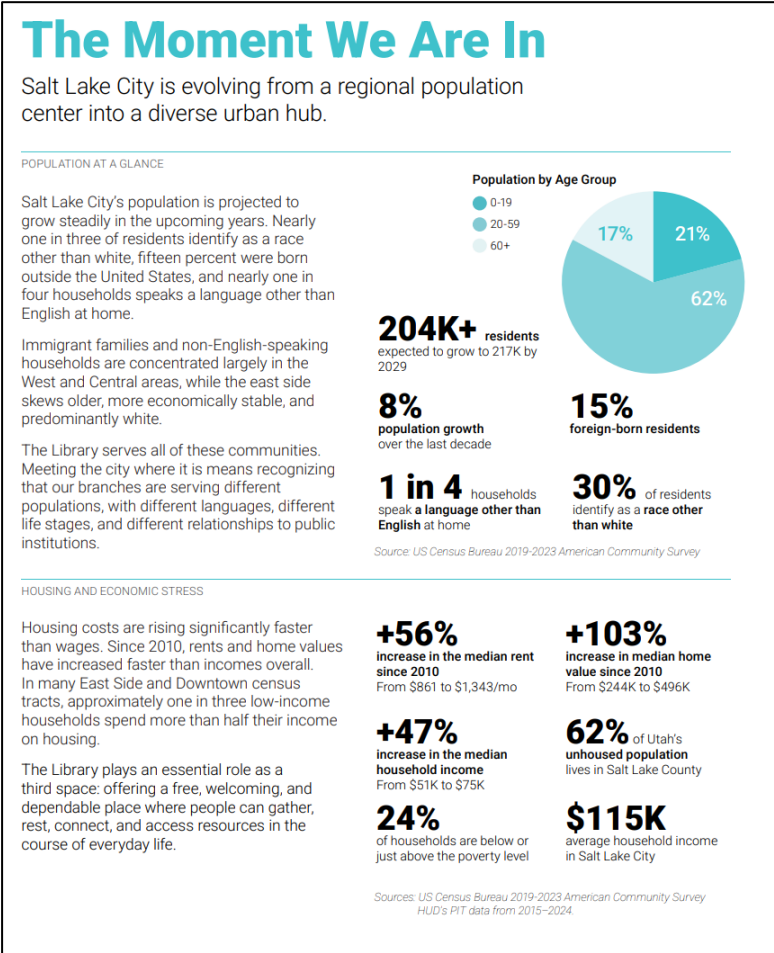
Example: Table B16002 for West Springfield Town, Massachusetts

4. Approximating a Library District through mapping

Example: Using Census Tracts and Block Groups to create custom maps

Census Data for Library Strategic Plans

ACS Data Profiles and data.census.gov Geography Profiles are great sources of data for your Strategic Plans



Source: Salt Lake City Public Library System Strategic Plan 2026-2034
https://static.libnet.info/frontend-images/pdfs/slcpl/Board/2026_Library_Board/2026_SLCPL_Strategic_Plan.pdf

Search for a geography

- Type **Salt Lake City** in the single search bar and press enter

Profiles Microdata

Explore Census Data

Learn about America's People and Economy

Salt Lake City

- 📍 Salt Lake City city, Utah
- 📍 Salt Lake City CCD, Salt Lake County, Utah
- 📍 South Salt Lake city, Utah
- 📍 North Salt Lake city, Utah

[Explore Filters...](#)

Salt Lake City city, Uta...
Salt Lake City city, Utah is a city, town, place equivalent, or township located in Utah. Salt Lake City city, Utah has a land area of 110.7 square miles.

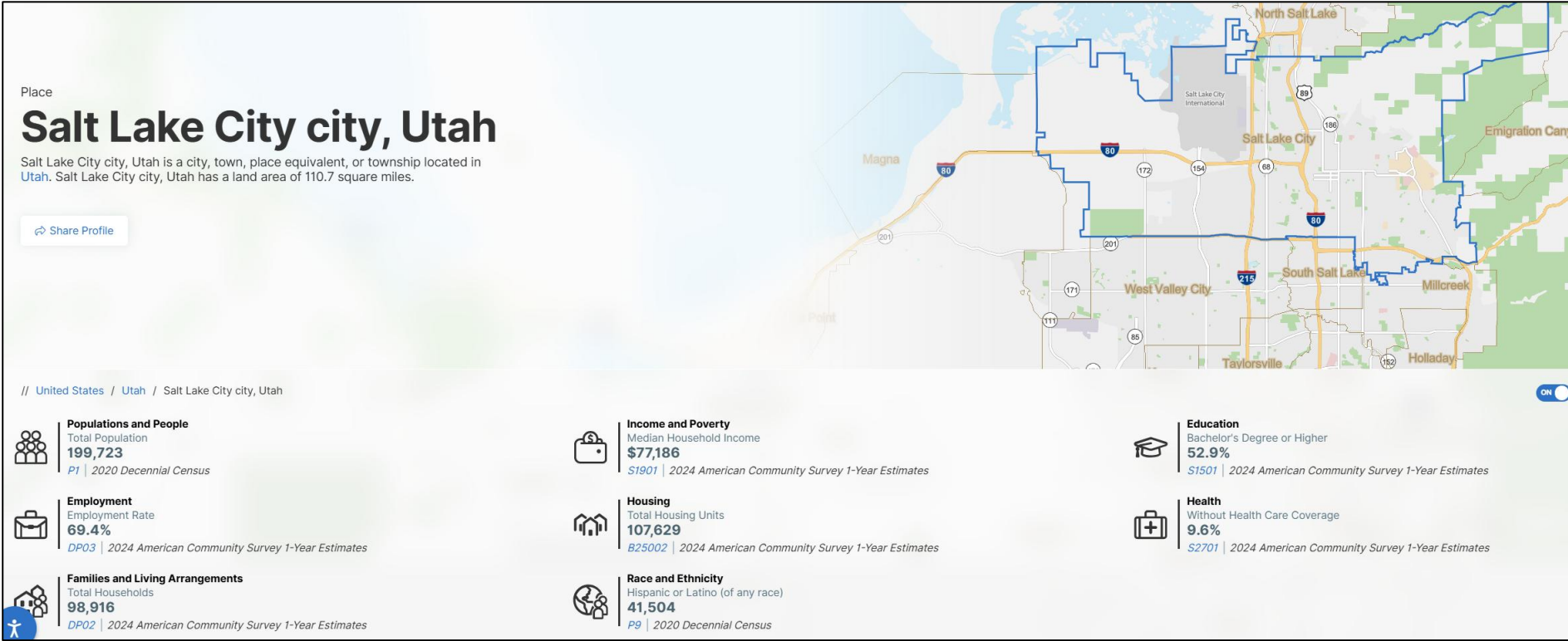
Geography Profile: Salt Lake City

- Click the **Profiles** tab
- Click the **View Profile** link

The screenshot displays the United States Census Bureau's Geography Profile page for Salt Lake City, Utah. The interface includes a search bar at the top with 'Salt Lake City' entered. Below the search bar, navigation tabs are visible: 'All', 'Tables', 'Maps', 'Charts', 'Profiles' (which is highlighted with a red box), and 'Pages'. On the left side, there is a filter section titled '1 Filter' with a dropdown menu showing 'Salt Lake City city, Utah'. Below this is a 'Clear search' button and a search input field. A list of geographies is shown, including 'Nation', 'State', 'County', 'County Subdivision', 'Place', and 'ZIP Code Tabulation Area'. The main content area features a map of Salt Lake City and its surrounding areas, including Bountiful, North Salt Lake, Emigration Canyon, West Valley City, and Millcreek. To the right of the map, a profile card for 'Salt Lake City city, Utah' is displayed, containing a description: 'Salt Lake City city, Utah is a city, town, place equivalent, or township located in Utah. Salt Lake City city, Utah has a land area of 110.7 square miles.' A 'View Profile' link is highlighted with a red box. At the bottom right, it indicates '23 Profiles' and a view count of 'View: 10 | 25 | 50'.

View Geography Profile

- View popular statistics at the top of the page



Single Search: ACS DP0

- Search **ACS DP0 Salt Lake City**
- Click **Tables** at the top
- Click **DP04**
- ACS Data Profiles provide popular statistics. They include estimates and percentages.

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ACS DP0 Salt Lake City

Explore Filters

All Tables Maps Charts Profiles Pages

4 Results

View: 10 | 25 | 50 Download Table Data

American Community Survey
DP04 | Selected Housing Characteristics
+ View All 31 Products

American Community Survey
DP03 | Selected Economic Characteristics
+ View All 31 Products

American Community Survey
DP05 | ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates
+ View All 30 Products

American Community Survey
DP02 | Selected Social Characteristics in the United States
+ View All 31 Products

DP04 | Selected Housing Characteristics

View important guidance for comparing ACS data over time or to other sources [here](#).

Label	Salt Lake City city, Utah			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
▼ HOUSING OCCUPANCY				
▼ Total housing units	107,629	±4,199	107,629	(X)
Occupied housing units	98,916	±3,919	91.9%	±2.1
Vacant housing units	8,713	±2,357	8.1%	±2.1
Homeowner vacancy rate	2.4	±1.8	(X)	(X)
Rental vacancy rate	5.4	±2.6	(X)	(X)
▼ UNITS IN STRUCTURE				
▼ Total housing units	107,629	±4,199	107,629	(X)
1-unit, detached	43,238	±2,725	40.2%	±2.9
1-unit, attached	4,544	±1,528	4.2%	±1.4
2 units	4,974	±1,134	4.6%	±1.0
3 or 4 units	6,600	±1,581	6.1%	±1.4

data.census.gov Demo

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Example: Salt Lake City, Utah American Community Survey Data Profiles

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Example: Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access in Putnam Township, Pinckney Village, and ZIP Code Tabulation Area 48169

3. Detailed Language Data

Example: Table B16002 for West Springfield Town, Massachusetts

4. Approximating a Library District through mapping

Example: Using Census Tracts and Block Groups to create custom maps

How Do I Select My City or Town?

Use the Place or County Subdivision geography filters

- Place: Use for cities and towns in most states
- County Subdivision: Use to find towns, townships, and boroughs in selected states (primarily in the Northeast and Midwest)

Place: Atlanta city, Georgia

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Search for an a    Explore Filters

All Tables Maps Charts Profiles Pages data.census.gov Apps

Geographies

Nation >

State >

County >

County Subdivision >

Place >

ZIP Code Tabulation Area >

Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Area >

Census Tract >

Block >

< Georgia / Select Place

+ Within other geographies

Search Place

☐ Ashburn city, Georgia

☐ Athens-Clarke County unified government (balance), Georgia

☒ Atlanta city, Georgia

☐ Attapulgus city, Georgia

☐ Auburn city, Georgia

☐ Augusta-Richmond County consolidated government (balance), Georgia

County Subdivision: Strafford town, New Hampshire

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Bureau

Search for an a    Explore Filters

All Tables Maps Charts Profiles Pages data.census.gov Apps

Geographies

Nation >

State >

County >

County Subdivision >

Place >

ZIP Code Tabulation Area >

Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Area >

Census Tract >

Block >

< New Hampshire / Strafford County, New Hampshire / Select County Subdivision

+ Within other geographies

Search County Subdivision

☐ Milton town, Strafford County, New Hampshire

☐ New Durham town, Strafford County, New Hampshire

☐ Rochester city, Strafford County, New Hampshire

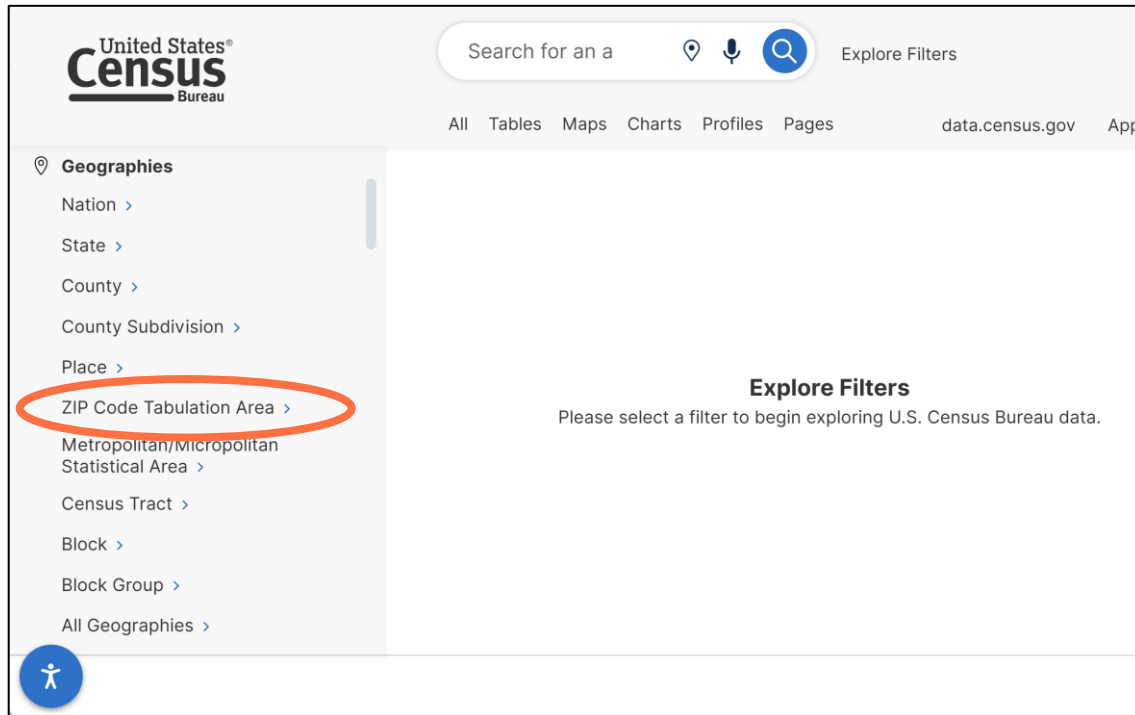
☐ Rollinsford town, Strafford County, New Hampshire

☐ Somersworth city, Strafford County, New Hampshire

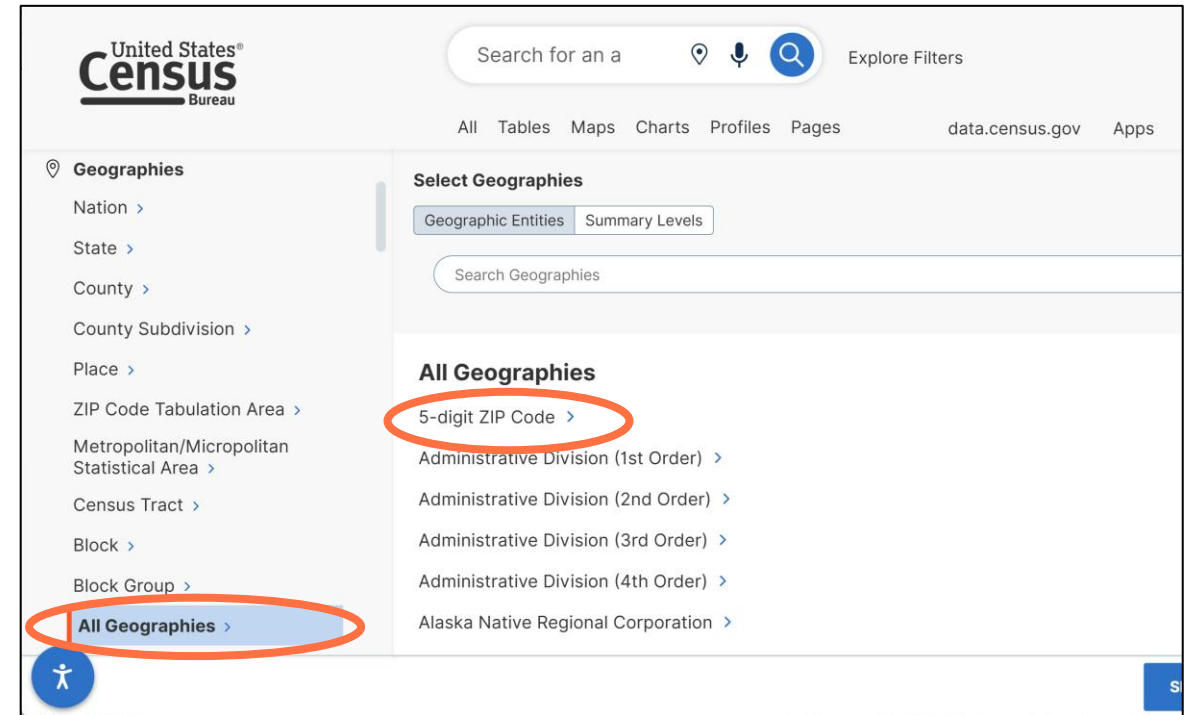
☒ Strafford town, Strafford County, New Hampshire

How Do I Access Data for ZIP Codes?

Use ZIP Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) for data on people and housing

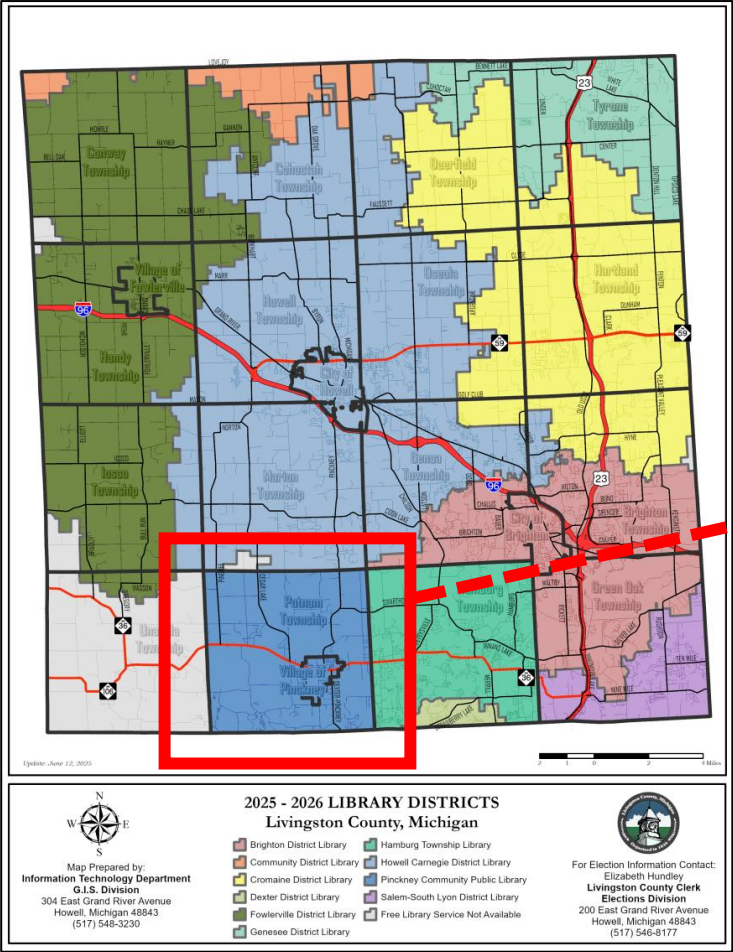


Use ZIP Codes for data on businesses

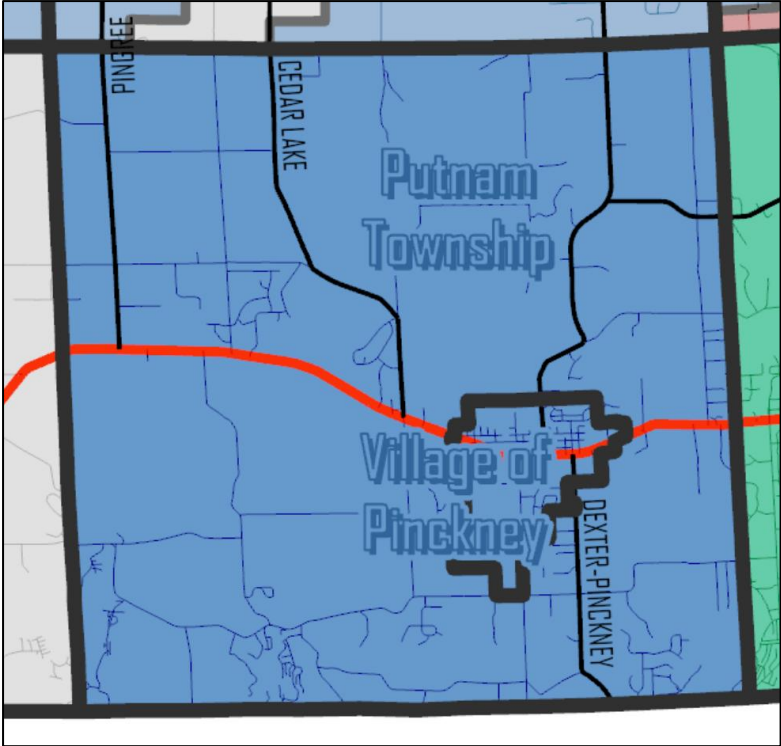


Comparing across geographies

Livingston County, MI Library Districts

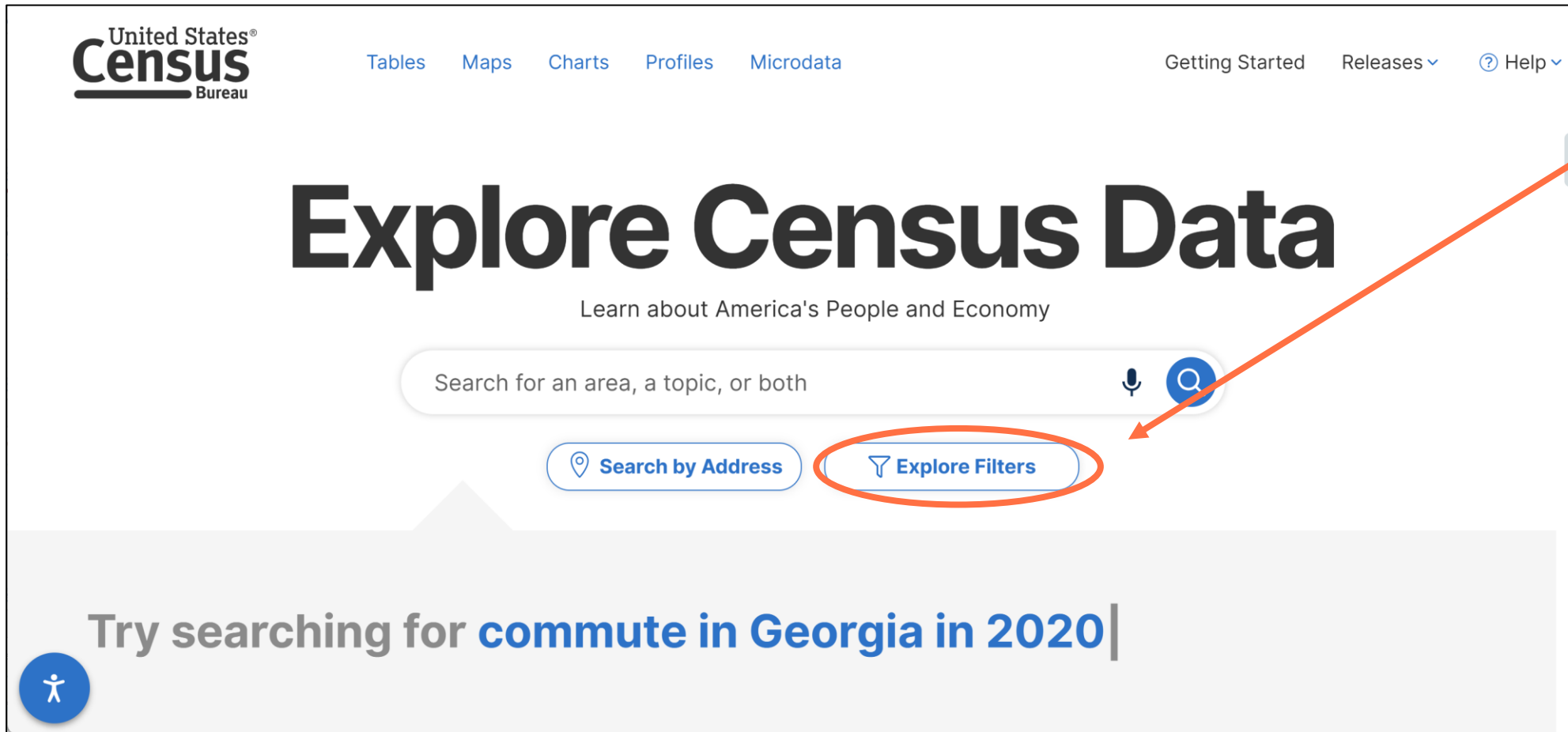


Pinckney Community Library District



What Census geographies are these?
Putnam Township = County Subdivision
Village of Pinckney = Place

Open the Filter Panel



- Select **Explore Filters** to open the filter panel

Select Place

- Click **Place**
- Click **Michigan**
- Select **Pinckney village, Michigan**

The screenshot displays the United States Census Bureau's 'Select Place' interface. The top navigation bar includes the 'United States Census Bureau' logo and a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search for an area, a topic, or both'. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'All', 'Tables', 'Maps', 'Charts', 'Profiles', and 'Pages'. The left sidebar, titled '0 Filters', contains a search bar and a list of geography types: 'Geographies', 'Nation', 'State', 'County', 'County Subdivision', 'Place' (highlighted with a red box), 'ZIP Code Tabulation Area', 'Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Area', 'Census Tract', and 'Block'. The right pane shows a breadcrumb trail 'Michigan / Select Place' and a section titled 'Within other geographies' with a search bar containing 'Pinckney'. Below the search bar, the option 'Pinckney village, Michigan' is listed with an unchecked checkbox, which is highlighted by a red box.

Select County Subdivision

- Click **County Subdivision**
- Click **Michigan**
- Click **Livingston County, Michigan**
- Select **Putnam township**

The screenshot displays the 'Select County Subdivision' interface. The top navigation bar includes links for 'All', 'Tables', 'Maps', 'Charts', 'Profiles', and 'Pages'. The left sidebar shows '2 Filters' with two active filters: 'Pinckney village, Michigan' and 'Putnam township, Livingston County, Mich...'. A 'Clear all filters' button is present. Below the filters is a search bar labeled 'Search for a filter'. Under the 'Geographies' section, a list of levels is shown: 'Nation', 'State', 'County', 'County Subdivision' (highlighted with a red box), and 'Place'. The main panel shows a breadcrumb trail: 'Michigan / Livingston County, Michigan / Select County Subdivision'. Below this, a section titled 'Within other geographies' contains a search bar with 'Putnam' entered. A list of results follows, with 'Putnam township, Livingston County, Michigan' selected, indicated by a blue checkmark and a red box.

Select Zip Code Tabulation Area

- Click **ZIP Code Tabulation Area**
- Click **Michigan**
- Select **ZCTA5 48169**

The screenshot displays the 'Select ZIP Code Tabulation Area' interface. The top navigation bar includes links for 'All', 'Tables', 'Maps', 'Charts', 'Profiles', and 'Pages'. The left sidebar contains '3 Filters' with the following items: 'Pinckney village, Michigan', 'Putnam township, Livingston County, Mich...', and 'ZCTA5 48169'. Below the filters is a 'Clear all filters' button and a search bar labeled 'Search for a filter'. Under the 'Geographies' section, a list of geographic levels is shown: 'Nation', 'State', 'County', 'County Subdivision', 'Place', and 'ZIP Code Tabulation Area'. The 'ZIP Code Tabulation Area' option is highlighted with a red box. The main panel shows the breadcrumb 'Michigan / Select ZIP Code Tabulation Area' and a section titled 'Within other geographies' containing a list of ZIP codes. The 'ZCTA5 48169' entry is selected, indicated by a blue checkmark and a red box.

Select Topic and Search

- Under the “Topics” section, click **Housing**
- Click **Physical Characteristics**
- Click **Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access**
- Click **Search** in the bottom right corner

The screenshot displays the data.census.gov website. The left sidebar shows the 'Topics' menu with 'Housing' selected. The main content area is titled 'Physical Characteristics / Select Physical Characteristics' and contains a search bar and a list of checkboxes. The checkbox for 'Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access' is checked. A red arrow points from the 'SEARCH' button in the bottom right corner of the interface to the list of checkboxes.

data.census.gov Apps Help

Topics

- Business and Economy >
- Education >
- Employment >
- Families and Living Arrangements >
- Health >
- Housing >**
- Income and Poverty >
- Populations and People >
- Race and Ethnicity >

Surveys

- American Community Survey >
- Decennial Census >

Years

- ☐ 2024
- ☐ 2023

Physical Characteristics / Select Physical Characteristics

Search Physical Characteristics

- ☐ Heating and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- ☐ Physical Characteristics
- ☒ Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access
- ☐ Types of Rooms
- ☐ Units and Stories in Structure
- ☐ Water, Sewage, and Plumbing Facilities
- ☐ Year Structure Built

SEARCH

Select and view table

- Select a table from the list of results, such as table **S2801**
- View the data on the table

The screenshot shows the Census Bureau's data portal. On the left, a list of 45 results is displayed. The first result, **S2801 | Types of Computers and Internet Subscriptions**, is highlighted with a red box. The main content area shows the selected table's data for Putnam township, Livingston County, Michigan. The table includes columns for Label, Total, Estimate, Margin of Error, and Percent. The data is organized into sections: Total households, TYPES OF COMPUTER, and TYPE OF INTERNET SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Label	Putnam township, Livingston County, Michigan	
	Total	Percent
✓ Total households	3,066	±195 (X)
✓ TYPES OF COMPUTER		
✓ Has one or more types of computing devices:	3,019	±193 98.5%
✓ Desktop or laptop	2,694	±278 87.9%
Desktop or laptop with no other type of computing device	108	±82 3.5%
✓ Smartphone	2,873	±205 93.7%
Smartphone with no other type of computing device	248	±124 8.1%
✓ Tablet or other portable wireless computer	2,226	±266 72.6%
Tablet or other portable wireless computer with no other ty...	16	±23 0.5%
✓ Other computer	38	±30 1.2%
Other computer with no other type of computing device	0	±16 0.0%
No computer	47	±29 1.5%
✓ TYPE OF INTERNET SUBSCRIPTIONS		
✓ With an Internet subscription:	2,976	±194 97.1%
Dial-up with no other type of Internet subscription	13	±21 0.4%
✓ Broadband of any type	2,963	±193 96.6%

data.census.gov Demo

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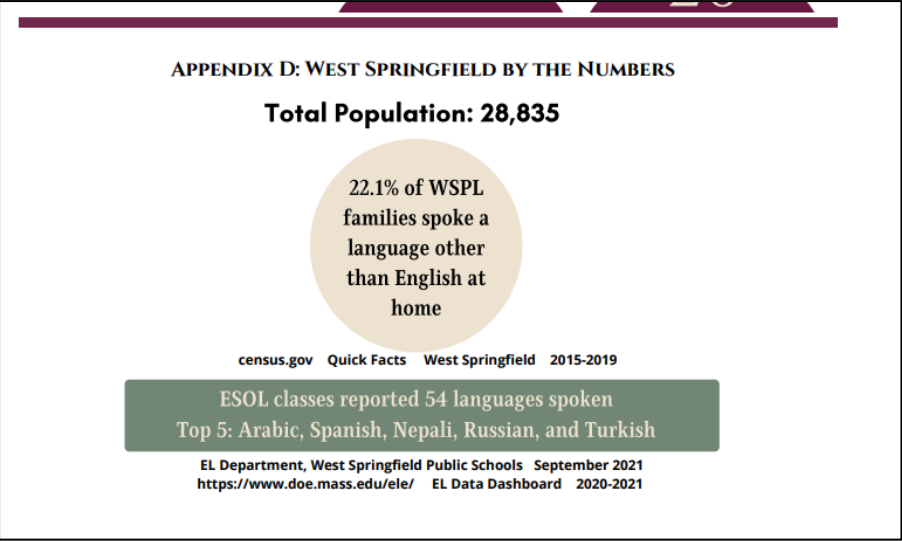
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Detailed Language Data

Some tables give data on language spoken at home, but what if we want more **detailed** languages?



Source: West Springfield Public Library Strategic Plan 2022-2027
https://guides.masslibsystem.org/ld.php?content_id=69993215

DP02 | Selected Social Characteristics in the United States

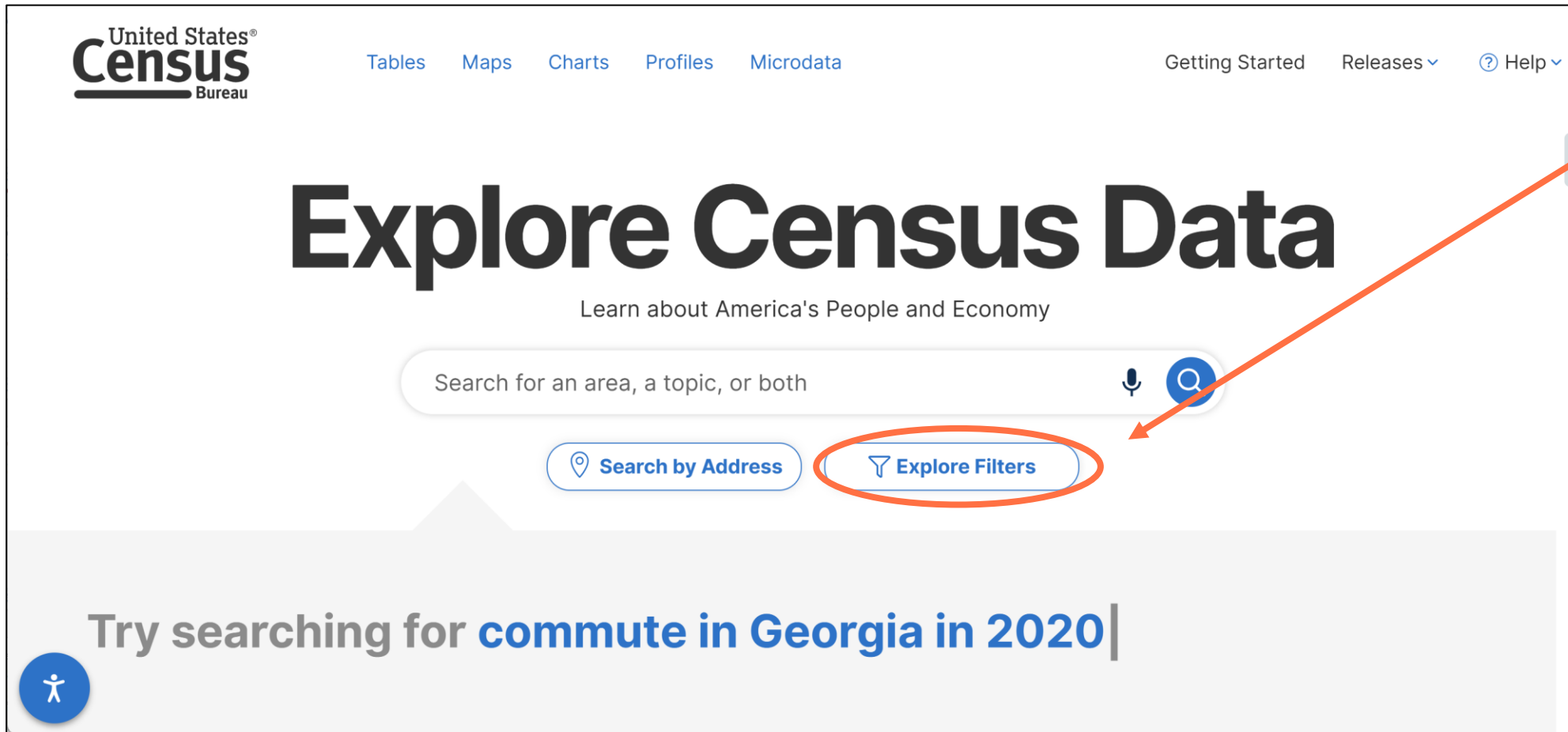
American Community Survey 2024: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

Notes Download Cite Share API Margin

View important guidance for comparing ACS data over time or to other sources [here](#).

Label	West Springfield Town city, Massachusetts	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
✓ LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME		
✓ Population 5 years and over	27,192	±368
English only	19,395	±1,265
✓ Language other than English	7,797	±1,261
Speak English less than "very well"	3,072	±589
✓ Spanish	2,494	±723
Speak English less than "very well"	820	±309
✓ Other Indo-European languages	3,419	±718
Speak English less than "very well"	1,435	±448
✓ Asian and Pacific Islander languages	894	±547
Speak English less than "very well"	471	±287
✓ Other languages	990	±840
Speak English less than "very well"	346	±249

Open the Filter Panel



- Select **Explore Filters** to open the filter panel

Select Place

- Click **Place**
- Click **Massachusetts**
- Select **West Springfield Town city, Massachusetts**

Bureau

AllTablesMapsChartsProfilesPages

0 Filters ?

Search for a filter

Geographies

Nation >

State >

County >

County Subdivision >

Place >

ZIP Code Tabulation Area >

Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Area >

Census Tract >

Block >

Block Group >

Massachusetts / Select Place

Within other geographies

West Springfield

☐ West Springfield CDP, Massachusetts

☐ West Springfield Town city, Massachusetts

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

O

P

Q

R

Select Topic and Search

- Under the “Topics” section, click **Populations and People**
- Click **Language Spoken at Home**
- Click **Search** in the bottom right corner

The screenshot shows the data.census.gov website interface. On the left sidebar, under the 'Topics' section, 'Populations and People' is highlighted with a red box. In the main content area, under 'Select Populations and People', the checkbox for 'Language Spoken at Home' is checked and highlighted with a red box. At the bottom right, the 'SEARCH' button is highlighted with a red box. An orange arrow points from the 'Search' instruction in the list to the 'SEARCH' button. The top navigation bar includes 'Bureau', 'All', 'Tables', 'Maps', 'Charts', 'Profiles', 'Pages', 'data.census.gov', 'Apps', and 'Help'. The left sidebar also includes 'Block Group', 'All Geographies', 'Topics', 'Education', 'Employment', 'Families and Living Arrangements', 'Health', 'Housing', 'Income and Poverty', 'Race and Ethnicity', 'Surveys', and 'Years'.

Select and view table

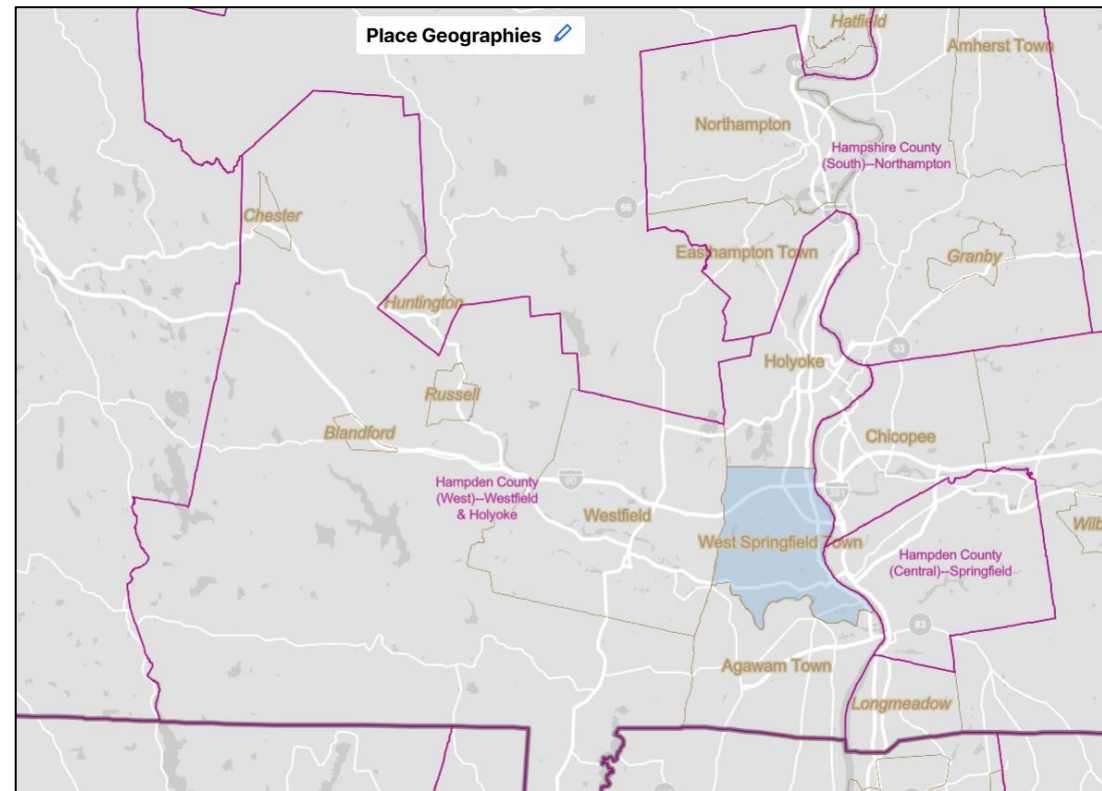
- Select table **B16002** from the list of results
- View the data on the table

The screenshot shows the Census Bureau's data portal. On the left, a list of 34 results is displayed. The result for **B16002** is highlighted with a red box. The main panel shows the detailed table for **B16002** for West Springfield Town city, Massachusetts. The table includes columns for Label, Estimate, and Margin of Error.

Label	West Springfield Town city, Massachusetts	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
✓ Total:	12,732	±511
English only	9,149	±690
✓ Spanish:	1,447	±303
Limited English speaking household	191	±142
Not a limited English speaking household	1,256	±286
✓ French, Haitian, or Cajun:	133	±79
Limited English speaking household	27	±33
Not a limited English speaking household	106	±71
✓ German or other West Germanic languages:	53	±45
Limited English speaking household	0	±25
Not a limited English speaking household	53	±45
✓ Russian, Polish, or other Slavic languages:	619	±209
Limited English speaking household	244	±135
Not a limited English speaking household	375	±167
✓ Other Indo-European languages:	637	±212
Limited English speaking household	79	±76
Not a limited English speaking household	558	±194
✓ Korean:	20	±31
Limited English speaking household	20	±31
Not a limited English speaking household	0	±25
✓ Chinese (incl. Mandarin, Cantonese):	49	±41

Additional detailed language data available in our Microdata Access Tool (MDAT)

- Create custom tables and access microdata at data.census.gov/app/mdat
- Lowest level geographies in MDAT are Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs) – geographies with at least 100,000 people



Additional detailed language data available in our Microdata Access Tool (MDAT)

- Create custom tables and access microdata at data.census.gov/app/mdat
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Dataset: ACS 5-Year Estimates Public Use Microdata Sample (2024)

< Custom Table

Columns

Selected Geographies

Rows

LANP

Not on Table

To restructure the table, drag and drop the variables into the desired location.

Select Cell Value Option

Count

Select Weight

Unweighted

Person weight

Housing Unit Weight

RESET WEIGHT

Language other than English spoken at home	Selected Geographies
	↓ Hampden County (West) -- Westfield & Holyoke PU...
Total	151,692
N/A (GQ/vacant)	118,889
Spanish	18,337
Russian	2,641
Arabic	1,527
Ukrainian	1,366
French	947
Nepali	918
Turkish	776
Romanian	590
Polish	556
Portuguese	425
German	401
Urdu	349
Gujarati	309
Vietnamese	308
Greek	304
Albanian	299
Italian	284
Also, Russian Turk	226

ON Show Totals

VIEW UNIVERSE

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Example MDAT table showing detailed languages:

<https://data.census.gov/app/mdat/ACSPUMS5Y2024/table?cv=u&cgid&rv=LANP&wt=PWGTP&g=OwTgrACgTADDCqBIKY4BYEYg>

- 127 Languages listed on this example MDAT table
- MDAT Guidance available here: <https://www.census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov/guidance-for-data-users/how-to-materials-for-using-the-microdata-access.html>

data.census.gov Demo

1. Single Searches for Library Strategic Plans

Example: Salt Lake City, Utah Geography Profile

Example: Salt Lake City, Utah American Community Survey Data Profiles

2. Comparing Across Geographies in a Table

Example: Telephone, Computer, and Internet Access in Putnam Township, Pinckney Village, and ZIP Code Tabulation Area 48169

3. Detailed Language Data

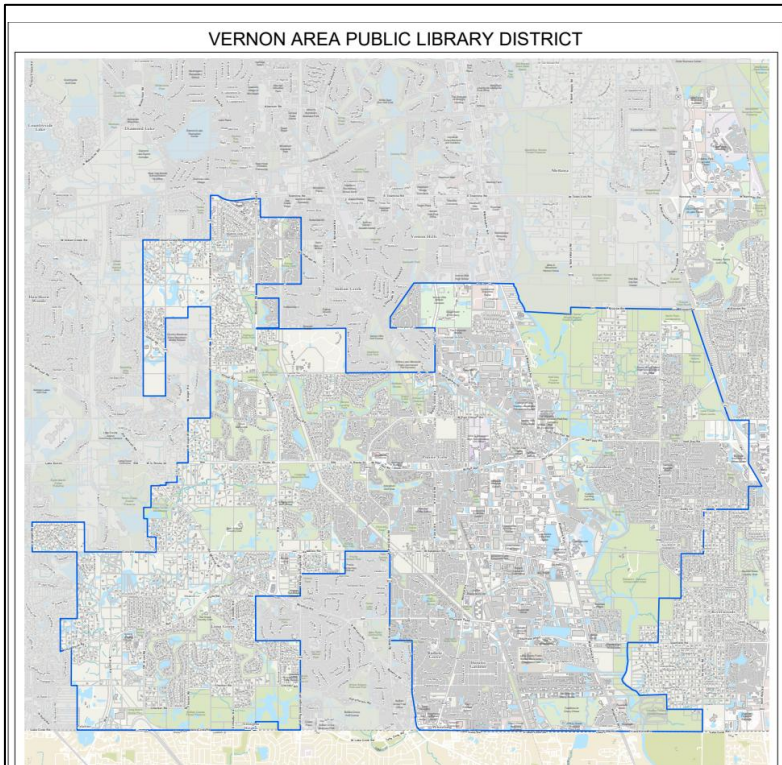
Example: Table B16002 for West Springfield Town, Massachusetts

4. Approximating a Library District through mapping

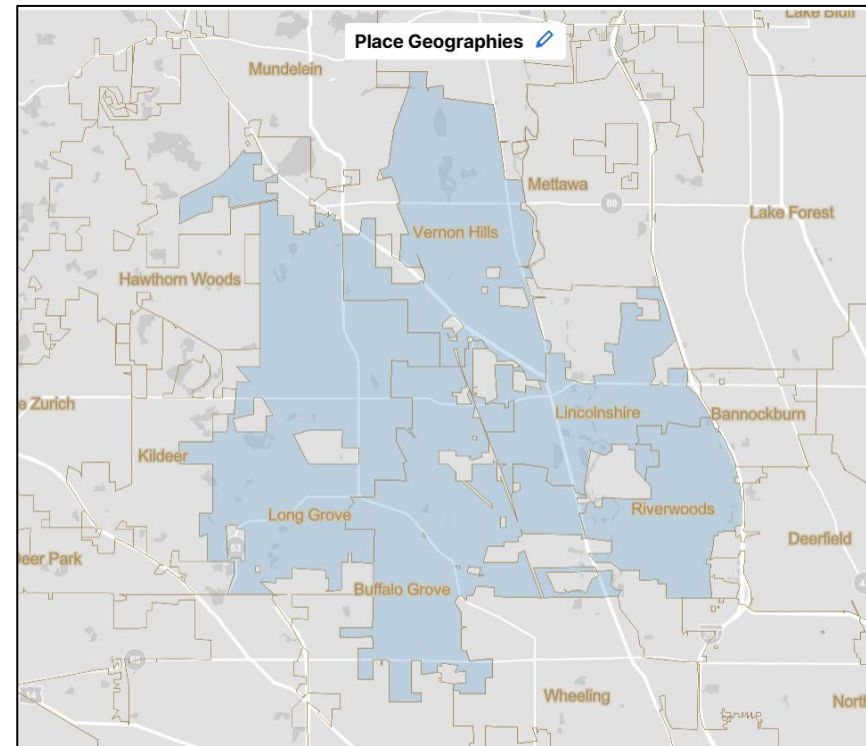
Example: Using Census Tracts and Block Groups to create custom maps

Library Districts

- Some library districts follow irregular boundaries that are difficult to obtain data for using Counties, Places, or County Subdivisions
- Census tracts, block groups, and blocks may help provide rough approximations of some library districts



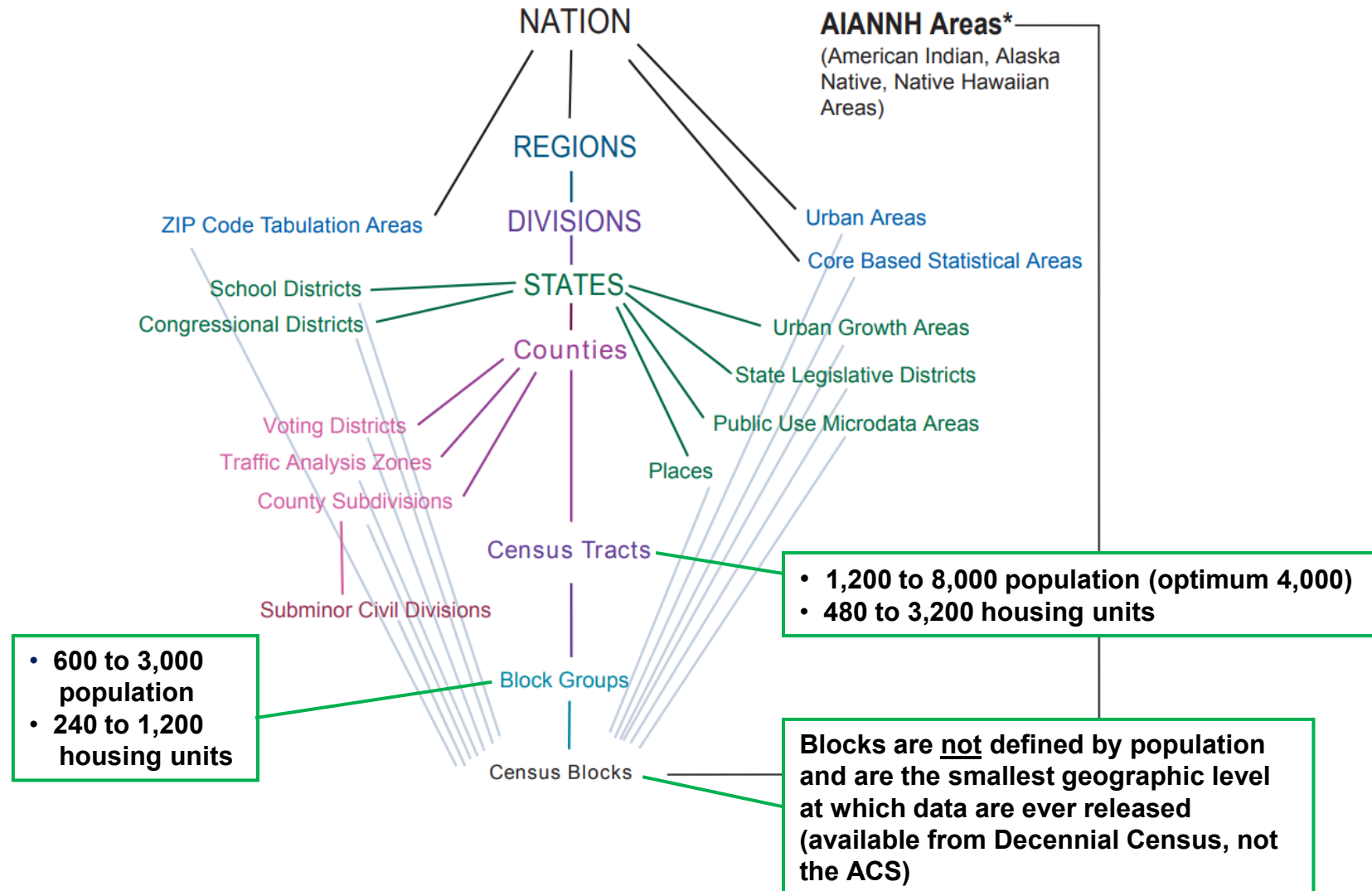
Source: Lake County GIS/Mapping Division
<https://maps.lakecountyil.gov/Output/DistrictMaps/libr/VernonAreaPublicLibraryDistrict.pdf>



From Vernon Area Public Library About Us Page (<https://www.vapld.info/about-us.html>):

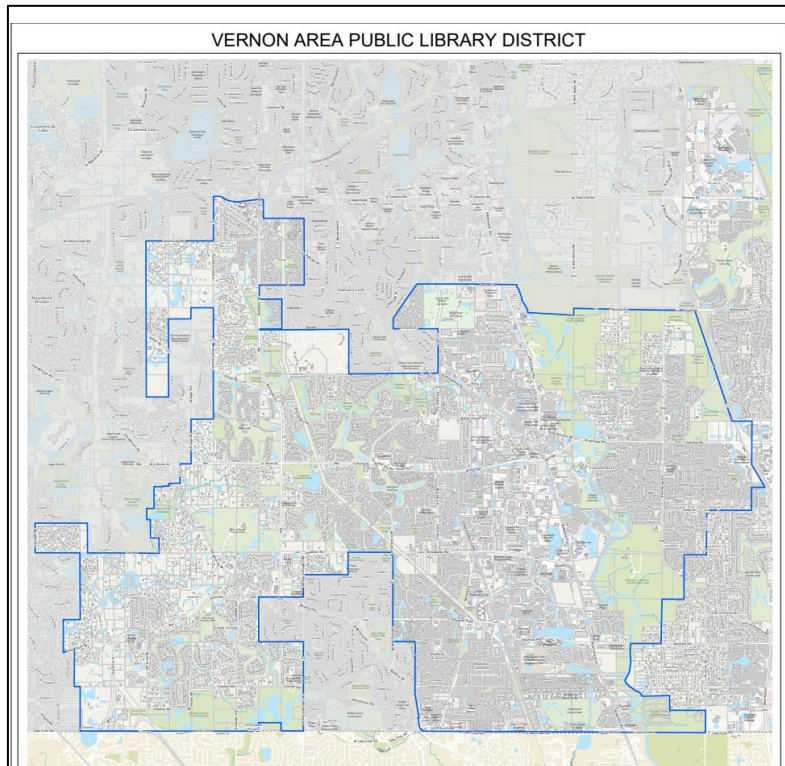
The Vernon Area Public Library directly serves the 44,000 residents of **Lincolnshire** and **unincorporated Prairie View**, most of **Long Grove**, portions of **Buffalo Grove**, **Riverwoods**, and **Vernon Hills** and the surrounding community.

Standard Hierarchy of Census Geographic Entities

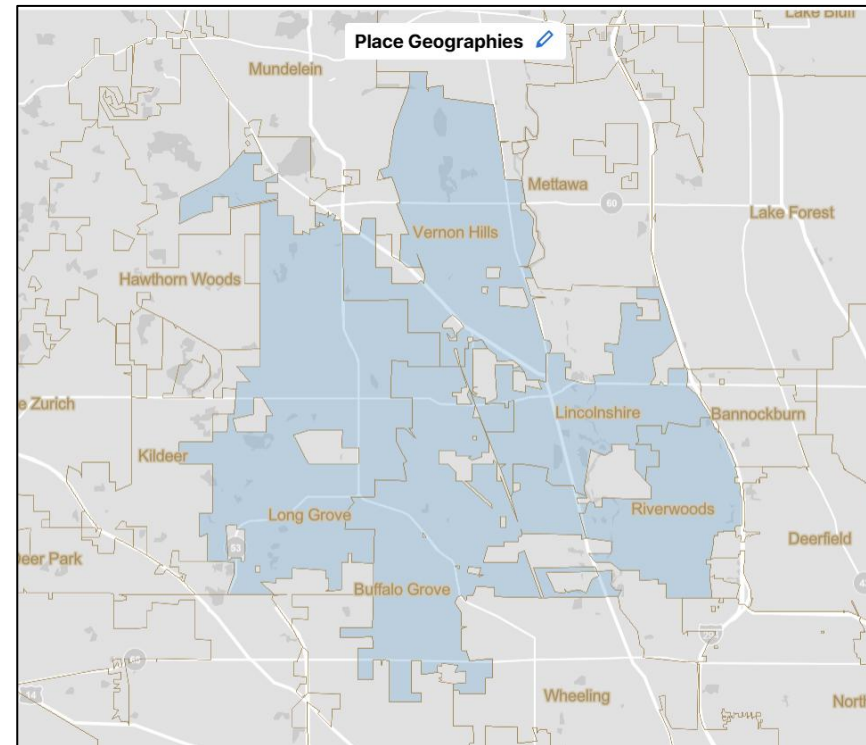


Library Districts

- Some library districts follow irregular boundaries that are difficult to obtain data for using Counties, Places, or County Subdivisions
- Census tracts, block groups, and blocks may help provide rough approximations of some library districts



Source: Lake County GIS/Mapping Division
<https://maps.lakecountyil.gov/Output/DistrictMaps/libr/VernonAreaPublicLibraryDistrict.pdf>



From Vernon Area Public Library About Us Page (<https://www.vapld.info/about-us.html>):

The Vernon Area Public Library directly serves the 44,000 residents of **Lincolnshire** and **unincorporated Prairie View**, most of **Long Grove**, portions of **Buffalo Grove**, **Riverwoods**, and **Vernon Hills** and the surrounding community.

Search by Address

- Click the **Search by Address** button
- Complete fields for **300 Olde Half Day Rd, Lincolnshire, IL 60069**
- Click **Search**

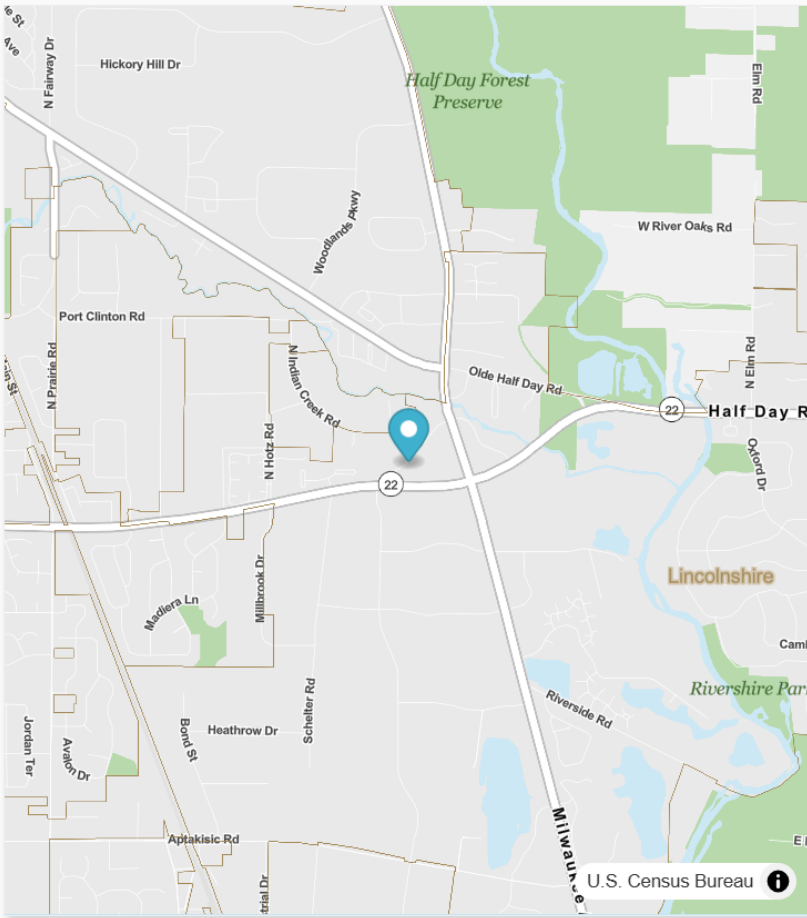
The main interface shows the United States Census Bureau logo, navigation links (Tables, Maps, Charts, Profiles, Microdata), and a search bar with the placeholder text "Search for an area, a topic, or both". Below the search bar is a button labeled "Search by Address".

The inset modal titled "Search by entering a street address, and either a city and state or a ZIP code." contains the following fields:

- * Street Address**: A text input field containing "300 Olde Half Day Rd".
- * Choose one option:**
 - City and State**: Two stacked text input fields. The first contains "Lincolnshire" and the second contains "IL".
 - OR**: A separator.
 - ZIP Code**: A text input field containing "ZIP".
- SEARCH**: A blue button at the bottom right.

View Address Search Results and Select Geography

- View a list of different types of geographic areas the address falls within
- Click a geography to select it, such as **Census Tract 54.03**



300 OLDE HALF DAY RD, LINCOLNSHIRE, IL, 60069

State: [Illinois](#)
County: [Lake County](#)
County Subdivision: [Vernon township](#)
Block: [Block 1057](#)
Census Tract: [Census Tract 8645.14](#)
Block Group: [Block Group 1](#)
Place: [Lincolnshire village](#)
Combined Statistical Area: [Chicago-Naperville, IL-IN-WI CSA](#)
Urban Area: [Chicago, IL--IN Urban Area](#)
Congressional District: [Congressional District 10](#)
State Legislative District (Upper Chamber): [State Senate District 30](#)
State Legislative District (Lower Chamber): [State House District 59](#)
ZIP Code Tabulation Area: [ZCTA5 60069](#)
School District (Elementary): [Lincolnshire-Prairieview School District 103](#)
School District (Secondary): [Adlai E. Stevenson High School District 125](#)

U.S. Census Bureau

Choose a table to view data for on the Map

- From the list of results, find a table and click the **Map** button

The screenshot shows a web interface for viewing census data. At the top, there are tabs: **All** (selected), Tables, Maps, Charts, Profiles, and Pages. The main heading reads "Total Population in Census Tract 8645.14; Lake County; Illinois is **2,653**", with "2020 Decennial Census" below it. A blue button "View This Result" with a right arrow is on the right. Below this, it says "2,810 Datasets, 32 Profiles" and "View: 10 | 25 | 50".

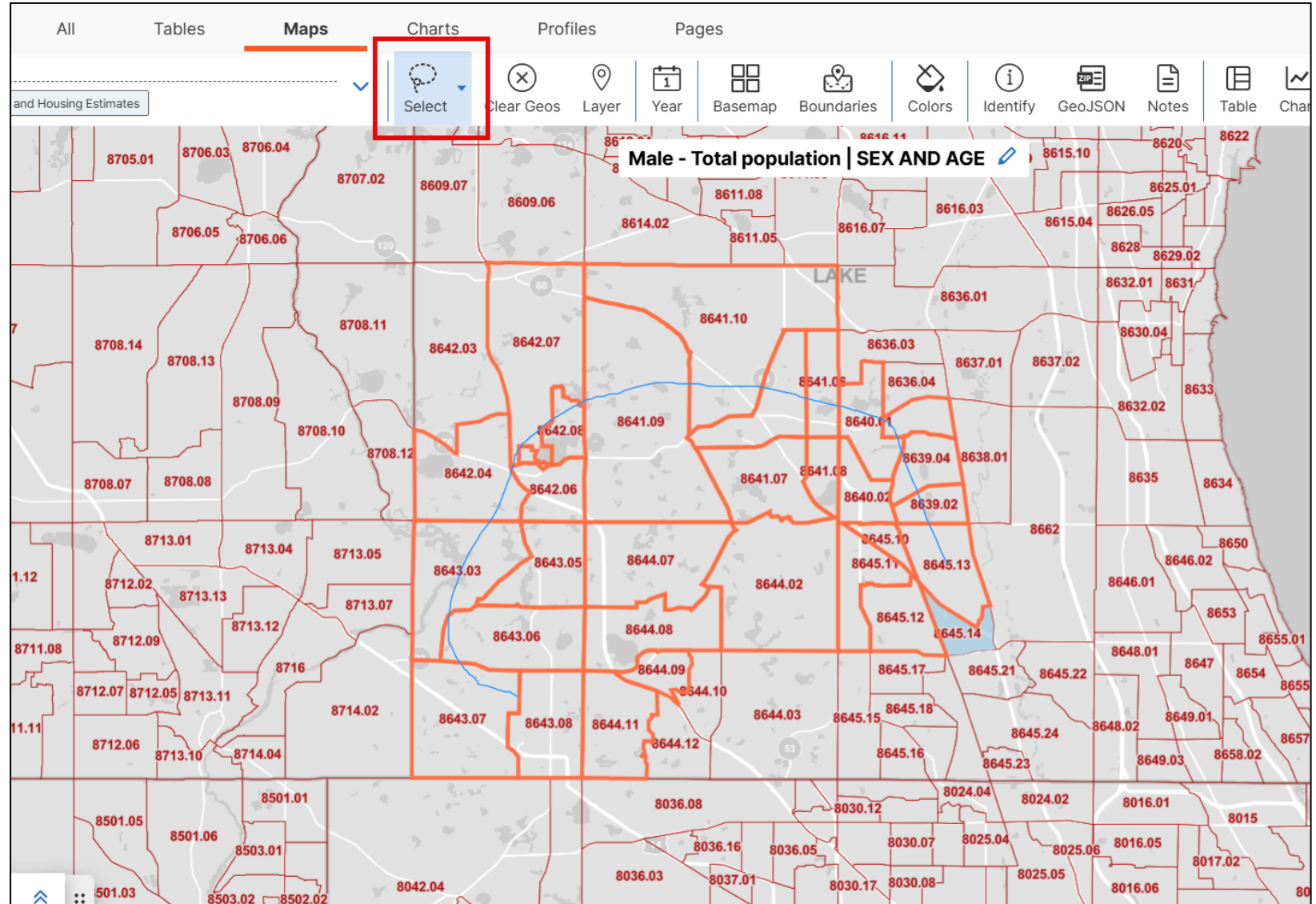
The "Data" section lists three items:

- Decennial Census**
P1 | RACE
+ View All 4 Products
Buttons: Table, Map, Chart
- American Community Survey**
DP05 | ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates
+ View All 16 Products
Buttons: Table, Map, Chart
- American Community Survey**
S0101 | Age and Sex
+ View All 15 Products
Buttons: Table, Map, Chart

The "Map" button for the American Community Survey (DP05) is highlighted with a red rectangle.

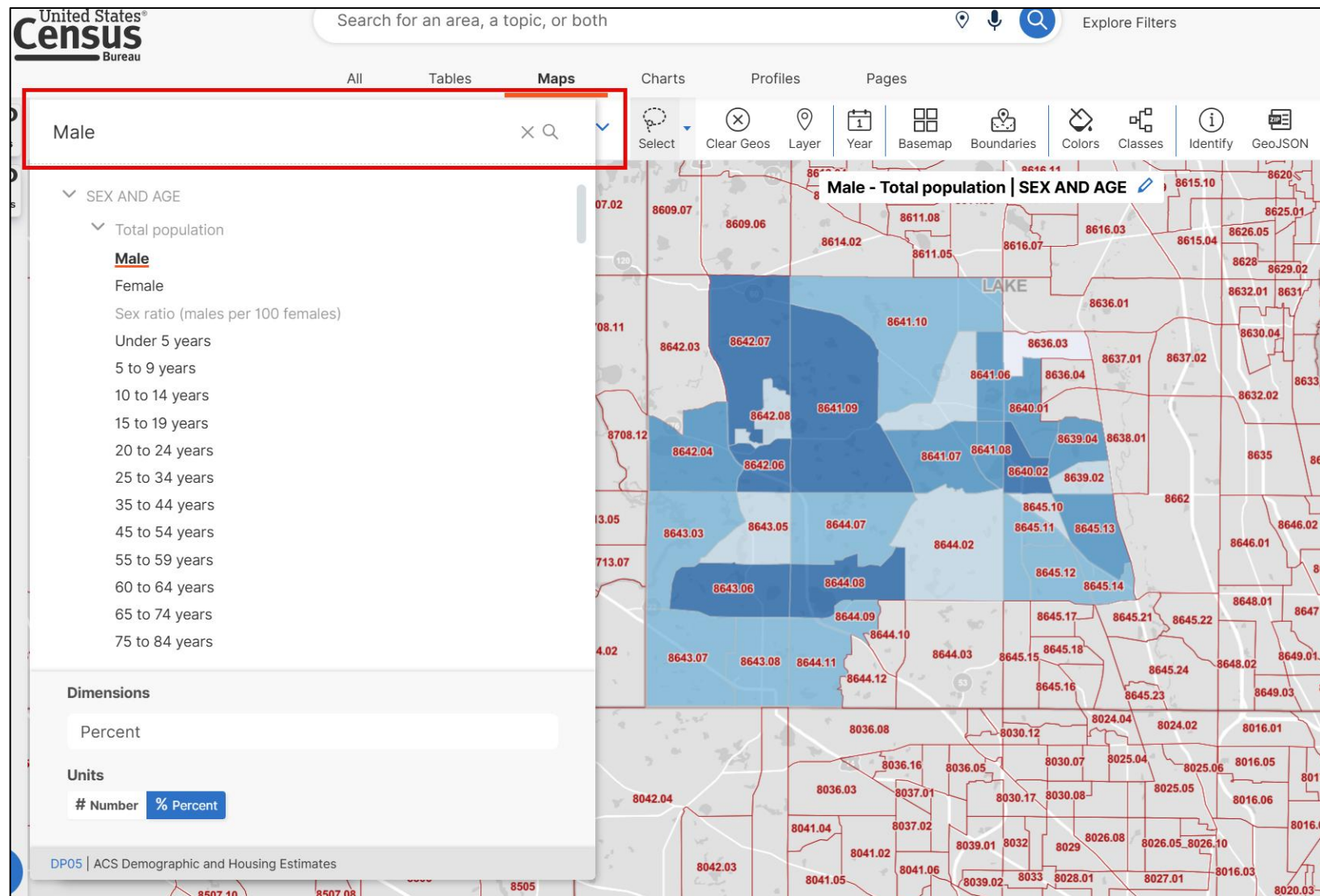
Census Tract: Draw your boundaries

- Click the **Select** tool at the top of the map
- Draw your boundaries using the Select tool



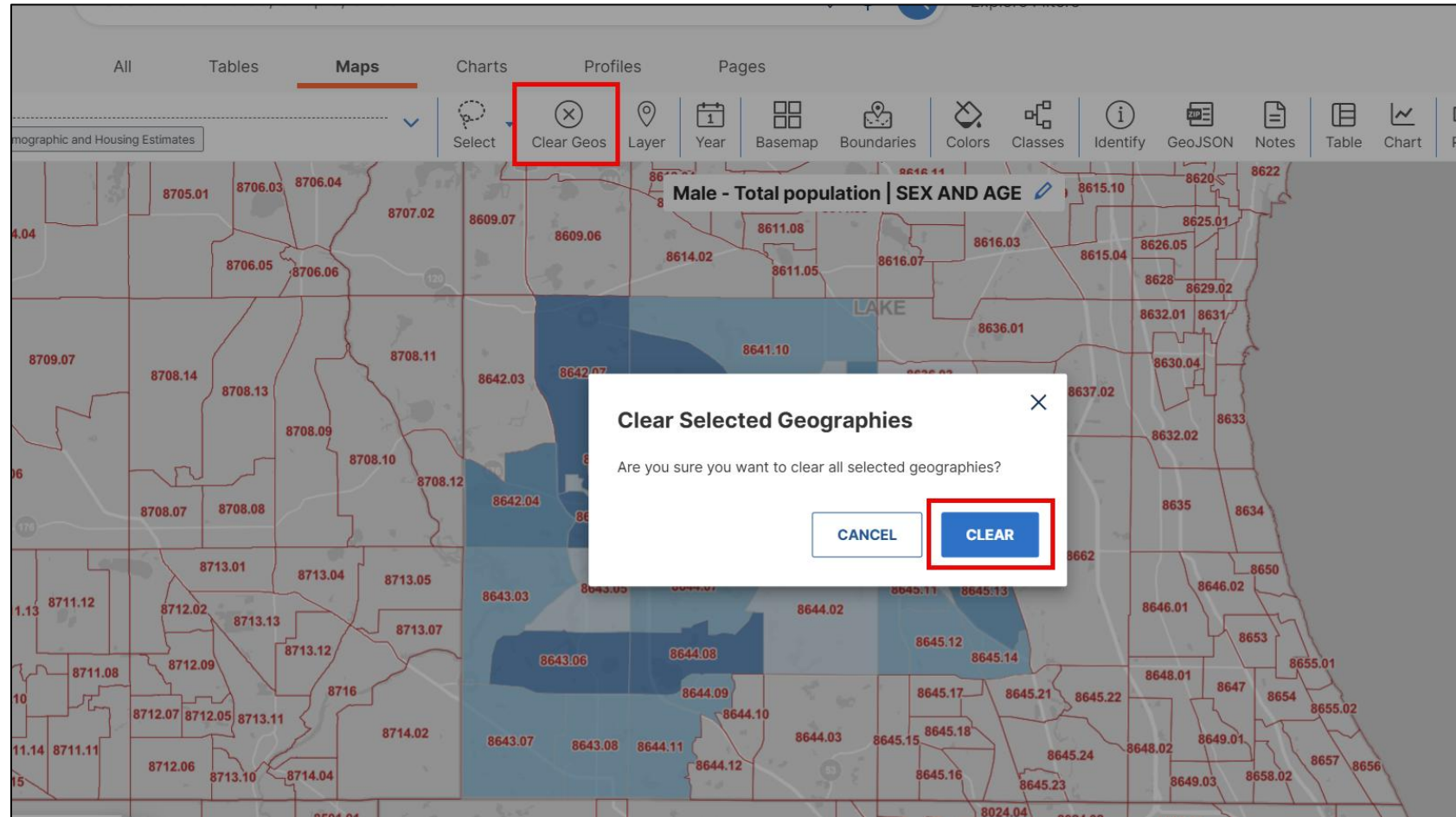
Census Tract: Change data variables

- Click the drop-down menu at the top of the map to switch between different data variables
- The data variables from this drop-down menu are based on what table you are using to map the data



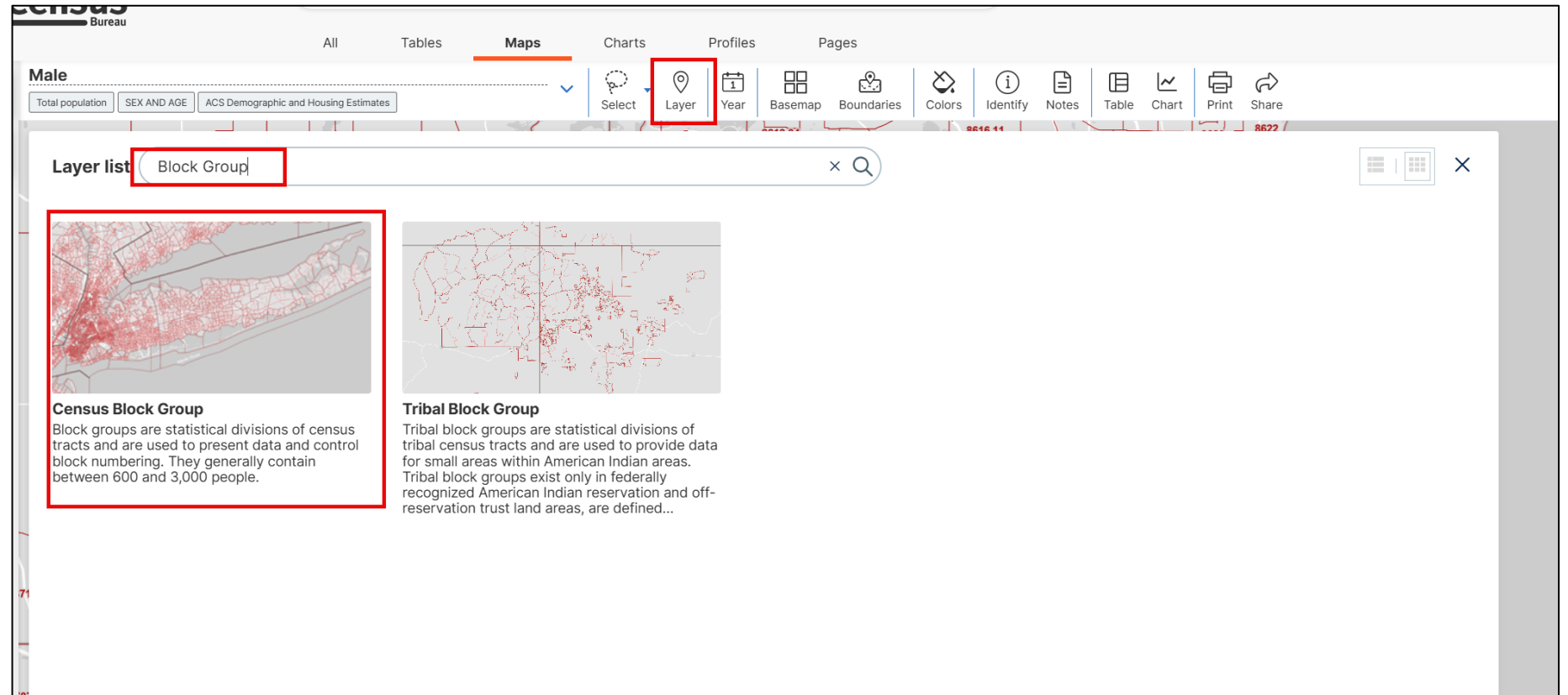
Block Group: Clear geographies and change layer

- If you're going to switch to a different layer (like Block Group), click **Clear Geos** to remove your current geographies



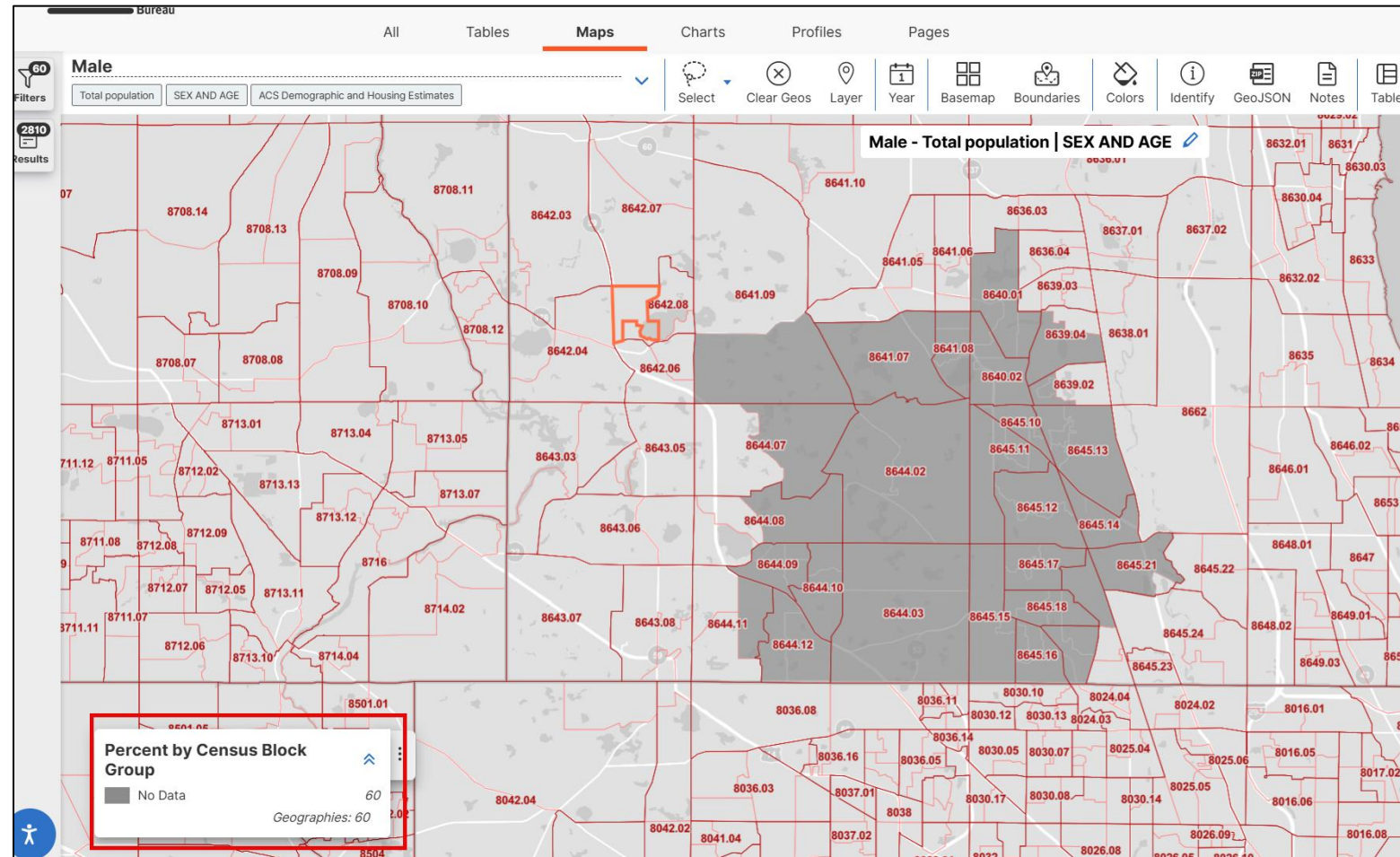
Block Group: Clear geographies and change layer

- Click **Layer**
- Select **Block Group**



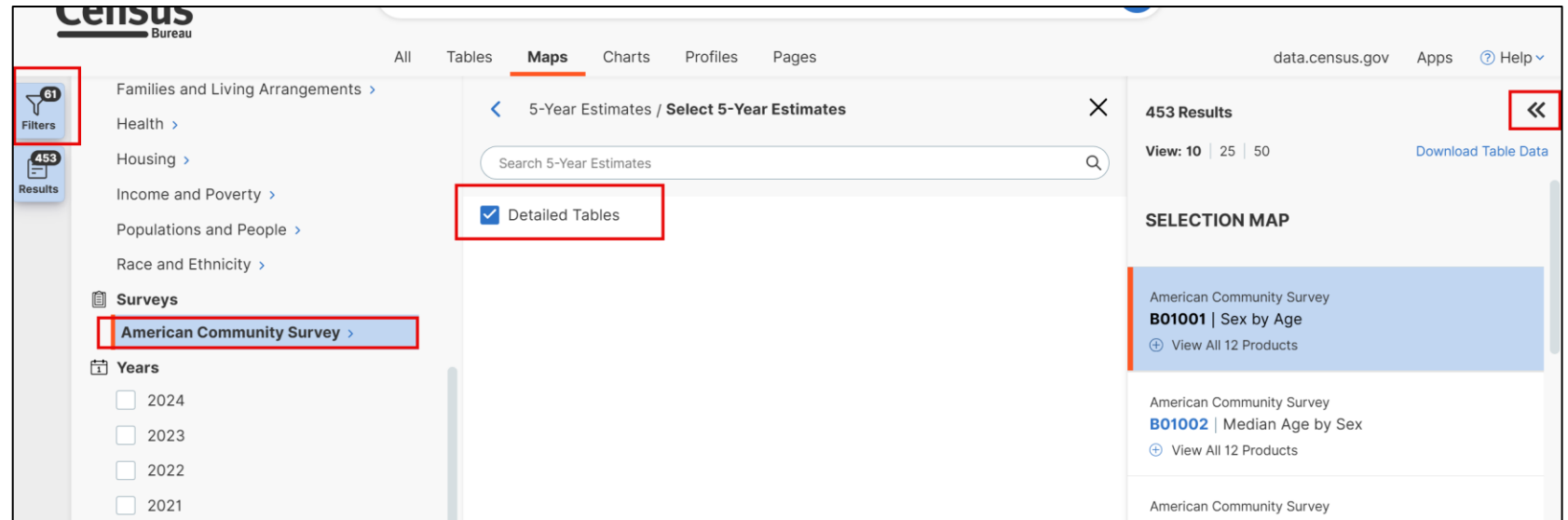
Block Group: Verify data is available

- If you were using a table that is not available at the Block Group level (such as table DP05), you may notice that no data is available
- You will need to switch to a different table that has Block Group data available



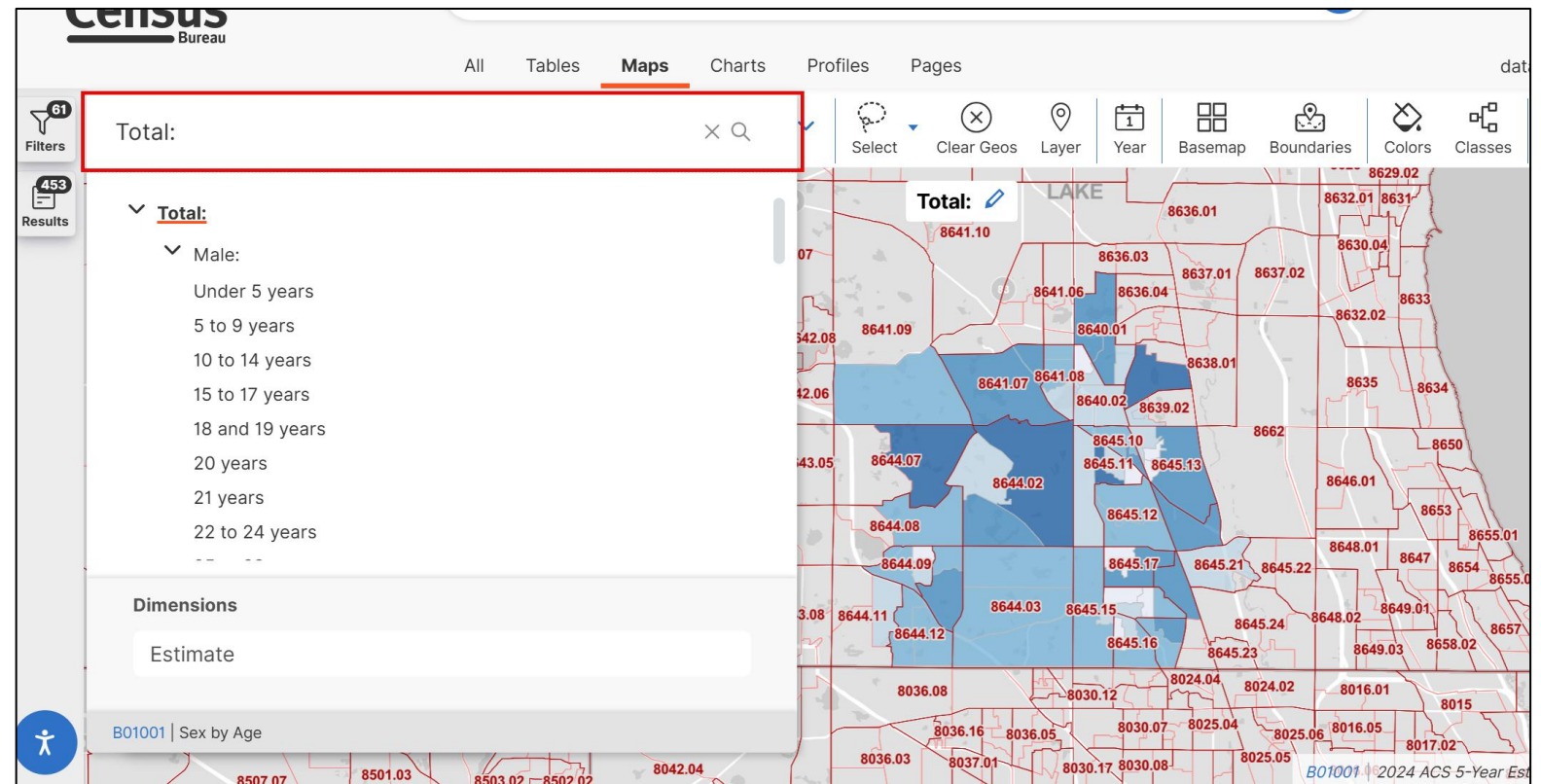
Block Group: Select survey and change table

- In the ACS, Block Group data is only available from **Detailed Tables**
- To ensure your table is compatible with block group data, from the filter panel select **Surveys > American Community Survey > 5-Year Estimates > Detailed Tables**
- Click << to return to the map



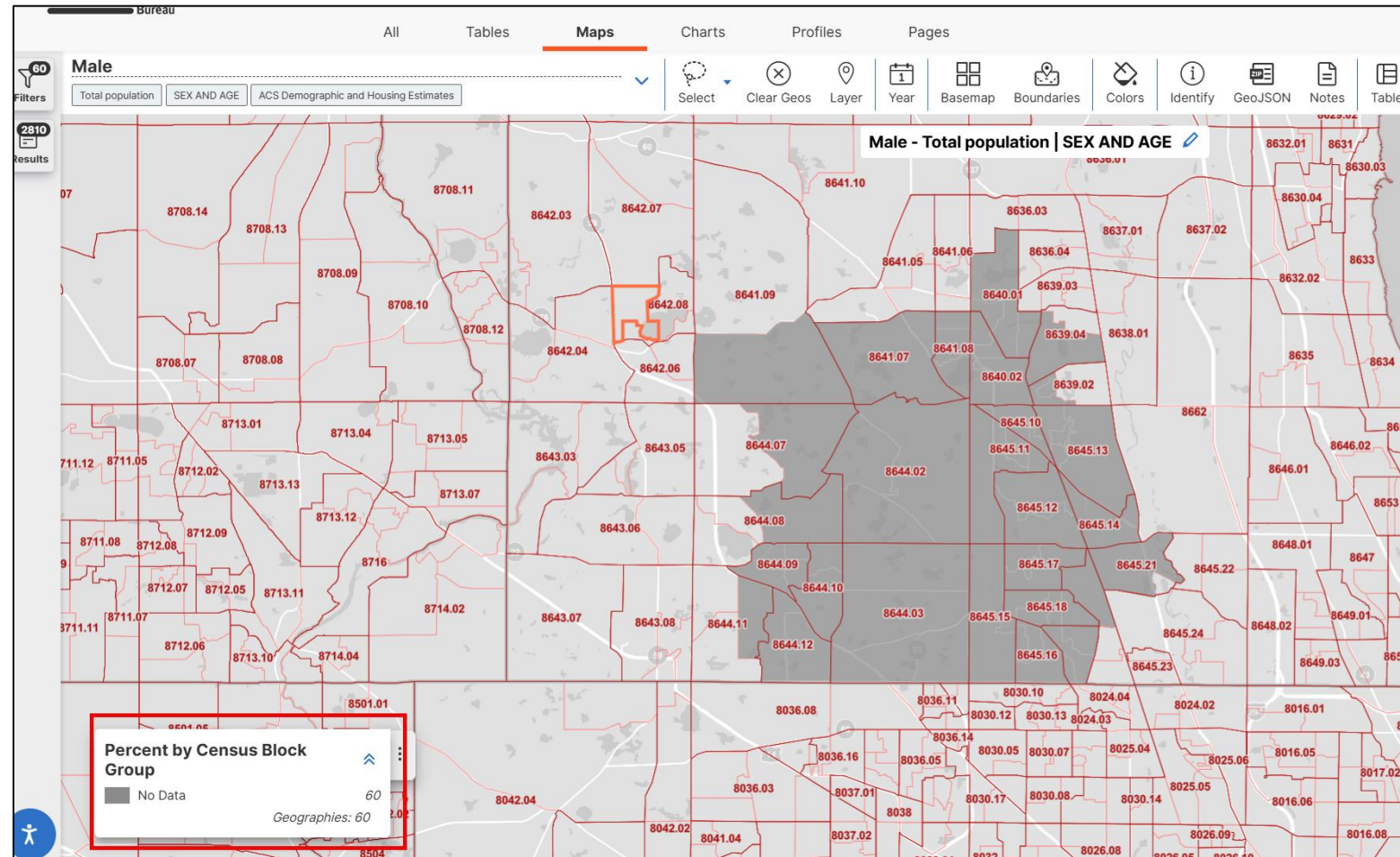
Block Group: Change data variables

- Click the drop-down menu at the top of the map to switch between different data variables
- The data variables from this drop-down menu are based on what table you are using to map the data. After applying the Detailed Tables filter, we are now looking at table B01001



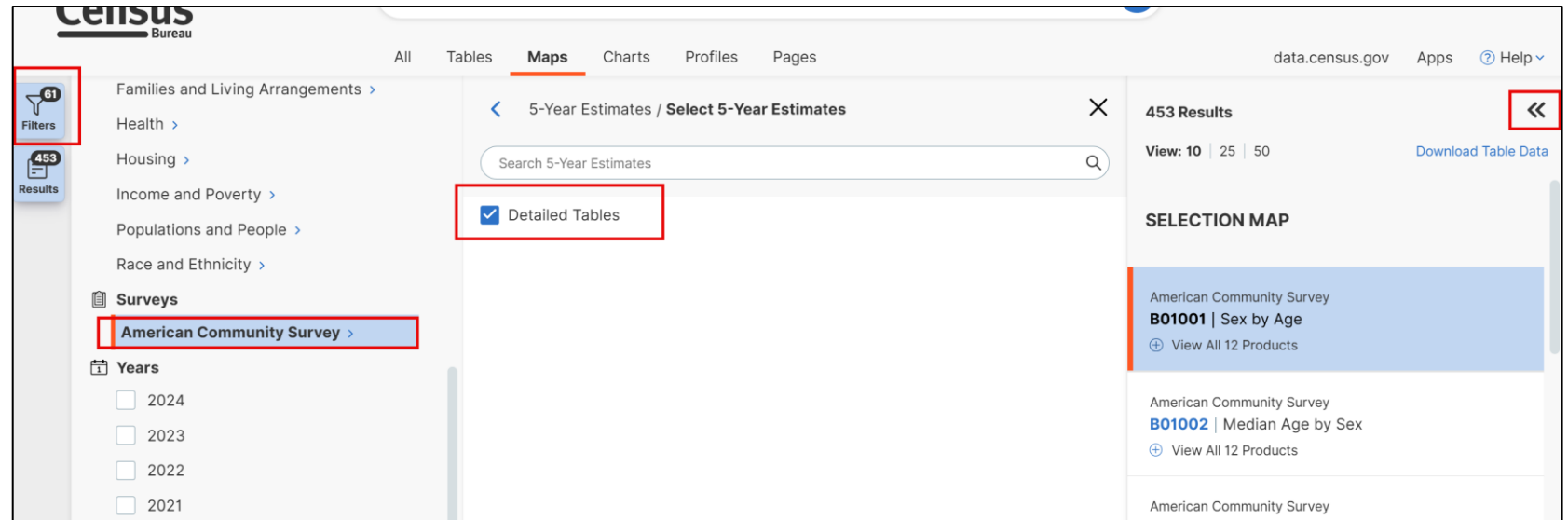
Block Group: Verify data is available

- If you were using a table that is not available at the Block Group level (such as table DP05), you may notice that no data is available
- You will need to switch to a different table that has Block Group data available



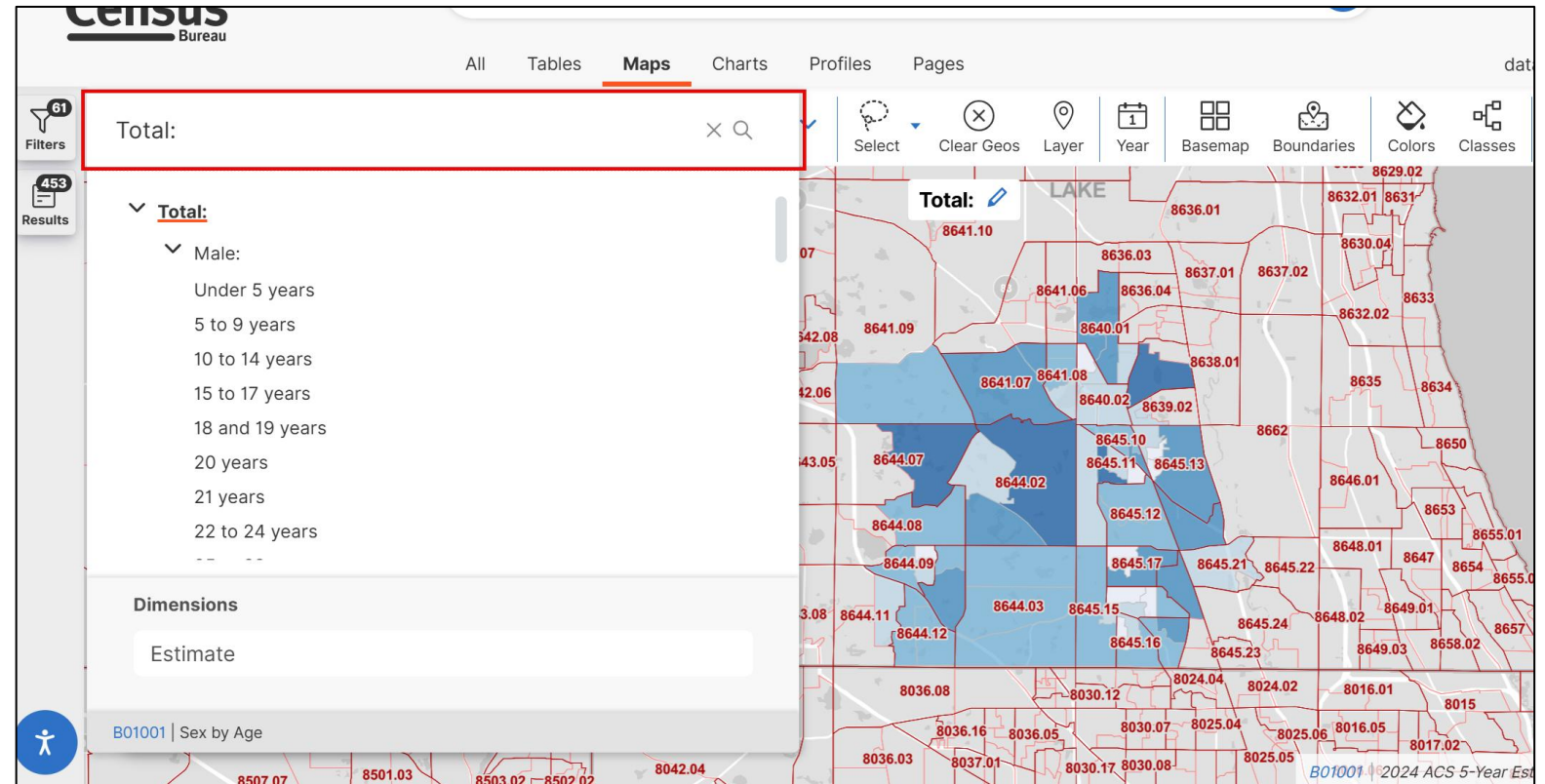
Block Group: Select survey and change table

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- Click << to return to the map



Block Group: Change data variables

- Click the drop-down menu at the top of the map to switch between different data variables
- The data variables from this drop-down menu are based on what table you are using to map the data. After applying the Detailed Tables filter, we are now looking at table B01001





Resources

Stay Connected

Sam Patton

Dissemination Outreach Branch

samuel.j.patton@census.gov

data.census.gov Resources

page:

census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov.html

Feedback: Email comments to

census.data@census.gov

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Upcoming Webinar

Title: What is the Microdata Access Tool? Building Tables Using MDAT in

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Building a Custom Table Using Microdata Access (MDAT)

Watch this video to learn how to use Microdata Access (MDAT) through data.census.gov.

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What's New?

Data.census.gov Newsletter: March 2023

In February, we launched a newly updated data.census.gov Resource site. With this update, data users can easily navigate the site, and find how-to materials.

Latest System Updates

Learn about the latest system updates, data releases, and educational opportunities for data.census.gov.

Upcoming Webinar

What is the Microdata Access Tool? Building Tables Using MDAT in

Latest System Updates

Learn about the latest system updates, data releases, and educational opportunities for data.census.gov.

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- ☐ Census Data API
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Select your state: *

Maryland

☒ By checking this box, you consent to our [data privacy policy](#). *

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Data.census.gov Newsletter – February 2026



What's New?

Discover the redesigned data.census.gov landing page, featuring more intuitive navigation and easier access to helpful content.

- Our refreshed landing page has been updated based on years of feedback from data users. For a walkthrough of these improvements, check out our new [video tutorial](#). Updates include:
 - New 'Search by Address' button, providing an intuitive way to open the address search functionality.
 - Re-titled 'Explore Filters' button. Previously called 'Advanced Search,' this new label provides a more accurate description.
 - Reorganization of navigation links:

Featured Videos



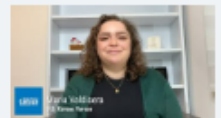
[Navigating the Refreshed Home Page on data.census.gov](#)

Discover the latest updates to data.census.gov, the Census Bureau's primary data search platform.



[Getting Started with Your Search on data.census.gov](#)

This video is the perfect starting point for newcomers to data.census.gov.



Hands-On Practice!



data.census.gov Workshops

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These participatory classes walk you through examples of using data.census.gov to find demographic and economic data. Time is allotted throughout the training for questions, and participation is strongly encouraged.

- Please click the box below to view available classes.
- Registration is required to attend these workshops. Attendance is limited to 50 participants per session.

***When registering, if you receive a message that you are waitlisted, please sign up for later class. We are trying to move classes to Waitlist as they fill, but sometimes there is a lag in that update.

Basics of Finding Data Using data.census.gov

In these participatory classes, data.census.gov outreach staff walk you through examples that cover basics and advanced of using data.census.gov to find data.

Advanced Usage of data.census.gov

These participatory classes walk you through some of the more advanced ways to use data.census.gov to find demographic and economic data.

Making the Most of Mapping in data.census.gov

Join us in this participatory class as we look at mapping capabilities in data.census.gov.

Basics of Using the Microdata Access Tool in data.census.gov

Join us for a participatory class that walks you through the Microdata Access Tool (MDAT) within data.census.gov.

Basics of Using the Census API

Join us in this hands-on class as we learn how to access data through the Census Data Application Programming Interface (API).

Data.census.gov Geography Essentials for Beginners

This introductory workshop is geared towards data users who want to master the fundamentals of census geographies.

Finding American Community Survey Data

In this participatory class, our staff will walk you through various ways of accessing data from the ACS via three of our data tools.

Finding Economic Data on data.census.gov and the API

This workshop is geared towards intermediate/advanced data.census.gov users who want to learn how to access economic datasets on data.census.gov and the API.

Help Us Improve data.census.gov



Join our Usability Testing!

We would love to hear from novice and expert users who meet either of the following criteria:

- Experience, currently or in the past, using or analyzing data
- Use data from data.census.gov or other statistical sites

If you or someone you know would be interested in participating in this 60-minute study virtually through Microsoft Teams, sign up here: https://answer.census.gov/jfe/form/SV_cJd3MByY8RFFaQu

For more information: <https://www.census.gov/data/what-is-data-census-gov/data-census-gov-usability-testing.html>

Questions? Feel free to contact ced.cedsci.usability.list@census.gov.





Q&A

Feedback and additional questions:
census.data@census.gov