American FactFinder Library Session

- http://factfinder.census.gov
- Use the quote marks for phrase searching "xxx xxx"

Goals for this Library Session
- Able to navigate the website in order to generate reports and find help
- Able to find tract/block numbers for an address
- Able to produce general demographic & social reports for a city
- Able to use the Guided search process to create a statistical report
- Able to use the Advanced search process to create a statistical report

Outline for the Library Session
- InsideBrown → Departments → Library → Resources → Databases → American FactFinder

1. Show the Screen
   - FAQ, Glossary, Help
   - Main, Community Facts, Guided Search, Advanced Search
   - Download, Language, What We Provide (more), Address Search

2. Overview of the Census 2010
   - snapshot in time, highly accurate
   - limited data, only around 10 questions
   - good for demographics, housing, and household information
   - some information at the block level depending on population size

3. Overview of the American Community Survey
   - sample, so less accurate - margin of error
   - more social data, around 27 categories
   - good for educational and social information
   - some information at the census tract level depending on population size

4. Practice question 1, Address search

5. Practice question 2, Community facts

6. Practice question 3, Guided search

7. Practice question 4, Advanced search

8. Review and Questions
Surveys Included in the American FactFinder (AFF) Database

I. DECENNIAL CENSUS  [every 10 years]
Collects data every 10 years about age, sex, race, housing units and more for the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. Most Census data are available for many levels of geography, including states, counties, cities and towns, ZIP code tabulation areas, census tracts, blocks, and more. Only the current and the most recent previous censuses are available on American FactFinder.

For the 2000 Census, additional questions were asked of a sample of persons and housing units (generally 1 in 6 households) on topics such as income, education, place of birth and more (known as the Long Form). The 2010 census did not have a Long Form. Instead, the information on those topics is now available as part of the American Community Survey.

The results from the 2010 Census are available in a number of datasets in American FactFinder:

- **Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File** - used for congressional and state redistricting. Block level.

- **Demographic Profile** - basic population and housing unit counts and characteristics. Census Tract level.

- **Summary File 1 (SF 1)** - 333 detailed tables providing data on age, sex, households, families, relationship to householder, housing units, broad race and Hispanic or Latino origin groups, and the population in group quarters. Block level.

- **Summary File 2 (SF 2)** - 71 tables providing population and housing characteristics iterated for up to 330 detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes/tribal groupings, subject to a population threshold (usually at least 100 people with that characteristic in the specified area). Census Tract level.

- **American Indian and Alaska Native Summary File (AIANSF)** - 71 tables providing population and housing characteristics population and housing characteristics iterated for 1,570 American Indian and Alaska Native tribes/tribal groupings, subject to a population threshold (usually at least 100 people with that characteristic in the specified area). Census Tract level.

Abbreviations related to the census tables: DP = demographic profile, G = geographic, H = housing, P = population, QT = quick table
Overview of the Questions on the 2010 Decennial Census

1. How many people live in the residence on April 1?
2. Any additional people that you didn't count in question 1?
3. Is the residence owned with a mortgage/loan; owned free and clear; rented; occupied without payment/rent?
4. What is your telephone number?
5. Name of person A?
6. Sex of person A?
7. Age and date of birth of person A?
8. Is person A of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin? no; yes Mexican, Mexican-American, Chicano; yes Puerto Rican; yes Cuban; Yes other--print the origin.
9. What is the race of person A? White; Black, African-American; American Indian, Alaska Native--write tribal affiliation; Asian Indian; Chinese; Filipino; Japanese; Korean; Vietnamese; Native Hawaiian; Guamanian, Chamorro; Samoan; Other Asian--print race; Other Pacific Islander-- print race; Some other race--print race.
10. Does person A sometimes live somewhere else? no; yes (mark all that apply) college housing; yes in the military; yes at a seasonal/second residence; yes for child custody; yes in jail/prison; yes in a nursing home; yes for another reason.
11. How is person B related to person A? husband/wife; biological son/daughter; adopted son/daughter; stepson/stepdaughter; brother/sister; father/mother; grandchild; parent-in-law; son-in-law/daughter-in-law; other relative; roomer/boarder; housemate/roommate; unmarried partner; other nonrelative.

II. AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) [every year]
The ACS collects information such as age, race, income, commute time to work, home value, veteran status, and other important data. The ACS collects and produces population and housing information every year. About 3.5 million housing unit addresses are selected annually, across every county in the nation.

In 2006, the ACS sample was expanded to include the population living in group quarters. Group quarters include nursing homes, correctional facilities, military barracks, and college/university housing among others. In 2012, some ZIP code availability.

*Single-Year Estimates*
The ACS produces 1-year estimates annually for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more. This includes the nation, all states and the District of Columbia, all congressional districts, approximately 800
counties, and 500 metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, among others. Some county level data depending on population size.

**Three-Year Estimates**
The ACS produces 3-year estimates annually for geographic areas with a population of 20,000 or more, including the nation, all states and the District of Columbia, all congressional districts, approximately 1,800 counties, and 900 metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, among others. Much county level data depending on population size.

**Five-Year Estimates**
In 2010, the Census Bureau released the first 5-year estimates for small areas. These 5-year estimates are based on ACS data collected from 2005 through 2009. Census Tract level.

Abbreviations related to the American Community Survey: B = base detailed table, C = collapsed version of the base table (less detail), DP = data profile, GCT = geographic comparison table, S = select population profile or a subject table

Table number categories for primary topics in the American Community Survey:

01 = age and sex, 02 = race, 03 = Hispanic/Latino origin, 04 = ancestry, 05 = foreign born/citizenship, 06 = place of birth, 07 = residence/mobility, 08 = commuting to work, 09 = children and household relationships, 10 = grandparents and grandchildren, 11 = family types and households, 12 = marital status/marriage length, # of times married, 13 = fertility, 14 = school enrollment, 15 = educational attainment, 16 = language spoken at home, 17 = poverty/public assistance/welfare, 18 = disability/SSI, 19 = income for households and families, 20 = income for individuals, 21 = veteran status, 22 = food stamps, 23 = employment/unemployment, 24 = industry and occupation, 25 = housing characteristics/mortgage characteristics/home costs/computer ownership/# of cars, 26 = group quarters, 27 = health insurance

III. AMERICAN HOUSING SURVEY (AHS) [every 2 years]
Is a longitudinal housing unit survey conducted biennially in odd-numbered years. It provides current information on a wide range of housing subjects, including size and composition of the nation’s housing inventory, vacancies, physical condition of housing units, characteristics of occupants, indicators of housing and neighborhood quality, mortgages and other housing costs, persons eligible for and beneficiaries of assisted housing, home values, and characteristics of recent movers.
A housing unit is a house, apartment, manufactured/mobile home, group of rooms, or even a single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. AHS is published for the United States and 29 metro areas, referred to as AHS Areas in the American Factfinder.

IV. ECONOMIC CENSUS  [every 5 years]
Profiles the U.S. economy every 5 years (in years ending in 2 and 7), from the national to the local level and by detailed industry and business classification. Measures business activity during the calendar year for companies with one or more paid employees. Nonprofit organizations, including nonprofit educational organizations, are included in the Economic Census.

Economic Census statistics are collected and published primarily by "establishment." An establishment is a business or industrial unit at a single physical location that produces or distributes goods or performs services. Many companies own or control more than one establishment.

Presents statistics for the nation, states, metropolitan areas, counties, economic places, and ZIP Codes (coverage varies from sector to sector). There are fewer statistics and less detailed classifications for smaller areas (to avoid disclosing information about individual firms).

Publishes data primarily on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) basis. Since NAICS changes every 5 years, users should review the impact of the changes before making year-to-year comparisons.

V. ANNUAL ECONOMIC SURVEYS (ASM, CBP, ZBP, NES)  [every year]

**Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM)**
This survey provides sample estimates of statistics for commercial manufacturing establishments with paid employees. Data are not published for years in which an Economic Census is conducted (years ending in 2 and 7). Data published include employment, payroll, number of establishments, cost of materials, value of shipments, inventories, and detailed capital expenditures. ASM data are available in three major datasets: Statistics for Industry Groups and Industries, Value of Product Shipments, and Geographic Area Statistics. State level.

**County Business Patterns (CBP) and ZIP Code Business Patterns (ZBP)**
This series provides economic data by industry at various geographic levels (U.S., state, county, metro area and ZIP code).
Patterns data are derived from the Census Bureau's Business Register.

CBP provides data on the total number of establishments, mid-March employment, first quarter and annual payroll, and number of establishments by nine employment-size classes. The data are detailed by industry for the United States, states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, metro areas, and for counties and county equivalents.

ZBP provides data on the total number of establishments, mid-March employment, first quarter and annual payroll, and number of establishments by nine employment-size classes and by ZIP code.

**Nonemployer Statistics (NES)**

Provides U.S. and sub-national data by industry for businesses without paid employees. Nonemployer data originate primarily from the administrative records of other Federal agencies. American FactFinder provides annual releases. NES summarizes the number of establishments and receipts of sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations without paid employees. U.S., state, county, metro area levels.

VI. POPULATION ESTIMATES PROGRAM (PEP) [every year]

Produces estimates of the population for the United States, its states, counties, cities, and towns, as well as for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its municipios. Demographic components of population change (births, deaths, and migration) and demographic characteristics (age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin) are produced at the national, state, county, Puerto Rico Commonwealth and municipio levels of geography. In addition, housing unit estimates are produced for the nation, states, and counties.

Each year, the PEP utilizes current data on births, deaths, and migration to calculate population change since the most recent decennial census, and produces a time series of estimates of population. The reference date for all estimates is July 1, unless otherwise specified.

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) also produces population, demographic, and housing unit estimates, it is the Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

**Other Census Surveys of Interest (These are at www.census.gov)**

The following surveys are supplements to the Current Population Survey. State level and 12 large metropolitan statistical areas.
• Social and Economic Supplement  [annual survey]
  Has more information on social security, SSI, public assistance, veterans' benefits, survivor benefits, disability income, retirement/pensions, dividends/stock ownership, property income, educational assistance, child support/alimony, health insurance, medical expenditures, school lunch, public housing, SNAP/WIC, energy assistance, child care

• Child Support Supplement  [periodically]
  Data on child support, visitation, health insurance, why support not received.

• Disability Supplement  [periodically]
  Employment of persons with disabilities, work history, barriers to employment, types of accommodations.

• Food Security Supplement  [periodically]
  Hunger and food security, food expenditures, access to food, food quality and safety.

• Housing Vacancy Supplement  [monthly]
  Provides quarterly data on vacancy rates and characteristics of vacant units.

• Unbanked/Underbanked Supplement  [periodically]
  Unbanked and underbanked households.

• Volunteers Supplement  [periodically]
  Participation in volunteer service, types of organizations and activities, barriers to volunteering, encouragement to increase participation.

Practice Questions

1. Use the address search to find your home address. Which census tract and block numbers relate to your residence? Map the census tract. (Click on the boundaries icon and checkmark the layers and labels for census tract and block group. Click on Update.)
   Example: 270 N. Skinker Blvd, Saint Louis, MO

2. Use the Community Facts to find information on a city in the United States. Open the report for the 2010 census, and open a report for the American Community Survey. Example: Blacksburg, Virginia
3. Use the Guided Search to learn about the people who do not have health insurance in St. Louis.

   Example: People → Insurance Coverage → Health Insurance → Next → type St. Louis in the box → Choose St. Louis City, Missouri → Click Go → under the County section, choose St. Louis City, Missouri → Next → Skip → Choose Health Insurance 2016 ACS 1 year → to return to the list use #5 Search Results (top) or Back to Search Results (right side) → if you wish to see all of the results, click on Advanced Search (bottom)

4. Use the Advanced Search to determine which census tracts in St. Louis City have the most children for ages 10-14 yrs old. (They might be good areas to locate college readiness programs)

   Example: Clear all selections if any remain → Topics → People → Age & sex → Age → Close the topics box → Geographies → Census tract → Missouri → St. Louis → All tracts within St. Louis city → Add your selections → Close the geography box → Topics → Dataset → 2010 SF1 → Close the topics box → Choose the Age groups and sex report (QTP1) (sorting by table title should bring it to the top) → Modify the table → Uncheck the boxes for the sex columns → Uncheck the boxes for the other ages (click the minus sign to remove other year groupings). Remember to keep the 10-14 year old age group → Download → Use the data in a spreadsheet → OK → Download → Open the file → Open the Excel file with the largest number of bytes → sort the file by most kids in the tract

5. Bookmark / Save: If you make no changes to a table, then you can bookmark the URL and share the URL with others. If you make changes to a table, then you can Save the query. You can share the file of the query with others. Saved queries can be Reloaded on the homepage in order to regenerate the modified table.

Review and Questions
   a) Where on the screen can you find help?
   b) How would you find the tract number for an address?
   c) How could you produce a general report for a city?
   e) What surprised you about this session? (or name one thing that you learned from this session)

Additional Resources
   American FactFinder Virtual Tour (top, left side of screen)
   http://factfinder.census.gov/help/en/index.htm#

   American FactFinder Tutorials (middle, left side of screen)
   http://factfinder.census.gov/help/en/index.htm#