

# Joe Quartullo / Allyson Burleson-Gibson

Data Dissemination Specialists

Customer Liaison and Marketing Services Office /  
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# Bureau of the Census

## Mission Statement:

To be the preeminent collector and provider of data about the *people* and *economy* of the United States.

## Goal:

The goal of the U.S. Bureau of the Census is to provide the best mix of timeliness, relevancy, quality, and cost for the data collected and services provided.

# Why We Conduct a Census



Article I, Section 2 of the United States Constitution, which states:

"Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States ... according to their respective Numbers ... The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years."

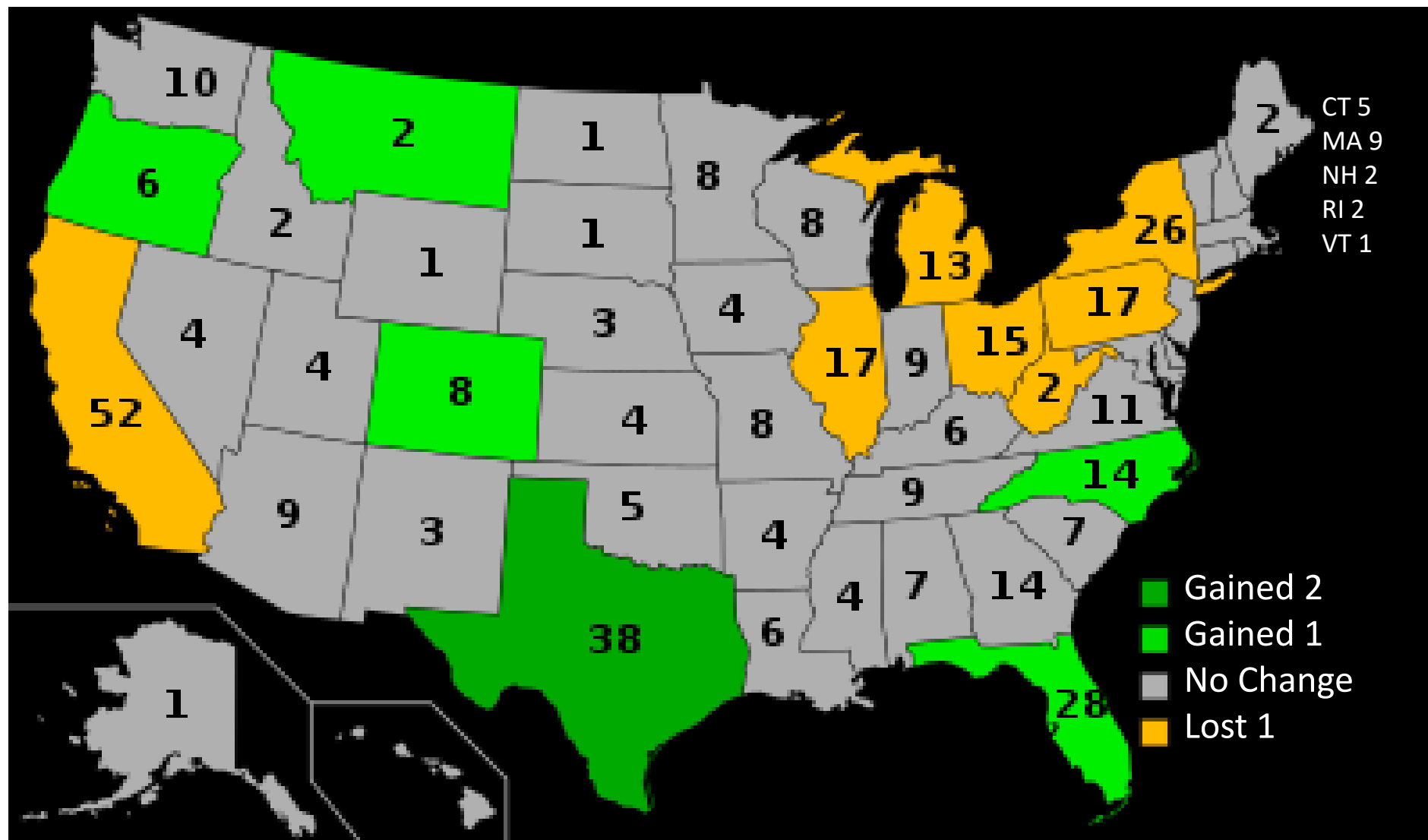
# Decennial Census

- Required by law (Constitution and U.S. Code, Title 13)
- Every 10 years (Years end in “0”)
- Snapshot of a point in time – April 1
- Used to Re-apportion U.S. House of Representatives
- Used by States for Redistricting
- Used to Distribute \$675B/yr. 300 Federal Programs
- Confidentiality / 72 Year Rule

118<sup>th</sup>  
U.S.  
Congress

1/3/23 to  
1/3/25

Based upon  
2020 Census



# Decennial Census

Age

Hispanic Origin

Race

Relationship

Sex

Also:  
Housing Tenure  
(Own/Rent)

# Timeliness Issue:

Because it was conducted only once every 10 years, the data became outdated.  
(In 1998, the most recent census data was from 1990.)

## Solution:

## The American Community Survey


# The American Community Survey Began 2005

***The American Community Survey is on the leading edge of survey design, continuous improvement, and data quality***

- The nation's most current, reliable, and accessible data source for local statistics on critical planning topics such as age, children, veterans, commuting, education, income, and employment
- Surveys **3.5 million** addresses and informs over **\$675 billion** of Federal government spending each year
- Covers **40+ topics**, supports over **300** evidence-based Federal government uses, and produces **11 billion** estimates each year
- Geographies: Nation to Neighborhood
- Three key **annual** data releases:
  - 1-year Estimates (for large populations)
  - 1-year Supplemental Estimates (for small populations)
  - 5-year Estimates (for very small populations)

13199013

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU


 **THE American Community Survey**

**This booklet shows the content of the American Community Survey questionnaire.**

**Start Here**

Respond online today at:  
<https://respond.census.gov/acs>  
OR  
Complete this form and mail it back as soon as possible.

This form asks for information about the people who are living or staying at the address on the mailing label and about the house, apartment, or mobile home located at the address on the mailing label.

 **If you need help or have questions about completing this form, please call 1-800-354-7271. The telephone call is free.**

**Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD):**  
Call 1-800-582-8330. The telephone call is free.

**¿NECESITA AYUDA?** Si usted habla español y necesita ayuda para completar su cuestionario, llame sin cargo alguno al 1-877-833-5625. Usted también puede completar su entrevista por teléfono con un entrevistador que habla español. O puede responder por Internet en: <https://respond.census.gov/acs>

For more information about the American Community Survey, visit our website at: <http://www.census.gov/acs>


**Please print today's date.**  
Month  Day  Year

**Please print the name and telephone number of the person who is filling out this form. We will only contact you if needed for official Census Bureau business.**  
Last Name   
First Name  MI   
Area Code + Number  -

**How many people are living or staying at this address?**  
• **INCLUDE** everyone who is living or staying here for more than 2 months.  
• **INCLUDE** yourself if you are living here for more than 2 months.  
• **INCLUDE** anyone else staying here who does not have another place to stay, even if they are here for 2 months or less.  
• **DO NOT INCLUDE** anyone who is living somewhere else for more than 2 months, such as a college student living away or someone in the Armed Forces on deployment.  
Number of people

**Fill out pages 2, 3, and 4 for everyone, including yourself, who is living or staying at this address for more than 2 months. Then complete the rest of the form.**

FORM **ACS-1(INFO)(2019)**  
OMB No. 0607-0810  
OMB No. 0607-0936





The American Community Survey

How is the American Community Survey Different from Decennial?

	ACS	Census
Purpose	Sample estimates	Official counts
Collects	Detailed social, economic, housing, and demographic characteristics	Basic demographics
Produces	Population and housing characteristics	Population and housing totals
New Data Every	Year	10 years
Data Reflect	Period of time	Point in time

# ACS Period Estimates

## 1-Year Estimates

- Geographies of 65,000 or more

Current

2019 1 Yr Estimates  
Released 9/20

2020 Impacted by Covid-19

## 5-Year Estimates

- All geographies

Current

2019 5 Yr Estimate(2015-  
2019) Released 12/20

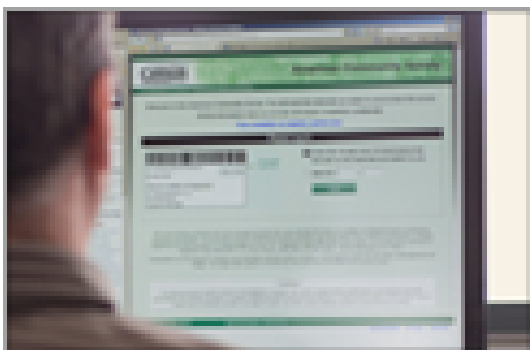
2020 Impact TBD

# The American Community Survey

## Content Overview

POPULATION		HOUSING
<b>SOCIAL</b> Ancestry Citizenship Citizen Voting Age Population Disability Educational Attainment Fertility Grandparents Language Marital Status Migration School Enrollment Veterans	<b>DEMOGRAPHIC</b> Age Hispanic Origin Race Relationship Sex	Computer & Internet Use Costs (Mortgage, Rent, Taxes, Insurance) Heating Fuel Home Value Occupancy Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities Structure Tenure (Own/Rent) Utilities Vehicles Year Built/ Year Moved In
	<b>ECONOMIC</b> Class of Worker Commuting Employment Status Food Stamps (SNAP) Health Insurance Hours/Week, Weeks/Year Income Industry & Occupation	

# ACS Data Collection Process



**Self-Response  
Modes**

**Non-Response  
Mode**

• Rectangular Snip

*Link to Sample Questionnaire*

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/methodology/questionnaires/2021/quest21.pdf>

# Census Geography

## Political

- \*State
- \*County
- \*Township
- \*Borough
- \*City
- \*School District
- \*Legislative Districts

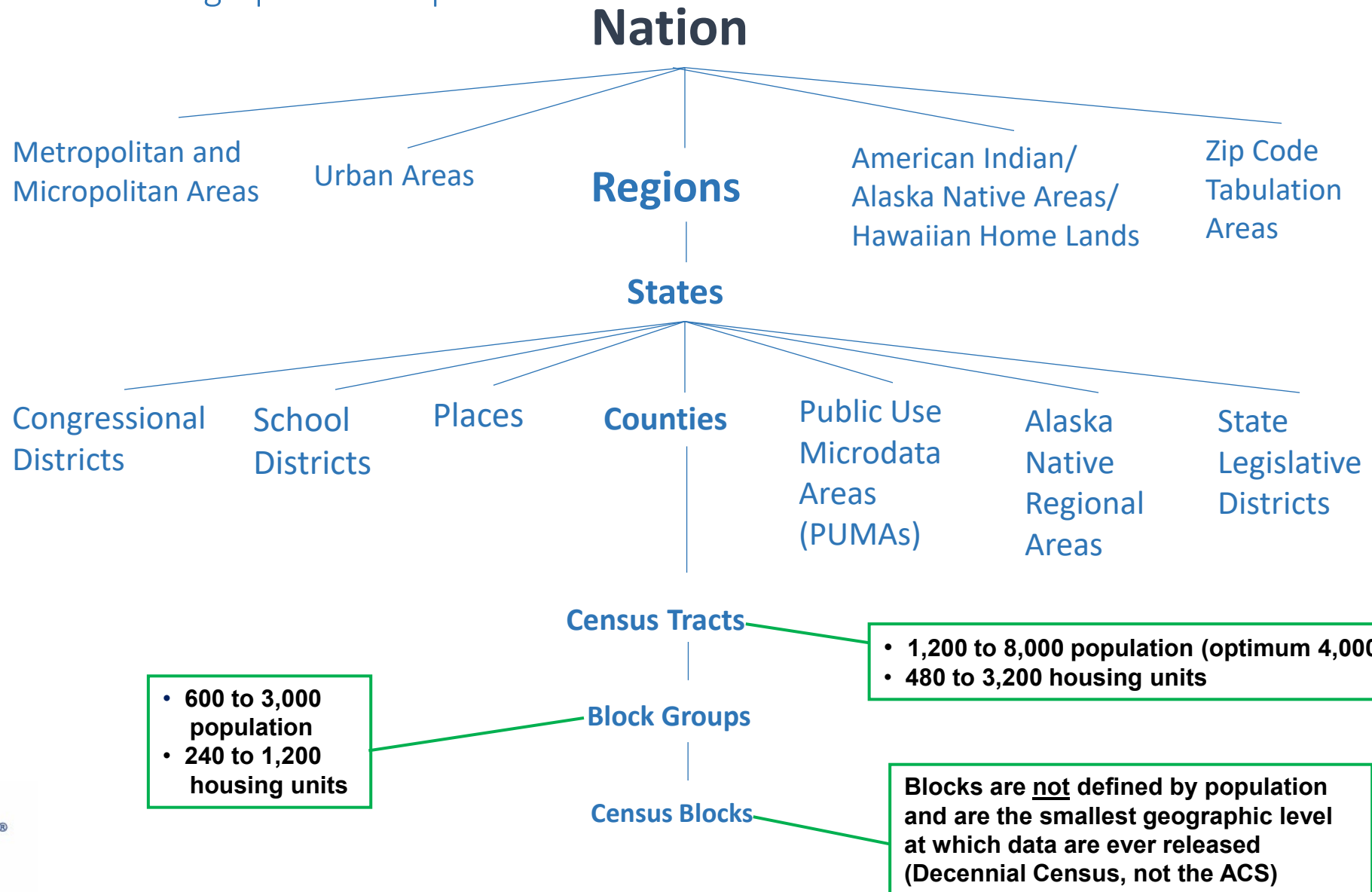
## Statistical

- \*Tract
- \*Block Group
- \*Census Designated Place
- \*Zip Code Tabulation Areas
- \*Metropolitan Statistical Areas



# The American Community Survey

## Selected Census Geographic Concepts



# Hierarchy of Census Geography, From Nation to Block



## Population Characteristics of Tracts:

- Optimally 4000 people; range between 1200-8000.
- The optimal size for ACS data.
- Tracts are subdivided if population swells.





Baltimore City



Baltimore City – 199 Census Tracts



# Data Tools

- Quickfacts
- ACS Narrative Profiles
  - ACS Data Profiles
  - [data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov)
- On the Map (Emergency Management)

# Data Tools - How to Get There

**Quickfacts** – [www.census.gov/quickfacts](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts)

**ACS Narrative Profiles:**

[www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs); click “Data” on left side; click “Data Tables and Tools”; click “generate a Narrative Profile”; Select Geographic type; select your geography; make your selection; click “Get Narrative Profile.”

**ACS Data Profiles:**

[www.census.gov/acs](http://www.census.gov/acs); click “Data” on left side; select any of the 4 tables (Social, Economic, Housing, or Demographic); click “Filter” on top, left side; select “Geography”; Select your geographic type; select your specific geography

[data.census.gov](http://data.census.gov)

**On the Map (Emergency Management)** - <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/em/>

// Census.gov > Topics > Housing

# Housing

The Census Bureau's housing data present a comprehensive picture of housing in America. You'll find a wide range of data on the size, age and type of American homes; home values, rents and mortgages, the housing and construction industry, and more.

[Read More](#)

- [Housing Affordability](#)
- [Housing Patterns](#)
- [Housing Vacancies](#)
- [New Housing \(Construction\)](#)
- [Rental Housing](#)
- [Residential Financing](#)



<https://www.census.gov/library/publications.html>

TOPICS	
Business and Economy	▼
Census Operations	▼
Education	▼
Employment	▼
Energy and Environment	▼
Families and Living Arrangements	▼
Foreign Trade	▼
Government	▼
Health	▼
History	▼
✓ Housing	▲
All	

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction (48)
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Characteristics (35)
<input type="checkbox"/> Group Quarters (43)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historical Housing Data (18)
<input type="checkbox"/> Home Neighborhood Assessment (1)
<input type="checkbox"/> Homeownership (190)
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Affordability (12)
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Estimates (4)
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Patterns (2)

<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Vacancies (21)
<input type="checkbox"/> Housing Value (40)
<input type="checkbox"/> Multifamily Housing (3)
<input type="checkbox"/> New Home Sales (2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Occupant Characteristics (30)
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Characteristics (71)
<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Taxes (40)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rental Housing (44)
<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Financing (29)

# Census Academy – Home Page

www.census.gov/academy

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## Census Academy

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### View by Topic





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