

# Obtaining ACS Microdata from IPUMS

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[www.ipums.org](http://www.ipums.org)

# Summary Data

Age	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Total population</b>	<b>281,421,906</b>	<b>138,053,563</b>	<b>143,368,343</b>
Under 5 years	19,175,798	9,810,733	9,365,065
5 to 9 years	20,549,505	10,523,277	10,026,228
10 to 14 years	20,528,072	10,520,197	10,007,875
15 to 19 years	20,219,890	10,391,004	9,828,886
20 to 24 years	18,964,001	9,687,814	9,276,187
25 to 29 years	19,381,336	9,798,760	9,582,576
30 to 34 years	20,510,388	10,321,769	10,188,619
35 to 39 years	22,706,664	11,318,696	11,387,968
40 to 44 years	22,441,863	11,129,102	11,312,761
45 to 49 years	20,092,404	9,889,506	10,202,898
50 to 54 years	17,585,548	8,607,724	8,977,824
55 to 59 years	13,469,237	6,508,729	6,960,508
60 to 64 years	10,805,447	5,136,627	5,668,820
65 to 69 years	9,533,545	4,400,362	5,133,183
70 to 74 years	8,857,441	3,902,912	4,954,529
75 to 79 years	7,415,813	3,044,456	4,371,357
80 to 84 years	4,945,367	1,834,897	3,110,470
85 to 89 years	2,789,818	876,501	1,913,317
90 years and over	1,449,769	350,497	1,099,272

Age  
Sex  
Race  
Birthplace  
Mother's birthplace  
Relationship  
Occupation

H91000002400000000088001001000220100
P910000020101032120010010010011504
P910000010201036220010010010011999
P910201000301011220060010010011999
P910201000301009120060010010011999
P910201000301007120060010010011999
P910201000301006120060010010011999
P910201000301004220060010010011999
P910201000301003220060010010011999
P910201000301002220060010010011999
H91000002400000000088001001000110100
P910000020101030110010290510511310
P910000010201021210010290290171999
P910201000301001110060010290291999
H91000002400000000088001001000220100
P910000020101045120010010010011100
P910000010201025220010010010011820
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H91000002400000000088001001000220100
P910000020101049120010010010011100
P910000010201049220010010010011820
P910201000301019220060010010011820
P910201000301015220060010010012820

# Microdata Structure

Household record (shaded) followed by a person record for each member of the household

For each type of record, columns correspond to specific variables

# Benefits of Using Microdata

- More detailed information than published tables
- Easy to explore various topics
- Answer specific questions
- Can look at change over time
- Run person or household level analyses
- Nationally representative

# Microdata looks hard to use...

## Not with IPUMS!

IPUMS-USA is a project dedicated to collecting and distributing United States census data.

Its goals are to:

- Collect and preserve data and documentation
- Harmonize data
- Disseminate the data absolutely free!

# What does IPUMS stand for?

**Integrated** - consistent codes, labels, and documentation

**Public Use** - anonymized, downloadable

**Microdata** - individual-level

**Series** - pooled data over time and place

# What IPUMS does:


- Provides data in multiple formats
- Provides excellent documentation
- Standardizes data across years (integration)
- Provides “bonus” calculated fields
- Makes data freely available online
- Provides user support

# <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/>

MINNESOTA POPULATION CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# IPUMS USA

Home Select Data FAQ Help Login Data Cart

<p>▼ DATA</p> <p>Browse and Select Data Download or Revise Extracts Analyze Data Online IPUMS Registration</p>	 <h2>Integrated Public Use Microdata Series</h2> <p>census microdata for social and economic research</p> <p>IPUMS-USA is a project dedicated to collecting and distributing United States census data. Its goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collect and preserve data and documentation</li><li>• Harmonize data</li><li>• Disseminate the data absolutely free!</li></ul> <p>Use it for GOOD -- never for EVIL</p>	<p>▼ IPUMS IN THE NEWS</p> <p>IPUMS is for "Data Addicts" 1940 Census Archives IPUMS and the Civil War NYT Interactive Map</p> <p>▼ IPUMS-USA DATA UPDATES</p> <p>NEW! 2012 1-year ACS and PRCS 1850 Complete Count data 1930 1% and 5% data</p> <p>▼ OTHER IPUMS DATA</p> <p>Complete Count Data Linked Samples 1850-1900 1850-1860 Slave Samples</p> <p>▼ OTHER MPC PROJECTS</p> <p>IPUMS-CPS IPUMS-International NHGIS NAPP IHIS ATUS-X</p>
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# IPUMS-USA

- Database includes public use microdata samples:
  - U.S. decennial censuses (1850-2000)
  - Complete-count dataset for 1880
  - Linked Samples 1850 – 1930
  - Samples from Puerto Rico (1910-2012)
  - American Community Survey (2000-2012)

# The American Community Survey

## Microdata samples:

- Full survey responses for 1% of US population
- Suppression for confidentiality
  - Names, addresses
  - Income top coding
  - Geographic limitations
- Yearly samples, multi-year samples
- Rolling sample design

# ACS Microdata Geography

- Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs)
- Comprised of approximately 100,000 persons
- Boundaries do not always align with jurisdictional boundaries
- Detailed contents and maps available
- GIS shape files for PUMAs available

# Online Extraction System

- Users create custom data files
  - Pick any samples of interest
  - Pick any variables of interest
- Creates custom syntax for reading the data files into SPSS, Stata, SAS, and CSV
  - Labels variables and values within the data
- Codebook available
- Record of extract is preserved on user account

# Online Analysis System

- High-speed tabulation software developed at UC-Berkeley
- Allows for analysis of microdata without statistical package
- All analysis performed online
- Can analyze multiple years of data
- Help guides on webpage

# Video Tutorials

<http://www.youtube.com/user/MPCIPUMS>

**MPCIPUMS** Subscribe 8

**Videos** Discussion About

Uploads Date added (oldest - newest)

- IPUMS-USA Registration Tutorial**  
9 months ago · 136 views  
Walkthrough of registering to use IPUMS-USA.  
1:07
- IPUMS-USA Data Extract System Tutorial**  
9 months ago · 283 views  
Walkthrough of the IPUMS online data extract system.  
1:26
- IPUMS-USA SDA Tutorial**  
9 months ago · 207 views  
Walkthrough on how to use our online data analysis system.  
2:07
- IPUMS-USA Tutorial - Open file in Stata**  
9 months ago · 403 views  
Walkthrough of how to open your IPUMS data extract in Stata.  
1:35

# User Support

- User Forum: <http://answers.popdata.org/>
- Email us: [ipums@umn.edu](mailto:ipums@umn.edu)

# Questions?

Also, email us with data questions

IPUMS User Support

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