American Community Survey Overview

ACS Data Users Conference May 11, 2015

Gretchen Gooding
American Community Survey Office

Outline

- American Community Survey (ACS) basics
- Resources for learning more
- Accessing ACS data products
- Stay in touch
- Questions

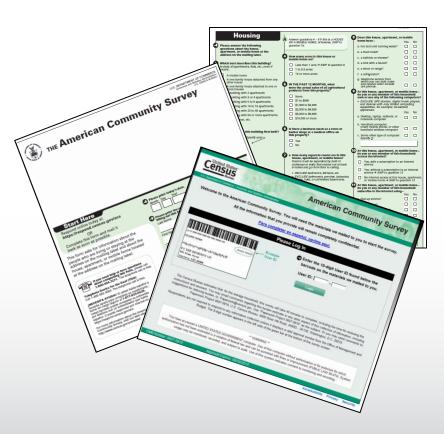
What is the ACS?

An ongoing monthly survey sent to 3.5 million addresses

 Data collection through four modes: Internet, Mail, Telephone, Personal Visit

Annually produces 1-year and 5-year period datasets:

- Detailed population and housing estimates previously collected on the decennial long form
- Critical information on small areas and small population groups
- Over 11 billion estimates for over 35,000 communities



Census / ACS History

• 1790-1930

Census: one form to all households

1940-2000

Census: short form and long form

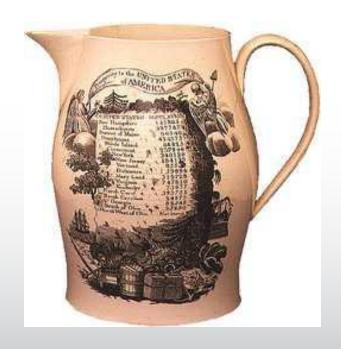
2000

ACS: large-scale demonstration

2005-present
 ACS / PRCS: full implementation

2010

Census: short form only



Census vs. ACS

Census	ACS
Official counts	Sample estimates
Population totals	Population characteristics
Every 10 years	Yearly
Point in time	Period of time
No measures of sampling error displayed	Margin of error displayed

ACS Data Collection Process

Online Mail Telephone Personal Visit

| Image: Continuous of the c

ACS Content

Social

Education
Marital Status
Fertility
Veterans
Disability
Citizenship
Language
Migration

Employment Status
Income
Commuting
Occupation & Industry
Health Insurance
Class of Worker

Economic

Tenure (Own/Rent)
Occupancy & Structure
Home Value
Costs (Mortgage, Taxes, Insurance)
Utilities
Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities

Housing

Sex
Age
Race
Hispanic Origin
Relationship

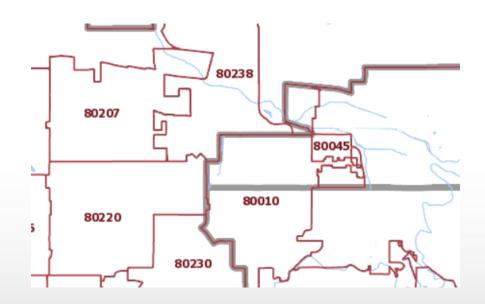
Demographic

Changes to Content

- 2008: New/modified questions added for
 - Marital history
 - Health insurance coverage
 - Service connected disability status and rating
 - Disability
- 2009: New question added for Bachelor's field of degree
- 2013: New questions added for Computer ownership/Internet access
- 2016: Propose removing business/medical office on property

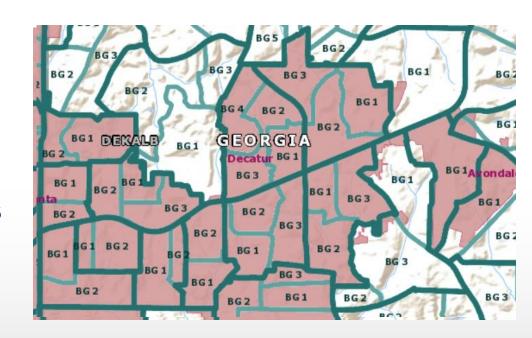
Selected Census Geographic Concepts—Legal Areas

- Nation
- States
- Counties
- Incorporated Places
- Minor Civil Divisions
- Congressional Districts
- School Districts
- Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs)



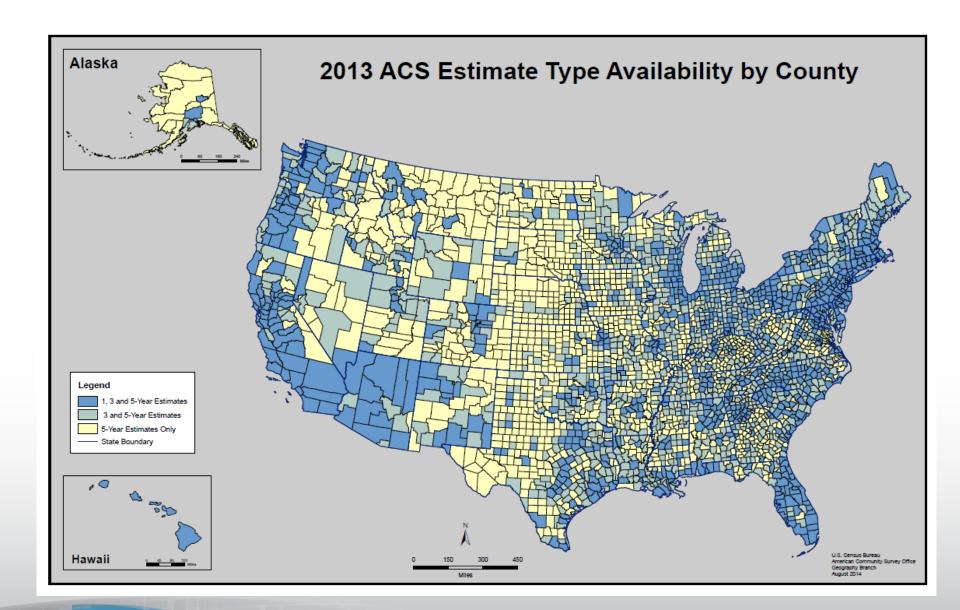
Selected Census Geographic Concepts—Statistical Areas

- Regions
- Divisions
- Census Designated Places
- Census County Divisions
- Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA)
- Census Tracts
- Block Groups



Availability of ACS Data Products

Estimated Population of Geographic Area	1-Year Estimates	3-Year Estimates	5-Year Estimates	
65,000 or more	X	X	X	
20,000 to 64,999		x	X	
Less than 20,000			X	
Planned Release Date	September 2015	N/A	December 2015	



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American Community Survey Learning More

- ACS Main Page
- Guidance on Comparing ACS Data to Other Sources
- ACS Compass Products
- Data Release and Documentation Pages

New Website Layout-June 2015



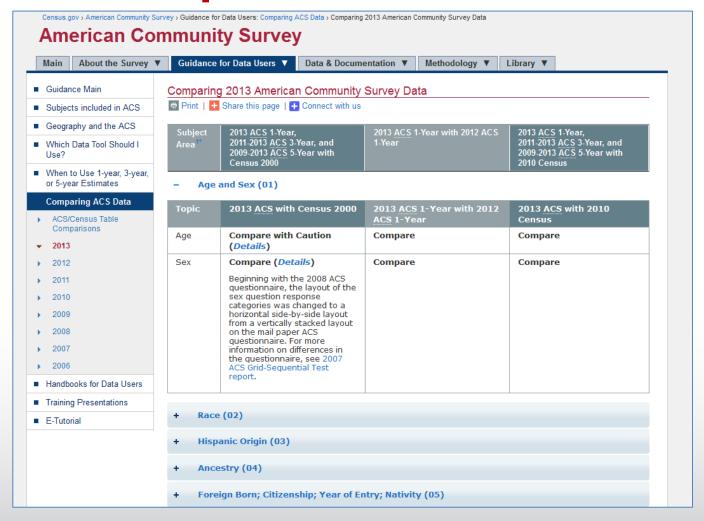
ACS Main Page



census.gov/acs

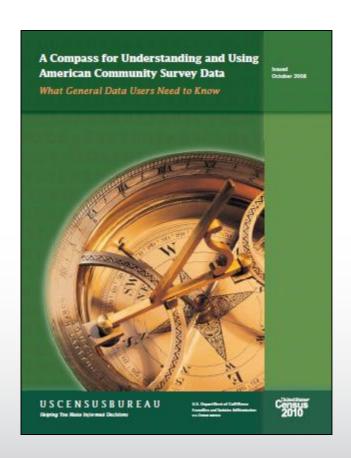


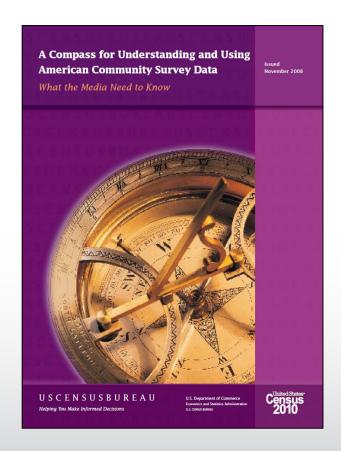
Comparison Guidance



census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/comparing_data/

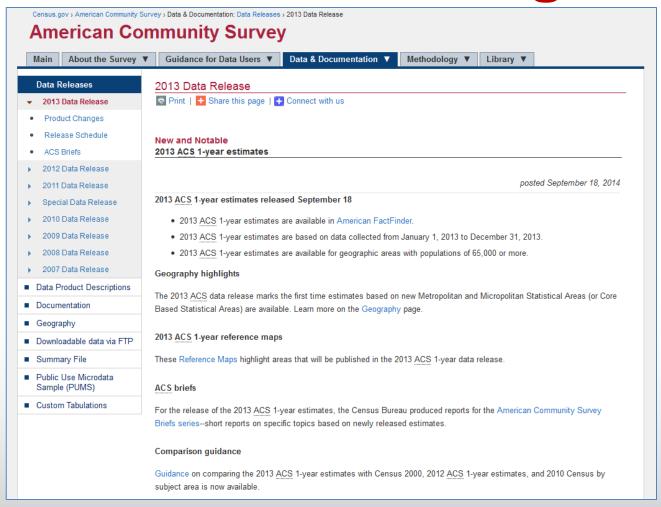
Compass Handbooks





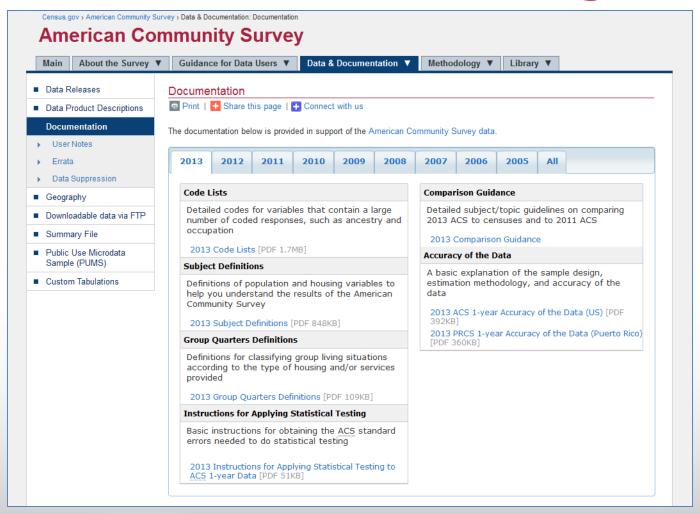
census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/handbooks

Data Release Page



census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/2013_release/

Documentation Page



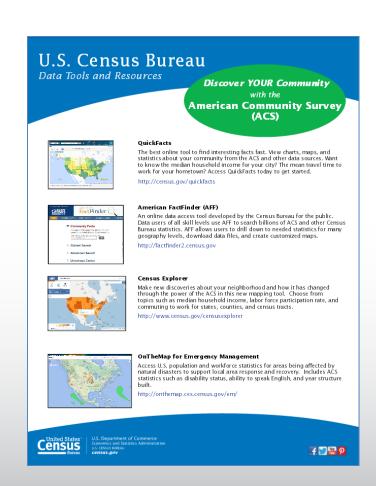
census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/documentation_main/

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Ways to Access

- QuickFacts
- Census Explorer
- Narrative Profiles
- American FactFinder

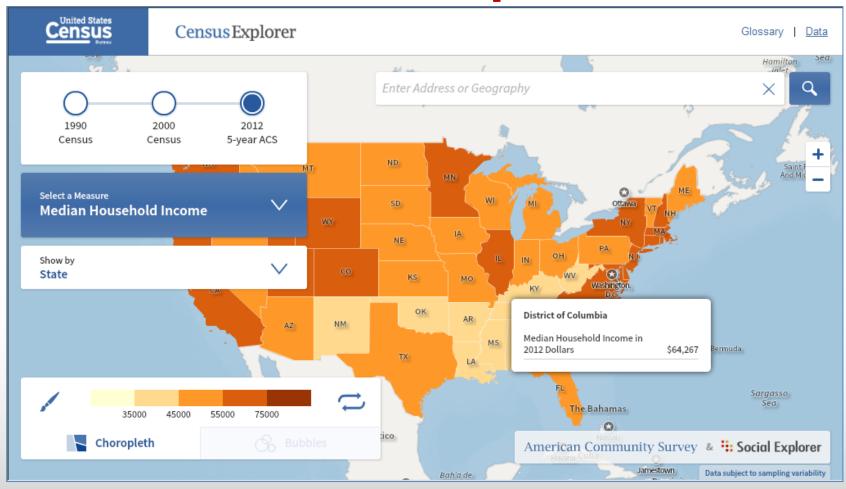


QuickFacts



census.gov/quickfacts

Census Explorer

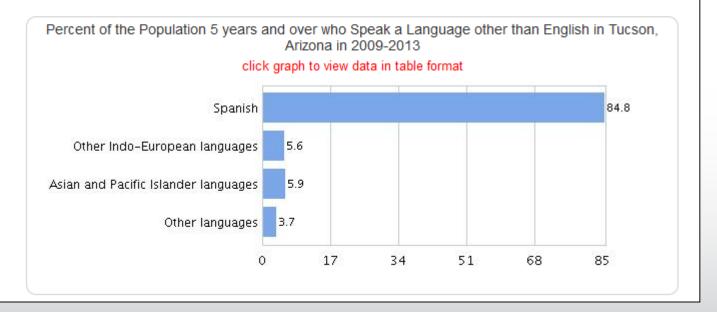


census.gov/censusexplorer

Narrative Profiles

Language

Among people at least five years old living in Tucson, Arizona in 2009-2013, 34 percent spoke a language other than English at home. Of those speaking a language other than English at home, 85 percent spoke Spanish and 15 percent spoke some other language; 32 percent reported that they did not speak English "very well."



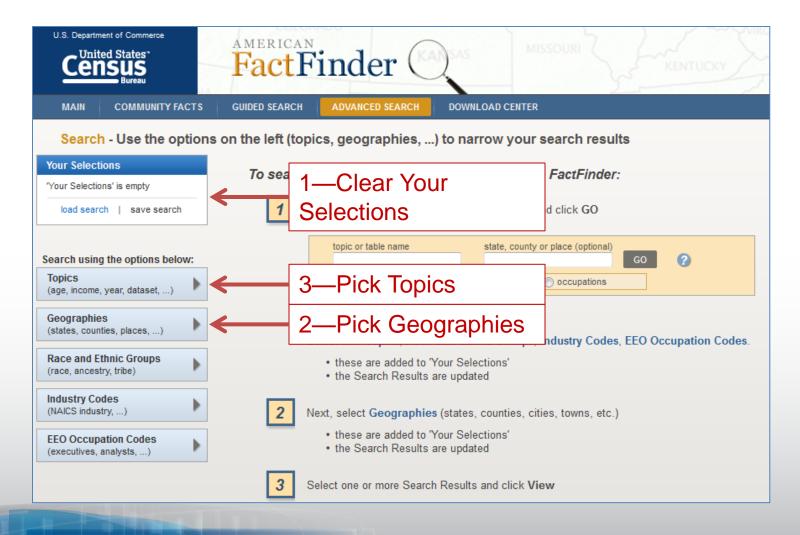
census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/data_narrative_profiles/

American FactFinder

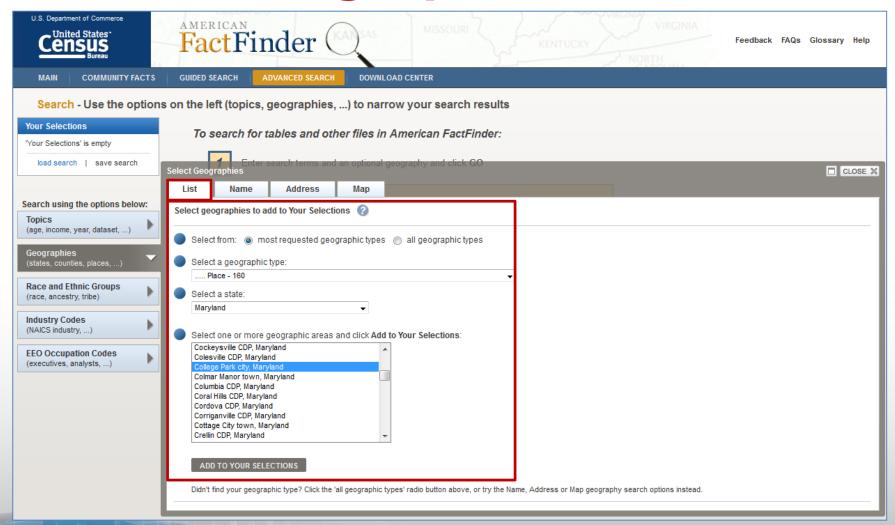


factfinder.census.gov

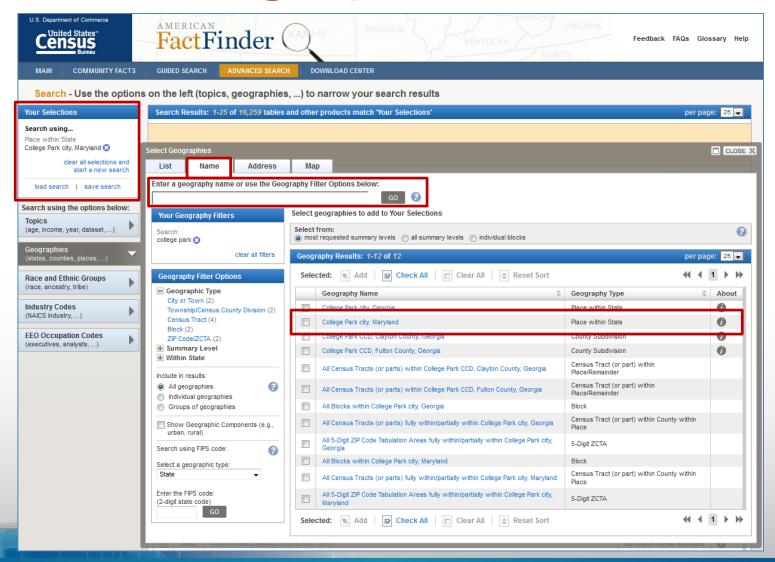
Tips for Using AFF



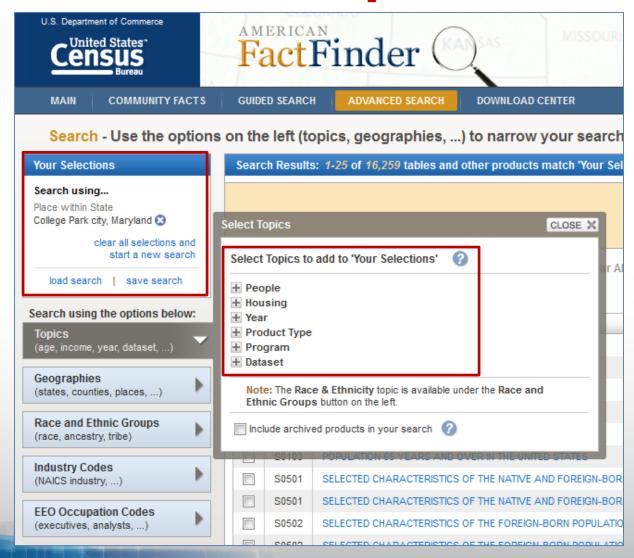
AFF Geographies-List Tab



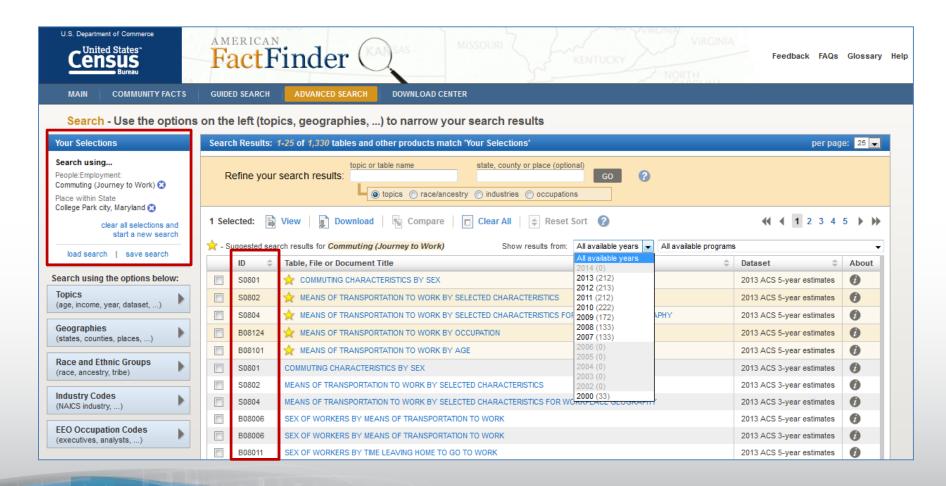
AFF Geographies-Name Tab



ACS Topics



AFF Years & Programs



Profile/Table Numbering

B 06004APR

- B=Data Product Type (Base Table)
- 06=Subject (Place of Birth)
 census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/comparing_2013/
- 004=Sequential Number
- A=Race/Hispanic Origin (White Alone)
- PR=For Puerto Rico Geographies Only

Data Product Types

Profiles

- Data Profiles (DP)
- Narrative Profiles (NP)
- Comparison Profiles (CP)
- Selected Population Profiles (S0201)

Tables

- Detailed Tables (B or C)
- Subject Tables (S)
- Ranking Tables (R)
- Geographic Comparison Tables (GCT)

Data Profile vs Detailed Table

		College Park city, Maryland		
Subject	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
EMPLOYMENT STATUS				
Population 16 years and over	28,690	+/-368	28,690	(X
In labor force	14,997	+/-559	52.3%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	52.1%	+/-1.9
Employed	13,243	+/-619	46.2%	+/-2.1
Unemployed	1.695	+/-313	5.9%	+/-1.1
Armed Forces	59	+/-47	0.2%	+/-0.2
Not in labor force	13,693	+/-601	47.7%	+/-1.9
Civilian labor force	14,938	+/-557	14,938	(X
Percent Unemployed	(X)	(X)	11.3%	+/-2.1
Females 16 years and over	13,697	+/-462	13,697	(X
In labor force	6,982	+/-400	51.0%	+/-2.7
Civilian labor force	6,971	+/-401	50.9%	+/-2.7
Employed	6,429	+/-429	46.9%	+/-3.0
Own children under 6 years	851	+/-210	851	(X
All parents in family in labor force	569	+/-184	66.9%	+/-14.3
Own children 6 to 17 years	1,242	v=254	1,242	(X
All parents in family in labor force	919	+/-199	74.0%	+/-12.9
COMMUTING TO WORK				
Workers 16 years and over	12,874	+/-642	12,874	(X
Car, truck, or van drove alone	6,220	+/-494	48.3%	+/-2.9
Car, truck, or van carpooled	1,162	+/-277	9.0%	+/-2.2
Public transportation (excluding taxicab)	1,686	+/-306	13.1%	+/-2.2
Walked	2,670	+/-304	20.7%	+/-2.2
Other means	433	+/-138	3.4%	+/-1.0
Worked at home	703	+/-210	5.5%	+/-1.6
Mean travel time to work (minutes)	26.7	+/-1.3	(X)	(X
OCCUPATION				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13,243	+/-619	13.243	(X
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	6,203	+/-536	46.8%	+/-3.5
Service occupations	2,456	+/-382	18.5%	+/-2.6
Sales and office occupations	3,309	+/-373	25.0%	+/-2.7
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	709	+/-201	5.4%	+/-1.5
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	566	+/-126	4.3%	+/-0.9
INDUSTRY				
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	13,243	+/-619	13.243	(X
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	6	+/-9	0.0%	+/-0.
Construction	502	+/-172	3.8%	+/-1.3

$\hat{\wedge}$	College Park city, Marylan		
1		Estimate	Margin of Error
5	Total:	12,874	+/-642
5 of 5	Car, truck, or van:	7,382	+/-525
3	Drove alone	6,220	+/-494
1	Carpooled:	1,162	+/-277
-	In 2-person carpool	973	+/-235
-	In 3-person carpool	77	+/-56
-	In 4-or-more-person carpool	112	+/-93
-	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1,686	+/-306
1	Bus or trolley bus	596	+/-174
-	Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	0	+/-26
-	Subway or elevated	935	+/-201
-	Railroad	155	+/-89
-	Ferryboat	0	+/-26
-	Bicycle	350	+/-123
-	Walked	2,670	+/-304
-	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	83	+/-59
-	Worked at home	703	+/-210
-	Male:	6,548	+/-460
-	Car, truck, or van:	3,699	+/-387
-	Drove alone	3,134	+/-377
-	Carpooled:	565	+/-166
-	In 2-person carpool	461	+/-143
-	In 3-person carpool	49	+/-43
-	In 4-or-more-person carpool	55	+/-51
-	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	1,050	+/-238
-	Bus or trolley bus	362	+/-140
ш	Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	0	+/-26
-	Subway or elevated	576	+/-151
-	Railroad	112	+/-81
-	Ferryboat	0	+/-26
-	Bicycle	229	+/-93
-	Walked	1,163	+/-191
-	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	59	+/-49
-	Worked at home	348	+/-168
-	Female:	6,326	+/-439
1	Car, truck, or van:	3,683	+/-409
1	Drove alone	3,086	+/-380
1	Carpooled:	597	+/-171 +/-147
П	In 2-person carpool	512	
П	In 3-person carpool In 4-or-more-person carpool	28 57	+/-37 +/-55
П			+/-55
П	Public transportation (excluding taxicab):	636 234	+/-154
П	Bus or trolley bus Streetcar or trolley car (carro publico in Puerto Rico	234	+/-104
		359	+/-103
	Subway or elevated Railroad	43	+/-103
	Ferryboat	0	+/-26
	Bicycle	121	+/-20
	Walked	1,507	+/-208
	Taxicab, motorcycle, or other means	24	+/-200
	Worked at home	355	+/-99
- 1			

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Continue the Conversation



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#ACSdata
#ACSConf15



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Source us:

"U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey"

YYYY-YYYY American Community Survey 1/3/5-year estimates/statistics/data release

- 2013 American Community Survey 1-year estimates,
- 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-year data release)

Contact Information

Visit the ACS/PRCS website: census.gov/acs

Contact by telephone: 1-800-923-8282

Submit a question:

https://ask.census.gov

Email updates:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ USCENSUS/subscriber/new

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