Obtaining ACS Microdata from IPUMS

Katie Genadek
MPC - University of Minnesota
kgenadek@umn.edu

www.ipums.org
## Summary Data

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

• Standardize data across years (integration)
• Provide excellent documentation
• Provide data in multiple formats
• Provide “bonus” calculated fields
• Make data freely available online
• Provide user support
Integrated Public Use Microdata Series

census microdata for social and economic research

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!

Use it for GOOD -- never for EVIL
IPUMS-USA

• Database includes public use microdata samples:
  • U.S. decennial censuses (1850-2000)
  • Complete-count dataset for 1880
    • Linked Samples 1850 – 1930
  • Complete-count dataset for 1940
  • Samples from Puerto Rico (1910-2013)
  • American Community Survey (2000-2013)
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
User Support

• Online training materials: 
  z.umn.edu/popdatatrainng

• User Forum: 
  http://answers.popdata.org/

• Email us: ipums@umn.edu
Questions?

Email us with data questions
IPUMS User Support
ipums@umn.edu