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## ACS Users Group 2019

Washington, D.C.



## **American Community Survey (ACS)**

## The ACS is:

- The premier source for detailed population and housing information about our nation.
- "The old long form"
- Ongoing January through December
- A source of new data every year
- Easy to access and easy to use (right?)
- All good stuff (right?)



# So, What Could Go Wrong?

## Well...

- Maybe you need to know if the MOEs need to be adjusted since your estimates were inflation adjusted.
- Someone in the SDC Network will know!



# So, What Else Could Go Wrong?

- •PUMS, anyone?
- •Weighted designs?
- •Need to find or use a crosswalk?



## Which Data Should I Use?

## What is the Hispanic Population of Dallas?

- •5-year?
- •1-year?
- •3-year? (R.I.P.)

# When will my data be ready!?

•Need to know a release date?



## So Much Data! (so many problems)

### **Summary File Data**

- So much good data
  - Not so easy to use

#### **PUMS Data**

- 1-year, 3-year (r.i.p.), 5-year
- Weights
- Scope
- Identify geography of interest
- Don't forget about MOEs!



## More Data and Tools You May Have Never Used

- Race/Ethnicity and American Indian & Alaska Native Data
  - Selected Populations Tables
  - Hispanic origin, tribal, and ancestry populations
  - American Indian and Alaska Native Tables
- Would an API be helpful?
- Variance Replicate Tables
  - Use covariance terms to calculate exact margins of error for aggregated data.
    - Need to know how to use them?
    - Files too large to open?



# **State Data Center History**

- Began in 1978 with just a few states.
- Repository for Census data
- Each State SDC was created by the Governor's Liaison in each state
- Often located at research universities, libraries, state government, etc.

## **State Data Center Network**

### **Nationally:**

- 56 Lead Data Centers
- 9 Person Steering Committee
  - Elected to three-year terms
  - Serve two consecutive terms before rotating off

#### **State Networks:**

- Created by the Lead
  - 225 Coordinating Agencies
    - Usually 1-3 per state
  - 1,400 Affiliates
    - Number based on population



## Lead organizations and their networks...

# Provide staff and budget to

support the program



## Data Dissemination is What We Do

# The SDC Network Disseminates Census data by providing:

- Guidance
- Expertise
- Technology
- Local Knowledge



## Consultation

Most services are provided free of charge.



# How to Contact a Specific SDC

- Search "census state data centers"
- Click on "Member Network"

To find...





Census Bureau

Topics
Population, Economy

Geography Maps, Products Library Infographics, Publications Data Tools, Developers Surveys/Programs Respond, Survey Data News, Blogs

About Us Our Research

Census.gov > About the Bureau > Advisors, Centers and Research Programs > State Data Center (SDC) Program > Member Network

#### State Data Center (SDC) Program

About this Section

Events

#### Member Network

Partner Resources

Special Projects

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#### **Member Network**



The SDC lead agencies organize a statewide network of coordinating and affiliate agencies. This network works in partnership with the Census Bureau through the Data Users Branch (DUB) and the Census Bureau's Regional Offices for data dissemination at the local level.

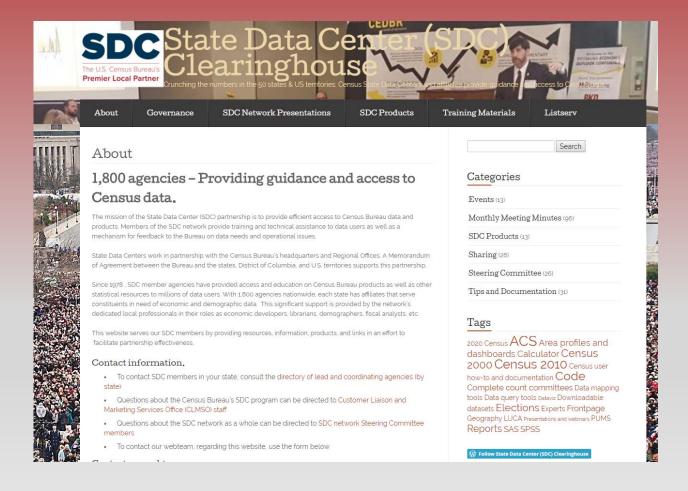
2017 - 2018 Steering Committee

#### Select by State or Island Area:

Alabama	Maine	Pennsylvania
Alaska	Maryland	Rhode Island
Arizona	Massachusetts	South Carolina
Arkansas	Michigan	South Dakota
California	Minnesota	Tennessee



# State Data Center Clearinghouse sdcclearinghouse.com





## **Contact:**

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