

American Community Survey Program Updates

January 28, 2025

Donna M. Daily
Chief, American Community Survey Office

The American Community Survey

Outline

- ACS Overview
- ACS Data Releases
- Recent Changes for the ACS
- Looking Ahead
- Engaging with Data Users
- Questions

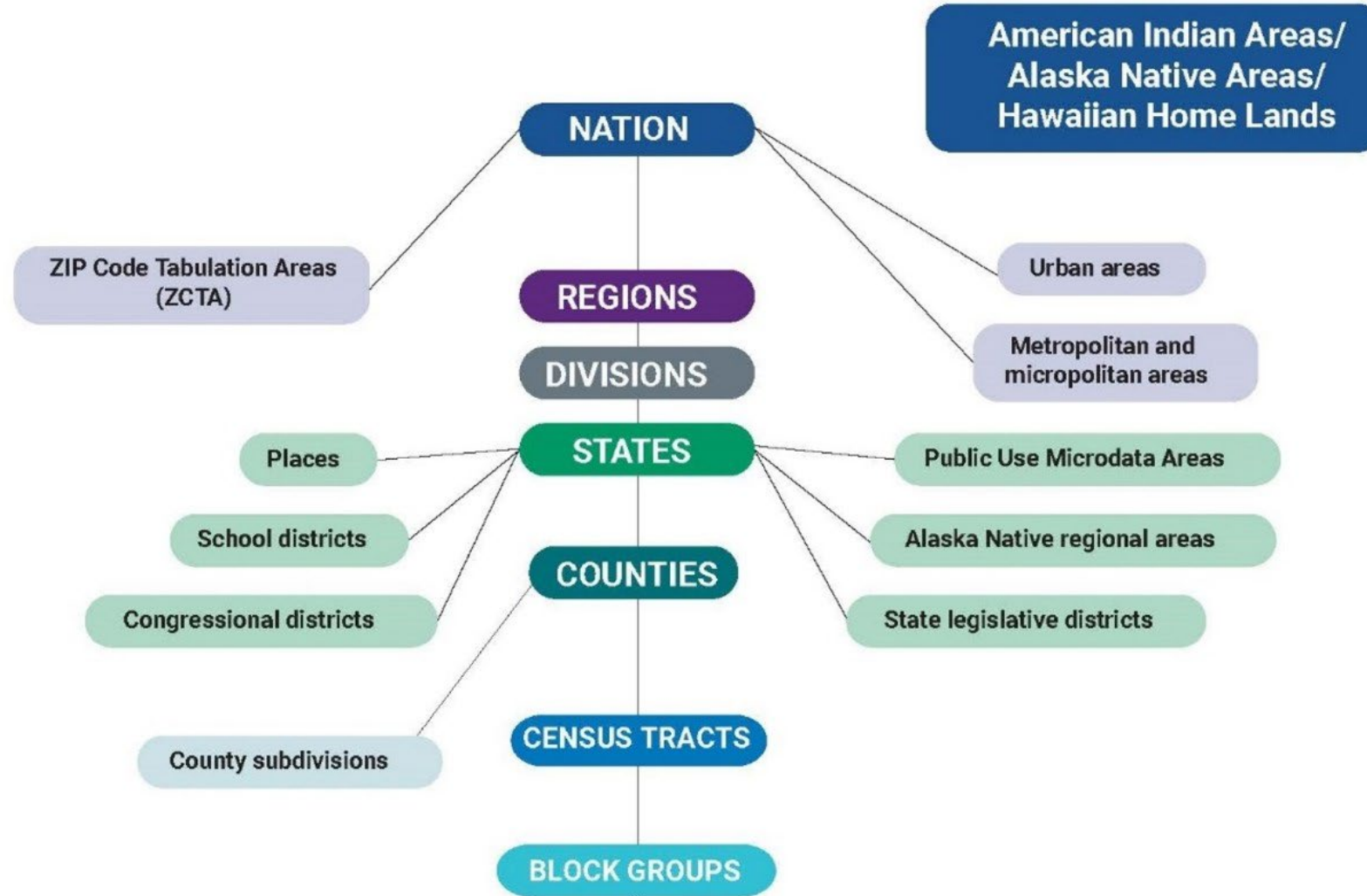
The American Community Survey

Content Overview

POPULATION		HOUSING
SOCIAL Ancestry Citizenship Citizen Voting Age Population Disability Educational Attainment Fertility Grandparents Language Marital Status Migration School Enrollment Veterans	DEMOGRAPHIC 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
	ECONOMIC Class of Worker Commuting Employment Status Food Stamps (SNAP) Health Insurance Income Industry & Occupation Weeks Worked	

The American Community Survey

Selected Census Geographic Concepts



The American Community Survey

2023 ACS Data Releases

2023 ACS 1-Year Release

Data Products	Release
1-Year Estimates Public Release	September 12, 2024
1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)	October 17, 2024
1-Year Supplemental Estimates	October 17, 2024
119 th Congressional Districts (Data Profiles)	January 7, 2025

2019-2023 ACS 5-Year Release

Data Products	Release
5-Year Estimates Public Release	December 12, 2024
5-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)	January 23, 2025
5-Year Variance Replicate Estimates	January 23, 2025

The American Community Survey

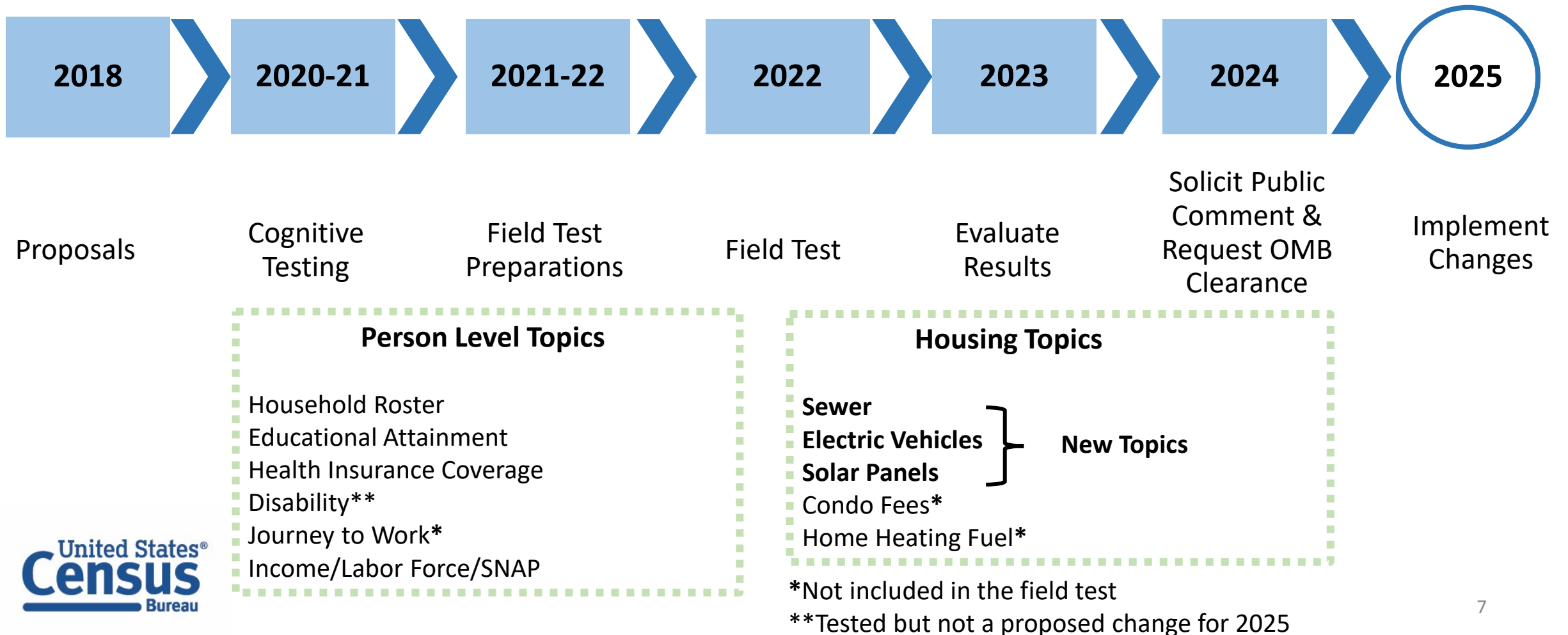
Data Collection Changes for the 2024 ACS

- **Internet data collection instrument available for select non-institutional group quarters**
 - e.g., college/university student housing, group homes, military barracks, etc.
- **Using administrative records for the acreage question**
 - Question still appears on the paper questionnaire
 - Question is skipped in Internet and nonresponse follow-up data collection instruments if we have an administrative record

The American Community Survey

2022 ACS Content test

Content Tests are conducted approximately every five years to improve quality of existing questions or test the addition of new questions.



The American Community Survey

New Content for the 2025 ACS

Three new questions:

- Sewer
- Electric Vehicles
- Solar Panels

Four modified questions:

- Household Roster
- Educational Attainment
- Health Insurance Coverage
- Labor Force

The American Community Survey

Sewer Question

- Requested by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Food and Drug Administration
- Data are critical for understanding the wastewater infrastructure in rural and smaller communities
- Data allow for monitoring of water quality (i.e., impacts to well water) as well as potential environmental impacts (seepage into surrounding soil)

8

Is this house, apartment, or mobile home connected to a public sewer?

☐

Yes, connected to public sewer

☐

No, connected to septic tank

☐

No, use other type of system

The American Community Survey

Solar Panels Question

- Requested by the Energy Information Administration (EIA)
- Data will help EIA match energy consumption to energy production across the U.S.

16 Does this house, apartment, or mobile home use solar panels that generate electricity?

☐ Yes

☐ No

The American Community Survey

Electric Vehicles Question

- Requested by the Energy Information Administration (EIA)
- Housing-unit level data will help federal agencies:
 - Project future energy needs
 - Make technological and capital changes necessary within the energy infrastructure

14

Do you or any member of this household own or lease an electric vehicle? *Include both all-electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

The American Community Survey

Changes to the Race Standards

- On March 28, 2024, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published the results of its review of Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 (SPD 15) and issued updated standards for maintaining, collecting and presenting race/ethnicity data across federal agencies
- On November 5, 2024, the Census Bureau announced that we plan to implement the finalized 2024 SPD 15 in the 2027 ACS data collection cycle
- This means:
 - First 1-year estimates produced using updated standards will be the 2027 ACS 1-year data
 - First 5-year estimates produced solely using the updated standards will be the 2027-2031 ACS 5-year data
 - Until the ACS has 5 years of data collected using the updated standards, the Census Bureau will produce ACS 5-year estimates using a bridging technique, starting with the 2023-2027 ACS 5-year release
- We will keep the public informed as we continue the work of implementing the updated standards in the ACS

The American Community Survey

Engaging with Data Users

Ways we communicate:

- ACS Data Users Group online community (6,000+ members)
- ACS Data Users Group Steering Committee (10-15 members selected every 3 years)
- ACS Data User Conferences (biennial)
- ACS On the Road Events
- Public Webinars
- Presentations/exhibits at events across the country
- ACS website/data user resources
- Monthly e-mail updates to over 80,000 subscribers
- Social media marketing
- Ongoing support for respondents and data users via e-mail and phone calls
- Soliciting ACS data user stories and use cases



The American Community Survey

New Data User Resources

ACS course – Discovering the American Community Survey

- Module 1 – Introduction to the ACS
- Module 2 – Geography and the ACS
- Module 3 – Mastering the Variety of ACS Data Products; Navigating Releases, Tables, and Profiles
- Module 4 – Guidance for ACS Data Users
- Module 5 – Unlocking the Potential of the ACS Summary File and Public Use Microdata Sample Files
- Module 6 – ACS Course - Pulling It All Together



The American Community Survey

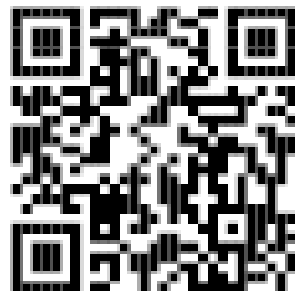
Stay Connected



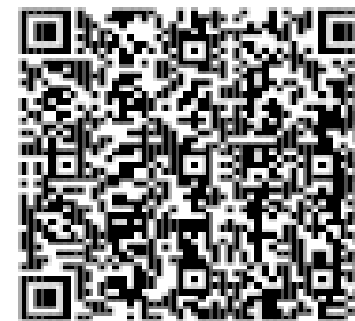
Share Your ACS
Data Story



JOIN THE
**ACS DATA
USERS GROUP**



Sign Up for
Email Updates



Thank you!

acso.users.support@census.gov