Using Census Data for Legislative District Research – through the American FactFinder

National Conference of State Legislatures
Legislative Summit 2011
San Antonio, TX
August 8th, 2011
Are you looking for senate district or house district information about:

- Race?
- Average household size?
- Occupancy status?
- Educational attainment?
- Travel time to work?
- Income and earnings?
- Poverty?
Data Sets and Subjects

• **100% data subjects**
  – Short form of the 2000 Decennial Census
  – 2010 Decennial Census

• **Sample data subjects**
  – Long form of the 2000 Decennial Census
  – American Community Survey
    • Only 5 year releases for State Legislative Districts
# Examples of Data Subjects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>100%</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sample</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population</td>
<td>Place of Birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race</td>
<td>Marital Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Age by Sex</td>
<td>Place of Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Family Size</td>
<td>Ancestry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Units</td>
<td>Educational Attainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacancy Status</td>
<td>Rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Real Estate Taxes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How Can You Access the Data?

• American FactFinder
  – www.census.gov, click on American FactFinder
  – http://factfinder2.census.gov

• FTP
The NEW American FactFinder is now available!

The transition from the legacy American FactFinder to the NEW American FactFinder will continue through the fall of 2011. Data on the legacy FactFinder will be moved to the NEW FactFinder in the coming months.  Frequently Asked Questions »

The legacy American FactFinder will be discontinued in the fall of 2011.

for data from

**Census 2010** (beginning in February 2011)
and **Census 2000**
going to

**factfinder2.census.gov**

Learn more about the New American FactFinder

For information about the release of data from the 2010 Census, see the **2010 Census Data Products** release schedule

for data from the

**American Community Survey,**
the **Economic Census,**
and **Population Estimates**
going to

**factfinder.census.gov**
Using the Quick Start Menu

• Easy search for specific named places, states, counties.
• Easy search for general topics
• Good for when you don’t know what data you need.
Targeting a Search

Select Topics to begin narrowing your selection.

• People
  • Counts, Age, Sex, Income, Origins, Poverty, Race & Ethnicity, etc.

• Housing
  • Counts, Occupancy, Tenure, etc.

• Year of Data Collection
Targeting a Search (cont.)

Select Topics to begin narrowing your selection.

• **Product Type**
  - Data Profiles, Detailed Tables, Quick Tables, etc.

• **Program**
  - Decennial, Population Estimates, Business Patterns, etc.

• **Dataset**

![Topics Selection](image-url)
When you make your topic selection it gets added to the “Your Selections” box at the upper left of the AFF screen.

Next select the Geographies menu to further narrow your selection. This will open a new window that overlays your current page.
This overlay window has three main areas.
• Your Geography Filters
• Geography Filter Options
• Geography Results

The default for the filter options is to only show the most commonly searched entities.

Each selection in the filters area narrows the selection.
The State Legislative Districts requires that we specify the summary level

- Upper Chamber = 610
- Lower Chamber = 620

Open the Summary Level sub-menu of the filter options by clicking the plus next to the entry “Summary Level”
Select the type of legislative district for which you are looking. This will move that selection into the “Your Geography Filters” box.

Every time you make a selection, the Geography Filters choices will update to reflect what is available based on the selections you have already made.
The “Geography Results” window also updates as each selection is made to reflect what is available based on your filter choice.
To further narrow your search, select the filter option of Within State and select your state of interest.

To select a single legislative district, or a number of legislative districts fewer than all within the state, select the Show all summary levels option.
Add checks to the districts you wish to view and click the Add button. This adds your selection to your overall selections window on the original AFF page.

Once you have added your choices you can close the Geographies window and return to the main AFF search page.
When you added your geographic choices the search results table was updated to display the tables that are available based on those choices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
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<th>Dataset</th>
<th>About</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QT-PL</td>
<td>Race, Hispanic or Latino, Age, and Housing Occupancy: 2010</td>
<td>2010 Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1</td>
<td>OCCUPANCY STATUS</td>
<td>2010 Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>P1</td>
<td>RACE</td>
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<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>HISPANIC OR LATINO, AND NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO BY RACE</td>
<td>2010 Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td>RACE FOR THE POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OVER</td>
<td>2010 Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4</td>
<td>HISPANIC OR LATINO, AND NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO BY RACE FOR THE POPULATION 18 YEARS AND OVER</td>
<td>2010 Redistricting Data SF (PL 94-171)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>G001</td>
<td>GEOGRAPHIC IDENTIFIERS</td>
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Use the checkboxes to make your selection and then click the View button.

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You now have the data you were seeking for the specific geographies you requested. So what do you do with it?

### OCCUPANCY STATUS

**Universe:** Housing units

2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>State Senate District 1 (2010), Texas</th>
<th>State Senate District 4 (2010), Texas</th>
<th>State Senate District 7 (2010), Texas</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>317,350</td>
<td>312,116</td>
<td>404,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Occupied:</strong></td>
<td>279,870</td>
<td>284,722</td>
<td>372,900</td>
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<td><strong>Vacant:</strong></td>
<td>37,480</td>
<td>27,394</td>
<td>32,004</td>
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Data Options

• Save the data (.pdf, .csv, .xls)
• Modify the Data
• Bookmark the Data
• Save a Query
• Create a Map
## Results - Click Back to Search to select other tables or geographies

### H1
**OCCUPANCY STATUS**

Universe: Housing units

2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File

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**NOTE:** For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/pl94-171.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/cen2010/pl94-171.pdf)

**NOTE:** Change to the California, Connecticut, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Virginia, and Washington P. L. 94-171 Summary Files as delivered.

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.
Table Types

• Quick Tables
• Geographic Comparison Tables
• Detailed Tables
• Customized Tables
Quick Tables

- Predefined tables with frequently requested information
- Identified in search results with id QT-xx where xx is the source table.
Geographic Comparison Tables

- Predefined tables that provide measures for 100-percent and sample population and housing subjects
- Users can compare data across geographic areas (i.e. state legislative districts)
- Identified in search results with ID = GCT-xx where xx is the source table.
Detailed Tables

- Tables from summary files that provide the most detailed data on all topics and geographic areas from the decennial census.
- Identified in search results with ID = the source table code. (P1, P2, H1, PCT1, etc.)
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rdo@census.gov
301-763-4039