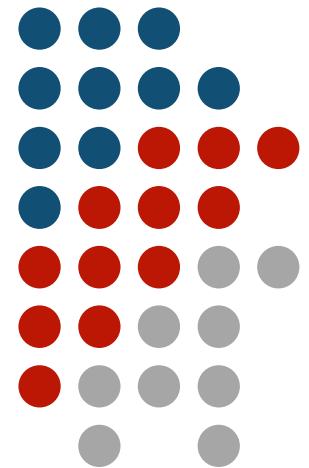


Understanding Housing Needs in Your Community Using Data from the American Community Survey

February 13, 2015

Lisa Sturtevant, PhD
Vice President of Research,
National Housing Conference

Webinar series sponsored by

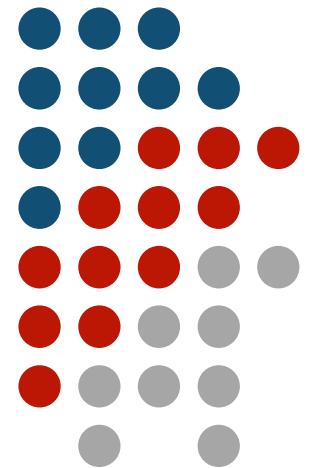


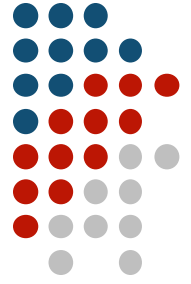
Understanding Housing Needs in Your Community Using Data from the American Community Survey

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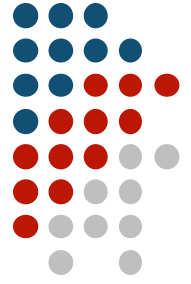
Webinar series sponsored by





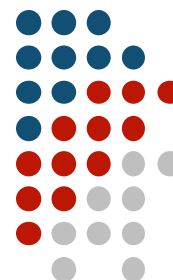
Agenda

- Overview of the American Community Survey
- American FactFinder Basics
- Accessing Housing and Population Data for Your Local Community
 - Hands-on exercise
 - Troubleshooting
- Presenting ACS Data



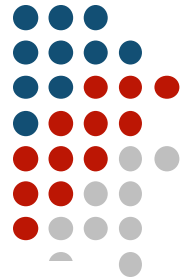
Objectives

- Provide an **introduction** to the American Community Survey
- Offer easy “1-2-3” steps for finding data for your local place
- Discuss effective ways to present survey data to tell your story



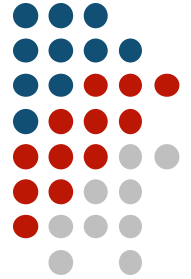
Overview of the American Community Survey

American Community Survey



- The American Community Survey (ACS) is a nationwide **survey** that collects essentially the same information on people and housing that was collected on the long-form questionnaire used in Census 2000.
- The ACS is a continuous survey, in which each month a sample of housing unit addresses receives a questionnaire. About three million addresses are surveyed each year.
- The Census Bureau began testing the ACS in the 2001-2004 period and has been in operation since 2005.
- The ACS will provide detailed population and housing characteristics every year.

American Community Survey (ACS)

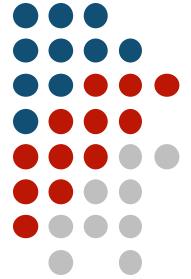


Demographic Characteristics

- Sex
- Age
- Race
- Hispanic/Latino origin



Photo: U.S. Census Bureau



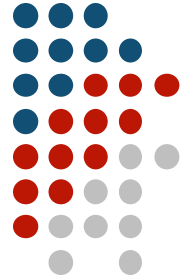
American Community Survey (ACS)

Social Characteristics

- Education
- Marital Status
- Fertility
- Grandparent Caregivers
- Veterans
- Disability Status
- Place of Birth
- Citizenship
- Year of Entry
- Language Spoken at Home
- Ancestry/Tribal Affiliation



Photo: U.S. Census Bureau



American Community Survey (ACS)

Economic Characteristics

- Income
- Benefits
- Employment Status
- Occupation
- Industry
- Commuting to Work
- Place of Work

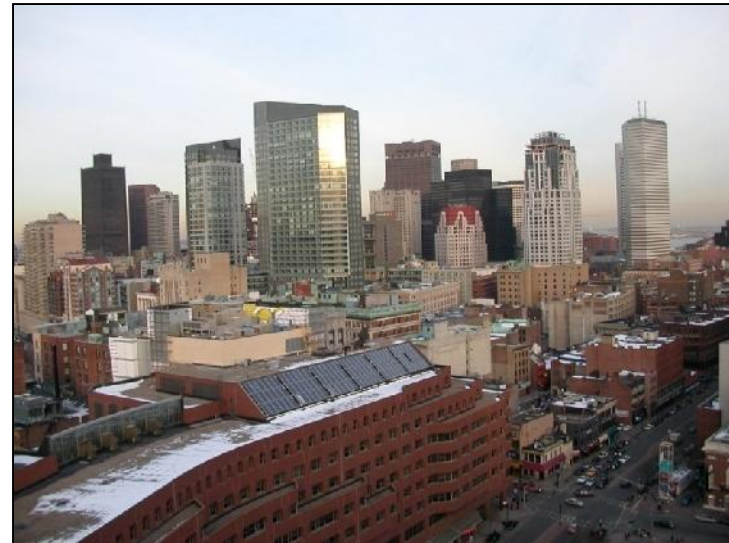
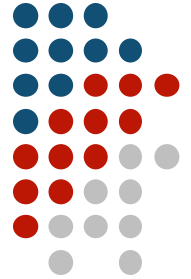


Photo: U.S. Census Bureau



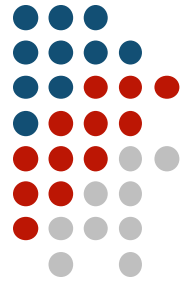
American Community Survey (ACS)

Housing Characteristics

- Tenure
- Occupancy & Structure
- Housing Value
- Taxes & Insurance
- Utilities
- Mortgage/Monthly Rent



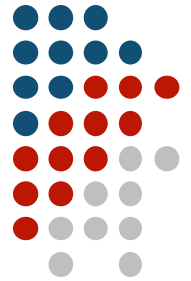
Photos: U.S. Census Bureau



American Community Survey (ACS) Estimates

- ACS estimates are period estimates, describing the average characteristics over a specified period (e.g. 2012, 2010-2012, 2008-2012).
- In contrast, point-in-time estimates describe the characteristics of an area on a specific date (e.g. April 1, 2010).
- ACS 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year estimates will be released for geographic areas that meet specific population thresholds.

American Community Survey (ACS)



Three different kinds of ACS estimates:

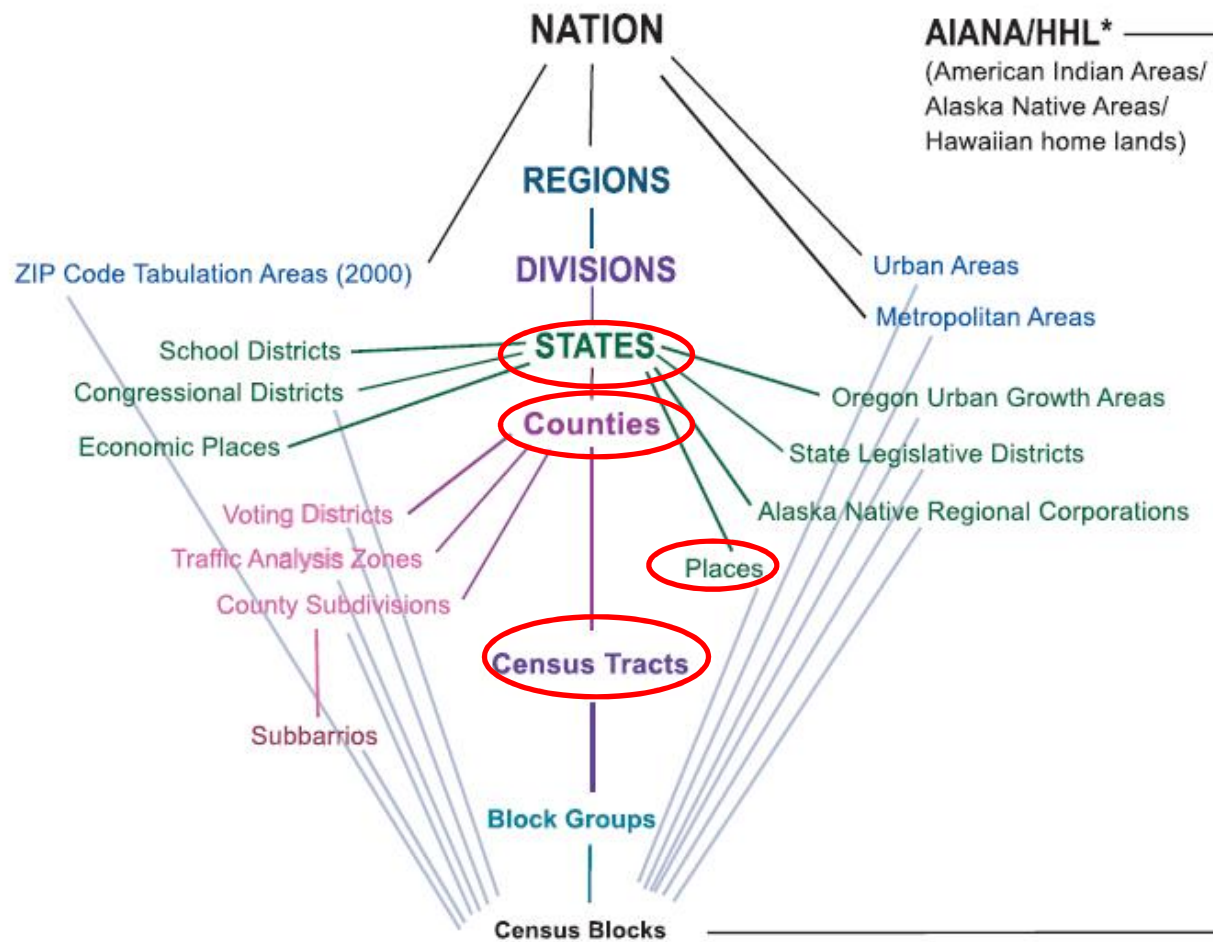
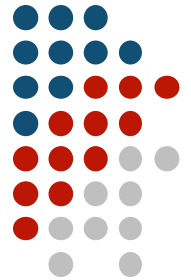
5-year estimates for all geographic areas (“small places”)

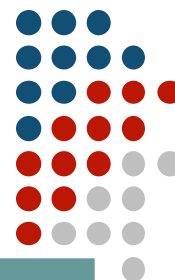
3-year estimates for areas with 20,000 or more (“medium places”)

1-year estimates for areas with 65,000 or more (“big places”)

Sample size (number of people surveyed) not large enough to obtain annual estimates for small areas.

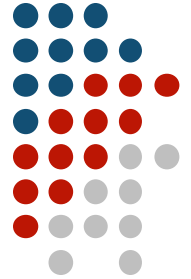
American Community Survey (ACS) Geographies



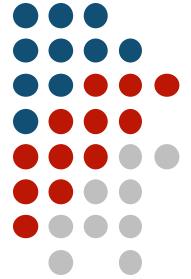


Comparing the Census and the ACS

	2010 Census	American Community Survey
Purpose	To show the <i>number</i> of people who live in the U.S.	To show <i>characteristics</i> of people who live in the U.S.
Questions	10 questions	+/-69 questions
Frequency	April 1, 2010	On-going
How to use it	To obtain counts and basic demographic characteristics	To summarize detailed characteristics using percentages and averages
Who is questioned	The entire population (over 130 million households)	A sample of the population (about 3 million households each year)
Type of data	Counts	Estimates with margins of error
Geographies available on AFF	Down to the block group level	Down to the tract level



Questions about the American Community Survey?



American FactFinder Basics

Start at [census.gov](https://www.census.gov)



Topics
Population, Economy

Geography
Maps, Geographic Data

Library
Infographies, Publications

Data
Tools, Developers

About the Bureau
Research, Surveys

Newsroom
News, Events, Blogs



Data Tools and Apps

Find information using interactive applications to get statistics from multiple surveys.

American FactFinder

Census Explorer

Easy Stats

Interactive Population Map

My Congressional District

Population Clock

Quick Facts

Data Tools and Apps

Developers

Mobile Apps

Product Catalog

Related Sites

Software

Training & Workshops

Visualizations

Office Employment

across the country. Explore job available in your state.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

World Population

7,219,773,012

Jan 23, 2015 17:59 UTC (Eastern+5)

[Learn More >>](#)

Select a state to begin



U.S. Census Bureau Economic Indicators

New Residential Construction	1,089,000	↑
December 2014 Report	Housing starts	4.4%
Released 8:30 AM EST, 1/21/15		
Business Inventories	\$1,763.6 B	↑
November 2014 Report		0.2%
Released 10:00 AM EST, 1/14/15		
Advance Monthly Retail Sales	\$442.9 B	↑
View All		

* change not statistically significant
* significance not reported / applicable

Latest News



2014 Population Estimates available on American FactFinder

January 22, 2015

2014 U.S. and State Population Estimates are now available on American FactFinder and Monthly Population Estimates to Jan. 1, 2015.

FFF: Super Bowl XLIX: Feb. 1, 2015

January 22, 2015

Super Bowl XLIX will be played Feb. 1 at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz.



FFF: Black (African-American) History Month: February 2015

January 21, 2015

Each year, U.S. presidents proclaim February as National African-American History Month. To commemorate, the Census Bureau presents the following statistics.



Educational Attainment in the United States: 2014

January 20, 2015

This table package provides statistics on academic achievement by demographic characteristics, such as age, sex and Hispanic origin.

Stat of the Day

Construction

Roofing contractors reported \$6.1 billion in annual payroll and \$1.6 billion in total fringe benefits for employees in 2012.

[Read More](#)



The Week Ahead

Fri	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur
Jan 23	Jan 26	Jan 27	Jan 28	Jan 29

Profile America Facts for Features and Graphic: Valentine's Day: Feb. 14, 2015

Tip Sheet: List and Description of Upcoming Census Bureau Releases and Products

American FactFinder

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

U.S. Department of Commerce
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MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER

English Español

▼ **Community Facts**

Find popular facts (population, income, etc.) and frequently requested data about your community.

Enter a state, county, city, town, or zip code:

► **Guided Search**

► **Advanced Search**

► **Download Center**



American FactFinder provides access to data about the United States, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas. The data in American FactFinder come from several censuses and surveys. For more information see [Using FactFinder](#) and [What We Provide](#).

Using American FactFinder

Learn about American FactFinder's [functions](#) and [features](#).

What We Provide

The following data are available on American FactFinder:

- American Community Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- American Housing Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Annual Economic Surveys [more »](#)
- Annual Surveys of Governments [more »](#)
- Census of Governments [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Decennial Census [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Economic Census [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Population Estimates Program [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Puerto Rico Community Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)

[more »](#)

Deep Linking Guide

A how-to guide for [Building Deep Links into American Factfinder](#) (PDF) is available.

News and Notes



December 09, 2014
The final estimate tables for the 2012 Commodity Flow Survey were released on December 9th, 2014...

◀ ◻ ◻ ◻ ◻ ▶

[view all news, release schedules, and more »](#)

Address Search

Find Census data by entering a [street address](#).



Reference Maps

Reference Maps show selected geographic boundaries for an area along with orienting features, such as roads.

Load Query

Use [Load Query](#) to restore a previously saved query.

American FactFinder

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

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United States Census Bureau

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MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER English Español

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Guided Search

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- Annual Economic Surveys [more »](#)
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- Census of Governments [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Decennial Census [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Economic Census [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Population Estimates Program [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Puerto Rico Community Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)

[more »](#)

Deep Linking Guide
A how-to guide for [Building Deep Links into American Factfinder](#) (PDF) is available.

For basic data →

For more detailed data →

For block group data →

American FactFinder

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

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MISSOURI KANSAS KENTUCKY VIRGINIA NORTH CAROLINA

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EnglishEspañol

Community Facts

Guided Search

Advanced Search

Search all data in American FactFinder, with access to all geographic types and datasets.

SHOW ME ALL

Download Center

American FactFinder provides access to data about the United States, Puerto Rico and the Island Areas. The data in American FactFinder come from several censuses and surveys. For more information see [Using FactFinder](#) and [What We Provide](#).

Using American FactFinder

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What We Provide

The following data are available on American FactFinder:

- American Community Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- American Housing Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Annual Economic Surveys [more »](#)
- Annual Surveys of Governments [more »](#)
- Census of Governments [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
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- Economic Census [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Tabulation [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Population Estimates Program [more »](#) | [get data »](#)
- Puerto Rico Community Survey [more »](#) | [get data »](#)

[more »](#)

Deep Linking Guide

A how-to guide for [Building Deep Links into American](#)

News and Notes

GET EMAIL UPDATES

December 04, 2014
Results from the 2013 American Housing Survey (AHS) are now available ...

view all news, release schedules, and more »

Address Search

Find Census data by entering a [street address](#).

Reference Maps

Reference Maps show selected geographic boundaries for an area along with orienting features, such as roads.

United StatesGO

Load Query

Use [Load Query](#) to restore a previously saved query.

javascript:showpath('as');

American FactFinder - Search

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t

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United States Census Bureau

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FactFinder

KANSAS MISSOURI VIRGINIA KENTUCKY NORTH

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH **ADVANCED SEARCH** DOWNLOAD CENTER

Search - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

Your Selections
"Your Selections" is empty

Search using the options below:
Topics
(age, income, year, dataset, ...)
Geographies
(states, counties, places, ...)
Race and Ethnic Groups
(race, ancestry, tribe)
Industry Codes
(NAICS industry, ...)
EEO Occupation Codes
(executives, analysts, ...)

To search for tables and other files in American FactFinder:
1 Enter search terms and an optional geography and click GO

topic or table name state, county or place (optional)

GO ?

☒ topics ☐ race/ancestry ☐ industries ☐ occupations

-- or --

Select from **Topics**, **Race and Ethnic Groups**, **Industry Codes**, **EEO Occupation Codes**.

- these are added to "Your Selections"
- the Search Results are updated

2 Next, select **Geographies** (states, counties, cities, towns, etc.)

- these are added to "Your Selections"
- the Search Results are updated

3 Select one or more Search Results and click **View**

American FactFinder - Search

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t

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KANSAS MISSOURI VIRGINIA KENTUCKY NORTH CAROLINA

MAINCOMMUNITY FACTSGUIDED SEARCHADVANCED SEARCHDOWNLOAD CENTER

Search - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

Your Selections
"Your Selections" is empty

To search for tables and other files in American FactFinder:
1 Enter search terms and an optional geography and click GO

Select Geographies
ListNameAddressMap

Enter a geography or use the Geography Filter Options below:
Enter a geography name (Alabama, Marengo County, ...)GO?

Your Geography Filters
"Your Geography Filters" is empty

Geography Filter Options
Geographic Type
Nation (1)
Region (22)
Division (9)
State (60)
County (10,046)
School District (29,305)
Congressional District (41,101)
State Legislative District (104)
City or Town (109,579)
Economic Place (16,689)
Township/Census County Division (61,299)
Census Tract (176,055)
Block Group (21,196)
Block (123,084)
Metro/Micro Area (2,763)
Urban Area (13,093)
ZIP Code/ZCTA (127,496)
Include in results:
☒ All geographies
☐ Individual geographies
☐ Groups of geographies
☐ Show Geographic Components (e.g., urban, rural)
Search using FIPS code:
Select a geographic type:

Select geographies to add to Your Selections
Select from:
☒ most requested summary levels
☐ all summary levels
☐ individual blocks

Geography Results: 1-25 of 734,133
Selected: AddCheck AllClear AllReset Sort

	Geography Name	Geography Type	About
<input type="checkbox"/>	United States	United States	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	All States within United States and Puerto Rico	State	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All States within United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas	State	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alabama	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Alaska	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arizona	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arkansas	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	California	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Colorado	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connecticut	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Delaware	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	District of Columbia	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Florida	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Georgia	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hawaii	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Idaho	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Illinois	State	i
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indiana	State	i

American FactFinder - Search

factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t

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MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH **ADVANCED SEARCH** DOWNLOAD CENTER

Search - Use the options on the left (topics, geographies, ...) to narrow your search results

Your Selections
"Your Selections" is empty

To search for tables and other files in American FactFinder:

1 Enter search terms and an optional geography and click GO

Select Topics **CLOSE X**

Select Topics to add to "Your Selections" ?

- + People
- + Housing
- + Business and Industry
- + Governments
- + Year
- + Product Type
- + Program
- + Dataset

Note: The Race & Ethnicity topic is available under the Race and Ethnic Groups button on the left.

☐ Include archived products in your search ?

2

3 Select one or more Search Results and click View

Search using the options below:

Topics
(age, income, year, dataset, ...)

Geographies
(states, counties, places, ...)

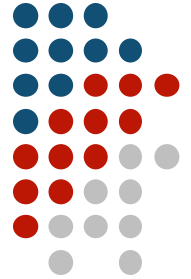
Race and Ethnic Groups
(race, ancestry, tribe)

Industry Codes
(NAICS industry, ...)

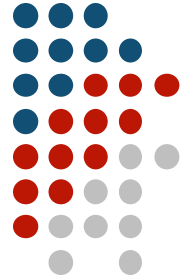
EEO Occupation Codes
(executives, analysts, ...)

Industry Codes, EEO Occupation Codes.

owns, etc.)

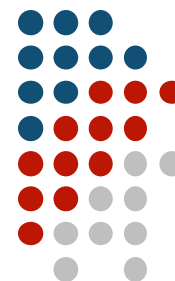


Questions about the Basic Set up of American FactFinder?



Accessing Housing and Population Data for Your Local Community

ACS Data for a Neighborhood or Local Jurisdiction

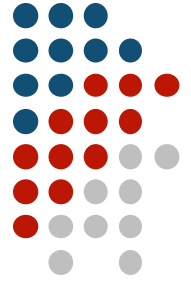


Write answers down to help guide search*

- What geographic **area(s)** do you want to know something about?
 - Use address lookup to find Census tracts, etc.
 - Determine available estimates (1-year, 3-year or 5-year). Small, medium or big place?
- What **information** do you want to know?
 - Info could be in Data Profiles or in detailed tables
- What **time period(s)** do you want information for?
 - Most recent ACS data are for 2013 (or 2011-2013 or 2009-2013)
 - Can usually compare relatively easily to 2000 Census

Accessing ACS Data

Step 1: Select Geography



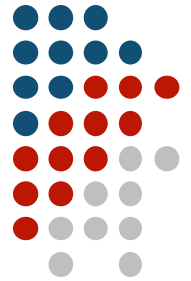
- Click on **Geographies**. Then you have the following options:
 - (Optional) Click on **Address** to type in an address and find the Census place, tract, block group, district, etc. associated with that address.
 - Click on **Name** and type the name of the place directly.

OR

- Click on **List** to use drop downs to find your place.
- Look for relevant geography in the list below (hopefully the first one.)
 - Click on the box next to it. Click on **Add**.
- Click on **Close**.

Accessing ACS Data

Step 2: Select ACS Dataset



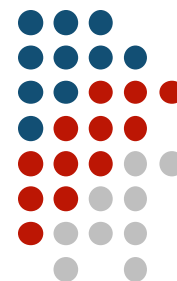
- Click on **Topics**.
 - Click on Datasets.
 - All of the most recent ACS data is at the top of the list. Click on the appropriate file (e.g. 2013 ACS 5-year estimates.)

For earlier data:

- 2010 SF1 100% Data (basic counts)
- 2000 SF1 100% Data (basic counts)
- 2000 SF3 Sample Data (detailed characteristics)

Accessing ACS Data

Step 3: Select Information/Characteristics

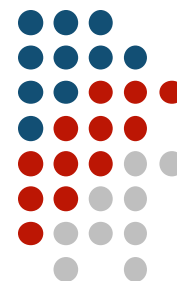


- Is the information you want in one of the 4 data profiles (tables start with the letter D)? Then stop here and click on **Close**.

Otherwise,

- Within **Topics**, click on either **People** or **Housing**.
 - Choose main topic of interest.
 - Choose data you want to “crosstab” with main topic of interest.
 - Click on **Close**.

ACS Data for a Neighborhood or Local Jurisdiction



Write answers down to help guide search*

- What geographic **area(s)** do you want to know something about?

*Arlandria neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia
("small place")*

- What **information** do you want to know?

No. of renters versus owners (tenure)

Rent burden by age of head of household

What **time period(s)** do you want information for?

Most recent data available (2009-2013)

American FactFinder - Res x

factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_13_5YR_B25072&prodType=table

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MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH DOWNLOAD CENTER

Advanced Search - Search all data in American FactFinder

1 Advanced Search

2 Table Viewer

Result 1 of 1

VIEW ALL AS PDF

B25072

AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER BY GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS

Universe: Renter-occupied housing units
2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Table View

BACK TO ADVANCED SEARCH

Actions:

Modify Table

Bookmark

Print

Download

Create a Map

View Geography Notes

View Table Notes

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

29 of 29

1

»

«

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»

»

Census Tract 2012.03, Alexandria city, Virginia

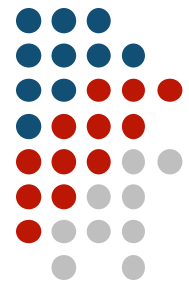
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	1,972	+/-222
Householder 15 to 24 years:	191	+/-97
Less than 20.0 percent	0	+/-17
20.0 to 24.9 percent	0	+/-17
25.0 to 29.9 percent	55	+/-62
30.0 to 34.9 percent	36	+/-42
35.0 percent or more	100	+/-64
Not computed	0	+/-17
Householder 25 to 34 years:	955	+/-176
Less than 20.0 percent	191	+/-97
20.0 to 24.9 percent	62	+/-53
25.0 to 29.9 percent	133	+/-84
30.0 to 34.9 percent	88	+/-62
35.0 percent or more	458	+/-149
Not computed	23	+/-40
Householder 35 to 64 years:	715	+/-166
Less than 20.0 percent	239	+/-115
20.0 to 24.9 percent	53	+/-42
25.0 to 29.9 percent	113	+/-77
30.0 to 34.9 percent	72	+/-73
35.0 percent or more	238	+/-126
Not computed	0	+/-17
Householder 65 years and over:	111	+/-90
Less than 20.0 percent	0	+/-17
20.0 to 24.9 percent	0	+/-17
25.0 to 29.9 percent	23	+/-35
30.0 to 34.9 percent	0	+/-17
35.0 percent or more	88	+/-82
Not computed	0	+/-17

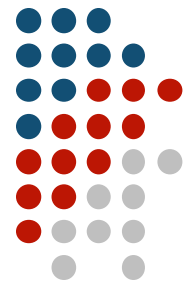
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey

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 29 of 29
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Census Tract 2012.03, Alexandria city, Virginia		
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	1,972	+/-222
Householder 15 to 24 years:	191	+/-97
Less than 20.0 percent	0	+/-17
20.0 to 24.9 percent	0	+/-17
25.0 to 29.9 percent	55	+/-62
30.0 to 34.9 percent	36	+/-42
35.0 percent or more	100	+/-64
Not computed	0	+/-17
Householder 25 to 34 years:	955	+/-176
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30.0 to 34.9 percent	72	+/-73
35.0 percent or more	238	+/-126
Not computed	0	+/-17
Householder 65 years and over:	111	+/-90
Less than 20.0 percent	0	+/-17
20.0 to 24.9 percent	0	+/-17
25.0 to 29.9 percent	23	+/-35
30.0 to 34.9 percent	0	+/-17
35.0 percent or more	88	+/-82
Not computed	0	+/-17

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey





B25003

TENURE


Universe: Occupied housing units 
2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year

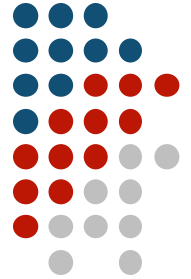
Table View 

Actions:  [Modify Table](#) |  [Bookmark](#) |  [Print](#) |  [Download](#)

Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates

	Census Tract 2012.03, Alexandria city, Virginia	
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	2,346	+/-187
Owner occupied	374	+/-107
Renter occupied	1,972	+/-222

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey



YOUR TURN!

ACS Data for a Neighborhood or Local Jurisdiction

Write answers down to help guide search*



- What geographic **area(s)** do you want to know something about?
 - Use address lookup to find Census tracts, etc.
 - Determine available estimates (1-year, 3-year or 5-year). Small, medium or big place?
- What **information** do you want to know?
 - Info could be in Data Profiles or in detailed tables
- What **time period(s)** do you want information for?
 - Most recent ACS data are for 2013 (or 2011-2013 or 2009-2013)
 - Can usually compare relatively easily to 2000 Census

Tenure
Rent burden
by age

Accessing ACS Data Step 2: Select ACS Dataset



- Click on **Topics**.
 - Click on Datasets.
 - All of the most recent ACS data is at the top of the list. Click on the appropriate file (e.g. 2013 ACS 5-year estimates.)

For earlier data:

- 2010 SF1 100% Data (basic counts)
- 2000 SF1 100% Data (basic counts)
- 2000 SF3 Sample Data (detailed characteristics)

Accessing ACS Data Step 1: Select Geography

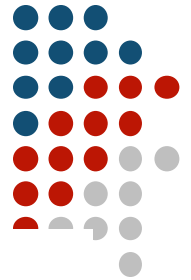


- Click on **Geographies**. Then you have the following options:
 - (Optional) Click on **Address** to type in an address and find the Census place, tract, block group, district, etc. associated with that address.
 - Click on **Name** and type the name of the place directly.
- OR
- Click on **List** to use drop downs to find your place.
- Look for relevant geography in the list below (hopefully the first one.)
 - Click on the box next to it. Click on **Add**.
- Click on **Close**.

Accessing ACS Data Step 3: Select Information/Characteristics

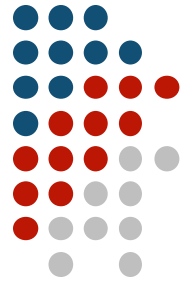


- Is the information you want in one of the 4 data profiles (tables start with the letter D)? Then stop here and click on **Close**.
- Otherwise,
- Within **Topics**, click on either **People** or **Housing**.
 - Choose main topic of interest.
 - Choose data you want to “crosstab” with main topic of interest.
 - Click on **Close**.



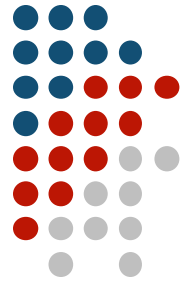
Troubleshooting

- I can't find my geography.
 - Use the address look up feature.
 - Type the county into the Name box. Then look through all of the possible geographies in the box below.
 - Be sure there is not another geography or a dataset in the Selections box from a prior search.
- I can't select the ACS data I want for my chosen geography.
 - Select a larger geography. (No block group data in ACS.)
 - Select a multi-year ACS dataset.



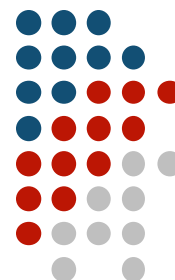
Troubleshooting (cont.)

- After I select the information I want, there are no tables shown
 - Remove one of the (crosstab) topics then scan through the set of tables shown (esp. if less than 20 or so tables)
- I found good ACS data but I can't find the same data from the 2010 SF3.
 - Check out the ACS/2010 table comparison page:
http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/table_comparisons/
- The margins of error for the data I want are HUGE!
 - Use it with caveats or find another piece of information.

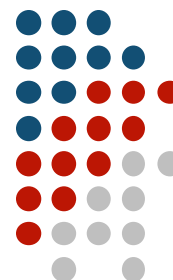


Issues with ACS Estimates

- Margins of Error
 - Surveys have error and the ACS tables give you the margins of error for each estimate.
 - MOEs provide an indication of how reliable the data are.
 - Larger MOEs (less reliable data) for smaller places and for smaller populations/detailed crosstabulations.
- Making Comparisons Between Places and Over Times
 - Use the same period estimates (e.g. 5-year or 3-year) to compare two places.
 - Do not compare single-year to multi-year estimates.
 - Do not compare overlapping multi-year estimates.

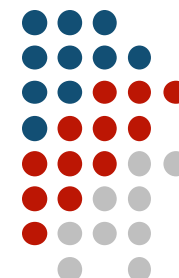


Questions on Accessing ACS Data with American FactFinder?



Presenting ACS Data

Basic table from American FactFinder



B25072

AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER BY GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSE

Universe: Renter-occupied housing units ⓘ

2013 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

Table View

Actions:

[Modify Table](#)

[Bookmark](#)

[Print](#)

[Download](#)

[Create a Map](#)

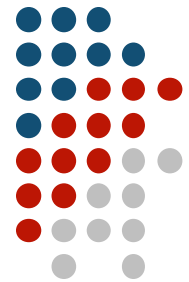
Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and

		Alexandria city, Virginia	
		Estimate	Margin of Error
<< 1 29 of 29 >>	Total:	35,846	+/-2,274
	Householder 15 to 24 years:	1,452	+/-568
	Less than 20.0 percent	156	+/-259
	20.0 to 24.9 percent	78	+/-84
	25.0 to 29.9 percent	275	+/-230
	30.0 to 34.9 percent	50	+/-80
	35.0 percent or more	843	+/-431
	Not computed	50	+/-85
	Householder 25 to 34 years:	12,854	+/-1,654
	Less than 20.0 percent	3,940	+/-956
	20.0 to 24.9 percent	1,852	+/-571
	25.0 to 29.9 percent	1,754	+/-573
	30.0 to 34.9 percent	1,633	+/-828
	35.0 percent or more	3,241	+/-1,137
	Not computed	434	+/-299
	Householder 35 to 64 years:	18,932	+/-1,682
	Less than 20.0 percent	5,463	+/-982
	20.0 to 24.9 percent	2,324	+/-772
	25.0 to 29.9 percent	2,211	+/-926
	30.0 to 34.9 percent	1,478	+/-600
	35.0 percent or more	6,891	+/-1,545
	Not computed	565	+/-379
	Householder 65 years and over:	2,608	+/-779
	Less than 20.0 percent	240	+/-196
	20.0 to 24.9 percent	0	+/-198
	25.0 to 29.9 percent	631	+/-462
	30.0 to 34.9 percent	438	+/-363
	35.0 percent or more	811	+/-437
	Not computed	488	+/-360

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey

Renters' Housing Cost Burden by Selected Household Characteristics: 2013

Alexandria, Virginia



	Spending 30% or More of Income on Rent		
	Total Households	Number of Households	Percent
All Renters	35,846	15,385	42.9%
Age of Household Head			
15 to 24	1,452	893	61.5%
25 to 34	12,854	4,874	37.9%
35 to 64	18,932	8,369	44.2%
65+	2,608	1,249	47.9%
Household Income			
Less than \$20,000	4,523	2,887	63.8%
\$20,000 - 34,999	4,255	4,152	97.6%
\$35,000 - 49,999	4,086	3,802	93.0%
\$50,000 - 74,999	6,570	3,444	52.4%
\$75,000 - 99,000	6,979	921	13.2%
\$100,000 or more	9,433	179	1.9%

Source: American Community Survey, 2013 1-year file

Renters' Housing Cost Burden by Selected Household Characteristics: _____

Spending 30% or More of Income on
Rent

	Total Households	Number of Households	Percent
All Renters			

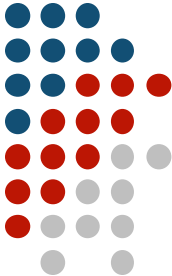
Age of Household Head

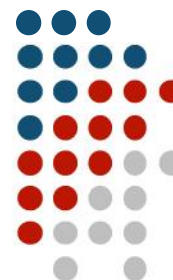
15 to 24			
25 to 34			
35 to 64			
65+			

Household Income

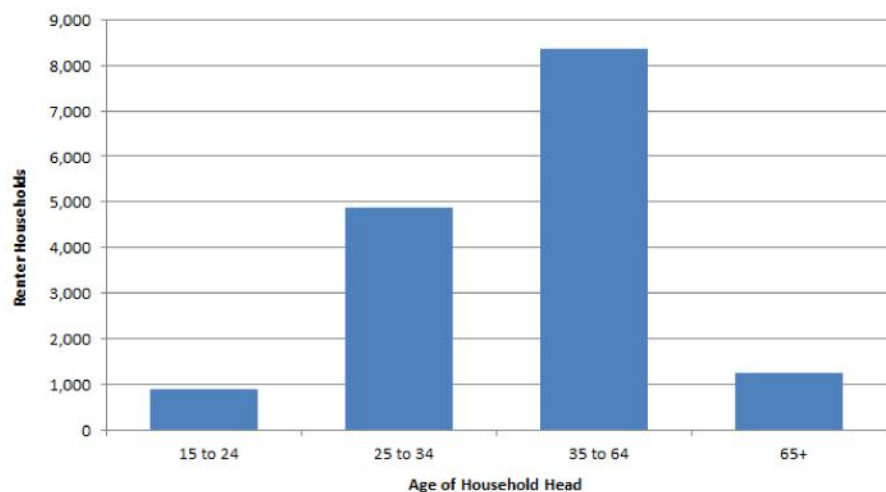
Less than \$20,000
\$20,000 - 34,999
\$35,000 - 49,999
\$50,000 - 74,999
\$75,000 - 99,000
\$100,000 or more

Source: _____



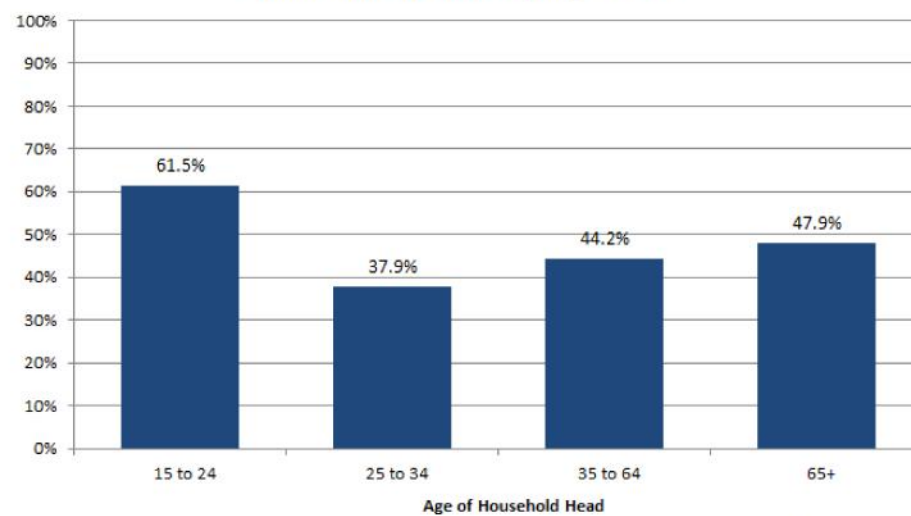


No. of Renter Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Rent by Age: 2013

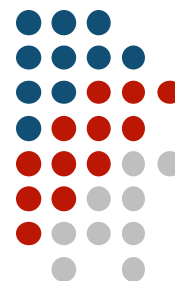


Source: American Community Survey, 2013 1-year file

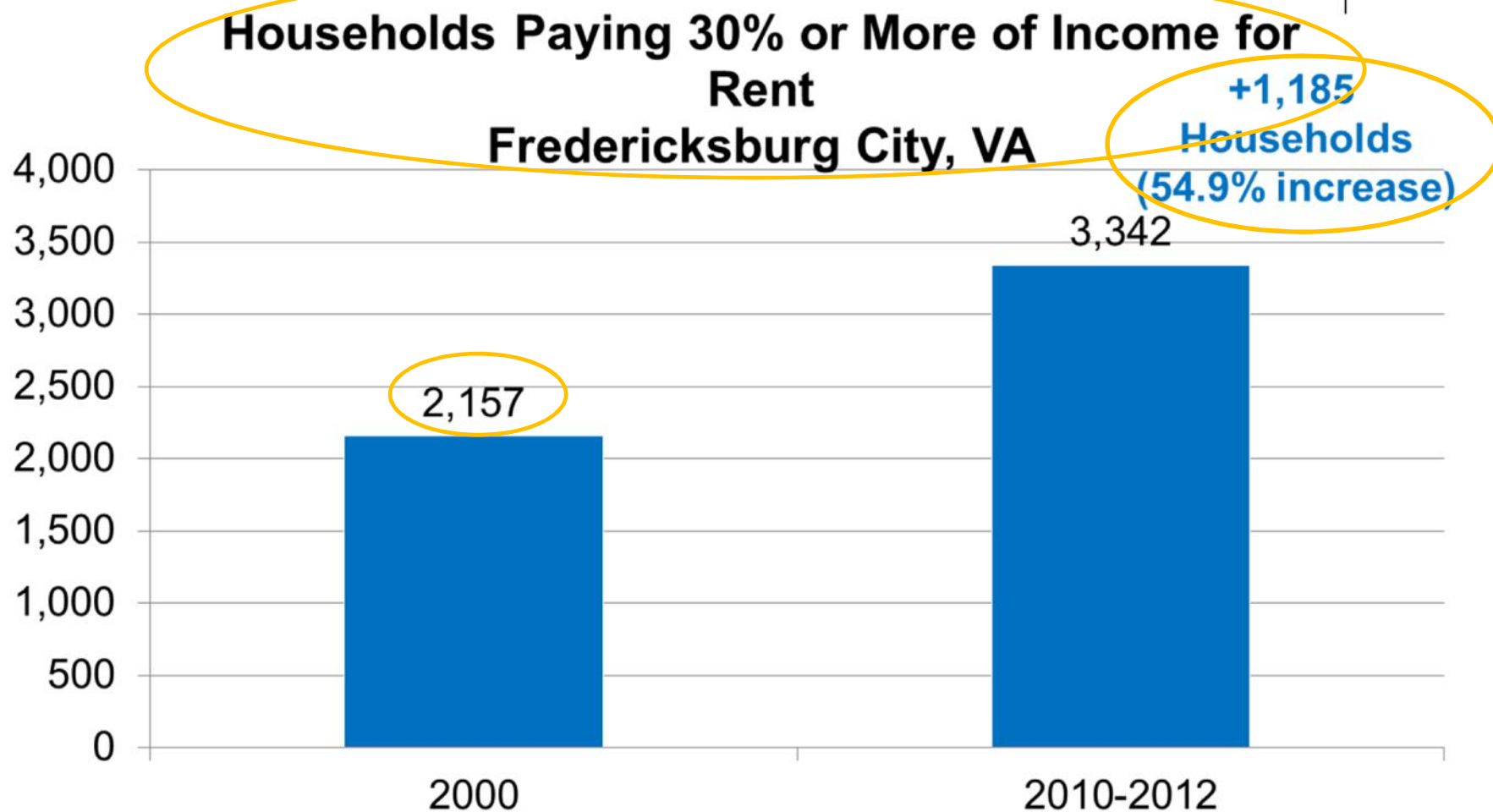
Percent of Renter Households Spending 30% or More of Income on Rent by Age: 2013



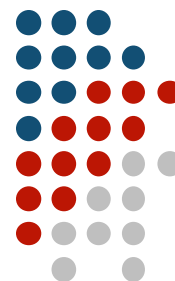
Source: American Community Survey, 2013 1-year file



Showing Change: Numbers

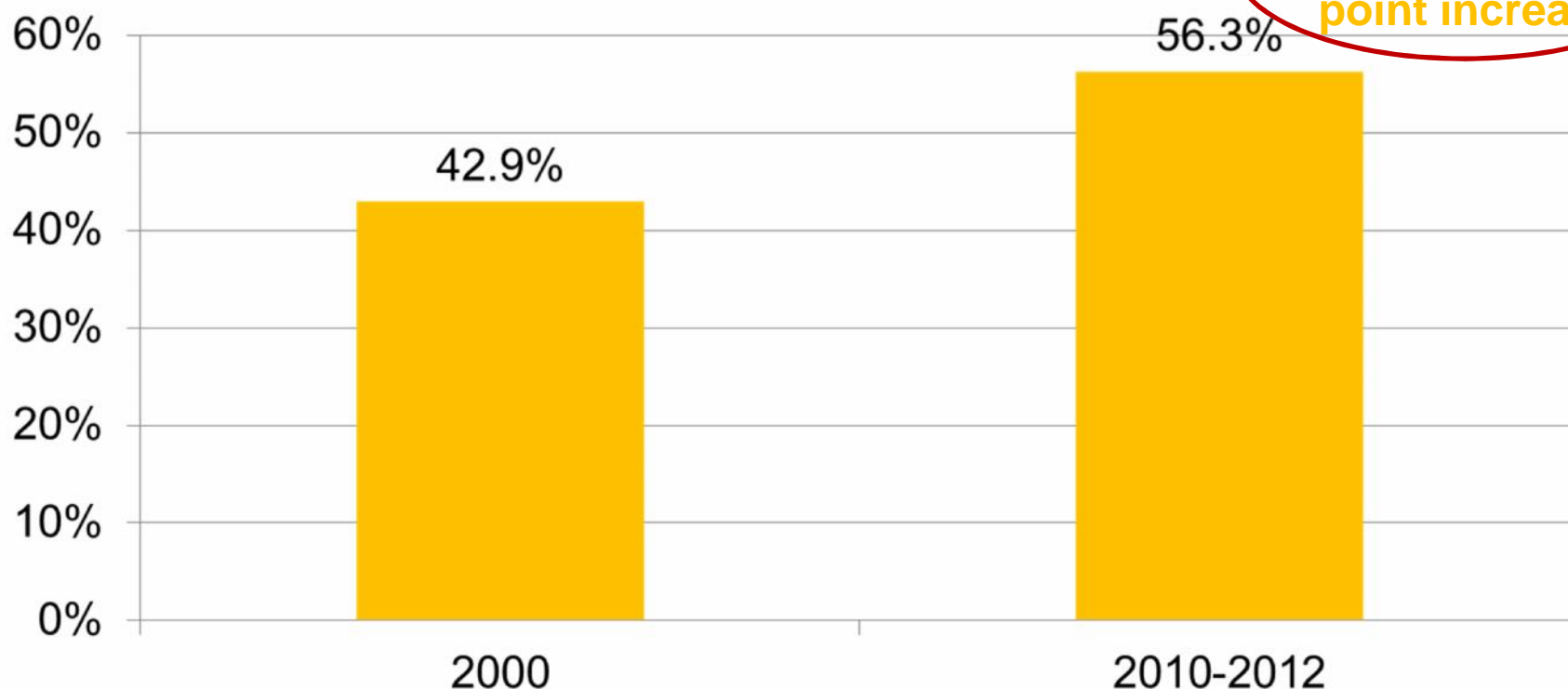


Source: 2000 Census Summary File 3; 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

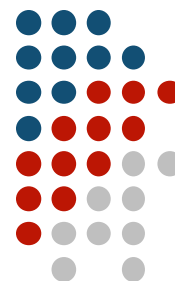


Showing Change: Percentages

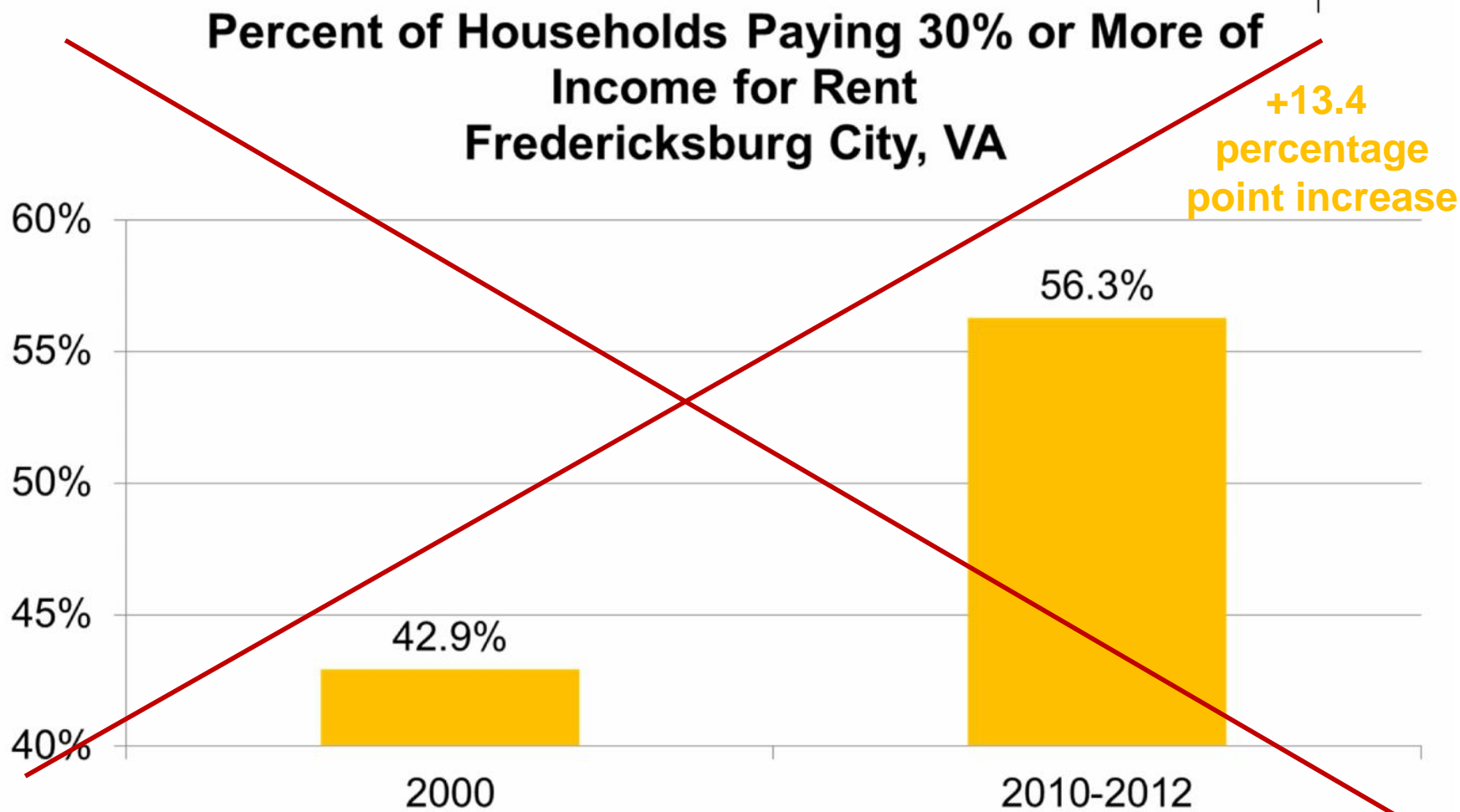
**Percent of Households Paying 30% or More of
Income for Rent
Fredericksburg City, VA**



Source: 2000 Census Summary File 3; 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

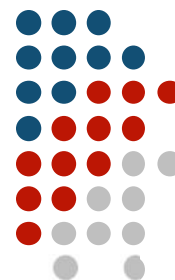


Showing Change: Percentages



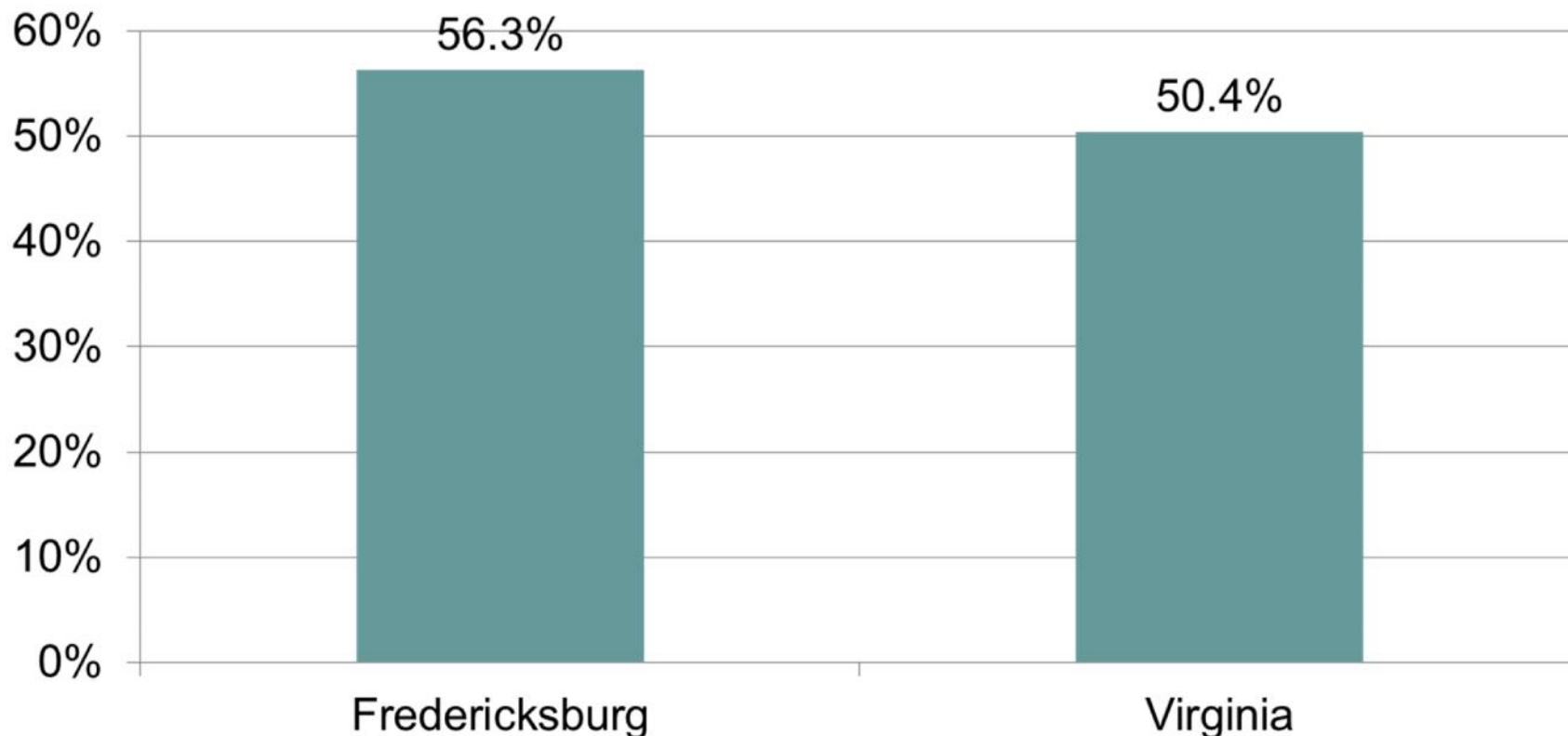
Source: 2000 Census Summary File 3; 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

Showing Comparisons: Two Places



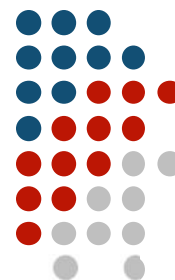
**Percent of Households Paying 30% or More of
Income for Rent**

Fredericksburg City, VA and Virginia

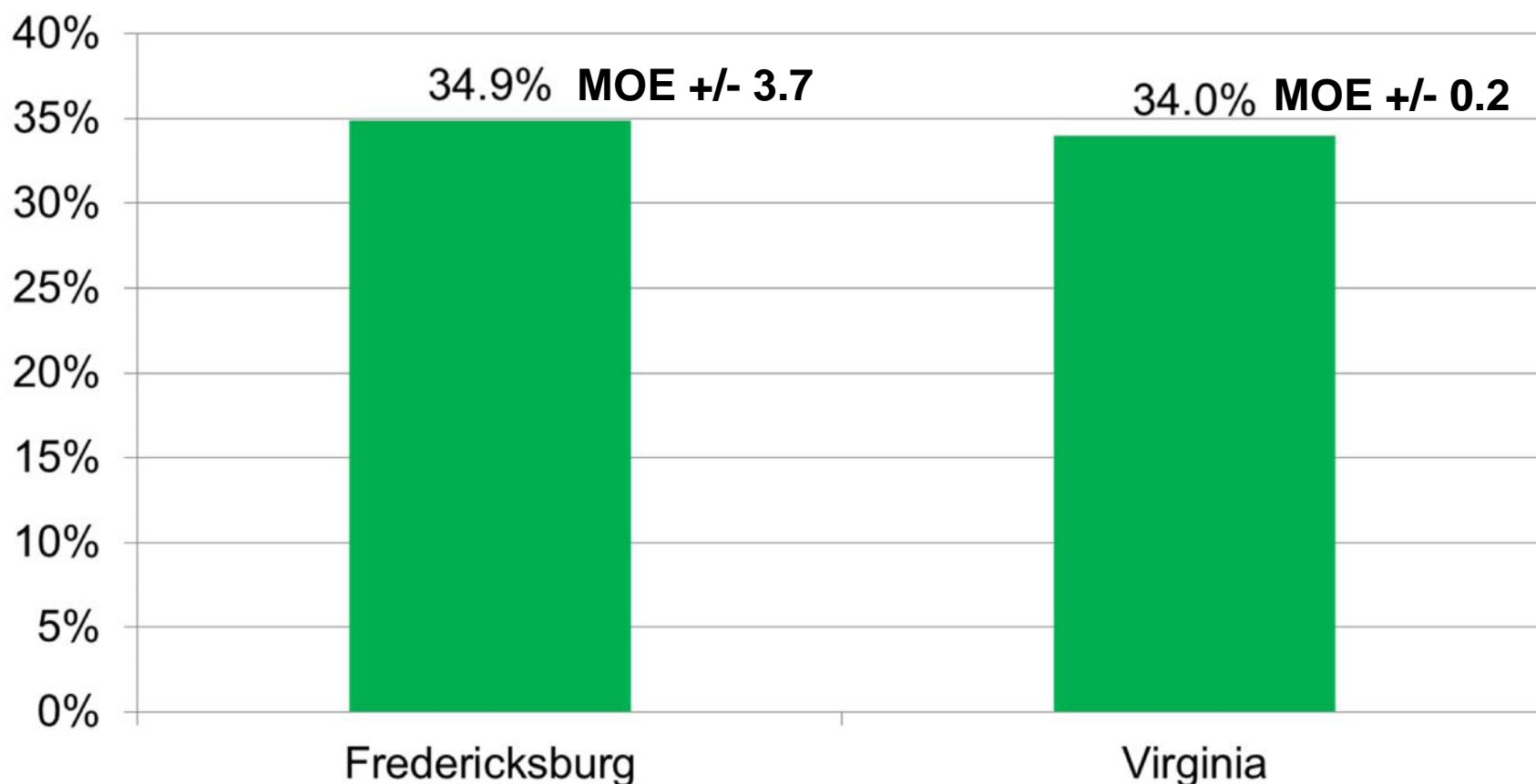


Source: 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

Showing Comparisons: Two Places

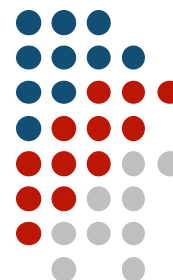


Percent of Population with a Bachelor's Degree Fredericksburg City, VA and Virginia



Source: 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

Showing Comparisons: Two Places

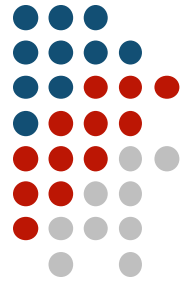


	Estimate	MOE	90% Confidence Interval
Fredericksburg	34.0%	3.7	30.3% – 37.7%
Virginia	34.9%	0.2	34.7% – 35.1%

Source: 2010-2012 American Community Survey 3-year file

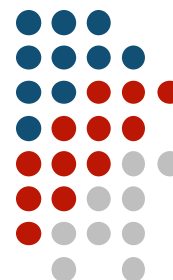


Because the confidence intervals overlap, we cannot say there is a “significant difference” in share of the population with a bachelor’s degree.

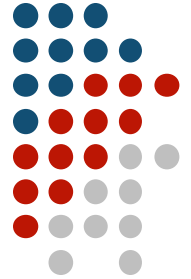


Review

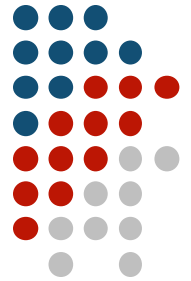
- Presenting data in tables and charts
 - Think about whether showing numbers or percentages is best
- Showing Change
 - Don't use overlapping years of ACS data
 - Start the left axis at zero (usually)
 - Numbers (and percent change)
 - Percentages (and percentage point change)
- Showing Comparisons
 - Use the same ACS period (smallest geography determines)



Questions on Presenting ACS Data?

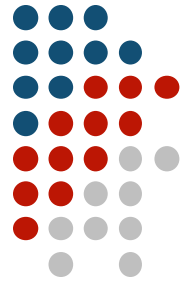


Other Places to Find Local Data



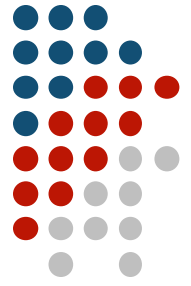
Other Places to Find Data

- HUD CHAS (Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy) data:
http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/cp/CHAS/data_querytool_chas.html
- Households by % AMI
- Summary of cost burdened households by income & tenure
- Smallest area = places
- Most recent data = 2007-2011



Other Places to Find Data

- On The Map:
<http://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>
- Census mapping tool that combines ACS with other survey and administrative data
- Labor market profile, income/commuting of workers
- Smallest area = tracts (can import your own unique geographies)
- Most recent ACS data = 2007-2011

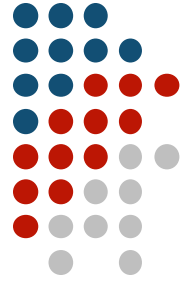


Other Places to Find Data

- Urban Institute's Housing Assistance Matters Initiative:

<http://www.urban.org/housingaffordability/>

- Uses ACS data to show the gap between housing demand and supply for extremely low income renters
- Smallest area = counties (cities)
- Most recent ACS data = 2008-2012



Other Places to Find Data

- HUD & DOT Location Affordability Portal
<http://www.locationaffordability.info/lai.aspx>
- Combines ACS and other data to show the combined housing and transportation costs for different household types
 - Also number of vehicles, vehicle miles traveled, transit trips
- Available at the block level

Thank You!

Find Housing Data and Research from NHC

www.nhc.org

Lisa Sturtevant

Lsturtevant@nhc.org

