Accessing Census Data for Grant Writing

Hands-on exercises
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1. Use QuickFacts to find recent information on the San Diego County, CA.
   a. What was the population on Census 2010? ________
   b. What was the population percentage change in 2016 ________
   c. What was the percentage of persons 65 years and over in 2016? ________
   d. What was the median gross rent, 2011-2015? ________
   e. What was the Median household income, 2011-2015? ________

Instructions:
- Navigate to Census.gov > (center page) QuickFacts > Select a state to begin = California
- In the Search Box, top left of the page, enter San Diego County > Go
- (San County and California now appear side by side) * you can compare up to 6 geographies

Find more information on the San Diego County: click next to the orange magnifying glass.

Scroll down the page to see the available data sources, including the four most recent 5-year American Community Survey (ACS) Data Profiles: Social, Economic, Housing, and Demographic Characteristics, and the 2010 Census Demographic Profile.

The four ACS Data Profiles contain more than 450 characteristics about your selected area and are available down to the census tract level (through American FactFinder).

Return to Homepage Tip: Click the United States Census Bureau heading at the top left of any page to return to the homepage, census.gov

2. What was the most recent number of vacant housing units (and MOE) in California 52nd Congressional District? What was the dataset for these numbers?
   - Census.gov > Data tab > Data Tools and Apps > My Congressional District
   - Select a State = California > Select a District = Congressional District 41
   - Choose a topic = Housing > Check Display Margin of Error > Scroll down page for dataset
AFF COMMUNITY FACTS

3. In the period 2011-2015, how many veterans lived in the ZIP code 92106?

Instructions:
- Census.gov > Data tab > Data Tools and Apps > American FactFinder
- Community Facts (Enter in the search box) 92106 > GO
- Click on “Veterans” filter bar

Note you can link to data tables by clicking the blue hyperlinks:
Click hyperlink for the Veteran Status table (under 2015 American Community Survey) and note that ZCTA5 92106 (for Zip Code Tabulation Area 5-digit code 92106) spans all data columns. All data are for 92106. Look at the left of the page where you can select the table for previous years

AFF GUIDED SEARCH

4. In the 2015 ACS 5-year estimates, what percent of people living in San Diego County spoke a language other than English at home?

Instructions:
- Click “Main” top left blue bar
- AFF Guided Search (tab in blue bar) > At pop-up, click “Continue”
- (default radio button) I’m looking for information about people > Next
- (Note Arrow 2. Topics is activated)
- Expand Language (click on “+”) = Select “Language Spoken at Home”
- (Your Selections box currently shows 1,967 tables available based on your filter)
- Click Next. Geographies
- (Enter in the Search box) San Diego County
- (Click on Riverside County in the type-ahead drop-down list, then click GO)
- Arrow 4. Race/Ethnic Groups > Skip This Step
- (Arrow 5. Search Results)
- Click hyperlink for Language Spoken at Home (S1601) 2015 ACS 5-year estimates

Proceed to the next exercise

AFF KEYWORD SEARCH: ACS Data Profiles

8. Create the most current (2016) ACS Data Profiles for San Diego County, CA
Instructions:

- On the blue menu bar (below the AFF logo), select Advanced Search
- (At the pop-up, click Continue)
- In the Your Selections box (top left now) – click “clear all selections and start a new search”

- Easiest method: Use the two search text boxes
- (left side-topic or table name) > enter data profile
- (right side—state, county or place) > enter San Diego County, California
- (On the type-ahead drop-down menu, highlight San Diego County, California) > GO

- The ACS 1-year estimates are more current than the 5-year or 3-year estimates.
- Choose the 2016 ACS 1-year estimates (2016) for each selection

- Click the checkboxes for DP02, DP03, DP04, and DP05 > click View link at the top of list
- DP02 will be the first profile displayed
- To display the next one, click the right arrow top right of page, Result 1 of 4
- You may view each profile consecutively by clicking right arrow again

NOTE: You may make a pdf of these, but only 3 tables (at a time). Also best to download single Excel files, i.e. DP02, 03, 04, 05 individually.

Back to Advanced Search and clear all selections

NOTE:

Data Profiles are most popular product type (table format) on American FactFinder.

Each year the four data profiles are updated: demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics – more than 450 characteristics for your selected geography.

The keyword search is the easiest way to create the data profiles at the state, county, or place levels, but with the Geography filter you may create the data profiles down to the census tract or Zip Code Tabulation Area levels.

See AFF Help > Advanced Search > Search Using Filters

AFF ADDRESS SEARCH and REFERENCE MAP

9. **Find what census tract number you live (or any other)**

   (a) **What is the census tract number?**
   (b) **How do you create a reference map of this tract?**

Instructions:
10. **Make thematic maps of median household income by census tract in San Diego County, California:  for 2013, 2000, and 1990.**

** Instructions:**
- Census.gov > Data tab > Data Tools and Apps > Census Explorer
- Scroll down to Census Explorer: **People, Education and Income**
- (text box, upper right) **San Diego County, CA** (highlight drop-down)
- Select a Measure = (default) Median Household Income > Show by = Census Tract
- As you mouse over the individual census tracts, specific data for each tract displays
- Click “+” (upper right) to zoom in and move cursor to pan across map

- Change dataset from 2013 5-year ACS to 2000 Census, then to 1990 Census
- Return to homepage

**ACS Narrative Profiles**

11. **Create a current Narrative Profile for Riverside City, California.**

** Instructions:**
Census.gov footer (scroll down to the bottom of the page) > People & Households column = **American Community Survey**
Data tab > Data Tables and Tools > Chose Narrative Profiles from the box on the left
(left column) 2015 Data Release
(link mid-page center) 2011-2015 ACS 5-year Narrative Profiles

Step 1: move radio button to Search Using Dropdown Menus
Step 2: Place
Step 3: Choose a state = California > Choose place = San Diego County, California > **Get Profile**
Answer Key

Question 1
Answer (a):

Answer (b):

Answers (c):

Answer (d):

Answer (e):

Question 2
Answer:

Question 3
Answer:

Question 4
Answer:

Acronyms Used

ACS    American Community Survey
AFF    American FactFinder
CDP    Census Designated Place
MOE    Margin of Error
SBO    Survey of Business Owners
ZCTA   Zip Code Tabulation Area