Valuable New Datasets on Race and Ethnicity From the U.S. Census Bureau

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During my tenure as director of the U.S. Census Bureau, I have met with hundreds of users of Census Bureau data across America including partners, state, local and tribal government officials, community groups and businesses. I appreciate their willingness to engage in a two-way flow of ideas, suggestions and concerns —and listened carefully to what they said. A key message that emerged was the need for more relevant data that better captures their local experience and reflects the rich diversity of their communities and neighbors.

One clear takeaway was the expressed value of disaggregated data, especially by race and ethnicity. To better understand the increasing complexities of our communities, we need data that better reflect our nation’s demographic characteristics (such as age, sex, relationship and racial and ethnic groups) and geographic levels. Combining these data with information about housing, voting, language, employment and education can create great potential for understanding economic development possibilities, addressing community needs and mitigating inequities. The data can also be used to help governments and communities enforce antidiscrimination laws, regulations and policies.

It is for these reasons I’m pleased to tell you about a selection of our upcoming data releases.

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Selected Population Tables and American Indian and Alaska Native Tables Webinar and Embargo

The data tables are set to be embargoed beginning June 13 at 10 am ET for public release June 15. The data tables are released approximately every five years and provide the most detail for groups that are not published in the standard ACS 5-year estimates. This is the third time the Census Bureau has released these detailed 5-year ACS estimates. (Scheduled for release June 15.)

Vintage 2022 Population Estimates for the Nation, States and Counties by Age, Sex, Race and Hispanic Origin and for Puerto Rico Commonwealth and its Municipios by Age and Sex

The U.S. Census Bureau will release Vintage 2022 population estimates by demographic characteristics June 22. Internet tables and detailed downloadable files will show annual population estimates for the nation, states and counties by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, and for Puerto Rico Commonwealth and its municipios by age and sex between April 1, 2020 and July 1, 2022. (Scheduled for embargo starting June 20, for public release June 22.)
Employment and Labor Force Characteristics of Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex Married Householders and Their Spouses

The Census Bureau will release an updated table package, Employment and Labor Force Characteristics for Same-Sex and Opposite-Sex Married Householders and Their Spouses, with statistics from the 2021 American Community Survey. Data are available at the national and state levels and for 15 selected metropolitan areas. Statistics include key employment, labor force and work status statistics broken down by race and Hispanic origin for same-sex and opposite-sex spouses. (Tentatively scheduled for release in June.)

Geographic Mobility Data for States and Place of Birth Tables Now Available

JUNE 8, 2023 — The U.S. Census Bureau released new statistics that highlight geographic mobility and place of birth at the state level. Geographic mobility refers to the movement of people from one location of residence to another. These data come from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS).

The one-year state-to-state migration flows table provides estimates of the number of people moving between origin and destination geographies. These geographies include the 50 states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and abroad (for movers to the United States). The 2021 place of birth table package shows estimates for state of current residence by area of birth.

For more information about this release, visit America Counts: Going with the Flow: State-to-State Migration.

Census Bureau Releases School Enrollment Report

JUNE 8, 2023 — The U.S. Census Bureau today released a new report that examines school enrollment at all levels in 2021 as well as changes in enrollment from prior years using statistics from the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS provides data on enrollment in preschool, elementary school, high school, college and professional school. Public, private and homeschool enrollment are also included.

Highlights include:

In 2021, school enrollment included 4.1 million preschool students, 4.0 million kindergarteners, 32.9 million students in first through eighth grades, 17.3 million high schoolers, 16.6 million college undergraduate students, and 4.6 million graduate students.

Home Alone: More Than A Quarter of All Households Have One Person

Share of One-Person Households More Than Tripled from 1940 to 2020

Over a quarter (27.6%) of all U.S. occupied households were one-person households in 2020, up from just 7.7% in 1940, according to recently released 2020 Census data.

The share of people living alone increased every decade from 1940 to 2020 (Figure 1). The largest increase happened between 1970 and 1980, when the share increased from 17.6% to 22.7%.

The overall share of people living alone inched up (from 26.7% to 27.6%) between 2010 and 2020. So did the share (from 9.4% to 11.1%) of one-person households headed by adults ages 65 and over. But the share of one-person households among people ages 15 to 64 declined from 17.3% to 16.5% during the same period.

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