American Community Survey Program Updates

September 9, 2025

Presentation to the MWCOG Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee

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The American Community Survey The Foundation

- The American Community Survey (ACS) is the premier source of detailed information about the nation's people and housing
- Surveys 3.5 million addresses to produce annual social, economic, housing, and demographic estimates for communities throughout the 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico
- Covers 40+ topics Collects detailed information previously collected by the decennial census each decade
- Helps inform how federal funds are distributed each year, supports over 300 evidence-based federal government uses
- Data released the year after collection as 1-year and 5-year estimates
- Officially started in 2005



American Community Surve

Census



The American Community Survey Recent Changes — New Content for the 2025 ACS



Three new questions:

- Sewer
- Electric Vehicles
- Solar Panels



Four modified questions:

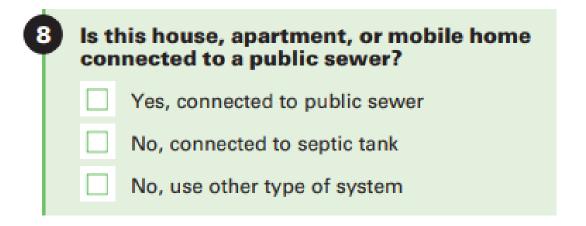
- Household Roster
- Educational Attainment
- Health Insurance Coverage
- Labor Force

census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/about/forms-and-instructions.html



The American Community Survey Sewer Question

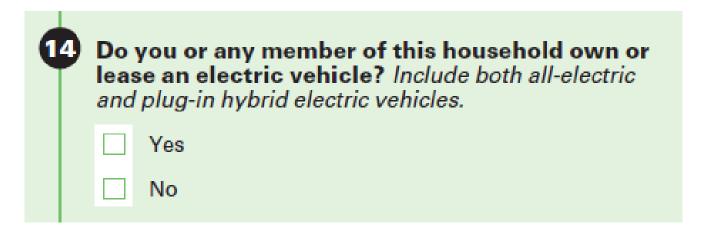
- Requested by the Environmental Protection
 Agency and the Food and Drug Administration
- Data are critical for understanding the wastewater infrastructure in rural and smaller communities
- Data allow for monitoring of water quality (i.e., impacts to well water) as well as potential environmental impacts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





The American Community Survey Electric Vehicles Question

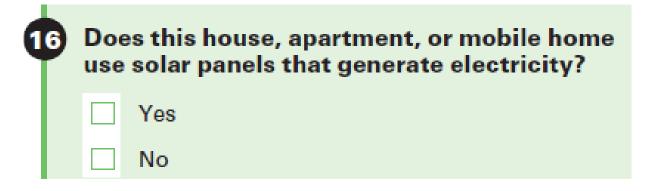
- Requested by the Energy Information Administration (EIA)
- Housing-unit level data will help federal agencies:
 - Project future energy needs
 - Make technological and capital changes necessary within the energy infrastructure





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.





The American Community Survey Future Changes — Race Standards

Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 (SPD 15)

• On March 28, 2024, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued updated standards for maintaining, collecting and presenting race/ethnicity data across federal agencies

ACS Plans to Implement in 2027

 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

Data with New Standard will be available starting in 2028

- 1-year estimates with the new standard will be the 2027 ACS 1-year data
- 5-year estimates produced <u>solely</u> 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 5year release



The American Community Survey Planned 2024 ACS Data Releases

2024 ACS 1-Year Release	
Data Products	Release
1-Year Estimates	September 11, 2025
1-Year Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)	October 16, 2025
1-Year Supplemental Estimates	October 16, 2025
2020-2024 ACS 5-Year Release	
2020-2024 ACS 5-fedi Release	
Data Products	Release
	Release December 11, 2025
Data Products	



The American Community Survey New Tables

Table ID	Title	
Race		
B02022	White Alone by Selected Groups	
C02022	White Alone by Selected Groups	
B02024	White Alone or in Any Combination by Selected Groups	
B02023	Black or African American Alone by Selected Groups	
C02023	Black or African American Alone by Selected Groups	
B02025	Black or African American Alone or in Any Combination by Selected Groups	
Homeowners Association and/or Condominium Fee		
B25142	Monthly Homeowners Association and/or Condominium Fee	
B25143	Median Monthly Homeowners Association and/or Condominium Fee (Dollars) by Mortgage Status	



The American Community Survey Modified Tables

Table ID	Title	
Journey to Work and Migration		
B08101	Means of Transportation to Work by Age	
C08528	Means of Transportation to Work by Class of Worker for Workplace Geography	
DP03	Selected Economic Characteristics (Commuting to Work section)	
S0801	Commuting Characteristics by Sex	
Year Householder Moved In		
B25026	Total Population in Occupied Housing Units by Tenure by Year Householder Moved Into Unit	
B25109	Median Value by Year Householder Moved Into Unit	
CP04	Comparative Housing Characteristics	
S2502	Demographic Characteristics for Occupied Housing Units	



The American Community Survey Modified Tables

Table ID	Title	
Race		
B02015	Asian Alone by Selected Groups	
B02018	Asian Alone or in Any Combination by Selected Groups	
CP05	Comparative Demographic Estimates	
DP05	ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates	
Quality Measures		
B98021	Housing Unit Response and Nonresponse Rates With Reasons for Noninterviews	
Health Insurance		
S2703	Private Health Insurance Coverage by Type and Selected Characteristics	



The American Community Survey Deleted Table

Table ID	Title
Health Insurance	
S2713	Private Health Insurance Coverage by Type and Selected Characteristics



The American Community Survey Response Rates

- ACS housing unit response rates decreased in 2020 due to the pandemic and have rebounded somewhat since but not back to pre-pandemic levels
- Sources for information:
 - Sample Size and Data Quality page
 - Tables B98021 (HU) and B98022 (GQ) on data.census.gov





Thank you!

ACS Data User Support acso.users.support@census.gov

