

CENSUS BUREAU DATA UPDATE

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

Welcome... ...to the inaugural issue of the new *Census Bureau Data Update*! As a Census 2010 partner, you are already familiar with our monthly *Activities Update*. Now that data collection efforts for Census 2010 are complete, we are transitioning to the dissemination of census data. This new monthly *Census Bureau Data*

Update will provide you with data release schedules, spotlights on various census data sets and on-going surveys, tips and tricks of accessing and utilizing census data, and workshop opportunities.

Look for this *Update* to help you understand the numbers and what they mean for your community.

In This Issue:

- Welcome
- Census 2010 Apportionment Data
- Data Spotlight
- Data Access Workshops
- The Census Bureau and the Other 9 Years
- Upcoming Data Releases

CENSUS 2010 FIGURES RELEASED

STATE	2010 POPULATION	CONGRESSIONAL SEATS
CONNECTICUT	3,574,097	5
MAINE	1,328,361	2
MASSACHUSETTS	6,547,629	9
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,316,470	2
NEW YORK	19,378,102	27
PUERTO RICO	3,725,789	NOT APPLICABLE
RHODE ISLAND	1,052,567	2
VERMONT	625,741	1

2010 US RESIDENT POPULATION: 308,745,538

Understanding Apportionment

Apportionment is the process of dividing the 435 memberships, or seats, in the House of Representatives among the 50 states based on the population figures collected during the decennial census.

formula is used to ensure equal representation for all, just like the Founding Fathers planned.



Watch the video at <http://2010.census.gov/mediacenter/census-data/census-apportionment-machine.php>

But how does it work? The Census Bureau has created an animated short to explain how the apportionment formula is used to ensure equal representation for all, just like the Founding Fathers planned. You can visit the Census2010.gov website to view the video, or watch it on YouTube. Share this video with others you know, including educators.

Census Data Spotlight



A local neighborhood association is planning on holding an official grand opening of a new playground next month and wants to hang posters inviting local families to attend in locations throughout the neighborhood. Their dilemma is determining which languages to copy the poster into and how many of each language should they make. Using the US Census Bureau's American Factfinder, they determined in which census tract the playground was located and identified surrounding tracts within the neighborhood. They then pulled language statistics for each of the census tracts from the 2005-2009 American Community 5-yr estimates. These estimates identified Chinese and English as being the two most

heavily spoken languages in the area, and also showed that there were enough Spanish, Russian and Korean speakers to merit a few posters being translated into each language.

Your Community by the Numbers Data Access Workshops

Do you wonder how your neighborhood is changing or how you can find data for a community needs assessment?

The Census Bureau provides free workshops to teach you how to use the American Factfinder online data retrieval tool, distinguish between types of data, compare data accurately, and much more! We will show you your community by the numbers in just a few clicks of the mouse.

For more information **contact us at (617) 424-4510 or boston.pdsp@census.gov**.

"Because we had access to this data, we were able to secure a three-year grant for a Latino Mentoring Initiative from a major community foundation. This will make a difference to hundreds of Latino children."



-Carol Powers, Grants Administrator
Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hartford, CT



"By being able to access data, we could show that not only do we see the need, but that we can prove it [exists]."

-Joe Carleo, Director of Community Affairs
Victory Programs—Revision Urban Farm

The Census Bureau Data Update is published to inform Census alumni and other stakeholders about current data releases, data dissemination activities of the Boston Regional Office, and current survey efforts.

The Census Bureau and “the Other Nine Years”

As a 2010 Census Partner, you know the Census Bureau takes a census of America’s population every 10 years. But did you know that the Census Bureau is also the principle source of data for the nation during the rest of the decade?

As a Census Partner, you may get inquiries from constituents, patrons, patients or other community members about why someone from the Census Bureau is knocking on their door now that the 2010 Census is over. We hope you will explain that the Census Bureau conducts a variety of surveys every month that provide information ranging from the value of new construction to health insurance coverage.

There is a good chance that the data generated through our surveys is being used to maintain the planning of vital services used by members of your community, such as local health clinics, public transportation, or even workforce development.

Some of the ongoing surveys conducted in the Boston Region include:

American Community Survey (ACS): The ACS is conducted monthly in every county in the U.S. and in Puerto Rico (Puerto Rico Community Survey). It provides detailed economic, social, demographic and housing information about communities on an annual basis.

Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE): The CE is sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and provides information on the buying habits of consumers, including data on their expenditures, income and consumer characteristics.

Current Population Survey (CPS): Also sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the CPS provides data on the labor force, employment, unemployment, persons not in the labor force, hours of work, earnings, and other demographic and labor force characteristics.

National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS): sponsored by the Justice Department, the NCVS collects information on the characteristics of crime victimization and on the types of not-reported crimes.

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS): Sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, the NHIS uses monthly interviews and household diaries to collect information about illnesses in the U.S. and on the kind of health services people receive.

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP): The SIPP collects information on sources of income and on the participation of individuals and households in government programs.

Visit www.census.gov/aboutus/surveys.html for more information on our current surveys.



**U.S. Census Bureau
Boston Regional Office**
4 Copley Place, Suite 301
PO Box 9108
Boston, MA 02117
Phone: (617) 424-4510
Email: Boston.PDSP@census.gov

How Collected Data are Used

Whether part of the once-a-decade census or as part of ongoing surveys administered by the Census Bureau on a continuous basis, collected data help us know who we are, where we have been, and where we are going as a society. Here are just a few examples of how data are used that you might not have been aware of:

- ▶ Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population.
- ▶ Designing public safety strategies and creating maps to speed emergency services to households in need of assistance.
- ▶ Determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans.
- ▶ Attracting new businesses to state and local areas.

If someone you know has been selected for a current survey, please encourage them to participate. When they respond by mail or talk with a field representative, they help businesses, policy makers, and community planners identify and provide needed services to your neighborhood.



As always, individual responses are confidential, protected by federal law (Title 13, U.S. Code) and cannot be shared with any agency or person.

Upcoming Data Releases:

Planned Release Date	Data Products	Lowest Level Geography
January 2011	2007-2009 ACS 3-Year Data Release on American FactFinder	20,000+ Populations
February 2011—March 2011	Redistricting Data (P.L.94-171) Summary File <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pop counts for race and Hispanic/Latino categories • Housing unit counts by occupancy status 	Blocks
May 2011	Demographic Profile <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected population and housing characteristics • Includes Congressional Districts of the 111th Congress 	Minor Civil Divisions
June 2011-August 2011	Summary File 1 (SF 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pop counts for 63 races and Hispanic or Latino • Pop counts for many detailed race and Hispanic or Latino categories, and American Indian and Alaska Native tribes • Selected pop and housing characteristics 	Blocks Census Tracts Blocks/Census Tracts