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DIV 4123: ANALYZING RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

PROF. GRAHAM RESIDE

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

An Overview of Census Geography & Terms

CENSUS HIERARCHY

STATE
COUNTY
PLACE (or Place Part)
CENSUS TRACT
BLOCK GROUP
BLOCK

MSA

CENSUS TRACT FACTS:

- Small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county
- Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions
- Average about 4,000 inhabitants.
- Census tracts do not cross county boundaries.
- The spatial size of census tracts varies widely depending on the density of settlement

For more information see *Reference Resources for Understanding Census Bureau Geography*

(<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/reference.html>)

100 % Data – short form = SF1 & SF2

Sample Data – long form - 1 in 6 count = SF3 & SF4

American Communities Survey (ACS) - <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>

Finding U.S. Census Tract Information

Identify your Census Tract and find statistical information about it at the U.S. Bureau of the Census web site

Key Resource - You can find much of the information that you need on the Internet from the Census website

(www.census.gov)

Important Note: Some of your variables are *not* directly available from Census information: including land use, environmental status (except sanitation), religion, recreation and entertainment, and health.

Find a Map - use American Factfinder/Enter a Street Address **to find a map** of your Census tract:

1. From the U.S. Census website (www.census.gov) → Click on “Your Gateway to Census 2000” → Click “Enter a Street Address” → Type in the address and zip code and click "GO" (Be sure to include whether the address is a street, road, drive, etc.)

2. Note the Geographic Area box below the address → Select the Census Tract (or other geographic area)
3. Click "Map It" → Print the tract map → Click "close" in the lower right of the page.

Find Statistics - use American Factfinder/Enter a Street Address **to find statistics** for your Census tract:

1. Follow steps 1-3 above to select geographic area → Click 'GO'
2. Scroll down the page to **"Quick Tables and Demographic Profiles"** → Choose and print the following four pages:

Census 2000 Summary File 1	Census 2000 Summary File 3
DP-1 -- General Demographic Characteristics	DP-2 -- Selected Social Characteristics DP-3 -- Selected Economic Characteristics DP-4 - Selected Housing Characteristics

Note: After printing each DP use the browser's "← BACK" button to return to the menu page. A glitch in the program takes you to the top to the page again, so you will need to scroll back down the page each time.

3. To compare Census Tract data with County or State level data, scroll back up to the top of the page and select the new geographic area. → Repeat step #2
4. Additional statistics are available **"Population and Housing Detailed Tables"** (at the bottom of the page) → Click on "Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data." → Click on the "Tables" link in the "You are Here" menu → Select up to 50 tables → Click "add" → Click "show tables."
4. For more information on the questions asked in Census 2000 and the types of data available see <http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/2000quest.html>

Finding Local Health Statistics - Tennessee

- The most up-to-date information on vital statistics (natality, morbidity, and mortality) is found in State government publications rather than in U.S. national government publications.
- This information is generally broken down by county only so statistics for a census tract are not available.

1. State of Tennessee County-Level Data

Health Statistics: Quick Facts. Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/quickfacts.htm>)

2. County Health Department Data

Find Your Local Health Department. Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (<http://health.state.tn.us/localdepartments.htm>)
A list of Tennessee Public Health Departments. Larger counties likely will have websites that contain some current publications on vital statistics.

3. Other County Data

County Profiles. Tennessee. Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations.

(http://state.tn.us/tacir/county_profiles.htm)

Covers geography & demographics, income & poverty, health & healthcare, employment, county government finance, public infrastructure needs inventory, adult & post-secondary education, public school systems.

Finding Local Educational Statistics - Tennessee

1. Davidson County Public Schools Data

School List. Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools. (<http://www.mnps.org/Page60.aspx>)

School Data Profiles for Nashville area schools. → select the school in your area → click on ‘School Data’.

2. National Center for Education Statistics

Search for Schools, Colleges, and Libraries. National Center for Educational Statistics.

(<http://nces.ed.gov/globallocator/>)

School Data Profiles for both public and private schools are available by Zip Code. Enter Zip Code → Click on school name for overview info → Click on ‘more information’ link at top of page

Finding Local Crime Statistics - Tennessee

1. Davidson County Crime Statistics

UCR Crime Statistics. U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation. (<http://www.police.nashville.org/stats/>)

Crime data is available by Zip Code and Council District.

2. Crime in the United States

Crime in the United States: Table 8: Offenses Known to Law Enforcement, by State by City. U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation. (http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/05cius/data/table_08.html)

Criminal offenses at the city level.