

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU OVERVIEW

FEBRUARY 28, 2023



CENSUS BUREAU OVERVIEW

Mission

To measure America's people and economy.

Every 10 Years (Decennial Census)

Count every person living in the United States once, only once, and in the right place.

Every Year

Produce annual demographic statistics through the American Community Survey, Current Population Survey, population estimates, and 100+ other surveys/programs.

Collect economic data through monthly and annual surveys, as well as the Economic Census every 5 years.

- [U.S. Census Bureau at a Glance](#)
- [About the Bureau \(census.gov\)](#)

U.S. Census Bureau at a Glance

How well do you know the 50 states?

The Census Bureau is the federal government's largest statistical agency. We are dedicated to providing current facts and figures about America's people and economy. Federal law protects the confidentiality of all the information the Census Bureau collects.

OUR STATISTICAL PROGRAMS

Censuses

- The **Decennial Census** is the once-a-decade population and housing count required by the U.S. Constitution. The Census Bureau counts all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. The results of the decennial census determine the number of seats for each state in the U.S. House of Representatives and are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts and to distribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds each year.
- The **Economic Census** measures the nation's economy every 5 years, providing vital statistics for virtually every industry and geographic area in the country.
- The **Census of Governments** provides comprehensive data about the nearly 90,000 state and local governments in the nation every 5 years.

Surveys

- The **American Community Survey (ACS)** is an ongoing annual survey that shows what the U.S. population looks like and how it lives. The ACS helps communities decide where to target services and resources.
- **Demographic surveys** measure income, poverty, education, health insurance coverage, housing quality, crime victimization, computer usage, and many other subjects.
- **Economic surveys** are conducted monthly, quarterly, and annually. They cover selected sectors of the nation's economy and supplement the Economic Census with more frequent information about the dynamic economy. These surveys yield more than 400 annual economic reports, including principal economic indicators.
- **Sponsored surveys** are demographic and economic surveys that we conduct for other government agencies. They include the Current Population Survey, the National Health Interview Survey, and the National Survey of College Graduates.
- The **Small Business Pulse Survey** provides detailed information on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on small businesses as well as their participation in federal programs such as the Paycheck Protection Program.

Our Mission

The U.S. Census Bureau's mission is to serve as the nation's leading provider of quality data about its people and economy.



Our History

Thomas Jefferson directed the first census in 1790. As required by the U.S. Constitution, a census has been taken every 10 years thereafter. In 1840, the Census Act authorized the establishment of a centralized Census Office. In 1902, the Census Office became a permanent organization within the Department of Interior. A year later, it was renamed the Bureau of the Census and moved to the new Department of Commerce and Labor.

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Newsroom

The latest news releases and statements from the U.S. Census Bureau. Also, find upcoming events, and useful information for media.

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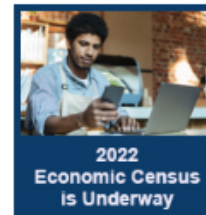
News Releases



Stats for Stories



Tip Sheets



Press Release

Proof of Concept for Upcoming 2020 Census Product

February 02, 2023

A "Proof of Concept" giving data users an opportunity to review how a new disclosure avoidance methodology would affect an upcoming 2020 Census data product.



Newsroom
(census.gov)

AMERICA COUNTS: STORIES BEHIND THE NUMBERS



America Counts

features stories using U.S. Census Bureau data that give real-world application and context to the data.

Revenue for Some Self-care Industries Were Negatively Impacted by COVID-19, Others Experienced Growth

February 13, 2023
Written by: Adam Grundy and Kevin McInain



Self-care – caring for oneself to pro American lives after the onset of the Although self-care is not an official ir industries included in the North Ame broader self-care category. According to the Census Bureau's 20 Services Total revenue for employer f employer firm revenue for some of th 2020.

Some self-care industries the pandemic, experience

How Did Self-Care Industries Perform at Start of Pandemic?

High-Tech Industries Are Concentrated in Five Coastal Metro Areas

February 14, 2023
Written by: Melissa Chow and Nathan Goldschlag



Knowing where high-tech industries are located is crucial for many states and communities because businesses in these industries introduce new products and services, create jobs and drive economic growth. And now a new experimental U.S. Census Bureau data product – Business Dynamics Statistics of U.S. High Tech Industries (BDS-HT) – provides the first- ever view of the dynamics and geographic distribution of employment and businesses in the high-tech sector.

Many MSAs with a significant share of high-tech employment are on the coasts.

These new data provide annual measures of business dynamics for high-tech and non high-tech industries, defined by the concentration of employment in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) occupations. (The BDS-HT methodology page provides additional details on industry classification.)

Where in the United States Are the High-Tech Jobs?

Related America Counts Stories



America Counts Story

Knowing Your Job and Earnings Prospects by College and Degree

2020 CENSUS

- [2020 Census Releases](#)
- [Apportionment and Redistricting Data](#)
 - Apportionment results include state counts and redistricting results include local counts by race, ethnicity, and voting age.
 - Comparisons can be made with the 2010 Census and other decennial censuses.
- [2020 Census Apportionment Counts Press Kit](#)
- [2020 Census Redistricting Data Files Press Kit](#)
- Go to [About 2020 Census Data Products](#) for more information on key dates

Tentative Key Dates

- May 2023: Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (DHC)
- August 2023: Congressional District Summary Files
- August 2023: Detailed DHC File A

2022 ECONOMIC CENSUS

- Official 5-year measure of businesses in the United States and their economic impact.
- Data from over 8 million businesses are represented, but not every business will be contacted.
- Invitations to respond will be sent to over 4 million business locations.
- Approximately 800 versions will be sent, tailored to specific industries/groups of industries.
- The Economic Census is conducted every 5 years, for years ending in 2 and 7.

[2022 Economic Census](#)

[2022 Economic Census Press Kit](#)

Key Dates

- January 31: Mail-Out begins
- March 15: Response deadline
- March 2024: First release of 2022 Economic Census data
- March 2026: Final release of 2022 Economic Census data

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

- Ongoing monthly survey sent to 3.5 million addresses/year.
- Produces timely data for small areas and population groups previously collected on the decennial long form.
- Covers 35+ topics (employment, occupation, veteran status, commuting, etc.) and supports 300+ known federal government uses.
- Annual releases of 1-year and 5-year estimates.
- Data goes back to 2005.

[American Community Survey \(ACS\) \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/acs)

[Press Kit: 2021 American Community Survey Single Year Estimates \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/presskit/2021/acs-single-year-estimates)

[American Community Survey 2017-2021 5-Year Data Release \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/acs/2017-2021/5-year-data-release)

Key Dates

- September 2023: 2022 ACS 1-Year Estimates
- December 2023: 2018–2022 ACS 5-Year Estimates

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY

- One of the oldest, largest and most well-recognized surveys in the United States.
- Primary source of monthly labor force statistics and monthly demographic statistics on 30+ topics such as:
 - [Educational Attainment](#)
 - [Families and Living Arrangements](#)
 - [Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance](#)

[Current Population Survey \(CPS\) \(census.gov\)](#)

Key Dates

- January: Geographic Mobility
- February: Educational Attainment
- September: Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance
- November: Families and Living Arrangements
- December: School Enrollment

POPULATION ESTIMATES

- Produces most up-to-date population numbers between decennial censuses.
- Provides population counts for nation, state, counties, and incorporated places.
- Housing unit totals are available at national and state levels.

[Population and Housing Unit Estimates \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov)

Key Dates

- March 2023: County and Puerto Rico Municipios
- May 2023: Cities and towns, metro/micro statistical areas
- May 2023: National, state, and county housing units
- June 2023: National, state, and county demographics
- December 2023: National, state, and Puerto Rico

HOUSEHOLD PULSE SURVEY

- Experimental survey that provides near real-time data on how COVID and changes in social and economic conditions are affecting people's lives.
- Effort by the Census Bureau and other federal statistical agencies.
- Each phase may include new or updated questions. Available on a monthly basis.

[Household Pulse Survey \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/household-pulse-survey)

Key Dates

- Phase 3.7: January 5, January 25, and February 22
- Phase 3.8 begins March 1. Tentative release dates are March 22, April 19 and May 1.

BUSINESS TRENDS AND OUTLOOK SURVEY

- Experimental survey to measure business conditions on an ongoing basis.
- Successor to the Small Business Pulse Survey.
- Data available by sector, state, and the 25 most populous metropolitan statistical areas.

[Business Trends and Outlook Survey](#)

Key Dates

- Upcoming biweekly data release dates: March 10, March 24, April 7, April 21, May 5

DATA EQUITY

- Census Bureau surveys and programs have long measured equity gaps across demographic groups.
- Publicly available data and tools can help identify vulnerable and underserved communities.
- The Census Bureau is committed to raising awareness about data, tools, and resources available to help federal, state, local governments, and community groups identify underserved communities and equitably distribute resources.

The image displays five data tool cards arranged in a grid. Each card includes a map, a title, a description, and interactive buttons.

- Community Resilience Estimates:** The capacity of individuals and households to absorb, endure, and recover from the health, social, and economic impacts of a disaster such as a hurricane or pandemic. Buttons: Watch video, Dashboard, See PPT.
- The Response Outreach Area Mapper (ROAM):** Developed to make it easier to identify hard-to-survey areas and to provide a socioeconomic and demographic characteristic profile of these areas. Buttons: Watch video, Explore Data, See PPT.
- Opportunity Atlas:** A comprehensive Census tract-level dataset of children's outcomes in adulthood using data covering nearly the entire U.S. population. Buttons: Explore Data, See PPT.
- LEHD:** Data from the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Partnership provide unprecedented detail about America's jobs, workers, and local economies. Buttons: Watch video, Explore Data, See PPT.
- Census Business Builder (CBB):** The Census Business Builder (CBB) is a suite of services that provide selected demographic and economic data from the Census Bureau tailored to specific types of users in a simple to access and use format. Buttons: Explore Data, See PPT.

[Advancing Equity with Data \(census.gov\)](https://www.census.gov/advancing-equity-with-data)

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