# Package 'tidycensus'

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Type Package

Title Load US Census Boundary and Attribute Data as 'tidyverse' and 'sf'-Ready Data Frames

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URL https://github.com/walkerke/tidycensus

BugReports https://github.com/walkerke/tidycensus/issues

# Description

An integrated R interface to the decennial US Census and American Community Survey APIs and the US Census Bureau's geographic boundary files. Allows R users to return Census and ACS data as

tidyverse-ready data frames, and optionally returns a list-column with feature geometry for many geographies.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

LazyData true

**Depends** R (>= 3.3.0)

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Suggests ggplot2

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## **Description**

census\_api\_key

This function will add your CENSUS API key to your .Renviron file so it can be called securely without being stored in your code. After you have installed your key, it can be called any time by typing Sys.getenv("CENSUS\_API\_KEY") and can be used in package functions by simply typing CENSUS\_API\_KEY If you do not have an .Renviron file, the function will create on for you. If you already have an .Renviron file, the function will append the key to your existing file, while making a backup of your original file for disaster recovery purposes.

Install a CENSUS API Key in Your . Renviron File for Repeated Use

# Usage

```
census_api_key(key, overwrite = FALSE, install = FALSE)
```

#### **Arguments**

key	The API key provided to you from the Census formated in quotes. A key can be acquired at http://api.census.gov/data/key_signup.html
overwrite	If this is set to TRUE, it will overwrite an existing CENSUS_API_KEY that you already have in your .Renviron file.
install	if TRUE, will install the key in your .Renviron file for use in future sessions. Defaults to FALSE.

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#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
census_api_key("111111abc", install = TRUE)
# First time, reload your environment so you can use the key without restarting R.
readRenviron("~/.Renviron")
# You can check it with:
Sys.getenv("CENSUS_API_KEY")

## End(Not run)

## Not run:
# If you need to overwrite an existing key:
census_api_key("111111abc", overwrite = TRUE, install = TRUE)
# First time, relead your environment so you can use the key without restarting R.
readRenviron("~/.Renviron")
# You can check it with:
Sys.getenv("CENSUS_API_KEY")

## End(Not run)
```

county\_laea

County geometry with Alaska and Hawaii shifted and re-scaled

#### **Description**

Built-in dataset for use with shift\_geo = TRUE

Dataset of US counties with Alaska and Hawaii shifted and re-scaled

## Usage

```
data(county_laea)
data(county_laea)
```

#### **Format**

An object of class sf (inherits from data.frame) with 3143 rows and 2 columns.

#### **Details**

Dataset with county geometry for use when shifting Alaska and Hawaii

Built-in dataset for use with the shift\_geo parameter, with the continental United States in a Lambert azimuthal equal area projection and Alaska and Hawaii counties and Census areas shifted and re-scaled. The data were originally obtained from the albersusa R package (https://github.com/hrbrmstr/albersusa).

get\_acs

fips\_codes

Dataset with FIPS codes for US states and counties

# Description

Built-in dataset for smart state and county lookup. To access the data directly, issue the command data(fips\_codes).

- county: County name, title-case
- county\_code: County code. (3-digit, 0-padded, character)
- state: Upper-case abbreviation of state
- state\_code: State FIPS code (2-digit, 0-padded, character)
- state\_name: Title-case name of state

## Usage

```
data(fips_codes)
```

## **Format**

An object of class data. frame with 3237 rows and 5 columns.

## **Details**

Dataset with FIPS codes for US states and counties

Built-in dataset for use with the lookup\_code function. To access the data directly, issue the command data(fips\_codes).

 $get_acs$ 

Obtain data and feature geometry for the five-year American Community Survey

## **Description**

Obtain data and feature geometry for the five-year American Community Survey

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#### Usage

```
get_acs(
  geography,
  variables = NULL,
  table = NULL,
  cache_table = FALSE,
  year = 2018,
  endyear = NULL,
  output = "tidy",
  state = NULL,
  county = NULL,
  geometry = FALSE,
  keep_geo_vars = FALSE,
  shift_geo = FALSE,
  summary_var = NULL,
  key = NULL,
  moe_level = 90,
  survey = "acs5",
  show_call = FALSE,
)
```

#### **Arguments**

geography The geography of your data.

variables Character string or vector of character strings of variable IDs. tidycensus auto-

matically returns the estimate and the margin of error associated with the vari-

able

table The ACS table for which you would like to request all variables. Uses lookup

tables to identify the variables; performs faster when variable table already exists through load\_variables(cache = TRUE). Only one table may be requested per

call.

cache\_table Whether or not to cache table names for faster future access. Defaults to FALSE;

if TRUE, only needs to be called once per dataset. If variables dataset is already

cached via the load\_variables function, this can be bypassed.

year The year, or endyear, of the ACS sample. 2009 through 2018 are available.

Defaults to 2018.

endyear Deprecated and will be removed in a future release.

output One of "tidy" (the default) in which each row represents an enumeration unit-

variable combination, or "wide" in which each row represents an enumeration

unit and the variables are in the columns.

state An optional vector of states for which you are requesting data. State names,

postal codes, and FIPS codes are accepted. Defaults to NULL.

county The county for which you are requesting data. County names and FIPS codes

are accepted. Must be combined with a value supplied to 'state'. Defaults to

NULL.

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geometry	if FALSE (the default), return a regular tibble of ACS data. if TRUE, uses the tigris package to return an sf tibble with simple feature geometry in the 'geometry' column. state, county, tract, block group, block, and ZCTA geometry are supported.
keep_geo_vars	if TRUE, keeps all the variables from the Census shapefile obtained by tigris. Defaults to FALSE.
shift_geo	if TRUE, returns geometry with Alaska and Hawaii shifted for thematic mapping of the entire US. Geometry was originally obtained from the albersusa R package.
summary_var	Character string of a "summary variable" from the ACS to be included in your output. Usually a variable (e.g. total population) that you'll want to use as a denominator or comparison.
key	Your Census API key. Obtain one at http://api.census.gov/data/key_signup.html
moe_level	The confidence level of the returned margin of error. One of 90 (the default), 95, or 99.
survey	The ACS contains one-year, three-year, and five-year surveys expressed as "acs1", "acs3", and "acs5". The default selection is "acs5."
show_call	if TRUE, display call made to Census API. This can be very useful in debugging and determining if error messages returned are due to tidycensus or the Census API. Copy to the API call into a browser and see what is returned by the API directly. Defaults to FALSE.
	Other keyword arguments

#### Value

A tibble or sf tibble of ACS data

# **Examples**

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get\_decennial

Obtain data and feature geometry for the decennial Census

## Description

Obtain data and feature geometry for the decennial Census

#### Usage

```
get_decennial(
  geography,
  variables = NULL,
  table = NULL,
  cache_table = FALSE,
  year = 2010,
  sumfile = "sf1",
  state = NULL,
  county = NULL,
  geometry = FALSE,
  output = "tidy",
  keep_geo_vars = FALSE,
  shift_geo = FALSE,
  summary_var = NULL,
  key = NULL,
  show_call = FALSE,
)
```

# Arguments

geography

The geography of your data.

variables

Character string or vector of character strings of variable IDs.

table

The Census table for which you would like to request all variables. Uses lookup tables to identify the variables; performs faster when variable table already exists through load\_variables(cache = TRUE). Only one table may be requested per call.

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cache_table	Whether or not to cache table names for faster future access. Defaults to FALSE; if TRUE, only needs to be called once per dataset. If variables dataset is already cached via the load_variables function, this can be bypassed.
year	The year for which you are requesting data. 1990, 2000, and 2010 are available.
sumfile	The Census summary file. Defaults to sf1; the function will look in sf3 if it cannot find a variable in sf1.
state	The state for which you are requesting data. State names, postal codes, and FIPS codes are accepted. Defaults to NULL.
county	The county for which you are requesting data. County names and FIPS codes are accepted. Must be combined with a value supplied to 'state'. Defaults to NULL.
geometry	if FALSE (the default), return a regular tibble of ACS data. if TRUE, uses the tigris package to return an sf tibble with simple feature geometry in the 'geometry' column. state, county, tract, and block group are supported for 1990 through 2010; block and ZCTA geometry are supported for 2000 and 2010.
output	One of "tidy" (the default) in which each row represents an enumeration unit- variable combination, or "wide" in which each row represents an enumeration unit and the variables are in the columns.
keep_geo_vars	if TRUE, keeps all the variables from the Census shapefile obtained by tigris. Defaults to FALSE.
shift_geo	if TRUE, returns geometry with Alaska and Hawaii shifted for thematic mapping of the entire US. Geometry was originally obtained from the albersusa R package.
summary_var	Character string of a "summary variable" from the decennial Census to be included in your output. Usually a variable (e.g. total population) that you'll want to use as a denominator or comparison.
key	Your Census API key. Obtain one at http://api.census.gov/data/key_signup.html
show_call	if TRUE, display call made to Census API. This can be very useful in debugging and determining if error messages returned are due to tidycensus or the Census API. Copy to the API call into a browser and see what is returned by the API directly. Defaults to FALSE.
	Other keyword arguments

# Value

a tibble or sf tibble of decennial Census data

# Examples

```
## Not run:
# Plot of race/ethnicity by county in Illinois for 2010
library(tidycensus)
library(tidyverse)
library(viridis)
census_api_key("YOUR KEY GOES HERE")
```

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get\_estimates

Get data from the US Census Bureau Population Estimates APIs

#### Description

Get data from the US Census Bureau Population Estimates APIs

## Usage

```
get_estimates(
  geography,
  product = NULL,
  variables = NULL,
  breakdown = NULL,
  breakdown_labels = FALSE,
  year = 2018,
  state = NULL,
  county = NULL,
  time_series = FALSE,
  output = "tidy",
  geometry = FALSE,
  keep_geo_vars = FALSE,
  shift_geo = FALSE,
  key = NULL,
  show_call = FALSE,
)
```

# Arguments

```
geography The geography of your data.

product The data product (optional). "population", "components" "housing", and "characteristics" are supported.
```

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variables A character string of requested variables to get specific variables from the pop-

ulation, components, and housing APIs.

breakdown The population breakdown used when product = "characteristics". Ac-

ceptable values are "AGEGROUP", "RACE", "SEX", and "HISP", for Hispanic/Not Hispanic. These values can be combined in a vector, returning population estimates in the value column for all combinations of these breakdowns.

breakdown\_labels

Whether or not to label breakdown elements returned when product = "characteristics".

Defaults to FALSE.

year The data year (defaults to 2018)

state The state for which you are requesting data. State names, postal codes, and FIPS

codes are accepted. Defaults to NULL.

county The county for which you are requesting data. County names and FIPS codes

are accepted. Must be combined with a value supplied to 'state'. Defaults to

NULL.

time\_series If TRUE, the function will return a time series of observations back to the de-

cennial Census of 2010. The returned column is either "DATE", representing a particular estimate date, or "PERIOD", representing a time period (e.g. births between 2016 and 2017), and contains integers representing those values. Integer to date or period mapping is available at https://www.census.gov/data/developers/data-sets/popest-popproj/popest/popest-vars/2018.html.

output One of "tidy" (the default) in which each row represents an enumeration unit-

variable combination, or "wide" in which each row represents an enumeration

unit and the variables are in the columns.

geometry if FALSE (the default), return a regular tibble of ACS data. if TRUE, uses

the tigris package to return an sf tibble with simple feature geometry in the

'geometry' column.

keep\_geo\_vars if TRUE, keeps all the variables from the Census shapefile obtained by tigris.

Defaults to FALSE.

shift\_geo if TRUE, returns geometry with Alaska and Hawaii shifted for thematic mapping

of the entire US.

key Your Census API key. Obtain one at http://api.census.gov/data/key\_

signup.html. Can be stored in your .Renviron with census\_api\_key("YOUR

KEY",install = TRUE)

show\_call if TRUE, display call made to Census API. This can be very useful in debugging

and determining if error messages returned are due to tidycensus or the Census API. Copy to the API call into a browser and see what is returned by the API

directly. Defaults to FALSE.

... other keyword arguments

## Value

A tibble, or sf tibble, of population estimates data

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load_variables	Load variables from a decennial Census or American Community Survey dataset to search in R

#### **Description**

Load variables from a decennial Census or American Community Survey dataset to search in R

## Usage

```
load_variables(year, dataset, cache = FALSE)
```

#### Arguments

year The year for which you are requesting variables. Either the year of the decennial

Census, or the endyear for a 5-year ACS sample.

dataset One of "sf1", "sf3", "acs1", "acs3", "acs5", "acs1/profile", "acs3/profile, "acs5/profile",

"acs1/subject", "acs3/subject", or "acs5/subject".

cache Whether you would like to cache the dataset for future access, or load the dataset

from an existing cache. Defaults to FALSE.

#### Value

A tibble of variables from the requested dataset.

## **Examples**

```
## Not run:
v15 <- load_variables(2015, "acs5", cache = TRUE)
View(v15)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

moe\_product

Calculate the margin of error for a derived product

## **Description**

Calculate the margin of error for a derived product

## Usage

```
moe_product(est1, est2, moe1, moe2)
```

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# Arguments

est1	The first factor in the multiplication equation (an estimate)
est2	The second factor in the multiplication equation (an estimate)
moe1	The margin of error of the first factor
moe2	The margin of error of the second factor

## Value

A margin of error for a derived product

moe_prop	Calculate the margin of error for a derived proportion	

# Description

Calculate the margin of error for a derived proportion

# Usage

```
moe_prop(num, denom, moe_num, moe_denom)
```

# Arguments

num	The numerator involved in the proportion calculation (an estimate)
denom	The denominator involved in the proportion calculation (an estimate)

moe\_num The margin of error of the numerator

moe\_denom The margin of error of the denominator

## Value

A margin of error for a derived proportion

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moe_ratio	Calculate the margin of error for a derived ratio

## **Description**

Calculate the margin of error for a derived ratio

## Usage

```
moe_ratio(num, denom, moe_num, moe_denom)
```

#### **Arguments**

num The numerator involved in the ratio calculation (an estimate)
denom The denominator involved in the ratio calculation (an estimate)

moe\_num The margin of error of the numerator
moe\_denom The margin of error of the denominator

#### Value

A margin of error for a derived ratio

moe_sum	Calculate the margin of error for a derived sum

#### **Description**

Generates a margin of error for a derived sum. The function requires a vector of margins of error involved in a sum calculation, and optionally a vector of estimates associated with the margins of error. If the associated estimates are not specified, the user risks inflating the derived margin of error in the event of multiple zero estimates. It is recommended to inspect your data for multiple zero estimates before using this function and setting the inputs accordingly.

#### Usage

```
moe_sum(moe, estimate = NULL, na.rm = FALSE)
```

#### Arguments

moe A vector of margins of error involved in the sum calculation

estimate A vector of estimates, the same length as moe, associated with the margins of

error

na.rm A logical value indicating whether missing values (including NaN) should be

removed

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# Value

A margin of error for a derived sum

# See Also

 $https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/tech\_docs/accuracy/MultiyearACSAccuracyofData2015.pdf$ 

significance Evaluate whether the difference in two estimates is statisticall icant.	y signif-
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# Description

Evaluate whether the difference in two estimates is statistically significant.

# Usage

```
significance(est1, est2, moe1, moe2, clevel = 0.9)
```

# Arguments

esti	The first estimate.
est2	The second estimate
moe1	The margin of error of the first estimate
moe2	The margin of error of the second estimate
clevel	The confidence level. May by 0.9, 0.95, or 0.99

## Value

TRUE if the difference is statistically signifiance, FALSE otherwise.

# See Also

 $https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/acs/acs\_general\_handbook\_2018\_ch07.pdf$ 

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state\_laea

State geometry with Alaska and Hawaii shifted and re-scaled

## Description

Built-in dataset for use with shift\_geo = TRUE

Dataset of US states with Alaska and Hawaii shifted and re-scaled

## Usage

```
data(state_laea)
data(state_laea)
```

#### **Format**

An object of class sf (inherits from data.frame) with 51 rows and 2 columns.

## **Details**

Dataset with state geometry for use when shifting Alaska and Hawaii

Built-in dataset for use with the shift\_geo parameter, with the continental United States in a Lambert azimuthal equal area projection and Alaska and Hawaii shifted and re-scaled. The data were originally obtained from the albersusa R package (https://github.com/hrbrmstr/albersusa).

tidycensus

Return tidy data frames from the US Census Bureau API

# Description

This packages uses US Census Bureau data but is neither endorsed nor supported by the US Census Bureau.

#### Author(s)

Kyle Walker

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