

Data collection



One form per individual

Data entry

'Long' data

PID	V1	V2	...	Zone
1001				1
1002				1
...				...

Note: This 'spatial microdata' is generally unavailable to researchers

Geographic aggregation

Geographically aggregated 'wide' data

Zone	V1			V2		...	
	C1	C2	...	C1	...		
1							
2							
...							

One row per zone, multiple columns per variable

Survey data

Non spatial individual-level 'microdata'

Spatial microsimulation

Via IPF, CO or other method. Also called 'population synthesis'

Synthetic spatial microdata

This table has the same dimensions as the 'long' data form. Thus spatial microsimulation attempts to approximate the raw survey spatial microdata

Approximation