

# Response to Federal Register Notice 83 FR 34111

David McLaughlin <d.wm.mclaughlin@berkeley.edu>

Tue 11/6/2018 06:04 PM

To: POP 2020 DataProducts <pop.2020.dataproducts@census.gov>;

Cc: ipums@umn.edu <ipums@umn.edu>;

Dear Director Ruggles,

I depend on data from American Community Survey (ACS) and decennial census data to construct balance tables for my quasi-experimental research. One example of how I have used ACS data is for a project to estimate the impact of loans for drinking water infrastructure on water quality on American cities of all sizes. With the ACS 5-year estimates I was able to show that American cities who take Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loans earlier look similar to those who do not which strengthens the credibility of my research design and improves our understanding of a large federal program which provides us with money for an important National resource.

I would be happy to share my work with you if you need more information to support the argument that we should maintain open access to anonymized Census products and continue to provide Census microdata to researchers who are helping us understand who we are and how effective policies have been at improving our lives to enable us to make better policy decisions in the future.

Please contact me if you would like more of my stories with Census data, and thank you for this opportunity to make my voice heard.

Best,

Dave McLaughlin

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