

## How to Access American Community Survey Estimates Using the American FactFinder Download Center

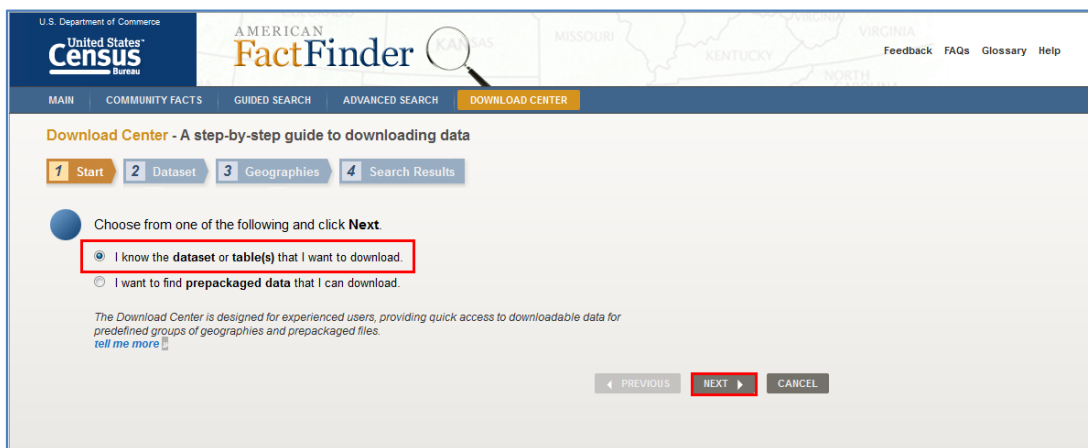
The American FactFinder (AFF) Download Center provides quick access to American Community Survey (ACS) data for predefined groups of geographies (i.e., all block groups within a state) and prepackaged files (i.e., 2013 ACS 1-year estimates). These instructions show you how to access block group estimates from the 2009-2013 ACS 5-year data release, and they can also be used for other geography levels or datasets.

Please note that for earlier years, block groups are available only in the ACS 5-year Summary File. Learn more about the ACS Summary File at <http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/summary-file-documentation.html>.

1. Access American FactFinder at <http://factfinder.census.gov>, then click on “Download Center” from the blue toolbar.



2. Use the default selection “I know the **dataset** or **table(s)** that I want to download.” Then click “Next.”



3. Select “American Community Survey” from Program drop down menu. After selecting your program, you will then need to select the specific dataset if you are looking for.

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder Download Center interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for MAIN, COMMUNITY FACTS, GUIDED SEARCH, ADVANCED SEARCH, and DOWNLOAD CENTER. Below this, a progress bar indicates the current step: 1 Start, 2 Dataset (highlighted), 3 Geographies, and 4 Search Results. The main heading is "Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data". A sub-heading reads "Select the program and dataset you're interested in. Click **Next**." Below this, there is a "Select a program:" dropdown menu. The dropdown is open, showing a list of programs. "American Community Survey" is highlighted with a red box. To the right of the dropdown is a "Your Selections" box that currently says "Your Selections is empty". Below the dropdown and selections box are buttons for "PREVIOUS", "NEXT", and "CANCEL".

4. Select “2013 ACS 5-year estimates.” Click “Add to Your Selections” and then click “Next.”

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder Download Center interface at the dataset selection step. The progress bar now shows 1 Start, 2 Dataset (highlighted), 3 Geographies, and 4 Search Results. The main heading is "Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data". A sub-heading reads "Select the program and dataset you're interested in. Click **Next**." Below this, there are two selection steps. The first step is "Select a program:" with a dropdown menu showing "American Community Survey". The second step is "Select a dataset and click Add to Your Selections:". Below this is a list of datasets. "2013 ACS 5-year estimates" is highlighted with a red box. Below the list is a red button labeled "ADD TO YOUR SELECTIONS". To the right of the selection steps is a "Your Selections" box that currently says "Your Selections is empty". Below the selections box are buttons for "PREVIOUS", "NEXT", and "CANCEL".

5. On the “Select a geographic type” step, click on the drop down menu. Then select “Block Group.” The grayed out geographies are not available for your dataset.

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder Download Center interface. The top navigation bar includes links for MAIN, COMMUNITY FACTS, GUIDED SEARCH, ADVANCED SEARCH, and DOWNLOAD CENTER. The main heading is "Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data". Below this, there are four steps: 1 Start, 2 Dataset, 3 Geographies, and 4 Search Results. The current step is "Select geographies to add to Your Selections. Click Next." A sub-header states: "The download center allows you to select from groups of geographies, such as all counties in a state. To select from all available geographies, use Advanced Search." The "Select a geographic type:" dropdown menu is open, showing a list of options. The "Block Group" option is highlighted in blue. Other options include "County Subdivision", "Census Tract (or part)", "Estimates Universe County Subdivision", "Estimates Universe Place/Balance (or part)", "Estate (US Virgin Islands only)", "Estimates Universe Place/Balance (or part)", "County (or part)", and "Census Tract (or part)". To the right, the "Your Selections" panel shows "Search using..." with "Dataset: 2013 ACS 5-year estimates" and "Tables matching your selections: 2,280". Navigation buttons "PREVIOUS", "NEXT", and "CANCEL" are at the bottom.

6. Under “Select a state,” use the drop down menu to pick your state of interest. In this example, we used Maryland. Next, under “Select a county,” use the drop down menu to pick your county of interest. Here, we did not choose a county. Select “All Block Groups within Maryland.” Click on “Add to Your Selections” then click “Next.”

**Note:** Download Center is the only place you can download All Blocks Groups within a **State**. In Advanced Search, the largest geography you can download is All Block Groups within a **County**.

The screenshot shows the American FactFinder Download Center interface, continuing from the previous step. The "Select a geographic type:" dropdown is now set to "Block Group". The "Select a state:" dropdown is open, and "Maryland" is selected. The "Select a county:" dropdown is also open, showing "All Block Groups within Maryland" as the selected option. The "Add to Your Selections" button is highlighted in red. The "Your Selections" panel on the right shows "Search using..." with "Dataset: 2013 ACS 5-year estimates" and "Tables matching your selections: 2,280". Navigation buttons "PREVIOUS", "NEXT", and "CANCEL" are at the bottom.

7. The “Search Results” now displays tables from the 2009-2013 ACS 5-year estimates for the block group(s) you selected. You can download a table by checking the box to the left of the “Table, File or Document Title” column, then clicking “Download.”

**Note:** You can select and download up to 40 tables at a time in Download Center.

U.S. Department of Commerce  
United States Census Bureau

AMERICAN FactFinder

Feedback FAQs Glossary Help

MAIN COMMUNITY FACTS GUIDED SEARCH ADVANCED SEARCH **DOWNLOAD CENTER**

**Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data** Dataset and Table - download center

1 Start 2 Dataset 3 Geographies 4 **Search Results**

Select table(s) to download:

Search Results: 1-25 of 372 tables and other products match "Your Selections" per page: 25

Refine your search results:  GO

1 Selected: **Download** Check All Clear All Reset Sort

Table, File or Document Title	ID	About
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE COUNT OF THE POPULATION	B00001	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE HOUSING UNITS	B00002	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> SEX BY AGE	B01001	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX	B01002	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (WHITE ALONE)	B01002A	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE)	B01002B	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE)	B01002C	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (ASIAN ALONE)	B01002D	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER ALONE)	B01002E	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (SOME OTHER RACE ALONE)	B01002F	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (TWO OR MORE RACES)	B01002G	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (WHITE ALONE, NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO)	B01002H	<a href="#">?</a>

**Your Selections**

Search using...

Dataset:  
2013 ACS 5-year estimates

Block Group within Census Tract  
All Block Groups within Maryland

Tables matching your selections: 372

PREVIOUS NEXT CANCEL

8. After selecting Download, a pop up box will appear. The table titles that you selected are displayed along with the geography that you chose. To include the column/row labels leave the box checked for “Include descriptive data element names.” Then click “OK.”

**Note:** Depending on the number of geographies and tables selected, it could take a long time to download.

Download Center - A step-by-step guide to downloading data Dataset and Table - download center

1 Start 2 Dataset 3 Geographies 4 **Search Results**

Select table(s) to download:

Search Results: 1-25 of 372 tables and other products match "Your Selections" per page: 25

Refine your search results:  GO

1 Selected: **Download** Check All Clear All Reset Sort

Table, File or Document Title	ID	About
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE COUNT OF THE POPULATION	B00001	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE HOUSING UNITS	B00002	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> SEX BY AGE	B01001	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX	B01002	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (WHITE ALONE)	B01002A	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN ALONE)	B01002B	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE)	B01002C	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (ASIAN ALONE)	B01002D	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER ALONE)	B01002E	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (SOME OTHER RACE ALONE)	B01002F	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (TWO OR MORE RACES)	B01002G	<a href="#">?</a>
<input type="checkbox"/> MEDIAN AGE BY SEX (WHITE ALONE, NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO)	B01002H	<a href="#">?</a>

**Your Selections**

Search using...

Dataset:  
2013 ACS 5-year estimates

Block Group within Census Tract  
All Block Groups within Maryland

Tables matching your selections: 372

PREVIOUS NEXT CANCEL

**Download**

You have selected 1 item(s) to download. ?

Tables:  
B00001 - UNWEIGHTED SAMPLE COUNT OF THE POPULATION

Geographies:  
All Block Groups within Maryland

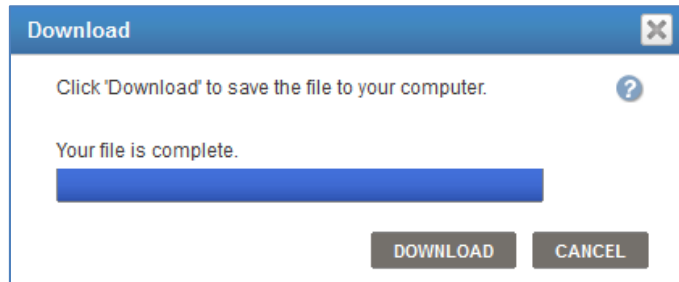
☒ Include descriptive data element names

Click OK to create a zip file containing your selected items.

Some downloads can take a long time, depending on the number of geographies and tables included in your download.

OK CANCEL

- After your file is created, you will see the message “Your file is complete.” Click “Download” to save the file to your computer.



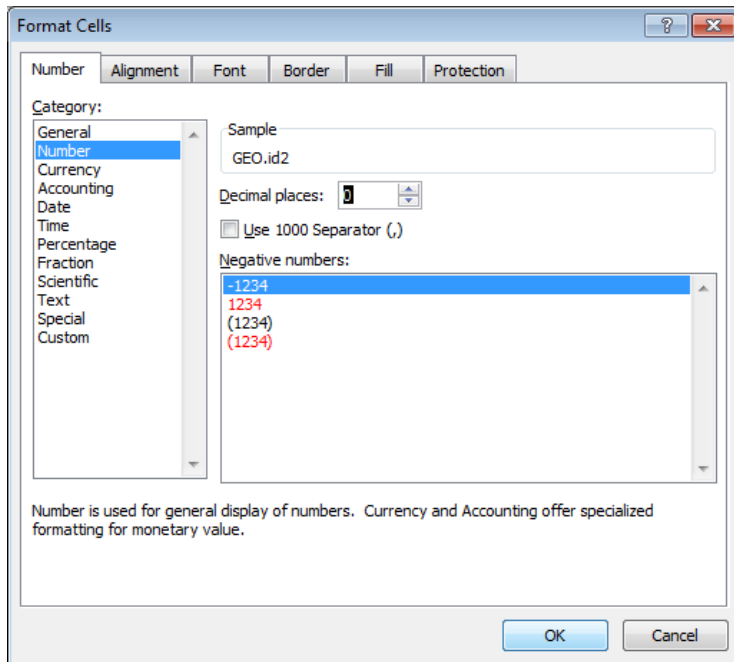
- After you open the zip file, you will see four files for each table you downloaded. Open the third file (ACS\_13\_5YR\_B00001\_with\_ann.csv). The exact filename will vary based on the dataset and table you downloaded. You will see columns corresponding to the Id (geographic identifier with the concatenated geographic code), Id2 (geographic identifier needed to join data to shapefiles), Geography (name of geography), and Estimate; Total (estimate corresponding to each geography).

	A	B	C	D	E
1	GEO.id	GEO.id2	GEO.display-label	HD01_VD01	
2	Id	Id2	Geography	Estimate; Total	
3	1500000US240010001001	2.4001E+11	Block Group 1, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland		54
4	1500000US240010001002	2.4001E+11	Block Group 2, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland		162
5	1500000US240010001003	2.4001E+11	Block Group 3, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland		95
6	1500000US240010002001	2.4001E+11	Block Group 1, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland		93
7	1500000US240010002002	2.4001E+11	Block Group 2, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland		74
8	1500000US240010002003	2.4001E+11	Block Group 3, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland		247
9	1500000US240010003001	2.4001E+11	Block Group 1, Census Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland		129
10	1500000US240010003002	2.4001E+11	Block Group 2, Census Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland		49
11	1500000US240010003003	2.4001E+11	Block Group 3, Census Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland		43
12	1500000US240010004001	2.4001E+11	Block Group 1, Census Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland		55
13	1500000US240010004002	2.4001E+11	Block Group 2, Census Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland		129
14	1500000US240010004003	2.4001E+11	Block Group 3, Census Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland		49

- If you want to change column B (Id2) from scientific notation to numbers, right click on the header of column B and select “Format cells.”

	A	B	C	D
1	GEO.id	GEO.id2		HD01_VD01
2	Id	Id2		Estimate; Total
3	1500000US240010001001	2.4001E	us Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	54
4	1500000US240010001002	2.4001E	us Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	162
5	1500000US240010001003	2.4001E	us Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	95
6	1500000US240010002001	2.4001E	us Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	93
7	1500000US240010002002	2.4001E	us Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	74
8	1500000US240010002003	2.4001E	us Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	247
9	1500000US240010003001	2.4001E	us Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland	129
10	1500000US240010003002	2.4001E	us Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland	49
11	1500000US240010003003	2.4001E	us Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland	43
12	1500000US240010004001	2.4001E	us Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland	55
13	1500000US240010004002	2.4001E	us Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland	129
14	1500000US240010004003	2.4001E	us Tract 4, Allegany County, Maryland	49

Under “Category,” select “Number” with 0 decimal places, then click “OK.”



The Id2 column will now display in numeric format.

	A	B	C	D
1	GEO.id	GEO.id2	GEO.display-label	HD01_VD01
2	Id	Id2	Geography	Estimate; Total
3	1500000US240010001001	240010001001	Block Group 1, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	54
4	1500000US240010001002	240010001002	Block Group 2, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	162
5	1500000US240010001003	240010001003	Block Group 3, Census Tract 1, Allegany County, Maryland	95
6	1500000US240010002001	240010002001	Block Group 1, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	93
7	1500000US240010002002	240010002002	Block Group 2, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	74
8	1500000US240010002003	240010002003	Block Group 3, Census Tract 2, Allegany County, Maryland	247
9	1500000US240010003001	240010003001	Block Group 1, Census Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland	129
10	1500000US240010003002	240010003002	Block Group 2, Census Tract 3, Allegany County, Maryland	49

If you have additional questions, please contact our call center at 1-800-923-8282 or submit a question at <https://ask.census.gov/newrequest.php>.