2016-2020 CHAS data

These files are custom tabulations of 2016-2020 ACS data, known as the CHAS, that are provided to HUD grantees for planning and analysis. The files provide information on the conditions and characteristics of housing units and households across the United States.

The data are summarized for eight levels of Census (FIPS) geography: States (040); Counties (050); County Subdivisions (060); Places split by County and County Subdivision boundaries (070); Census tracts (140); Counties split by Place boundaries (155), Places (160); and Consolidated Cities (170). Summary level 080 (split census tracts) has been phased out by Census; in the CHAS data, it has been replaced with summary level 140, which is the standard summary level for census tracts.

At each geographic summary level there are 24 different cross-tabulations (tables).[[1]](#footnote-1) Each table is provided as a separate comma-delimited text file. Within each comma-delimited text file, there is one row for each geographic jurisdiction, and columns provide variables describing specific combinations of household characteristics and housing conditions in that jurisdiction. The columns for each table are defined in the attached data dictionary file.

These files have the same structure (layout) as all CHAS data releases since 2008-2012.[[2]](#footnote-2) The full data dictionary is attached as ‘CHAS data dictionary 16-20.xlsx’. In the spreadsheet, the "All Tables" tab contains a detailed definition for every column in all the CHAS tables, spanning the 24 files provided. The columns are filterable so that the display can be limited to selected tables, columns, or household characteristics. The header columns in each table vary by geographic level. Detailed table and variable definition lists are also included in the data dictionary.

It is important to note that column type should be used to determine whether it is acceptable to add estimates together. It is generally not appropriate to add a subtotal and a detail. For example, adding T1\_est4 + T1\_est5 would be double counting because the T1\_est5 (detail) count is already included in the T1\_est4 (subtotal) count. However, adding T1\_est5 and T1\_est6 would be acceptable because both are detail-level estimates.

For more information about the CHAS data, including an overview of the 24 tables, definitions of commonly used terms, and recommendations for analysis, visit the web site of HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research, at: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/cp.html> or <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/cp/CHAS/bg_chas.html>

1. Table 6 is not available at summary levels 070 or 140. Those summary levels have only 23 tables. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Increased disclosure avoidance protections instituted by Census have resulted in some previously included estimates being suppressed, starting with the 2014-2018 ACS custom tabulations. The following tables have changes from pre-2018 releases:

   * Table 1: The “Other (including multiple races, non-Hispanic)” race/ethnicity category is now suppressed. The “Cost burden cannot be computed, none of the above problems” housing unit problems category is now combined with the “Has none of the 4 housing problems” category.
   * Table 2: The “Other (including multiple races, non-Hispanic)” race/ethnicity category is now suppressed. The “Cost burden cannot be computed, none of the above problems” severe housing unit problems category is now combined with the “Has none of the 4 severe housing problems” category.
   * Table 7: The “Cost burden cannot be computed, none of the above problems” category is now suppressed.
   * Table 12: The “Cost burden cannot be computed, none of the above problems” category is now suppressed.

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)