2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) Five-Year Estimates
Pre-Release Webinar
U.S. Census Bureau
December 1, 2022, 2 p.m. Eastern Time

Jewel Jordan: Good afternoon and welcome to the 2017-2021 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates Pre-Release Webinar. Today's webinar is focused on helping you prepare for the release of the 2017-2021 ACS Five-Year Data Products. Today's webinar is being recorded and materials from this webinar will be available through the Census Academy and the recorded webinar section.

The link provided on the slide will lead you to the Census Academy page containing materials from this webinar. If you are….if you are in need of closed captioning, click on the CC button in the lower right-hand corner of the screen.

Before I proceed, I'd like to say a special thank you to our American Community Survey respondents for their participation in the survey. Without them, we would not have these data which are so important to America's communities. The slides for today's webinar are currently available in the press kit.

You can find the press kit and the link on the slide. Throughout the webinar, links to more resources will be available in the chat window or through scanning QR codes on the slides using your mobile device. In addition to the question-and-answer session we will hold at the end of the webinar, subject matter experts will be answering questions throughout using the Q&A feature in WebEx.

Send your questions to the Q&A panel in the lower right corner of your screen. You may need to activate the Q&A by clicking on the Q&A icon, which might be nested under the icon with three dots in the bottom right corner of your screen.

If you're unable to ask your question or have additional questions after the webinar, please send them to the Public Information Office via email at pio@census.gov, or by phone at 301-763-3030. Thank you for joining us for today's webinar.

My name is Jewel Jordan, a public affairs specialist with the Census Bureau's Public Information Office. Our presenter today is Charles Gamble, a supervisory survey statistician with the American Community Survey Office.

I will now hand the presentation over to Charles, who will narrate the information on the upcoming 2021 ACS Five-Year data release. At the end of this presentation will offer an opportunity to ask questions.

Charles Gamble: Thank you, Jewel. Good afternoon, everyone, and thank you for tuning in today in preparation for the American Community Survey Five-Year release next week on December 8th. Before we get started, I want to outline what we will cover today. First, I'll cover next week's American Community Survey data release and our upcoming releases in early calendar year 2023.

Then I'll give a brief overview slash refresher of the American Community Survey and next cover what's changed for this release. I'll also briefly talk about the various tools you can use to access ACS products. And last, we'll go over the ACS's website and its many resources, as well as provide a live walkthrough of a few different sections of our web page that you may find helpful to close out this afternoon We will open the webinar for any questions you may have regarding the 2021 Five-Year data release next week on Thursday.

So this coming Tuesday, the 2017-2021, ACS Five-Year data will be available for early access through the embargo ahead of the public release next Thursday on December 8th. These estimates cover the 2017 through 2021 time period for all geographic areas. The media embargo will begin Tuesday, December 6th at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. This embargo site will contain all data products on data.census.gov. Please visit the press kit link provided on the slides and find the five-year data products available for media. Our public release will be Thursday, December 8th, and their products will be available by 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

This will include all the five-year products such as comparison profiles, subject tables, detailed tables and more. Also included in the public release will be our narrative profiles are available through the ACS website like data.census.gov, other existing tools like the API, Quick Facts and My Tribal Area will be updated with the new 2021 Five-Year data.

Today's webinar is today's webinar and focus is on our five-year release next week. But I also want to talk about the few remaining products that will be coming out in new calendar year 2023. These are the main products of the 2017-2021 ACS Five-Year Public Use Microdata sample also known as PUMS files and Variance Replicate Estimate tables, which will be released on January 26 of the New Year.

The ACS PUMS files are a set of untabulated records about individual people or housing units. PUMS files are made available to data users at the nation, region, state and public use microdata areas also referred to as PUMAs.

PUMAs are non-overlapping geographic geographies which contain at least 100,000 people, and PUMS files allow users to create custom tables that are not available through pre tabulated ACS data products like what you find in data.census.gov. PUMS files can be found on the Census Bureau's FTP server or through the microdata tool available at data.census.gov.

The Variance Replicate Estimate tables allow advanced data users to calculate margins of error, which include the covariance term when combining ACS estimates within a table or between geographies.

Our variance replicate tables can be found on the ACS website at census dot gov/acs and then under the data section. Finally, we will release the selected population tables and American Indian Alaska Native tables no later than June 2023.

Selected population tables. and American Indian and Alaska Native tables contain the greatest level of statistical detail for specific population groups. Selected population tables are available for select race, Hispanic origin, Tribal and ancestry population. Whereas American Indian Alaska Native tables produce more detailed Tribal categories compared to the selected population tables product.

So before we dive into the information on the release coming next week, I first want to provide a brief overview of the ACS and Five-Year data products for those who aren't as familiar with the survey, as well as provide a quick overall refresher of the survey itself.

So the ACS is the nation's most current, reliable and accessible data source for local statistics on critical planning topics such as age, children, veterans, education, income and much more. The ACS samples approximately 3.5 million addresses each year. These data are collected continuously throughout the year to produce annual social, economic, housing and demographic estimates.

The data collected through ACS are used to inform the distributions of more than $675 billion dollars of federal government spending each year. The ACS is designed to produce critical information on small areas and small population groups previously collected once every ten years as part of the decennial long form.

With the introduction of the ACS, communities and businesses receive more current data and the census questionnaire sent to all residents every ten years has been significantly shortened. Our ACS estimates cover more than 40 topics, support more than 300 known federal uses and countless nonfederal uses. Businesses and communities use these estimates each year to make vital decisions for their communities. The Census Bureau releases three different sets of ACS data estimates each year in the form of one-year estimates for geographies of 65,000 or more, which we released for the 2021, back on September 15th, one-year supplemental estimates for geographies of 20,000 or more, which are released on October 20th and five-year datasets for all geographies with pop...with no population threshold, which we are gearing up to release next week.

Now the content collected by the American Community Survey can be grouped into four main types of characteristics: social, economic, demographic and housing. Now, taking a close look at the type of information each of these categories contains, social characteristics include topics such as disability status, education and language spoken at home.

Economic characteristics include topics such as commuting to work, employment status and income. Housing characteristics include topics such as computer or internet use, housing cost and vehicles available. And American Community Survey also collects basic demographic characteristics such as sex, age, race and Hispanic origin.

So, these topics are used to produce more than a thousand tables for communities each year, and they power countless news stories every day. And with that, we want to thank our media partners for using ACS data to build their stories.

So, in addition to the 40 plus topics, the ACS collects data on other strengths, and what the ACS is known for is a number of geographies in which data are available. So starting from the top of the national level all the way to your local community, the ACS revised data for more geographies on an annual basis than any other household survey. The five-year data release includes more than 620,000 geographic areas. These geographic areas include granular….granular geographies like the census tract and block group levels. And there are 87 different summary levels available for the five-year estimates.

Unlike the one-year ACS releases, which have a population threshold of 65,000 or more geographies in the five-year release do not have a population threshold in order to be published. So geographies and the five-year release are the nation as well as the American Indian Alaska Native areas and Hawaiian homelands. And a reminder on that, the new American Indian Alaska Native tables will be released no later than June 2023. Other geographies are all states, including D.C. and Puerto Rico, all metropolitan areas, all congressional districts within the 116th Congress.

All counties and places and all tracts and block groups. And block groups are the smallest level geography produced by the ACS. For specific guidance on five-year estimates. First is important to understand the concept of a period estimate, as all estimates are in fact period estimates. Period estimates describe the characteristics of an area over a specific period, not a single point in time. What you find with the decennial census. So in the case of the US, one-year estimates the period is 12 months.

The estimates in the five-year release are pulled together across 60 months. Now it's important that we note five-year estimates are not an average of the one-year ACS estimates. The five-year data released next week will describe the population housing characteristics from January 1st, 2017 through December 31st 2021.

After the data are put together, they are updated with the geographic boundaries of the last year of the period. So in our case, it'll be 2021 and then assigned the appropriate weights to produce population and housing estimates. Weights are adjusted using the population housing totals controlled for age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, which would **arrive** the Census Bureau's Population Estimates program. Also income and estimates are adjusted for inflation based on the most recent year of the period. Therefore, this data year's five-year estimates are adjusted to 2021 dollars. Now a question may be asking is when should I be using five-year estimates instead of one-year estimate?

And that's a great question to ask. So you want to use five-year estimates when no one-year or one-year supplement estimate is available. Remember, one-year estimates cover geographies of 65,000 or more. Or there's a supplement table available for those populations, 20,000 or more.

But if the geography you are seeking does not meet the thresholds, you will then need to rely on the five-year estimates. Another instance when you want to use five-year estimates is when the margins of error for the annual estimates are larger than desired.

So a margin of error is a measure of sampling variability that is presented along with all ACS estimates. So for example, five-year estimates are helpful when analyzing small population groups because the high margins of error associated with them.

Also, if you're comparing solo geographic geographies and one or more of the geographies do not receive the one-year estimates due to the population size being too small. You will have to use the five-year estimates to compare those geographies.

So if you do find yourself interested in comparing five-year data, we encourage you to make comparisons only with non-overlapping data. This year you can compare the 2017-2021 Five-Year data with the 2012-2016 Five-Year data.

These not overlapping data sets will allow for a comparison of unique data, so only compare estimates of the same dataset. So for example, compare one-year with one-year and five-year with five-year non-overlapping data. Please do not compare one-year estimates with five-year estimates.

So five-year estimates are helpful when comparing across geographies because all geographies are represented in the five-year estimates as opposed to the one-year. For example, all counties and places, such as towns and cities, are available in the five-year, regardless of the population size.

This is not true for the one-year estimates. Similarly, five-year estimates are also great for making comparisons across subpopulations like ancestry and language groups. And one last note when comparing when making comparisons, percent estimates are often more reliable than the count estimates they are based on.

And when a population estimates program is available, such as the total population or the number of males or females in a county, the Population Estimates Program data is the official value and is preferred. However, if data users require demographic data across with other topics, for example, educational attainment by age group, ACS count estimates may be used and compared.

For more in-depth review of the ACS and its resources, feel free to view our introduction to the ACS webinar conducted earlier this year in August. Both slides and recording of the webinar are available for your viewing. With that said, we do conduct an introductory webinar every year during the month of August.

For our Spanish speaking data users, we recently on November 17th performed the same webinar, but Spanish as an additional resource. So moving on from the basics of the ACS, let's go to the updates for the 2017-2021 Five-Year release. The first change I'll discuss is about the population controls for the ACS. ACS data are controlled so that the number of housing units

and people in certain categories are consistent with a Census Bureau's official estimates from the Population Estimates Program. The population controls for the ACS five-year product are the average of the population estimates across the five-year period. And most years, the ACS simply used the latest release of postcensal estimates, which are produced for the most recent census forward for each of the five years. However, if the period straddles a decennial year, then the intercensal estimates are used for years prior to the decennial and the postcensal estimates are used for the decennial year forward.

Intercensal estimates form a time series, starting from the preceding census and ending at the current census. So they are informed by both censuses. Now due to delays in the 2020 census processing, the 2010 through 2020 intercensal estimates were not available for this year's five-year product.

Therefore, we needed to find a different solution for the 2017-2021 ACS Five-Year than we used last decade. The population estimates for 2020 and forward included information from the 2020 Census. But our most recent estimates for the years 2017-2019 did not.

What we did was we bridged the 2017-2019 estimates to form a consistent time series with 2020 and 2021. This process made the controls and our 2017-2021 ACS Five-Year estimates, generally consistent with the 2020 Census.

Now this transitions the actual table changes for the 2021 Five-Year data products. This year we have five new detailed tables across two topics, those topics being both poverty and housing as seen in the slide. New Table B17101 shows the total number of people and households for whom poverty status is determined and housing added four new tables showing estimates of utility costs for occupied housing units.

There are also tables that have been modified across nine different topics. A few examples of topics with modifications to both detailed tables or subject tables include those listed such as corrections to tables for food stamps and the foreign-born population, as well as updates to tables showing mortgage status and poverty.

Other modifications were improvements to the comparison profiles for economic characteristics and housing characteristics, specifically the method of inflation adjusting median dollar amounts for previous years, and CPO3 and CPO4 was changed. Data users are now able to closely match estimates by inflation adjusting previous year estimates using the Consumer Price Index retroactive series for the median income and housing estimates.

For the complete list of five-year table changes and modifications, please visit our 2021 Table and Geography Changes web page. Table and geography changes are provided by release year as well as by one-year, one-year supplemental and five-year estimates.

Table changes provide new modified as well as deleted tables for each release year. Geography changes are also available in this web page as a downloadable Excel file containing new, deleted, as well as geographic areas and have gone through name and GEOID changes.

One highlight related to geography I'd like to point out is that ZCTAs or zip code tabulation areas have been updated with the 2020 Census boundaries. So next I'm going to provide information on how to or how data users can actually access the 2017-2021 Five-Year data products and what data products are actually available.

So before diving into how to access the data, I'm going to give a rundown of the data products that are available for the five-year release. So on the slide, the letters in parentheses and next to the product name is a table identifier as it appears in data.census.gov.

The number represents how many tables are available for that type. Data profiles show both estimates and percentages for particular geography on a variety of topics and one table. There are four profiles for social, economic, housing and demographic characteristics, and there's also a comparative social characteristics profile for Puerto Rico, which is identified by having the PR at the end of the table ID. Comparison profiles, which are identical to data profiles but offer comparisons of estimates across different ACS years, providing side-by-side data from two different five-year periods. So, for example, comparing 2017-2021 versus 2012 to 2016, and this product is best for comparing estimates over time.

Subject tables also like data profiles, but these tables include more detailed ACS data classified by topic. Therefore, subject tables are topic specific. Detail tables contain estimates and margins of error only organized by topic and the most specific tables and the ACS product package.

All the products I just mentioned are available through data.census.gov. Other products such as narrative profiles can be found on the ACS website at census.gov/acs and will be available on Thursday, December 8th.

So obviously as you all probably know by now, data.census.gov is the primary platform to access data from the Census Bureau, including the data for next week's release and data.census.gov will contain most data products you are actually looking for.

The link at the bottom of the slide is for resources on data.census.gov, such as the FAQs, how to materials, video tutorials and more. This web page is a great resource for learning how to use data.census.gov and other tools associated with it, like a micro data tool used for pulling PUMS.

As of yesterday there was an introductory and getting started on data.census.gov webinar that can be found on this page. So just 2 slides ago I mentioned narrative profiles. I want to point out that this product will be available on release day, but the difference is narrative profiles are not made available in data.census.gov. Rather....Rather they can be found in the ACS web site. So to provide some context, the five-year narrative profile is one of our more popular products. In this pre-generated report that describes a geographic area by providing text and graphics for roughly 15 different ACS topics.

So if you want it, users can choose to produce a report on all 15 topics or simply a subset of topics of their selected geographies. Narrative profiles help novice users to interpret the data and on the side are some topic examples of what can be found in their narrative profiles such as poverty rates and industry data.

And on Thursday, December 8th, narrative profiles will be updated to the 2017 through 2021 Five-Year data. The summary file is another tool users can use to gather ACS data. It will be available next week during the embargo period and will be found in our press kit web page.

The summary file will be available to everyone on the release day, December 8th. Like the 2021 one-year release this past September, the five-year release will also contain two formats of the summary file, one being the original format or sequence based, and the other being the table based format, which is the new recommended format.

The 2021 ACS release will be the final release containing the sequence-based format. Therefore, moving forward, only the table-based format will be available for 2022 and beyond data releases. Summary files include estimates and margin of error from all the detailed tables and geographies that are published for the ACS in a downloadable format.

Now the original sequence-based format stores tables and what is called sequences, which are a series of files that have to be merged together to complete a full table. Whereas the new table-based format removes the need to merge separate files to create a full table.

This new format groups, estimates and margin of error together by table ID. Ultimately, it's much simpler on ACS data users to use a summary file, not having to reconstruct tables using sequences from several different separate files. We have also updated our Web page to support the new table-based format.

You can access the summary file data as well supporting documentation by visiting our website for the embargo period on December 6th, approved parties can access the summary file through a link provided in the press kit. Another tool available to access ACS data is the API or is known as the application programing interface.

The APIs data tool enabling researchers and software developers to access the use or access and use Census Bureau data within their programs and applications. This is a tool that presents data in a standardized way, and by standardizing the API query language across multiple datasets, the learning curve of researchers and developers is much easier.

With the API, you can select variables and multiple datasets and place in the raw format for the layout of your choice. The API includes many Census Bureau datasets, including the ACS one-year and five-year datasets, as well as the supplemental data.

And this will be updated on release day December 8th with a 2017-2021 Five-Year ACS data. To learn more about the API, we do have a webinar titled, "Using the Census API with the American Community Survey," on our website.

So I mentioned earlier that other tools such as Quick Facts, Census Business Builder, My Tribal Area and a few others will be updated with the 2017-2021 ACS Five-Year data. Quick facts and My Tribal Area are scheduled to be updated on Thursday, December 8th, with the 2021 Five-Year ACS data.

Quick Facts is an easy-to-use application that shows tables, maps and charts of our most frequently requested information from more than ten census surveys and programs. Now, please do be mindful that Quick Facts does have a population threshold providing data for geographic areas with a population of 5000 or more.

My Tribal Areas is another tool that is quick and user-friendly. My Tribal Area gives ACS Five-Year characteristic estimates for tribal areas across the U.S. So if you're interested in looking for data on areas such as tribal reservations, trust lands, etc., this is a good tool to use to find this information quickly.

The Census Business Builder tool will also be refreshed with the five-year ACS data in March or April 2023. CBB for short is a mapping tool geared towards users needing data to help start or grow a business or to better understand an area's business landscape.

Previous CBB was made up of the Small Business Edition as well as the Regional Analyst Edition. By next week, CBB will be updated to combine the Small Business and Regional Analyst Editions into a single convenient tool.

So moving into our last section of the webinar today and before we open up for any questions you may have, I want to take a moment to highlight some of the important areas of the ACS website and a few web pages that can help support you and your use of the ACS data.

So obviously, we understand that data itself is the main draw for users. You want to get the data and use it to help your communities, support your organizations and/or make important decisions. But with that said, we don't want to overlook the resources we provide and how they can help you and your understanding of the data in anticipation for the release next week. So I'm going to switch over to a quick demo highlighting a few select ACS web pages, and then I will come back to the slides for our Q&A portion to close out our webinar today.

All right. So first and foremost is our ACS main page. Essentially, this is the gateway to finding specific information related to the survey itself, and url is simply just census.gov/acs. And two things I'll point out on the main page is the left-hand navigation.

This is the best way to navigate our webpage. All the links are hyperlinked in blue to give you a quick and easy access to different sections in our web page. And also the middle page is our subscribe section.

So if you're interested in ACS information, whether that be on ACS data releases, publications in advance or just overall program updates, you can simply supply us with your email and you'll get a frequent ACS updates on ACS information.

Now, the first section I'm going to pinpoint you today is the news and updates section. So I click news and updates from here from left hand navigation. And the news and updates section. I want to look at the data releases section.

So the data releases section is broken out and organized by data year, the first item I want to pinpoint and kind of look at here is that the data release schedule. So they'll reschedule. Provide you an overall quick table of the plan releases for that current year.

And in the middle in the middle of the table, you can see the actual products that are going to be released on that date as well as the geographies available as well. Now as we do release data, you see here the five-year release.

As we do release data, each one of these products will be hyperlinked to either give you a quick link to data.census.gov to find the data products or for example on narrative profiles, give you a quick link to the ACS web page to find narrative profiles.

Now I'm going to take one step back through our pathway here to our data release section and just point out a few other areas that may be of importance to you. You can also see our press kit links here as well for our five-year as well as our previous one-year back in September.

But I also want to note our new a notable section, which is basically a messaging board that kind of tells you what is coming up in the and the release is taking place as well as some additional supporting documentation.

That's all hyperlinked for you for quick and easy access to those documents. And earlier in the presentation, we talk about the table changes and geography changes. That's also linked here as well. So if you want more specifics on that, you can come here, click this link and we'll take you to more further detail on those table and geography changes as it pertains to the 2021 release or any other or any of the other release years you're interested in. So I'm going to go and go back to the ACS homepage by clicking our pathway here where says American Community Survey.

And the next section I want to show is our data section. So I'm going to come to our left-hand navigation and select data. And the two items I'm going to show here today in the consideration of time for our webinar is data tools and data table.

So, first I'm going to select the data tools link. And it is how it sounds. It gives you a full list of data tools as it relates to ACS data. So for example, if I'm interested in the QuickFacts, I can say QuickFacts.

So it will give me a dropdown. And what this will provide is the topics are available within QuickFacts. It will also provide me the datasets to actually power the tool itself and the geographies included. So remember once again QuickFacts provides data for geographies of 5000 or more so this will lay this out for you that information. And I'm also going to provide you a quick link to the tool as well to just give you that quick and easy access to start pulling data through QuickFacts. So much of this is the same for any of the other tools you want to select and take a look at.

And the next item I'm going to show is the data tables. Now this page is built very similar to the data tools page, so it gives you a full list of data products. So our data profiles are narrative profiles and detailed tables, subject tables.

So what it shows is a brief description. So I'm interested in detail tables. I could select detailed tables. It'll give me a brief description of what detailed tables are. It'll also give me some information on how to identify detailed tables based again on that table ID using B or C, uhh... also the geographies available that are covered in that product for in this case for detailed tables and also does give you links to tools that provide detailed tables through them. So for example, if I'm interested in the five-year detailed table through data.census.gov, I could select this link here and it would take me to data.census.gov and give me a full list of five-year detailed tables. All right. So stepping back, I'm going to go to our ACS homepage again by selecting our pathways to American Community Survey. And I'm going to use "Guidance for Data Users" section this time.

Now I'm not going to click into all these sections. I'm just going to highlight a few. First, is our handbook section, so we have over 14 handbooks. All of them are in PDF format and they're downloadable. They're also broken out by specific chapter.

If you're only interested in a certain chapter and don't want the whole download. You can download one chapter of time if you would like. And they also do provide how to instructions as well as real life case uses of ACS data, which is pretty cool to read about.

The next section is the recorded webinar. So just as it sounds, these are our recorded trainings. What you'll find there is the training itself. You'll find the video and the slides associated with any specific training you're looking for.

So once again, once all the information in the …. once the slides from today, as well as the recording from today is compiled together, you'll be able to find this webinar in this section as well. Another section I'll point out is "Subjects Included in the Survey."

So earlier we went over all the different subjects in the slide. If you do want to come here once again, all the topics are broken out by the characteristic type, as social, economic, housing and demographic, and each topic is hyperlinked to go to data.census.gov to show you tables that are relevant to that specific topic of your interest. Another item is that of the stat testing tool. So this tool was good to use for users when trying to find if different estimates are significantly a statistically significant. It is a easy-to-use Excel sheet. You can still be plug in the estimate you're looking to compare and it generates a simple yes or no, allowing you informing you whether or not that difference is statistically significant.

And the last section I want to point out is once you use one-year or five-year, we had a slide on this earlier this provides a quick table to....to view all the different data products of the one-year, the five-year as well as the one-year supplemental and will kind of give you information on each data product about the geography available, the sample size as well as the reliability in the currency, other data, all of the data inside of each one of those products. So it's just a quick and easy way to help you make a decision on which product is best for you to use.

So going back to the ACS home page again, look through our pathway here. And I'm going to go with technical documentation. Now this section of our web page is a lot of information that's

embedded within it. I'm gonna look at one section today. The code lists, definitions and accuracy section. So here what you can find.

First, I'll pinpoint that code list either in PDF or Excel format. So code list are for the breakdown of detailed codes for many different variables. And a lot of these are variables that have a large number of large number of code responses.

So, for example, ancestry, Hispanic origin, industry and occupation or field or field of degree, so many of those variables can be broken down into many smaller groups. And this kind of shows you how the ACS survey itself breaks those variable down, breaks those variables down into those more specific group groupings..... within within those variables itself.

Also, you can find subject definitions as well as group quarters definitions. This will just help you better understand the ACS variables and the survey results you're seeing on data.census.gov for any of the other tools you're looking at ACS data through.

I do find myself using these tools myself helping data users still just refreshing my mind and you know over 40 topics it helps to kind of calm and refresh your mind of how the ACS defines it...defines a certain variable you may be looking at.

Also want to pinpoint table lists and table shelves. So I actually click into this because I also want to provide a quick example of how to kind of link all this together. So table shells and table lists but we're...select that link.

This is what you'll see once it gets broken up by date of year and table lists. So table lists is a full list of the ACS data tables. It provides you a table ID, the name of the table, as well as geographic restrictions, as well as the that are datasets available for a specific data table.

So whether the one-year or five-year or both. And the table shows is more so showing you the design of each table. So you can select a specific table, see how each table has broken out line by line, and the descriptions of that lines just overall showing you the design of a table of your interest.

So what I'll do now is I will come to table list and just give you an example. I'm going to open table list. Okay. Let me increase the size here for you. All right. So let's say I was interested in tables that have the topic of vehicles. So, I could come open table list, hit 'Control F,' type in vehicles already here for me hit 'enter.' And it will start finding tables for me that have the topic of vehicles. So let me use this table here, here B08014. And what it is going to do is give me a table ID the name of the table, the universal tables, pulling the population from as well as a data product that it provides data for. So the one-year and/or five-year as well as geographic restrictions for both one-year and five-year tables. So I want to go back a bit. What I can also do is then I can now see the table shell for this product as well.

So if I were to go the table shells, when you open the table shells link it's going to give you a full link of tables. You could simply just use 'Control F' and then type in the table ID you're looking for.

So in this case is B08014 and you could download this spreadsheet as you see here. Once again, the table shell is going to break it down line by line, as you see here, and then give you a description of what each line is showing and the overall design of the table itself.

Now you may be wondering, okay, so I have all this information, but, you know, I also want to know how the ACS defines vehicles and what and what is meant by that. So I could come back here and I could look at our subject definitions.

So taking a look at our subject definitions. Hold on one second for me. Okay. These are subject definitions pdf. And you come here and I'll let you use 'Control F' here as well. I can type in vehicles. And what's nice about this is the table of contents is hyperlinks.

I see vehicles available, I'm going to go ahead and click vehicles available, it's going to take me to page 47. And what this going to provide is a definition of how the ACS defines a vehicle's available. It's also going to give some background information on the question and concept of the history of pulling vehicles available.

And one kind of cool thing to note, for example, and the definitions won't tell you motorcycles or other recreational vehicles are excluded from vehicles available in the definition of the ACS. So this is kind of showing you grouping all in together how you can use the different tools, help you understand the ACS and the survey results you're looking at.

All right. So I'm going to take us back to our ACS page again, and I'm gonna click on the American Community Survey, ACS, to go back to our homepage.

And the last page I'm going to show you today is simply, I'm going to go over this quickly, is the information for sections I click , 'Information For.' And the 'Information For' section... It breaks out each section for specific ACS users. So you can see all the different user sections we have here.

Today, I'm going to highlight the media since this is our five-year pre-release webinar, essentially what this is is a one-stop shop. It's a consolidation of all the resources and materials we may think is helpful in this case for media members. So you come here, you can scroll down, see all the information that's available, all the different sections will have the ACS Information Guide.

But here you see all of the handbook for journalists, fact sheet for journalists, and also links to different data tools to find that data. So once again, it's essentially a one-stop shop for different types of ACS data users, depending on on who you are.

So going back to our home page once again, this is the ACS homepage, census.gov/acs. I just did a quick overview of the of the website itself as many different areas you can look at, such as micro data for PUMS geography for ACS as well if you're interested in the methodology of the of the ACS overall.

So if you have questions also you can contact us, feel free to reach out to us. But do take some time to check out our website. There's some good information there for you. So now I'm going to jump back over into our slides to wrap up our webinar today.

All right. So I'm coming back into our slides. This wraps up the presentation portion of today's five-year pre-release webinar.

Hopefully, if you had questions, you were able to ask them and get responses through the Q&A feature. If not, I will turn the mic back over to our host, Jewel, as we enter the verbal questions portion of today's webinar.

Jewel Jordan: Thank you, Charles. Now we'll begin taking questions. If you would like to ask a question, use the raise your hand feature in chat and we'll call you in the order in which your hands were raised. When you ask your question, please state your name and affiliation.

And because we want to give everyone an opportunity to ask their questions, we'll allow just one question and one follow-up question per attendee. If you are unable to ask a question or have additional questions for follow-up, please send them to the Public Information Office either by email, at pio@census.gov or by phone at 301-763-3030.

While we wait for questions, we invite you to stay in touch by telling us how you use data from the American Community Survey. For example, have you or your organization used the ACS to make an important decision, help your community or expand a business?

Please visit the link at the bottom to share your story and explore how data enthusiasts across the country are using ACS data in creative ways. These stories helped to provide the importance of ACS data and the vital need for it across our communities.

Your stories highlight the value of the American Community Survey. We also want to let you know about the ACS Data Users Group. The ACS Data Users Group is a great way to learn from your peers about how to use ACS data for all kinds of applications.

Membership is free and open to all interested data users. There are currently more than 4000 group members. Also, you can learn more about the ACS Data Users Group conference scheduled for May 16th through the 18th in 2023.

Please visit the Data Users Group website at acsdatacommunity.prb.org for more details. Currently, the Planning Committee is accepting abstracts submissions. And while we continue to wait for questions, I would like to remind you that embargo subscribers will have access to 2021 ACS Five-Year statistics beginning at 10 a.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, December 6th. The release of the ACS Five-Year news products is set for the 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, December 8th. To see this data prior to the release of the December of December 8th visit the embargo area, which you'll find on census.gov by clicking on NEWSROOM, then embargoed releases.

After signing in, you'll have access to embargo data and other products in the press kit. The Embargo Area Press Kit link on this page will also take you there once the embargo period begins. I'd like you to remind me.

I'd like to remind you today that the presentation slides will be available in the press kit that's currently on census.gov. As we begin our question-and-answer session, please remember to speak clearly. Since we are completely virtual, we ask that you try your best to limit background noise.

And we'll go ahead and see if we have any questions cued up. I see one from Mike G. Greg - can you unmute Mike's microphone?

Operator Greg Pewett: Yes. Mike should be able to unmute now if he likes.

Jewel Jordan: Mike, are you there? You may need to unmute yourself on your personal computer or phone line. I'm not sure if we're having a technical difficulty. But Mike, your question is not yet coming in. Please either use the Q&A feature to ask your question or follow up with us at the Public Information Office either by email at pio@census.gov or by phone. At this time….I'm seeing another question from Joseph D. Greg, can you unmute his mic?

Audience Member: ….And if and when that might be released as well.

Jewel Jordan: I'm so sorry. We only got part of your question. Can you please repeat?

Audience Member: Yeah. I'm curious about CTPP data and when that might be released as well.

Jewel Jordan: Thank you for your question. Is there someone or is there a subject matter expert available that's able to answer that question?

Nathan Walters: Hi, this is Nate Walters, ADC for the data tabulation area. We're currently working with AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) to find that data, product and package we anticipate producing releasing in mid to late 2024. Does that answer your question?

Jewel Jordan: Thank you, Nate. I think that did answer his question. We'll move on then to Jen C. Greg, can you please unmute her, mic?

Audience Member 2: …Released in December. Do we have a date like the actual beginning of December? End of December?

Jewel Jordan: Sorry, Jen. It seems like you also had a cut off. Can you please repeat your question?

Audience Member: 2: Sorry. Sure. So I just had a question on the release of the urbanized area data….ummm..I know it says it's December 2022. But does anybody have an idea if it's like soon or towards the end of the year?

Jewel Jordan: Is there someone on the line that can answer that question?

Nathan Walters: Hi. This is Nate Walters again. I'm not sure I quite understand the question, but the urban areas will be included in the standard release next week.

Jewel Jordan: If you're asking about urban areas in regards to the 2020 Census, please direct your question to the Public Information Office. We can follow up with you by email that way. Thank you for your question. Next, we'll move on to Gregg O. Please give it one second to unmute before you begin speaking.

Audience Member 3….Your data sets, like the…five-year ACS. If you ever subsequently update them or change them, you have to check back to see if there are any updates or corrections and how would we know about that?

Jewel Jordan: Sorry. So it seems that we're having an ongoing issue where after you unmute, there's a slight delay, can you please repeat your question?

Audience Member 3: Sure. Do you do you publish updates to datasets like the five-year ACS subsequent to the initial publication? And if so, how would we know about those updates and when you make them?

Jewel Jordan: Thank you for your question. Is there a subject matter expert available that can answer?

Nicole Scanniello: Yes. Hello, this is Nicole Nicole Scanniello from the American Community Survey Office. We don't repost the data, but we do post user notes as well as errata notes...errata notes, specifically will identify any issues that we've identified in the data, and I'll post a link to that in the chat.

Audience Member 3: Terrific. Thank you.

Jewel Jordan: Thank you for that answer, Nicole, and thank you for your question, Greg. We'll next move on to Rose M., if you can provide.... if you can ask your question.

Audience Member 4: Being a product resident to county to workplace county commuting flows, don't know the product number, but the most recent I've been able to find is using the ACS 2011-2015 data. Is there a newer version of that available?

Jewel Jordan: Apologies. Can you repeat your question from the beginning?

Audience Member 4: Yes, I'm using the residents county to workplace, county commuting flow and I don't know the product number and I haven't been able to find anything newer than dataset using the 2011 to 2015 data. Is there anything newer or is this a continuing product?

Jewel Jordan: Understood, is there someone that's able to answer his question?

Megan Benetsky: This is Megan….(unintelligible) from social economic...(unintelligable)

Jewel Jordan: Sorry, Megan, one moment, we can't hear you very well if you're able to speak up or turn your mic up?

Megan Benetsky: You hear me now?

Jewel Jordan: Still a little faint.

Megan Benetsky: If you can hear me, I think it's best that they just contact PIO and we'll get them in touch with subject matter.

Jewel Jordan: Thank you. So Bruce, please reach out to us by email or by phone, and we'll work with you to get you an answer to that question.

David Raglin: Well, this is David Raglin from ACS. I think you're referring to the....the commuting flows that come from the CTPP or Census Transportation Planning Package that Nate just referenced. And so he just talked about when we're going to release the next one, that one isn't done every year. I think that's what you're talking about. Was it was a commuting or migration....you're asking about?

Jewel Jordan: Greg, can you unmute his mic again, please?

Audience Member 4: It was commuting flow.

David Raglin: Yeah. I think that generally that generally comes from the CTPP, which is that special tab that Nate Walters just mentioned, that we are in the process of working with our customers to define. And then when we do that, we will work to release that tab. So that's not that's one that's not done every year.

Audience Member 4: Okay. Thank you.

David Raglin: I think that's what you're asking about. If it's not if it's something from something else, please send an email to the address we've been talking about and somebody just posted the link to CTPP.

Thank you in the chat ...in the question and answer.

Audience Member 4: Thank you.

David Raglin: You're welcome.

Nicole Scanniello: Jewel, you're on mute.

Jewel Jordan: Sorry. thank you. I just realized. Thank you all so much for your questions. If you think of any questions following today's webinar, please contact us using the information on this slide. You can also connect with us by subscribing to our email alerts where we share important information about our data releases, visiting our website at census.gov/acs.

At this time, I'd also like to remind members of the media to please check to make sure your embargo password has not expired. The embargo data for 2021 ACS Five-Year estimates will be posted at 10 a.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, December 6th.

If you have additional questions about the embargo or wish to arrange interviews on the topics covered in today's webinar, don't hesitate to call the Census Bureau's Public Information Office at the number or email listed on the screen. As a reminder, the release of news products is set for 12:01 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, December 8th, and all data will be made available by 10 a.m.

Additional information about the American Community Survey, and this release can be found in our press kit. You can scan the QR code on the screen to visit census.gov to sign up for email alerts about upcoming data product releases.

If you're looking for further assistance on how to obtain or understand ACS data, our Data Dissemination Specialists, or DDS's, who are located within your region can provide you with assistance about Census Bureau data. These specialists usually provide help in English, but sometimes are available in other languages as well, depending on needs of their communities.

Whether conducting one-on-one webinars with business start-ups or conducting large-scale presentations at universities, these specialists strive to put the public in touch with the data they need. DDS's provide a wide variety of assistance for free.

If you are interested in a specific type of training or presentation, please reach out to a specialist in your area using the contact information on the slide. And finally, we ask that you please fill out an evaluation form.

We want to ensure these sessions are helpful to you. Please find a link to the evaluation in the chat window. Thank you so much for joining today's pre-release webinar on the 2017-2021 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates.