American Housing Survey: Survey Topics and Questionnaire

May 11th 2017

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American Housing Survey Analyst
U.S. Census Bureau
AHS Overview

- CAPI survey conducted every two years
  - CAPI-Computer assisted personal interview
- Redesigned in 2015
  - Questionnaire was re-worked
- Longitudinal survey of housing units
  - Longitudinally allows for dependent interviewing
AHS “Core” Topics

-Most of the AHS is part of the “core” survey.
-These topics are asked each cycle.
-Covers many different topics critical to HUDs mission.
-Questions are consistent between survey years.
Some “Core” Subjects in the AHS

- Housing Burden
  - Housing Costs versus Household Income
  - Housing Subsidies
- Housing Adequacy
- Home Remodeling
- Demographic and Disability data
- Equipment and Rooms info
Rotating Topics

- Introduced in the 2011 AHS
- Way to cover important subjects, while not increasing respondent burden (interview length).
Past Rotating Topics

- Healthy Homes
- Home Accessibility
- Disaster Preparedness
- Housing Counseling
- Food Security
- And more...
Rotating Subjects Con’t

 No set schedule for topics
 Several have been “sponsored” by outside groups
   i.e. NEA was involved in the development of the Arts and Culture section.
 Starting in 2013 AHS has had a split sample to ease respondent burden even more.
Rotating topics for 2015 and 2017

- **2015**
  - Arts and Culture, Food Security, Healthy Homes and Housing Counseling.

- **2017**
  - Commuting, Disaster Planning and Delinquent Payments.
Any Questions?

Contact Info

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Accessing AHS Data

- Data located on the AHS page at Census.gov
- Link:
  - https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs/data.html
- Variety of products available
  - Historic Tables
  - Historic and current Microdata files
  - New product: Table Creator
AHS Table Creator

- New product introduced in 2013
- Allows for custom tabulations developed on the fly.
  - Base table display similar information as was available prior years in excel workbooks.
**NOTE**

The following slides will not be gone over during the presentation, instead a live demonstration of the data products will be done. These slides are here only as a resource for future use.
Product Sources

- AHS Website
  - Table Creator (2015 and future)
  - Microdata Public Use File (PUF)
  - American FactFinder (AFF)/Excel Tables (2013 and earlier)
- Infographic(s)
AHS Website
http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/ahs.html

American Housing Survey (AHS)

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American Housing Survey Statistics for Selected Metropolitan Areas
January 05, 2017
Summary tables from the 2015 American Housing Survey for the 15 largest metropolitan areas and 10 additional metropolitan areas.
American Housing Survey (AHS)

AHS Table Creator
Create custom AHS tables without having to use microdata.

AHS 2015 Public Use File (PUF)
Files containing individual household responses to the survey questions, allowing for generating custom tables. Data can be downloaded in SAS and ASCII formats.

AHS 2015 Summary Tables
This report summarized the results of the 2015 survey. The tables are available for the United States and selected metropolitan areas via AHS Table Creator.
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**American Housing Survey Statistics for Selected Metropolitan Areas**

January 05, 2017

Summary tables from the 2015 American Housing Survey for the 15 largest metropolitan areas and 10 additional metropolitan areas.
American Housing Survey (AHS)

Why am I in a Survey?

1. I thought that the Census Bureau operated only every ten years when it counted people. What is the Census Bureau doing now?
2. Why was I selected?
3. You were here two years ago. Why are you coming back?
4. How do you protect my privacy?
5. Is the American Housing Survey legitimate?
6. What is the legal authority behind the American Housing Survey?
7. How do I verify that the phone call or visit is legitimate?
8. Why should I participate?
9. How can I respond to the survey or get help?
10. How long will it take?

I thought that the Census Bureau operated only every ten years when it counted people. What is the Census Bureau doing now? back to top

Besides the decennial census, which is conducted every ten years, the Census Bureau collects many different kinds of data through other censuses and surveys. The Census Bureau conducts other censuses regularly, including censuses of business and manufacturers and censuses of state and local governments.
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Read More

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Due to changes in geographic boundaries, use caution when comparing 2015 metro estimates to prior years. Please see *Summary of the Differences between the 2015 and 2013 AHS Metro Areas* for more information.

The AHS Table Creator gives you the ability to create customized tables from the American Housing Survey without having to use the Public Use File (microdata).

**To create a table:**

1. **Select area.** Options are "national" or selected "metro areas". You may select only one at a time.
2. **Select survey year.** For historical AHS data (1973-2009), visit the Data page. Note: because not all metro areas are sampled each survey year, certain years may be unavailable for a particular area.
3. **Select table.** Table row headings match those published in AHS Summary Tables.
4. **Select column variable.** You may select up to 2 variables. Selecting a second column variable will result in column headings with nested categories. If none is selected, only the total for all occupied units will display.
5. **Optional:** use the Tenure and Geography filters to narrow the scope of your table.
6. **Click Get Table.**
7. **Optional:** download the table in Excel by clicking on the down arrow on the top-right tool bar. Excel 2016 Users may notice formatting discrepancies. Labels in the column headers, stub data, and the statement “Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Housing Survey.” at the bottom of the Excel output are in white font color. Users may change these colors manually in Excel.

**Disclaimer:**
Like published tables, AHS Table Creator tabulations may not match estimates derived using the Public Use File (PUF) because the PUF uses topcoding and geographic suppressions used to protect the identities of survey respondents. Cross tabulations displaying an X, or not applicable, in published AHS tables are shown as a “.” in Table Creator.

[AHS Table Creator Release Notes]
American Housing Survey - Table Creator

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AHS Table Creator Release Notes
## 2015 National - Housing Quality - All Occupied Units

**Variable 1: Age of Householder, Variable 2: Race of Householder**

[Numbers in thousands, except as indicated. Weighting consistent with Census 2010. Blank cells represent or round to zero; '*' represents not applicable or no cases in sample.]

### Subject Definitions

### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White alone</th>
<th>Black alone</th>
<th>American In Nativ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>118,290</td>
<td>93,760</td>
<td>15,598</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing Adequacy'1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Severely inadequate'2</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>982</td>
<td>362</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbing</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heating</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>220</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiring</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upkeep</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Housing Survey.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White alone</th>
<th>Black alone</th>
<th>American Indian or Alaska/Asian alone</th>
<th>Pacific Islander alone</th>
<th>Two or more races</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>White alone</th>
<th>Black alone</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,347</td>
<td>3,131</td>
<td>821</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>7,955</td>
<td>6,030</td>
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<td>70</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>111</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>48</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>.</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>174</td>
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<tr>
<td>169</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>179</td>
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<tr>
<td>4,018</td>
<td>2,923</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>7,339</td>
<td>5,617</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>344</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>730</td>
<td>574</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Housing Survey.
### How Ready Are We?  
**Natural Disaster or Emergency Preparedness**

To better understand the needs of first responders and other emergency workers, the 2013 American Housing Survey asks U.S. residents how prepared they are for disasters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Water Supply</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>54.3%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonperishable Emergency Food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>82.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Emergency Evacuation Kit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>51.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Meeting Location</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>37.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evacuation Vehicle(s)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>88.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evacuation Funds</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>69.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House or Building Number Clearly Visible</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>77.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generator Present</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Financial Information</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>76.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Not reported: Households did not provide a response to this question.*

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Latest

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