Purpose of the Presentation

Discuss U.S. Census Bureau data that can be used to analyze the characteristics of the foreign-born population and immigration to the United States.

Review several U.S. Census Bureau data sources:

- Decennial Census
- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- Other sources
Defining Terms—Native Born and Foreign Born

Native born – Anyone who *is* a U.S. citizen at birth
- Born in the United States
- Born in Puerto Rico
- Born in a U.S. Island Area (e.g., Guam)
- Born abroad of U.S. citizen parent(s)

Foreign born – Anyone who *is not* a U.S. citizen at birth
- Naturalized U.S. citizens
- Legal permanent residents
- Temporary migrants
- Humanitarian migrants
- Unauthorized migrants

Noncitizens
Decennial Census – Quick Facts

**Purpose:** Apportionment of House seats among the states

**Universe:** Entire resident population (households and group quarters)

**Frequency:** Every 10 years (since 1790)

**Format:** A single form (2010 Census had 10 questions)

**Geography:** National, state, county, place, and extensive sub-national geography
Decennial Census – 2000 and 2010

Census Bureau discontinued the decennial long-form questionnaire/sample data after Census 2000

Only “short form” questions on 2010 Census

• Age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, household relationship, tenure (owner/renter status)
• No questions on the foreign born or immigration

American Community Survey (ACS) a major component of the reengineered decennial census

• ACS provides annual demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics data
• ACS data comparable to the decennial long form sample data
American Community Survey – Quick Facts

**Purpose:** Provide timely data at national and sub-national geography levels

**Universe:** Resident population (in households and group quarters)

**Frequency:** Yearly estimates

**Geography:** Nation, state, county, place, and extensive sub-national geography

**Currency:** 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year period data
In addition to all the other items on the ACS:

- Place of birth/nativity (*not* country of citizenship)
- U.S. citizenship
- Year of naturalization
- Year of entry
- Migration history (residence 1 year ago)
- Race, ethnicity (Hispanic origin), ancestry
- Language spoken at home
Information on residence one year ago can be used to:

- Classify individuals as local movers, domestic migrants, or immigrants from abroad
- Construct migration streams of people coming into and moving out of an area

Alternative: use information on year came to live in the United States to estimate year of entry

- Retrospective question
- Year heaping
- Asks for most recent year of arrival
- Best used to assess broad time trends
ACS data are collected continuously throughout year

Four data collection modes:
- Mail
- Internet (beginning in 2013)
- Telephone (“CATI”)
- In-person interviews (“CAPI”)

Approximately 3.5 million housing unit addresses in sample

Final number of interviewed housing units ≈ 2.3 million per year
Data collected each month are aggregated into period data
- ACS estimates are period estimates: 1-year, 3-year, or 5-year

Estimates describe the average population and housing characteristics over entire period
- 2013 1-year estimates: average characteristics of population for calendar year 2013

Note: Single-year estimates not expected to be the same as multi-year estimates
- They are based on data from different time periods
ACS data products released depend on population size of a given area:

- 1-year estimates: population 65,000 or more
- 3-year estimates: population 20,000 or more
- 5 year estimates: every geography down to block group level

Note: Use consistent collection periods when comparing smaller areas with larger areas

- Compare 1-year estimates to other 1-year estimates, 3-year estimates to other 3-year estimates, etc. for same time period
American Community Survey – Using Single- or Multi-Year Estimates

Multi-year estimates based on larger sample size, estimates more precise. So use:

• When single-year estimates have large standard errors
• When precision of estimate more important than currency
• For smaller geographies and small populations in large geographies

Single-year estimates based on smaller sample size, but estimates more current (assuming latest data year). So use:

• For larger geographies and groups
• When currency is more important than precision
MOE describes the precision of an estimate at a given level of confidence

Census Bureau’s standard: 90 percent confidence level

- Margin of Error = 1.645 × Standard Error

Users should conduct statistical testing to determine if estimates are statistically different

- This is especially important for small population groups because of possible relatively large margins of error

MOEs included on all published ACS tables
American Community Survey – Who is Interviewed

- Resident population living in both households and group quarters facilities
- Resident population *without regard* to legal status or citizenship
- Current residents at sample address who have lived or plan to live at housing unit for more than 2 months

**How many people are living or staying at this address?**

- **INCLUDE** everyone who is living or staying here for more than 2 months.
- **INCLUDE** yourself if you are living here for more than 2 months.
- **INCLUDE** anyone else staying here who does not have another place to stay, even if they are here for 2 months or less.
- **DO NOT INCLUDE** anyone who is living somewhere else for more than 2 months, such as a college student living away or someone in the Armed Forces on deployment.
American FactFinder (AFF) – http://factfinder2.census.gov
American Community Survey – Data Products Available Through AFF

Tables
- Detailed Tables
- Subject Tables
- Ranking Tables
- Geography Comparison Tables

Profiles
- Data Profiles
- Comparison Profiles
- Selected Population Profiles

Thematic Maps
American Community Survey – Selected Population Profiles (SPPs)

SPPs contain a wealth of demographic, social, economic and housing data

Iterated by both geography and place of birth

Total population and nativity (i.e., foreign born and native)

World regions of birth:
• Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, etc.

Country of birth:
• Mexico, the Philippines, China, India, Germany, etc.

Also available for Puerto Rico
The American Community Survey (ACS) Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files can be used to create custom tables that are not available through pretabulated (or summary) ACS data products.

For more information, data, documentation, and FAQs: www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/PUMS/index.html

Recent Publications on the Foreign-Born Population

Available at: www.census.gov/topics/population/foreign-born.htm
Purpose: Provide labor force characteristics of the population

Universe: Civilian, non-institutionalized population

Sample size: 72,000 housing units in sample, approximately 55,000 interviewed each month

Sample rotation: Households in survey for 4 months, out for 8 months, then return for 4 months

Mode: CATI and CAPI only

Frequency: Monthly, with periodic supplements

Geography: Nation only

Fielded in February, March, and April each year
• Formerly known as the “March Supplement”

Since 1994, the monthly CPS questionnaire has included questions on:
• Place of birth, parental place of birth, U.S. citizenship status, and year came to live in the United States

ASEC supplement includes these questions and others on:
• Poverty status, money income received, health insurance, household and family characteristics, marital status, and geographic mobility in the previous 12 months (including moves from abroad)
Robust analyses of CPS data generally restricted to:

- National level
- Select geographic areas with sizeable populations (e.g., California and New York)

Sample size constraints when using CPS to analyze the foreign born

- Minimize subdividing foreign-born population into small groups (e.g., use region-of-birth rather than country-of-birth groups)

Can merge ASEC files and create multi-year period estimates, but challenges include:

- Dealing with overlap in month files due to sample rotation
- Inconsistent population controls for the multi-year period
Current Population Survey –
Downloading Microdata

CPS Main Page
• www.census.gov/cps/

Downloading CPS Data
• thedataweb.rm.census.gov/ftp/cps_ftp.html

Technical Documentation
CPS Immigration/Emigration Supplement

- Fielded in August 2008
- Five topics: citizenship, year of entry, residence 1 year ago, residents and emigrants abroad, and monetary transfers
- Data: thedataweb.rm.census.gov/ftp/cps_ftp.html#cpssupps
- Information: www.census.gov/population/foreign/data/2008migration.html

Annual CPS Tables Package on the Foreign Born

- Four iterations:
  - By nativity, period of entry, region of birth, and generational status
- Available at:
  - www.census.gov/population/foreign/data/cps.html
Other Surveys Including Information About the Foreign Born

American Housing Survey (AHS)
   www.census.gov/hhes/www/housing/ahs/ahs.html
American Time Use Survey (ATUS)
   www.bls.gov/tus
National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
   www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm
National Prisoner Statistics (NPS)
   www.census.gov/econ/overview/go3000.html
National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG)
   www.nsf.gov/statistics/srvygrads
New York City Housing Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS)
   www.census.gov/hhes/www/housing/nychvs/nychvs.html
Survey of Program Dynamics (SPD)
   www.census.gov/spd
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
   www.census.gov/sipp
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The following slides provide additional information on American Community Survey data products available through American FactFinder:

1. Detailed Tables
2. Subject Tables
3. Ranking Tables
4. Geography Comparison Tables
5. Data Profiles
6. Comparison Profiles
7. Selected Population Profiles
8. Thematic Maps
Detailed Tables from the 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year ACS:

B05001. Citizenship Status in the United States (also for Puerto Rico)
B05002. Place of Birth by Citizenship Status
B05003. Sex by Age by Citizenship Status
B05003A-I. Sex by Age by Citizenship Status (iterated by race and Hispanic origin)
B05004. Median Age by Citizenship Status by Sex
B05005. Year of Entry by Citizenship Status in the United States (also for Puerto Rico)
B05006. Place of Birth for the Foreign-Born Population (also for Puerto Rico)
B05007. Place of Birth by Year of Entry by Citizenship Status for the Foreign-Born Population
B05008. Sex by Place of Birth by Year of Entry for the Foreign-Born Population
B05009. Age and Nativity of Own Children Under 18 Years in Families and Subfamilies by Number and Nativity of Parents
B05010. Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months by Nativity of Children Under 18 Years in Families and Subfamilies by Living Arrangements and Nativity of Parents
B05011. Period of Naturalization
B05012. Nativity in the United States (also for Puerto Rico)
Subject tables from the 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year ACS:

S0501. Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-Born Populations
S0502. Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population by Period of Entry into the United States (also for Puerto Rico)
S0503. Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Europe
S0504. Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Africa, Northern America, and Oceania
S0505. Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Asia
S0506. Selected Characteristics of the Foreign-Born Population by Region of Birth: Latin America

Iterated **only** by geography. Lowest level of geography: tract
Ranking Tables from the 1-year ACS:

R0501. Percent of People Who Are Foreign Born
R0502. Percent of People Born in Europe
R0503. Percent of People Born in Asia
R0504. Percent of People Born in Latin America
R0505. Percent of People Born in Mexico

Note: Only available for nation/states. Ranking tables are not produced using the 3-year or 5-year ACS.
Geography Comparison Tables from the 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year ACS:

GCT0501. Percent of People Who Are Foreign Born
GCT0502. Percent of People Born in Europe
GCT0503. Percent of People Born in Asia
GCT0504. Percent of People Born in Latin America
GCT0505. Percent of People Born in Mexico

Lowest level of geography: place by nation/state
Data Profile from the 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year ACS:

DP02. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States

Includes both numbers and percents. Can be iterated by geography.

Variables of interest: residence 1 year ago; place of birth; U.S. citizenship status; world region of birth; language spoken at home.

Uses the same table stub as Comparison Profiles
Comparison Profile from the 1-year and 3-year ACS:

CP02. Selected Social Characteristics in the United States (also for Puerto Rico)

Includes comparison of different years of data, with statistical testing. Can be iterated by geography.

Variables of interest: residence 1 year ago; place of birth; U.S. citizenship status; world region of birth; language spoken at home.

Uses the same table stub as Data Profiles

Note: Comparison Profiles are not produced using the 5-year ACS.
Selected Population Profile from the 1-year and 3-year ACS:

S0201. Selected Population Profile in the United States (also for Puerto Rico)

Contains a wealth of demographic, social, economic, and housing data

Iterated by both geography and place of birth
- Total population; nativity (foreign born and native)
- World regions of birth (e.g., Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, etc.)
- Country of birth (e.g., Mexico, the Philippines, China, Germany, etc.)

Note: Selected Population Profiles are not produced using the 5-year ACS.
American Community Survey – Thematic Maps

Thematic maps can be created “on-the-fly” from the data provided by tables and profiles.