

SNAP Calculator Tutorial

Food Research and Action Center

www.frac.org





To Use This Calculator You Must:

- Chose a target area with a population of at least 20,000 people.
- Have access to the SNAP enrollment data for individuals (not households) in your target area.
- Know the average monthly SNAP benefit received by individuals (divide total benefits paid by total enrollment).

Steps to Follow:

- Remember, if you are working with California data you must use the CA Only calculator.
- To access the American Community Survey 2005-2007 data you need, go to www.census.gov and follow these steps:

www.census.gov

The screenshot shows the U.S. Census Bureau website homepage. The header includes the U.S. Census Bureau logo, navigation links for FAQs, Subjects A to Z, and Help, and a search bar with a GO button. The main content area is divided into several sections: United States Census 2010, People & Households, Business & Industry, Geography, and Newsroom. A left sidebar contains various links, with 'American FactFinder' highlighted in a yellow circle and a red arrow pointing to it from a yellow callout box that says 'Select American FactFinder'. The right sidebar features 'Data Finders' with 'Population Clocks' showing U.S. population at 307,350,500 and 'Population Finder' with a search form. The footer contains the USCENSUSBUREAU logo and various policy links.

U.S. Census Bureau

FAQs | Subjects A to Z | Help SEARCH: GO

Income, Poverty & Health Insurance Coverage

Select American FactFinder

Data Tools

American FactFinder

Jobs@Census

Catalog

Publications

Are You in a Survey?

About the Bureau

Regional Offices

Doing Business with Us

Related Sites

United States Census 2010

[2010 Census](#) · [News](#)
[American Community Survey](#) · [Census 2000](#)

People & Households [Estimates](#) · [Projections](#) · [Housing](#) · [Income](#) | [State Median Income](#) · [Poverty](#) · [Health Insurance](#) · [International](#) · [Genealogy](#) · [More](#)

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Data Finders

Population Clocks
U.S. **307,350,500**
World **6,781,842,420**
20:08 GMT (EST+5) Sep 03, 2009

Population Finder
city/ town, county, or zip

or state
Select a state

Find An Area Profile with QuickFacts
Select a state to begin
Select a state

Latest Economic Indicators
• [Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, and Orders](#)
• [Construction Spending](#)

Economic Indicators
Select an indicator
Select an indicator

USCENSUSBUREAU
Helping You Make Informed Decisions

Accessibility | Information Quality | FOIA | Data Protection & Privacy Policy | U.S. Dept of Commerce

Your source for population, housing, economic, and geographic data

POPULATION FINDER

FACT SHEET

PEOPLE

HOUSING

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT

ABOUT THE DATA

DATA SETS

DOWNLOAD CENTER

MAPS

TOOLS AND REFERENCES

Address Search...

Enter a [street address](#) to find Census 2000 data

- [Browser Notes](#)
- [Confidentiality](#)
- [Citing FactFinder](#)

Fast Access to Information



Get a **Fact Sheet** for your community...

city/town, county, or zip

state

-- select a state --

GO

[or select a state using a map >](#)

Getting Detailed Data

Decennial Census - taken every 10 years to collect information about the people and housing of the United States

Select ACS - Get Data

See the [Quick Access Resolution Program](#) for information on Census 2000 count corrections.

American Community Survey - an ongoing survey that provides data about your community every year
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Puerto Rico Community Survey - the equivalent of the American Community Survey for Puerto Rico.
[learn more](#) | [get data](#) | [en español](#)

Population Estimates Program - population numbers between censuses
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Economic Census - profiles the U.S. economy every 5 years
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Annual Economic Surveys - data from the Annual Survey of Manufactures, County Business Patterns and Nonemployer Statistics
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

Special Interest



La Encuesta sobre la Comunidad de Puerto Rico y Censo 2000 Puerto Rico [en español](#)

[American Indian and Alaska Native data and links](#)

[FastFacts for Congress](#) - Demographic and economic data for Congressional Districts

[Kids' Corner](#) - Learn fun facts about your state and take a quiz

Information on [Religion](#) and [Genealogy](#)

Population Data

Population Finder

Use the [Population Finder](#) to view population trends for your community.

U.S. Population Clock



20:24 GMT (EST+5) Sep 03, 2009

307,350,596

more [population clocks >](#)

What's New



2007 County Business

Patterns Quick Reports and Thematic Maps data are now available from the [Data Sets page](#).

2008 Population estimates for housing units are now available from the [Data Sets page](#).

2008 Population Estimates for counties, county subdivisions and places are now available from the [Data Sets page](#).

2007 Nonemployer Statistics data are now available from the [Data Sets page](#).

2008 Population Estimates are expanded to include the demographic characteristics of age, race, sex and Hispanic Origin.
[more >](#)

2008 Population Estimates for counties and Puerto Rico municipios are now available from the [Data Sets page](#).

2007 Advanced Report data are now available from the Economic Census [Data Sets page](#).

2007 Island Areas - Northern Mariana Islands data are now available from the Economic Census [Data Sets page](#).

Updates to American FactFinder released December 9, 2008. [more >](#)

2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates are now available for cities, counties and other areas with



- Data Sets
- POPULATION FINDER
- FACT SHEET
- PEOPLE
- HOUSING
- BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT
- ABOUT THE DATA
- DATA SETS**
 - Decennial Census
 - **American Community Survey**
 - Puerto Rico Community Survey
 - Annual Population Estimates
 - Economic Census
 - Annual Economic Surveys
- DOWNLOAD CENTER
- MAPS
- TOOLS AND REFERENCES

Main > Data Sets

AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

[Load Query](#) | [Clear all selections](#)

The American Community Survey is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The Puerto Rico Community Survey is the equivalent of the American Community Survey for Puerto Rico. [more...](#)

Select 2007 Survey

[2007 Quick Guide](#) | [Errata Notes](#)

Other Resources

- [American Community Survey Main Page](#)
- [Quality Measures](#)
- [Public Use Microdata Sample \(PUMS\)](#) - download data and view documentation
- [Download Center](#)
- [Download 1996-2004 data via FTP](#)

[Explain Table and Map Formats](#)

2007

2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

- Data from the American Community Survey and the Puerto Rico Community Survey
- Collected during calendar years 2005, 2006 and 2007.
- Available for geographic areas with populations of **20,000 or more**

[Explain 1-year vs. 3-year estimates](#)

2007 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates

- Data from the American Community Survey and the Puerto Rico Community Survey
- Collected during calendar year 2007
- Available for geographic areas with populations of **65,000 or more**

[Explain 1-year vs. 3-year estimates](#)

Select from the following:

- [Data Profiles](#)
- [Selected Population Profiles](#)
- [Subject Tables](#)
- [Detailed Tables](#)
- [Geographic Comparison Tables](#)
- [Thematic Maps](#)
- [Reference Maps](#)

Custom Table

- [Enter a table number](#)
- [List all tables](#)
- [List all maps](#)
- [Download PUMS data](#)
- [About this data set](#)

Select and Enter the Table Number Listed

2006

2006 American Community Survey

Includes results from both the American Community Survey and the Puerto Rico Community Survey. The 2006 data products include estimates of demographic, social, and economic characteristics of people, households and housing units (both occupied and vacant) for every state in the Nation, Puerto Rico, and most areas with a population of 65,000 or more.

[2006 Quick Guide](#) | [Important Notes About Using the Data](#)

2005

2005 American Community Survey

Includes results from both the American Community Survey and the



Select Geography

You are here: [Main](#) > [Data Sets](#) > [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) > [Geography](#) > [Tables](#) > [Results](#)
2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Detailed Tables

Choose a selection method

- list
- name search
- address search
- map
- geo within geo

[i Explain Census Geography](#) | [i Where are Geographic Components \(Urban and Rural\)?](#)

Select a geographic type

..... County

Select a state

Maryland

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- All Counties
- Allegany County
- Anne Arundel County
- Baltimore County
- Baltimore city
- Calvert County
- Caroline County
- Carroll County

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

==== County =====
Allegany County, Maryland
Baltimore County, Maryland
Caroline County, Maryland

Download data for more than 7,000 geographic areas using the [Download Center](#).

Remove

Show Result

Select Your Geography - You can highlight and add multiple areas. (If you are interested in a city or town, select Place)

Add all of the areas you are interested in and hit Show Result.



Detailed Tables

You are here: Main > Data Sets > Data Sets with Detailed Tables > Geography > Tables > Results

Use the links above to change your results

Options

Print / Download

Related Items

Print Download Load Query Save Query

B17002. RATIO OF INCOME TO POVERTY LEVEL IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS - Universe:

POPULATION FOR WHOM POVERTY STATUS IS DETERMINED

Data Set: 2005-2007 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates

Survey: American Community Survey

NOTE: Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, it is the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see Survey Methodology.

View the collapsed version of this table. Geographies missing from this table are listed below the table.

	Allegany County, Maryland		Baltimore County, Maryland		Caroline County, Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total	69,947	+/-327	766,179	+/-880	24,446	+/-213
Under .50	4,142	+/-827	28,863	+/-2,434	1,347	+/-448
.50 to .74	3,277	+/-780	14,975	+/-2,147	1,029	+/-352
.75 to .99	2,254	+/-604	15,629	+/-2,094	1,153	+/-371
1.00 to 1.24	3,249	+/-818	21,226	+/-2,131	1,160	+/-371
1.25 to 1.49	3,617	+/-718	22,014	+/-2,867	949	+/-390
1.50 to 1.74	4,366	+/-1,044	24,362	+/-3,115	1,797	+/-566
1.75 to 1.84	1,630	+/-570	10,425	+/-1,705	380	+/-242
1.85 to 1.99	2,238	+/-733	14,988	+/-2,048	915	+/-444
2.00 to 2.99	13,529	+/-1,494	114,463	+/-5,922	6,707	+/-1,113
3.00 to 3.99	10,057	+/-1,315	118,060	+/-5,055	4,579	+/-868
4.00 to 4.99	7,481	+/-1,033	100,467	+/-5,957	4,416	+/-840
5.00 and over	10,407	+/-1,030	280,407	+/-6,636	7,014	+/-956

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey

Data are based on a sample and are subject to sampling variability. The degree of uncertainty for an estimate arising from sampling variability is represented through the use of a margin of error. The value shown here is the 90 percent margin of error. The margin of error can be interpreted roughly as providing a 90 percent probability that the interval defined by the estimate minus the margin of error and the estimate plus the margin of error (the lower and upper confidence bounds) contains the true value. In addition to sampling variability, the ACS estimates are subject to nonsampling error (for a discussion of nonsampling variability, see Accuracy of the Data). The effect of nonsampling error is not represented in these tables.

While the 2007 American Community Survey (ACS) data generally reflect the December 2006 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definitions of metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas; in certain instances the names, codes, and boundaries of the principal cities shown in ACS tables may differ from the OMB definitions due to differences in the effective dates of the geographic entities. The 2007 Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS) data generally reflect the December 2005 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) definitions of metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas; in certain instances the names, codes, and boundaries of the principal cities shown in PRCS tables may differ from the OMB definitions due to differences in the effective dates of the geographic entities.

Estimates of urban and rural population, housing units, and characteristics reflect boundaries of urban areas defined based on Census 2000 data. Boundaries for urban areas have not been updated since Census 2000. As a result, data for urban and rural areas from the ACS do not necessarily reflect the results of ongoing urbanization.

Explanation of Symbols:

1. An "" entry in the margin of error column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is not appropriate.
2. An "-" entry in the estimate column indicates that either no sample observations or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
3. An "-" following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.
4. An "+" following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
5. An "" entry in the margin of error column indicates that the median falls in the lowest interval or upper interval of an open-ended distribution. A statistical test is not appropriate.
6. An "" entry in the margin of error column indicates that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

Standard Error/Variance documentation for this dataset:

2005-2007 Accuracy of the Data

The letters PDF or symbol indicate a document is in the Portable Document Format (PDF). To view the file you will need the Adobe® Acrobat® Reader, which is available for free from the Adobe web site.

Add the relevant rows together if needed, or download to an Excel file and do your calculations. You only need the Estimates, ignore the Margin of Error data.

Reminders:

- You can copy and paste in your data but just the values; avoid formulas and formats.
- If the Census Bureau does not report a number for a variable, enter the number 1.
- If you leave a column blank, an estimate will not be produced.
- To copy the data in an easy to read format, go to the SNAP Table worksheet.

For More Information:

- Follow instructions page or read complete methodology in FRAC's 2009 SNAP Access in Urban American: A City-by-City Snapshot report at www.frac.org.
- If you need help, contact Rachel Cooper at 202-986-2200 x 3014 or rcooper@frac.org.