

The Rapid Inquiry Facility

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Rapid Inquiry Facility

The Rapid Inquiry Facility (RIF) is an integrated information system for the rapid assessment of relationships between the environment and health and aims to provide improved understanding of the links between environmental exposures, health outcomes and risk.

- Uses both database and GIS
- Embedded in ArcGIS
- Allows input of data in a number of formats e.g. tabular data, spatial data
- Requires knowledge of input data e.g. quality of data
- Results should be carefully interpreted

What can GIS do in epidemiology and health risk assessment?

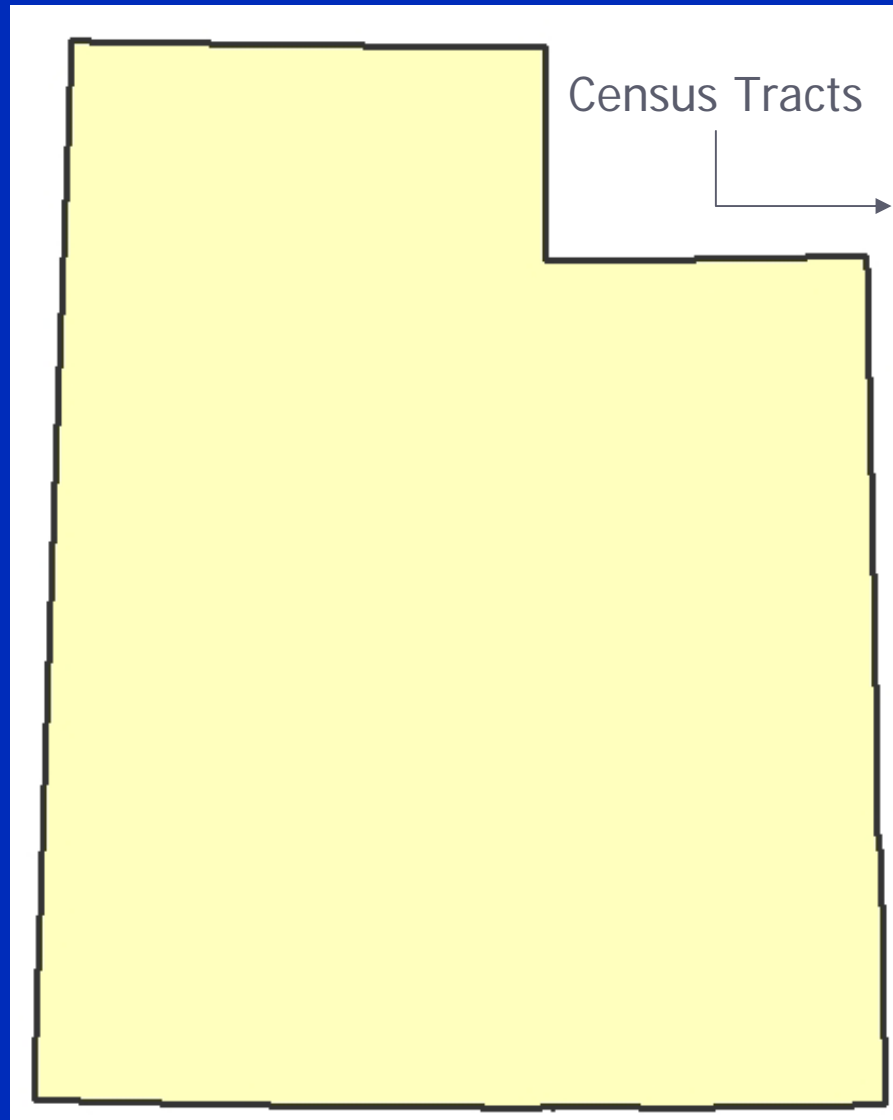
- Capture and store geographic data
- Integrate data into a common geographic form
- Provide a means for data validation & quality control
- Enable modelling of unmeasured characteristics
- Allow integration or linking of models
- Provides a method for revealing patterns and processes

Study Data

The RIF can use any demographic area but an underlying assumption is that the areal units are hierarchical. So that:

- smaller areas nest within larger areas and share common boundaries
- any number of levels can be used





Census Tracts

Block Groups

Blocks

Setting up a study

