

# Accessing and Using Language Data from the Census Bureau

Prepared for the 2007 Federal Interagency  
Conference on Limited English Proficiency  
March 15, 2007

Deborah H. Griffin and Hyon B. Shin,  
U.S. Census Bureau

# Overview

- Language Data Background
- Census 2000 Methodology
- American Community Survey Methodology
- Language-Related Data Products
- Accessing 2005 American Community Survey Data
- Summary

# Language Data Background

## Questions Asked in Census Data Collections

### Language Spoken at Home

- Does this person speak a language other than English at home?
- What is this language?

### Ability to Speak English

- How well does this person speak English?

# Language Data Background Questions Asked – ACS Example

13

a. Does this person speak a language other than English at home?

Yes

No → *SKIP to question 14*

b. What is this language?

*For example: Korean, Italian, Spanish, Vietnamese*

c. How well does this person speak English?

Very well

Well

Not well

Not at all



# Language Data Background

## Processing of Language Spoken at Home

Language write-ins are coded to about 380 detailed language categories.

We use the standard classification list of 39 categories for detailed language groups

Most tables collapse into the 4 major language groups



# Language Data Background

## Questions Asked – Ability to Speak English

In 1982, the U.S. Census Bureau fielded the English Language Proficiency Survey (ELPS) and concluded that those who spoke English less than “very well” had some difficulty with the tests administered in the ELPS

No study has been conducted to measure the performance of the Census/ACS question on English-speaking ability since the 1982 ELPS

# Language Data Background

## Questions Asked – Ability to Speak English

English-speaking ability represents the person's own perception about his or her English-speaking ability.

The Census Bureau does not define Limited English Proficiency or non-Limited English Proficient populations



# Census 2000 Methodology

In Census 2000, a sample of about 1-in-6 households received a “long form” that included these questions

Statistics were produced from this sample for a broad set of geographic areas as small as census tracts and block groups



# 2010 Census and American Community Survey Methodology

2010 Census focus is on the count and basic demographics (short form only)

The sample data, historically collected on the “long form” in the census, are now collected throughout the decade in the ACS

ACS samples about 3 million addresses each year

# American Community Survey Methodology

ACS uses three modes of data collection –  
mail, phone, and personal visit

Data are collected continuously throughout the  
year

High levels of quality have been demonstrated

# American Community Survey Methodology

5-years of sample are needed to produce estimates comparable to the 2000 Census long form sample products

These estimates will cover same small areas as Census 2000 with slightly smaller sample sizes

# American Community Survey Methodology

ACS 5-year estimates are period estimates, describing the average characteristics over this 5-year period

ACS also releases 3-year and 1-year estimates for larger geographic areas with sufficient sample sizes

# American Community Survey Methodology

Data Product	Population Threshold	Year of Data Release							
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1-year Estimates	65,000+	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
3-year Estimates	20,000+			2005- 2007	2006- 2008	2007- 2009	2008- 2010	2009- 2011	2010- 2012
5-year Estimates	All Areas*					2005- 2009	2006- 2010	2007- 2011	2008- 2012

\*All legal, administrative and statistical geographic areas down to the tract and block group level.

# American Community Survey

## Similarities with Census 2000

Same questions and many of the same basic statistics

Data will be produced for same broad set of geographic areas including census tracts and block groups

# American Community Survey

## Key Differences from Census 2000

Beginning in 2010, data for small geographic areas will be produced every year versus once every 10 years

Data for larger areas are available now or will be available in 2008

# American Community Survey

## Key Differences from Census 2000

2000 data described a point in time (April 1<sup>st</sup>) while ACS data describe a period of time and require averaging data for 12 months, 36 months, or 60 months

Smaller sample size for 5-year ACS estimates when compared with 2000 sample results in reductions in reliability of estimates – therefore important to consider margins of error



# Language-Related Data Products

Products include estimates of the population 5 years and over who speak a language other than English at home, by language spoken

Some tables cross these data by Ability to Speak English

Other tables cross these data by demographics such as age and nativity

# Language-Related Data Products

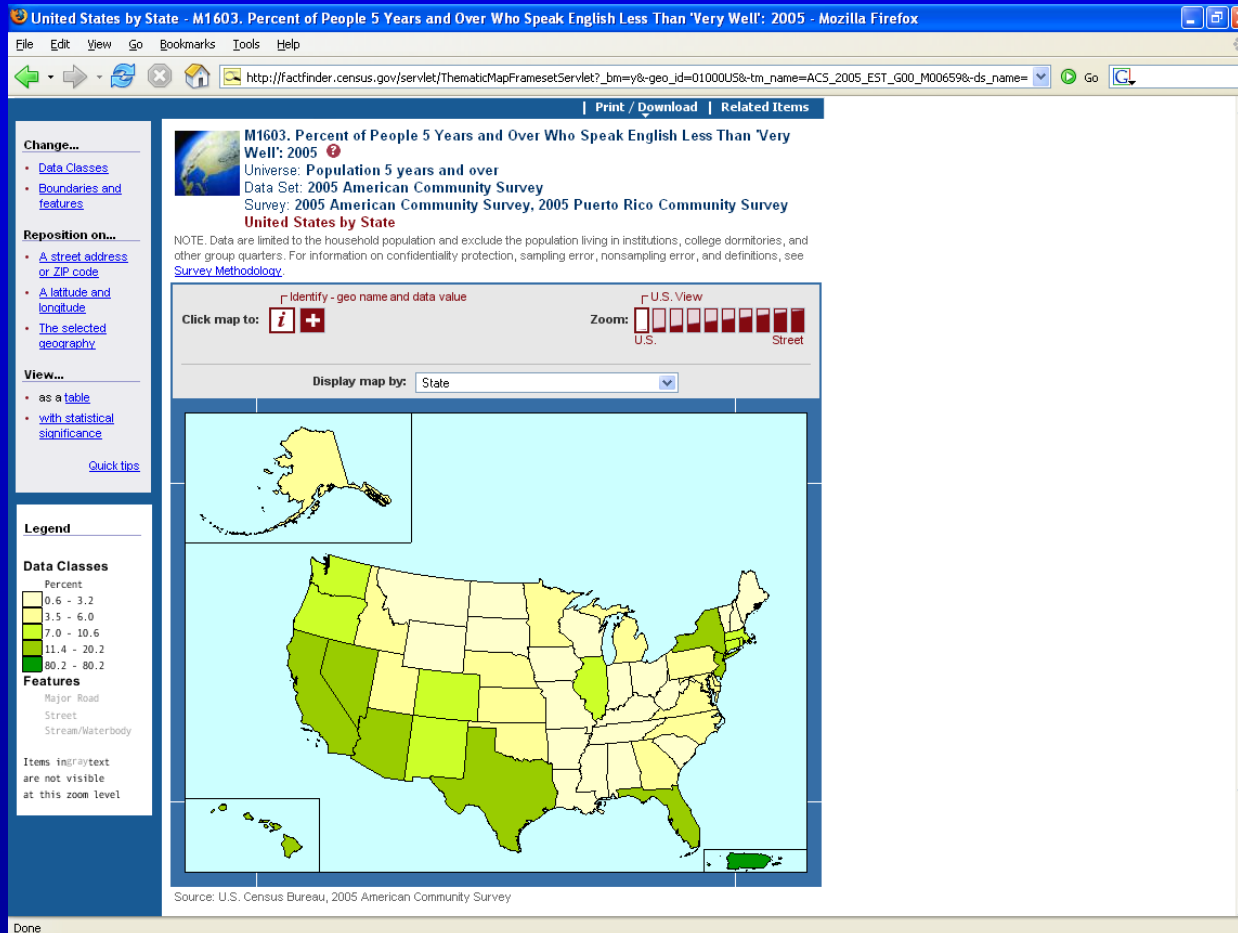
Variety of estimates and products produced,  
detail dependent on sample size

1-year, 3-year, and 5-year ACS products will  
differ in detail

Census 2000 and ACS release detailed tables,  
thematic maps, and special tabulations

# Language-Related Data Products

## Thematic Map



# Language-Related Data Products Special Tabulations

Full list of Census 2000 Special Tabulations is available at

<http://www.census.gov/mp/www/spectab/specialtab.html>

List of Census 2000 Language Use data products, including special tabulations of language data, is available at

[http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/lang\\_use.html](http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/lang_use.html)

# U.S. Census Bureau

## Language Use

Language Use, English Ability, and Linguistic Isolation data were collected in the 2000, 1990, and 1980 decennial censuses using a three-part series of questions:

- A. Does this person speak a language other than English at home?  
(For those who speak another language)
- B. What is this language? \_\_\_\_\_
- C. How well does this person speak English? --very well, well, not well, not at all.

In earlier censuses the questions were about "mother tongue" (language spoken when the person was a child) or only for a select group (e.g., foreign born).

Detailed information from decennial censuses are listed below. More detail for states, metropolitan areas, and more specific geographies is available in the [American FactFinder](#).

**Definitions and explanations**, see Language Spoken at Home and English Ability in [Summary File 3 - Technical Documentation](#) [PDF 7.1M]

### 1. Census 2000

- A. [Report](#) -- Language Use and English-Speaking Ability: 2000 (C2KBR-29)
- B. [Press Release](#)
- C. [Summary Tables on Language Use and English Ability: 2000](#) (PHC-T 20)
- D. [Summary File 3 \(SF3\)](#)
- E. [2000 Language Code List](#) [PDF 18k]
- F. [Detailed Language Spoken at Home for the Population 5 Years and Over](#) (STP224) [EXCEL 72M]
- G. [Language Spoken at Home for the Citizen Population 18 Years and Over Who Speak English Less Than "Very Well"](#) (STP194) [EXCEL 865k]
- H. [Ability to Speak English by Language Spoken at Home](#) (PHC-T-37)
- I. [America Speaks: A Demographic Profile of Foreign-Language Speakers for the United States: 2000](#) (PHC-T 42)

### 2. 1990 Census

- A. [Summary Tables on Language Use and English Ability: 1990 \(from CPH-L-96 and CPH-L-133\)](#)

### 3. Related Reports

- A. [How Good is "How Well"? An Examination of the Census English-Speaking Ability Question](#) [PDF 599k]
- B. [Language Use and Linguistic Isolation: Historical Data and Methodological Issues](#) [PDF 221k]

# Language-Related Data Products

## Comparison of ACS and Census 2000 Language Use Tables

ACS website will provide information to “map”  
Census 2000 tables to ACS tables

Some Census 2000 tables will not exist for  
1-year estimates or will exist in a collapsed  
format

# Accessing 2005 ACS Data

The next set of slides will demonstrate how a data user (you) can access the wealth of data available from the American FactFinder (AFF) website.

You can use AFF for Census 2000, the ACS, the Puerto Rico Community Survey, and other surveys.

**Women's History Month**  
Facts for Features



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SEARCH:  FAQs  Census.gov

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**U.S. 301,289,890**  
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city/ town, county, or zip

or state

**Find An Area Profile with QuickFacts**

Select a state to begin

**Latest Economic Indicators**

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**Economic Indicators**

Select an indicator



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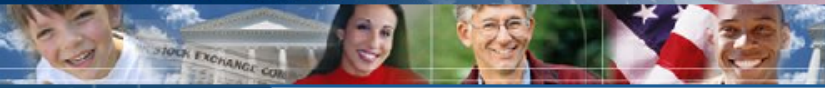
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city/ town, county, or zip  
  
or state  
Select a state

**Find An Area Profile with QuickFacts**  
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Select an indicator  
Select an indicator

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### Getting Detailed Data

**Decennial Census** - taken every 10 years to collect information about the people and housing of the United States  
[learn more](#) | [get data](#)

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

**American Community Survey** - an ongoing survey that provides data about your community every year  
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**Puerto Rico Community Survey** - the equivalent of the American Community Survey for Puerto Rico  
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**2005 American Community Survey (ACS)**  
 Race, Ethnic, and Ancestry data complete the release of the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS).  
 Click the Fact Sheet, People, and Housing links on the left menu.

**110th Congressional District Summary Files (Sample and 100-Percent)** Data from the Census 2000 Summary Files 1 and 3 retabulated for the newly drawn 110th Congressional District boundaries. [more >](#)

**Census 2000 State Legislative District Summary Files (Sample and 100-Percent)** Data from the Census 2000 Summary Files 1 and 3 retabulated using updated State Legislative District boundaries. [more >](#)

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## Other Resources

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- [Quality Measures](#)
- [Public Use Microdata Sample \(PUMS\)](#) - download data and view documentation
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2005

 **2005 American Community Survey**

Includes results from both the American Community Survey and the Puerto Rico Community Survey. The 2005 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.

[2005 Quick Guide](#) | [Important Notes About Using the Data](#)

Select from the following:

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- [Detailed Tables](#)
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2004

 **2004 American Community Survey**

The 2004 data products include estimates of demographic and economic characteristics of people, households and housing units (both occupied and vacant) for every state in the Nation, most areas with a population of 250,000 or more, and selected areas of 65,000 or more.

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2003

 **2003 American Community Survey**

The 2003 Summary Tables include estimates of demographic and economic characteristics of people, households and housing units for every state in the Nation, most areas with a population of 250,000 or more, and selected areas of 65,000 or more. The tables include housing units, both occupied and vacant.

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You are here: [Main](#) > [Data Sets](#) > [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) > [Geography](#) > Tables > Results  
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Choose a selection method

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

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Select a [geographic type](#)  
 Nation

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- United States

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Current geography selections:

- 

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[i Explain Census Geography](#)

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[Explain Census Geography](#)

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**Add**

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Choose a selection method

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 Nation

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- United States

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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

Remove

Next





### Select Geography

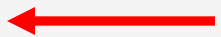
You are here: [Main](#) > [Data Sets](#) > [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) > [Geography](#) > Tables > Results  
2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a selection method

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
Nation



Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- United States

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

- Nation
- Region
- Division
- State
- ..... County
- ..... County Subdivision
- ..... Place
- ..... Congressional District - 109th
- ..... School District, Elementary
- ..... School District, Secondary
- ..... School District, Unified
- ..... Public Use Microdata Area
- American Indian Area/Alaska Native Area/Hawaiian Home Land
- Combined Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area
- ..... Principal City
- ..... Metropolitan Division
- Combined New England City and Town Area
- New England City and Town Area
- ..... Principal City

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2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a selection method

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

- State
- Nation
- Region
- Division
- State
- ..... County
- ..... County Subdivision
- ..... Place
- ..... Congressional District - 109th
- ..... School District, Elementary
- ..... School District, Secondary
- ..... School District, Unified
- ..... Public Use Microdata Area
- American Indian Area/Alaska Native Area/Hawaiian Home Land
- Combined Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area
- ..... Principal City
- ..... Metropolitan Division
- Combined New England City and Town Area
- New England City and Town Area
- ..... Principal City

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Choose a selection method

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 State

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- All States
- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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Remove

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- address search
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- geo within geo

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 State

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- All States
- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

**Add**

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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Choose a selection method

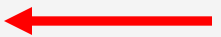
- list**
- name search
- address search
- map
- geo within geo

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 State

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland**
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri



[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland**
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

**Map It**

**Add**

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States

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**Remove**

**Next**



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 2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 State

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland**
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland

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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 State



Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland**
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland

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- address search
- map
- geo within geo

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

- State
- Nation
- Region
- Division
- State
- ..... County
- ..... County Subdivision
- ..... Place
- ..... Congressional District - 109th
- ..... School District, Elementary
- ..... School District, Secondary
- ..... School District, Unified
- ..... Public Use Microdata Area
- American Indian Area/Alaska Native Area/Hawaiian Home Land
- Combined Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area
- ..... Principal City
- ..... Metropolitan Division
- Combined New England City and Town Area
- New England City and Town Area
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Remove

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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 ..... County

Select a state  
 --select a state--

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Add

Current geography selections:

==== Nation =====  
 United States  
 ===== State =====  
 Maryland

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

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Next



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You are here: [Main](#) > [Data Sets](#) > [Data Sets with Detailed Tables](#) > **Geography** > Tables > Results  
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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

Select a state



Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Add ▾

Current geography selections:

- ===== Nation =====
- United States
- ===== State =====
- Maryland

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Choose a selection method

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

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 ..... County

Select a state

- select a state--
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland**
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey

geographic areas and click 'Add'

[in Missing Geographies](#)

ions:

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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

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
- Carroll County
- Cecil County

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)  
**Map It**

**Add**

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland

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**Remove**  
**Next**





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Choose a selection method

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

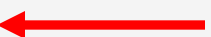
[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 ..... County

Select a state  
 Maryland

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Howard County
- Montgomery County
- Prince George's County**
- St. Mary's County
- Washington County
- Wicomico County



[Explain Missing Geographies](#)  
 Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland

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Choose a selection method

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

[i Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)

Select a state

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Howard County
- Montgomery County
- Prince George's County**
- St. Mary's County
- Washington County
- Wicomico County

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland

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- geo within geo

[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 ..... County

Select a state  
 Maryland

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Howard County
- Montgomery County
- Prince George's County
- St. Mary's County
- Washington County
- Wicomico County

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)  
 Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====
- United States
- ==== State =====
- Maryland
- ==== County =====
- Prince George's County, Maryland



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[Explain Census Geography](#)

Select a [geographic type](#)  
 ..... County

Select a state  
 Maryland

Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add'

- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Howard County
- Montgomery County
- Prince George's County
- St. Mary's County
- Washington County
- Wicomico County

[Explain Missing Geographies](#)  
 Map It

Add

Current geography selections:

- ==== Nation =====  
 United States
- ==== State =====  
 Maryland
- ==== County =====  
 Prince George's County, Maryland

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Select Tables

You are here: Main > Data Sets > Data Sets with Detailed Tables > Geography > Tables > Results  
2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a table selection method

by subject by keyword show all tables

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

[explain table numbers](#)

- B01001. Sex by Age
- B01001A. Sex by Age (White Alone)
- B01001B. Sex by Age (Black or African American Alone)
- B01001C. Sex by Age (American Indian and Alaska Native Alone)
- B01001D. Sex by Age (Asian Alone)
- B01001E. Sex by Age (Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Alone)
- B01001F. Sex by Age (Some Other Race Alone)
- B01001G. Sex by Age (Two or More Races)
- B01001H. Sex by Age (White Alone, Not Hispanic or Latino)
- B01001I. Sex by Age (Hispanic or Latino)

Abbreviations:

Black - Black or African American

AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native

NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander

SOR - Some Other Race

What's this?

Add

Current table selections:

[Empty selection box]

Remove

Show Result



Select Tables

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

Choose a table selection method:

- by subject
- by keyword**
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'

[Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

Abbreviations:  
Black - Black or African American  
AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
SOR - Some Other Race

Current table selections::



Select Tables

You are here: Main > Data Sets > Data Sets with Detailed Tables > Geography > Tables > Results  
2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

Choose a table selection method

by subject by keyword show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'

language

Search

Search Tips

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

Empty table selection list with scrollbars.

Abbreviations:  
Black - Black or African American  
AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
SOR - Some Other Race

What's this?

Add

Current table selections:

Empty current table selections list with scrollbars.

Remove

Show Result



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Choose a table selection method

- by subject
- by keyword
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'

language  [Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

Abbreviations:  
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 SOR - Some Other Race

Current table selections:





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Choose a table selection method

- by subject
- by keyword
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'

[Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

- [B06007. Place of Birth by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English in the United States](#)
- [C06007. Place of Birth by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English in the United States](#)
- [B06007-PR. Place of Birth by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English in Puerto Rico](#)
- [C06007-PR. Place of Birth by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English in Puerto Rico](#)
- [B08113. Means of Transportation to Work by Language Spoken At Home and Ability to Speak English](#)
- [C08113. Means of Transportation to Work by Language Spoken At Home and Ability to Speak English](#)
- [B08114. Aggregate Travel Time to Work \(in Minutes\) of Workers by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English](#)
- [C08114. Aggregate Travel Time to Work \(in Minutes\) of Workers by Language Spoken at Home and Ability to Speak English](#)



[explain table numbers](#)

Abbreviations:  
 Black - Black or African American  
 AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
 NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
 SOR - Some Other Race

Current table selections::



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Choose a table selection method

- by subject
- by keyword
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'

Search

[Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

[explain table numbers](#)

- B10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs by Rspnblty for Own GrndChldrn
- C10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs
- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- B16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- C16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- B16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs

Abbreviations:  
 Black - Black or African American  
 AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
 NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
 SOR - Some Other Race

What's this?

Add

Current table selections::

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Choose a table selection method

- by subject
- by keyword
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'



[Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

[explain table numbers](#)

- B10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs by Rspnblty for Own GrndChldrn
- C10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs
- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- B16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- C16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- B16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs

Abbreviations:  
 Black - Black or African American  
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 NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
 SOR - Some Other Race



Current table selections::



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- by subject
- by keyword
- show all tables

Enter a keyword and click 'Search'



[Search Tips](#)

Select one or more tables and click 'Add'

[explain table numbers](#)

- B10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs by Rspnbly for Own GrndChldrn
- C10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs
- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- B16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- C16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- B16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs

Abbreviations:  
 Black - Black or African American  
 AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
 NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
 SOR - Some Other Race



Current table selections::

- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs



# U.S. Census Bureau

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 2005 American Community Survey, Detailed Tables

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- B10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs by Rspnbly for Own GrndChldrn
- C10054. Lang and Ability to Speak Eng by GrndPrnts Living With Own GrndChldrn < 18 Yrs
- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- B16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- C16002. Household Language by Linguistic Isolation
- B16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16003. Age by Language Spoken at Home in Linguistically Isolated Households for the Population 5+ Yrs

Abbreviations:  
 Black - Black or African American  
 AIAN - American Indian and Alaska Native  
 NHPI - Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander  
 SOR - Some Other Race

What's this?

Add

Current table selections::

- B16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs
- C16001. Language Spoken at Home by Ability to Speak English for the Population 5+ Yrs

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# U.S. Census Bureau

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#### B16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

	United States		Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	268,110,961	+/-12,409	5,079,545	+/-1,425
Speak only English	216,176,111	+/-137,591	4,344,300	+/-14,613
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	32,184,293	+/-77,804	293,747	+/-7,242
Speak English "very well"	16,787,619	+/-72,814	147,483	+/-7,467
Speak English less than "very well"	15,396,674	+/-76,406	146,264	+/-7,385
French (incl. Patois, Cajun):	1,383,432	+/-23,520	47,772	+/-6,544
Speak English "very well"	1,074,979	+/-20,413	35,926	+/-5,081
Speak English less than "very well"	308,453	+/-11,901	11,846	+/-2,791
French Creole:	548,986	+/-23,651	7,937	+/-2,979
Speak English "very well"	307,820	+/-14,585	5,737	+/-2,647
Speak English less than "very well"	241,166	+/-15,299	2,200	+/-791
Italian:	802,436	+/-19,617	12,579	+/-2,211
Speak English "very well"	578,383	+/-15,022	10,347	+/-2,189
Speak English less than "very well"	224,053	+/-8,732	2,232	+/-739
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole:	661,990	+/-25,106	11,415	+/-2,756
Speak English "very well"	363,865	+/-14,518	7,113	+/-1,883
Speak English less than "very well"	298,125	+/-18,992	4,302	+/-1,450
German:	1,120,256	+/-20,420	19,992	+/-2,689
Speak English "very well"	902,757	+/-17,685	16,155	+/-2,697
Speak English less than "very well"	217,499	+/-7,875	3,837	+/-943
Yiddish:	137,147	+/-12,385	1,328	+/-720
Speak English "very well"	91,460	+/-8,304	1,127	+/-680
Speak English less than "very well"	45,687	+/-7,881	201	+/-197
Other West Germanic languages:	274,800	+/-13,089	4,168	+/-1,633
Speak English "very well"	212,014	+/-11,833	3,613	+/-1,384
Speak English less than "very well"	62,786	+/-4,601	555	+/-377
Scandinavian languages:	128,670	+/-5,623	2,014	+/-817
Speak English "very well"	111,619	+/-5,684	1,884	+/-781
Speak English less than "very well"	17,051	+/-2,052	130	+/-154
Greek:	323,770	+/-16,393	9,583	+/-1,939



# U.S. Census Bureau

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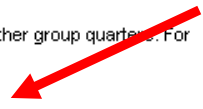
#### B16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

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Speak English less than "very well"	17,051	+/-2,052	130	+/-154
Greek:	323,770	+/-16,393	9,583	+/-1,939



Other and unspecified languages:	113,591	+/-9,238	838	+/-663
Speak English "very well"	75,505	+/-7,371	529	+/-337
Speak English less than "very well"	38,086	+/-3,938	309	+/-437

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005 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.

Explanation of Symbols:

1. An "M" entry in the margin of error column indicates that 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 "NM" entry in the margin of error column indicates that no sample observations were available to compute a standard error and thus the margin of error. A statistical test is not appropriate.
3. An "L" entry in the estimate column indicates that no 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.
4. An "L" following a median estimate means the median falls in the lowest interval of an open-ended distribution.
5. An "U" following a median estimate means the median falls in the upper interval of an open-ended distribution.
6. An "MM" 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.
7. An "\*\*\*\*\*" entry in the margin of error column indicates that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

NOTE: Data for the following geographic area(s) cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.

Geography:

Prince George's County, Maryland

**C16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION**

**5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER**

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

	United States		Maryland		Prince George's County, Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	268,110,961	+/-12,409	5,079,545	+/-1,425	762,651	+/-422
Speak only English	216,176,111	+/-137,591	4,344,300	+/-14,613	611,828	+/-8,529
Spanish or Spanish Creole	32,184,293	+/-77,804	293,747	+/-7,242	81,892	+/-4,400
French (including Patois, Cajun)	1,383,432	+/-23,520	47,772	+/-6,544	11,785	+/-4,465
French Creole	548,986	+/-23,651	7,937	+/-2,979	4,794	+/-2,655



**C16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER**

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)  
 Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

	United States		Maryland		Prince George's County, Maryland	
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French Creole	548,986	+/-23,651	7,937	+/-2,979	4,794	+/-2,655
Italian	802,436	+/-19,617	12,579	+/-2,211	516	+/-441
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole	661,990	+/-25,106	11,415	+/-2,756	644	+/-831
German	1,120,256	+/-20,420	19,992	+/-2,689	1,392	+/-592
Yiddish	137,147	+/-12,385	1,328	+/-720	0	+/-282
Other West Germanic languages	274,800	+/-13,089	4,168	+/-1,633	826	+/-528
Scandinavian languages	128,670	+/-5,623	2,014	+/-817	0	+/-282
Greek	323,770	+/-16,393	9,583	+/-1,939	873	+/-596
Russian	812,404	+/-26,489	19,437	+/-3,109	793	+/-544
Polish	607,585	+/-20,757	4,184	+/-1,295	45	+/-79
Serbo-Croatian	270,800	+/-16,272	1,934	+/-1,386	172	+/-199
Other Slavic languages	316,301	+/-14,693	4,979	+/-1,870	122	+/-151
Armenian	202,550	+/-15,969	848	+/-659	32	+/-52
Persian	325,892	+/-17,659	12,748	+/-2,589	356	+/-333
Gujarathi	275,569	+/-15,200	9,007	+/-2,909	1,615	+/-1,279
Hindi	462,371	+/-17,505	14,866	+/-3,101	1,956	+/-1,032
Urdu	303,423	+/-19,188	8,812	+/-2,681	817	+/-797
Other Indic languages	585,959	+/-22,557	11,839	+/-3,299	918	+/-645
Other Indo-European languages	384,663	+/-18,792	4,809	+/-1,723	1,072	+/-803
Chinese	2,300,467	+/-35,389	48,824	+/-4,723	4,881	+/-1,858
Japanese	457,836	+/-15,466	6,038	+/-1,447	629	+/-494
Korean	983,954	+/-29,066	33,751	+/-4,280	1,488	+/-787
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	189,053	+/-15,049	2,029	+/-1,208	588	+/-518
Hmong	173,696	+/-11,263	269	+/-458	269	+/-458
Thai	129,943	+/-7,825	4,182	+/-1,819	314	+/-339
Laotian	152,304	+/-11,383	1,016	+/-1,018	160	+/-214
Vietnamese	1,142,328	+/-33,897	17,811	+/-3,304	2,665	+/-1,416
Other Asian languages	544,314	+/-17,712	19,622	+/-4,537	2,162	+/-1,173
Tagalog	1,376,632	+/-28,238	21,383	+/-3,113	6,163	+/-1,682
Other Pacific Island languages	318,973	+/-15,977	2,637	+/-890	65	+/-110
Navajo	173,100	+/-7,097	0	+/-282	0	+/-282
Other Native North American languages	207,430	+/-8,466	512	+/-423	259	+/-305

C16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION  
5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

	United States		Maryland		Prince George's County, Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	268,110,961	+/-12,409	5,079,545	+/-1,425	762,651	+/-422
Speak only English	216,176,111	+/-137,591	4,344,300	+/-14,613	611,828	+/-8,529
Spanish or Spanish Creole	32,184,293	+/-77,804	293,747	+/-7,242	81,892	+/-4,400
French (including Patois, Cajun)	1,383,432	+/-23,520	47,772	+/-6,544	11,785	+/-4,465
French Creole	548,986	+/-23,651	7,937	+/-2,979	4,794	+/-2,655
Italian	802,436	+/-19,617	12,579	+/-2,211	516	+/-441
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole	661,990	+/-25,106	11,415	+/-2,756	644	+/-831
German	1,120,256	+/-20,420	19,992	+/-2,689	1,392	+/-592
Yiddish	137,147	+/-12,385	1,328	+/-720	0	+/-282
Other West Germanic languages	274,800	+/-13,089	4,168	+/-1,633	826	+/-528
Scandinavian languages	128,670	+/-5,623	2,014	+/-817	0	+/-282
Greek	323,770	+/-16,393	9,583	+/-1,939	873	+/-596
Russian	812,404	+/-26,489	19,437	+/-3,109	793	+/-544
Polish	607,585	+/-20,757	4,184	+/-1,295	45	+/-79
Serbo-Croatian	270,800	+/-16,272	1,934	+/-1,386	172	+/-199
Other Slavic languages	316,301	+/-14,693	4,979	+/-1,870	122	+/-151
Armenian	202,550	+/-15,969	848	+/-659	32	+/-52
Persian	325,892	+/-17,659	12,748	+/-2,589	356	+/-333
Gujarathi	275,569	+/-15,200	9,007	+/-2,909	1,615	+/-1,279
Hindi	462,371	+/-17,505	14,866	+/-3,101	1,956	+/-1,032
Urdu	303,423	+/-19,188	8,812	+/-2,681	817	+/-797
Other Indic languages	585,959	+/-22,557	11,839	+/-3,299	918	+/-645
Other Indo-European languages	384,663	+/-18,792	4,809	+/-1,723	1,072	+/-803
Chinese	2,300,467	+/-35,389	48,824	+/-4,723	4,881	+/-1,858
Japanese	457,836	+/-15,466	6,038	+/-1,447	629	+/-494
Korean	983,954	+/-29,066	33,751	+/-4,280	1,488	+/-787
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	189,053	+/-15,049	2,029	+/-1,208	588	+/-518
Hmong	173,696	+/-11,263	269	+/-458	269	+/-458
Thai	129,943	+/-7,825	4,182	+/-1,819	314	+/-339
Laotian	152,304	+/-11,383	1,016	+/-1,018	160	+/-214
Vietnamese	1,142,328	+/-33,897	17,811	+/-3,304	2,665	+/-1,416
Other Asian languages	544,314	+/-17,712	19,622	+/-4,537	2,162	+/-1,173
Tagalog	1,376,632	+/-28,238	21,383	+/-3,113	6,163	+/-1,682
Other Pacific Island languages	318,973	+/-15,977	2,637	+/-890	65	+/-110
Navajo	173,100	+/-7,097	0	+/-282	0	+/-282
Other Native North American languages	207,430	+/-8,466	512	+/-423	259	+/-305



# U.S. Census Bureau

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#### B16004. AGE BY LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER

Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. 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.

	United States		Maryland		Prince George's County, Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	268,110,961	+/-12,409	5,079,545	+/-1,425	762,651	+/-422
5 to 17 years:	52,864,512	+/-17,081	1,015,890	+/-1,811	160,373	+/-433
Speak only English	42,357,558	+/-52,999	883,880	+/-6,617	132,373	+/-3,730
Speak Spanish:	7,529,646	+/-43,751	67,678	+/-3,843	18,546	+/-1,935
Speak English "very well"	5,423,931	+/-46,144	49,911	+/-4,054	12,286	+/-2,002
Speak English "well"	1,333,402	+/-25,276	11,281	+/-2,224	4,447	+/-1,713
Speak English "not well"	623,881	+/-15,144	5,631	+/-1,399	1,492	+/-647
Speak English "not at all"	148,432	+/-7,920	855	+/-502	321	+/-379
Speak other Indo-European languages:	1,462,091	+/-28,437	30,720	+/-4,005	5,453	+/-2,582
Speak English "very well"	1,158,502	+/-26,400	25,785	+/-3,610	4,348	+/-2,492
Speak English "well"	209,945	+/-10,778	2,942	+/-1,024	617	+/-482
Speak English "not well"	83,470	+/-6,281	1,869	+/-928	488	+/-510
Speak English "not at all"	10,174	+/-2,070	124	+/-207	0	+/-282
Speak Asian and Pacific Island languages:	1,140,019	+/-15,248	22,158	+/-2,168	2,203	+/-813
Speak English "very well"	816,777	+/-13,738	15,085	+/-1,977	1,459	+/-646
Speak English "well"	224,320	+/-10,015	3,963	+/-1,154	227	+/-202
Speak English "not well"	91,914	+/-5,953	2,950	+/-748	517	+/-378
Speak English "not at all"	7,008	+/-1,439	160	+/-190	0	+/-282
Speak other languages:	375,198	+/-12,442	11,454	+/-2,187	1,798	+/-1,024
Speak English "very well"	301,506	+/-10,795	7,834	+/-1,844	838	+/-610
Speak English "well"	50,512	+/-5,551	2,518	+/-1,034	468	+/-428
Speak English "not well"	19,858	+/-3,615	1,102	+/-647	492	+/-506
Speak English "not at all"	3,322	+/-1,419	0	+/-282	0	+/-282
18 to 64 years:	180,485,922	+/-16,352	3,454,205	+/-2,432	533,154	+/-1,154
Speak only English	143,858,033	+/-102,466	2,910,563	+/-10,660	418,207	+/-5,847
Speak Spanish:	22,566,023	+/-52,384	212,963	+/-5,723	60,543	+/-3,515
Speak English "very well"	10,602,695	+/-59,459	92,043	+/-5,968	20,926	+/-4,086
Speak English "well"	4,196,783	+/-35,957	41,471	+/-4,061	11,572	+/-2,336
Speak English "not well"	4,852,914	+/-52,485	53,342	+/-5,127	16,431	+/-3,122

# Downloading 2005 ACS Data

The next set of slides will demonstrate how a you can download the selected tables onto your computer.

You can use a spreadsheet program to combine and compare categories, create percentages, etc.



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[B16001. LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME BY ABILITY TO SPEAK ENGLISH FOR THE POPULATION](#)
[5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER](#)

 Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

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	United States		Maryland	
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French Creole:	548,986	+/-23,651	7,937	+/-2,979
Speak English "very well"	307,820	+/-14,585	5,737	+/-2,647
Speak English less than "very well"	241,166	+/-15,299	2,200	+/-791
Italian:	802,436	+/-19,617	12,579	+/-2,211
Speak English "very well"	578,383	+/-15,022	10,347	+/-2,189
Speak English less than "very well"	224,053	+/-8,732	2,232	+/-739
Portuguese or Portuguese Creole:	661,990	+/-25,106	11,415	+/-2,756
Speak English "very well"	363,865	+/-14,518	7,113	+/-1,883
Speak English less than "very well"	298,125	+/-18,992	4,302	+/-1,450
German:	1,120,256	+/-20,420	19,992	+/-2,689
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[5 YEARS AND OVER - Universe: POPULATION 5 YEARS AND OVER](#)
Data Set: [2005 American Community Survey](#)

Survey: 2005 American Community Survey

NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters. For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions, see [Survey Methodology](#).

	United States		Maryland	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	268,110,961	+/-12,409	5,079,545	+/-1,425
Speak only English	216,176,111	+/-137,591	4,344,300	+/-14,613
Spanish or Spanish Creole:	32,184,293	+/-77,804	293,747	+/-7,242
Speak English "very well"	16,787,619	+/-72,814	147,483	+/-7,467
Speak English less than "very well"	15,396,674	+/-76,406	146,264	+/-7,385
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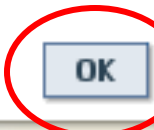
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# Summary

Easy to access ACS data using American FactFinder from [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

ACS data are available now for areas with populations of 65,000 and greater and will be available in 2008 for areas with populations of 20,000 and greater

In 2010 the ACS will release data for the smallest geographic areas

# Contact Information

Deborah H. Griffin

301.763.2855

[Deborah.H.Griffin@census.gov](mailto:Deborah.H.Griffin@census.gov)

Hyon B. Shin

301.763.6169

[Hyon.B.Shin@census.gov](mailto:Hyon.B.Shin@census.gov)