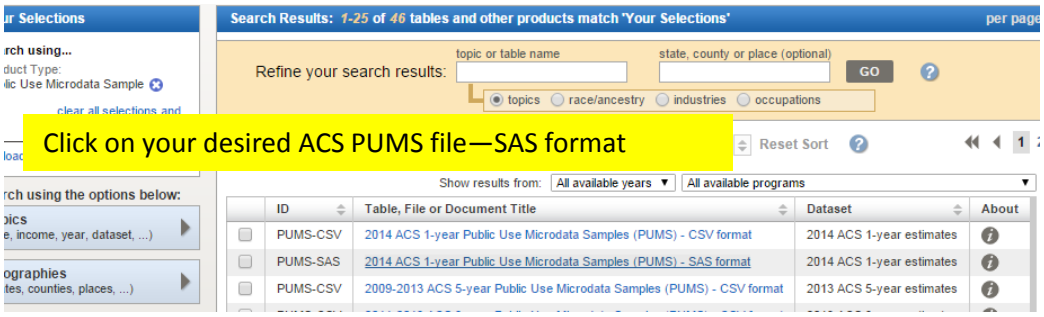
#1

Go to American Fact Finder:
http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml

#2

#3

After you click on "Public Use Microdata Sample" in step 2c, the linked PUMS files will display behind the "Select Topics" box—hit CLOSE to close the box and fully view the PUMS files.



#4

There will be two columns. The left column contains the "Population Records" or person-level files, and the right column contains the "Housing Unit Records" or household-level files. Each column will have the combined U.S. record files followed by individual state, D.C., and Puerto Rico files—most often you will want the U.S. record files.

#5

- The Population Records files will be named unix_pXX.zip (XX = "us" for all records or state abbreviation (ex: "oh" for Ohio).
- The Housing Unit Records files will be names unix_hXX.zip

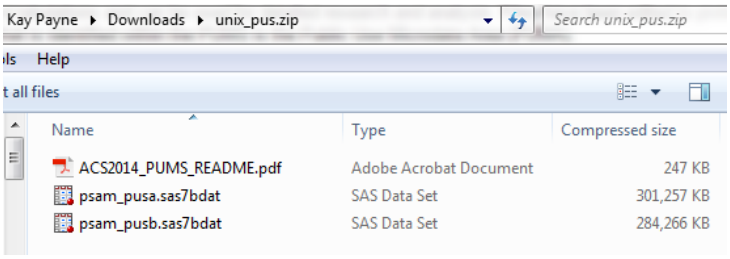
#6

There will be three files in the folder:

1. README.pdf
2. xxxx_xxxa.sas7bdat
3. xxxx_xxxb.sas7bdat

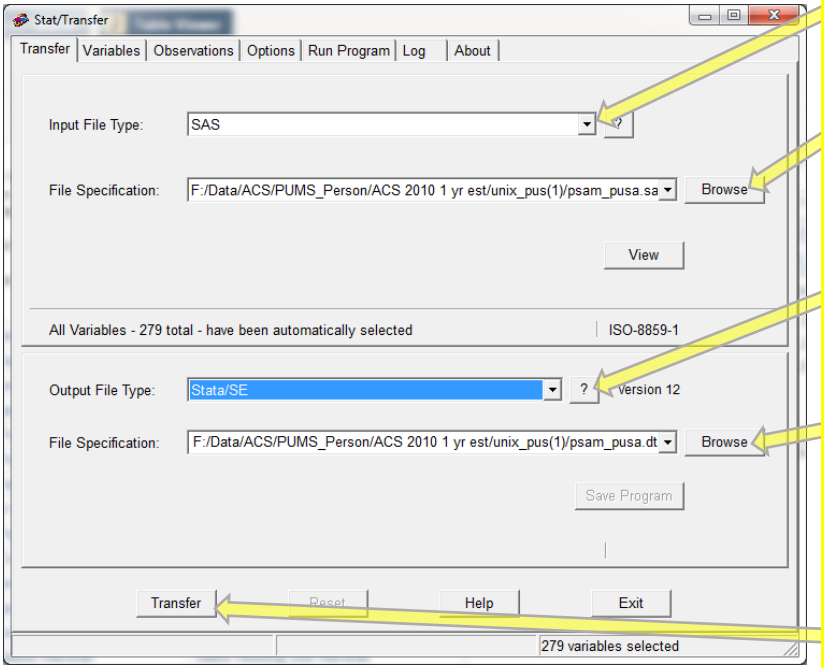
After your extract the files from the compressed folder, you will want to save these files to a data folder on your computer's hard drive (or external drive). Note the size of the files are quite large.

Note: When using 3-year ACS data, there will be 3 data files. When using 5-year ACS data, there will be 4 data files.



#7

Use Stat Transfer to convert SAS files to Stata files.



a. In the "Input File Type" drop-down menu choose "SAS"
b. Click "Browse" to direct Stat Transfer to the location of the SAS file you want to convert
c. In the "Output File Type" drop-down menu choose "Stata/SE"
d. Click "Browse" to direct Stat Transfer to the location and name you would like for the *new* Stata file you are creating
e. Click "Transfer"

#8

The next step will be to combine the two separate files into one Stata file. Below code taken from a tutorial Do-file that takes you through the process…

```
**************************************
* Read in data file A "psam_pusa.dta" *
**************************************
use "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 1 yr est\psam_pusa.dta", clear
/* Depending on the version of Stata and computer you are using you may be
unable to combine the data sets into one full version. If this is the case, do a
keep statement with only the variables you will need for your analysis, and
resave each of the two reduced files. Once reduced, you shouldn't have any
trouble appending and destringing them.*/


************************************************
* Append with data file B "psam_pusb.dta" etc... *
************************************************
*If combining 2 files for the 1-year estimates...
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 1 yr est\psam_pusb.dta"

*If combining 3 files for the 3-year estimates...
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 3 yr est\psam_pusb.dta"
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 3 yr est\psam_pusc.dta"

*If combining 4 files for the 5-year estimates...
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 5 yr est\psam_pusb.dta"
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 5 yr est\psam_pusc.dta"
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 5 yr est\psam_pusd.dta"
append using "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 5 yr est\psam_puse.dta"


************************
* Destring combined file *
************************
destring, replace


********************************
* Save Combined, De-strung file *
********************************
/*I do not change the name of the original files, with the exception of using
(for example) pusAB to identify that this is the combined/appended file. This
helps me to know that this is the original "clean" data file that I should begin
every project with. I also add "_ds" to indicate that I have already destrung
the data.*/

*If combining 2 files for the 1-year estimates...
save "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 1 yr est\psam_pusab_ds.dta", replace

*If combining 3 files for the 3-year estimates...
save "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 3 yr est\psam_pusabc_ds.dta", replace

*If combining 4 files for the 5-year estimates...
save "F:\Data\ACS\PUMS_Person\ACS 2013 5 yr est\psam_pusabcd_ds.dta", replace
```