

AMERICAN FACTFINDER PRACTICE EXAMPLES

1. Go to www.census.gov.
2. Click on the American FactFinder link (left side of the page).

All of the following examples are based on data from the 2000 Census.

What percentage of families with children under the age of 5 are living in poverty in the city of Defiance?

1. Click on the **PEOPLE** tab on the left.
2. Enter the desired geography at the top (in this case, Defiance, Ohio).
3. Select **DEFIANCE CITY** from choices.
4. Scroll down to the **POVERTY** section and click on **POVERTY STATUS – FAMILIES**.
5. Under Families, you can see that the percentage of families with related children under 5 years living in poverty in 1999 was 14%.

How many unmarried partner households (cohabiting households) are living in the city of Defiance?

1. Click on the **PEOPLE** tab on the left.
2. Enter the desired geography at the top (in this case, Defiance, Ohio).
3. Scroll down to the **RELATIONSHIPS** section and click on **MARITAL STATUS, UNMARRIED-PARTNER HOUSEHOLDS, AND GRANDPARENTS AS CAREGIVERS**.
4. Scroll down to the Unmarried-Partner Households section to see that there are 393 total Unmarried-Partner Households in Defiance.

What is the median family income in Defiance?

1. Click on the **PEOPLE** tab on the left.
2. Enter the desired geography at the top (in this case, Defiance, Ohio).
3. Scroll down to the **INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT SECTION AND CLICK ON INCOME DISTRIBUTION OF HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES**.
4. Scroll down to find that the Median Income for all families in Defiance was \$49,599.

How many Defiance businesses are owned by women?

1. Click on the **BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT** tab on the left.
2. Under the 1997 Economic Census section click **MINORITY – AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES**.
3. Enter the desired geography at the top (in this case, Defiance, Ohio).
4. The resulting table shows that of 1259 total businesses in Defiance, 463 were owned by women.

How to find specific Census data using a Street Address:

1. Under Address Search...on the lower left side of the page click on the street address link.
2. The default dataset is Census 2000, which gives you access to the most detailed information – leave it there for now.
3. Type in the address of your choice and hit Go.
4. You are now provided with a list of Census geographies that contain that address. Select one geography, for example Tract or Block.
5. If you click Map It, you can get maps of any of the geographical areas listed.
6. If you click Go, and then scroll down you will see a list of available tables containing age, sex, race and other demographic information about the area.
7. Some data tables are not available for Block and Block Group geographies.

Creating Maps with American FactFinder:

1. Click the MAPS AND GEOGRAPHY link on the left side of the page.
2. Select Reference Maps or Thematic Maps.
Reference maps show boundaries of census geographies, such as counties, cities and towns, urban areas, etc. This is the type of map you want when you have a “where is” question.
Thematic Maps are used to view geographic patterns in Census data, and are available for Census 2000, the 1990 Census, the Economic Census, and the Population Estimates program. This is the type of map you want when you have a “how many” or “what percent” question.
3. Using either type of map, you can enter an address, city or state at the bottom, where it says “To reposition the map...”, or use the zoom in function to specify the area you would like to map.
4. Under **Thematic Maps**, you can use the links at the top where it says “You are here:” to change the dataset, geography, and theme of your map.
For example, the default is Census 2000 Summary File 1 data (which includes data on age, sex, race, etc.). If you want to create a map relating to education, disability or income, you would need to click the Data Sets with Thematic Maps link to change the dataset to Summary File 3. Then click Next. Select your geography and click Next. Finally, select the theme of data that you would like to map and click Show Result.
5. If you know that you already have the correct dataset selected, you can click the Geography or Themes links at the top of the page to change those selections.
6. Once you are happy with your map, you can click the Print/Download link to print or download it.