American FactFinder Workshop

Meredith Porter Summer 2008



This presentation was designed by Nola du Toit

Goal of This Workshop

The goal of this workshop is to introduce you to some of the features of American FactFinder.

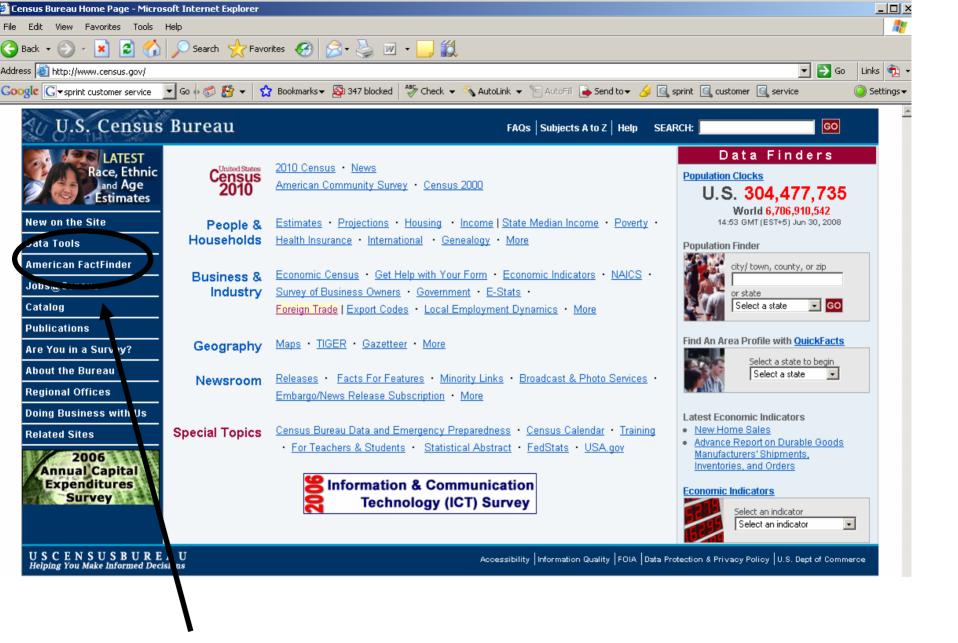
What is American FactFinder?

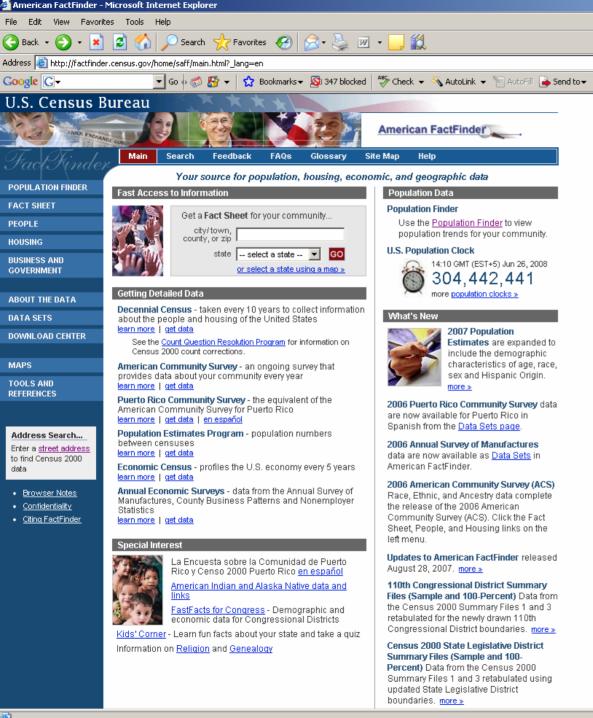
Part of the US Census Bureau

- www.census.gov
- http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html
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What is American FactFinder?

 "...a self-service tool designed to deliver a wide variety of population, economic, geographic, and housing information about the United States to individuals, educators, businesses, governments, and organizations"





- Obtain data in the form of maps, tables, and reports from a variety of Census Bureau sources.
 - Fact Sheet for quick access to basic demographic, social and economic data on your city, town, county or state or ZIP Code.
 - People to find more popular tables on a variety of topics (age, education, income, race and more) for your area.

- Housing to find popular tables on home values, ownership, housing characteristics and mortgage.
- Business and Government for data on housing starts, government finances, foreign trade and more.
- About the Data <u>Censuses and Surveys</u> to learn more about how the Census Bureau organizes and presents data from many sources

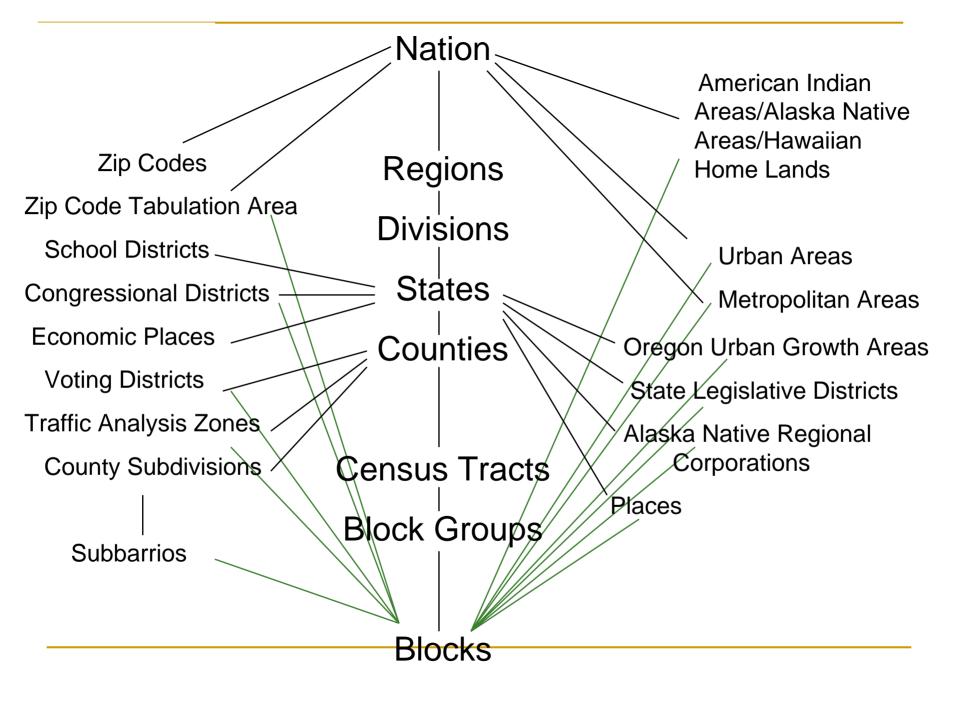
- <u>Data Sets</u> access to all data sets, tables, and maps available in American Factfinder
- Maps access to Reference and Thematic Maps with tips on creating, using, downloading and printing maps in AFF
- Reference Shelf resources, related sites and reports
- Tools links to data manipulation tools
- Search box here you can enter a keyword to find data, or enter the name of a geographic area, or click on 'enter a street address' to find data for your area.

Geographic Areas

 FactFinder has data on various geographic areas and levels

Largest geographic unit: Nation

- Smallest geographic unit: Block group
 - Collection of blocks



What Data?

1. Decennial Census Data

- Collects once every 10 years
- Includes information on:
 - Demographics (Sex, Race, Age, Number of Children, Nativity)
 - Socio-demographics (Marital Status, Education)
 - Household characteristics (Composition)
 - Economics (Income, Poverty Level)
 - More (Grandparents responsible for grandchildren, Disability, Language spoken at home, etc.)

What Data?

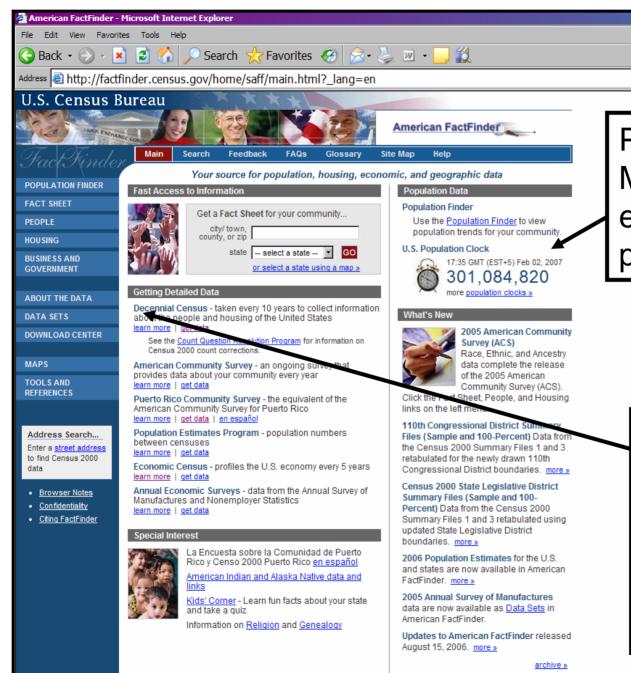
2. American Community Survey

- Nationwide survey on communities
- Collects same information as census
- Sample data is collected every year instead of only once each decade
- Includes the Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS)

What Data?

3. Others.....

- The Economic Census
 - Every 5 years, provides detail about specific industries and the products they sell or buy
- Annual Economic Surveys
 - Same as the Economic Census but done annually, quarterly, and monthly; measures economic activities (e.g. annual auto dealership sales)
- Population Estimates
 - Publishes population estimates between the Censuses.



Population Clock: Most recent estimate of the U.S. population size

Go Links "

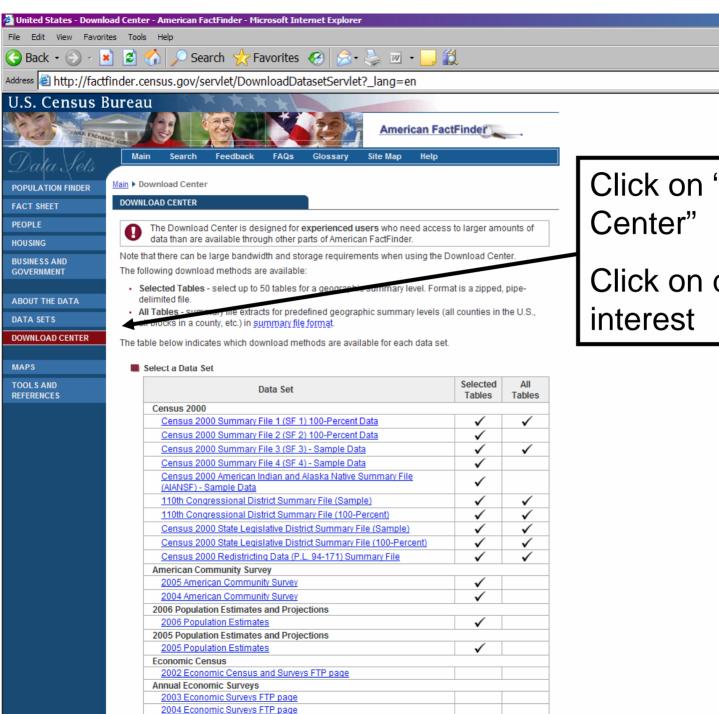
Tools available:
Population
Finder,
Factsheet,
Download Center,
Maps, Data Sets

Also see the Bureau's latest news

How do I get the Data?

1. Do it yourself

- Download the data from the Census page and run your own analysis
- Go to the Download Center
- Follow Steps



Click on "Download Center"

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Go Links *

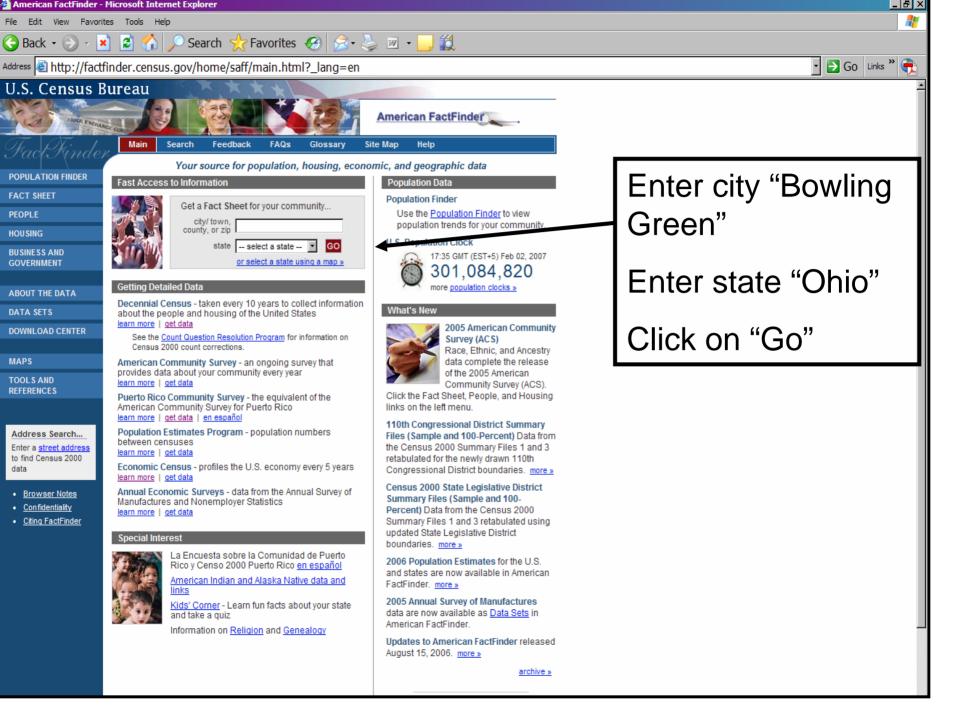
Click on data set of

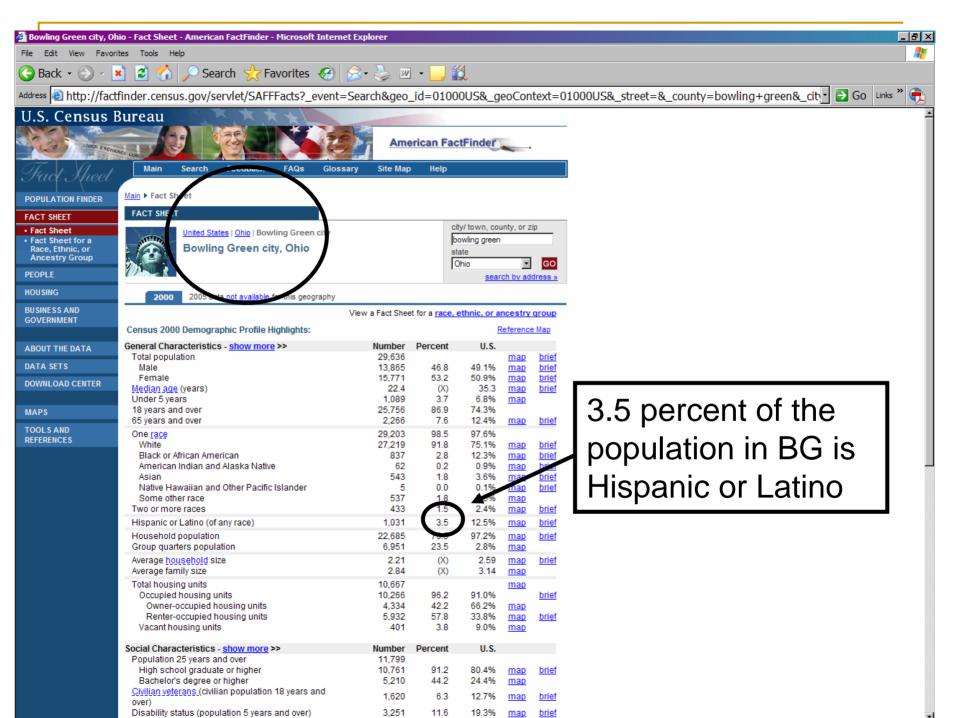
How do I get the Data?

2. Factsheet

- Fast Access to information
- Enter a geographic area (state, zip code, etc) to get quick information about various community characteristics

Question: How many Hispanics live in Bowling Green?

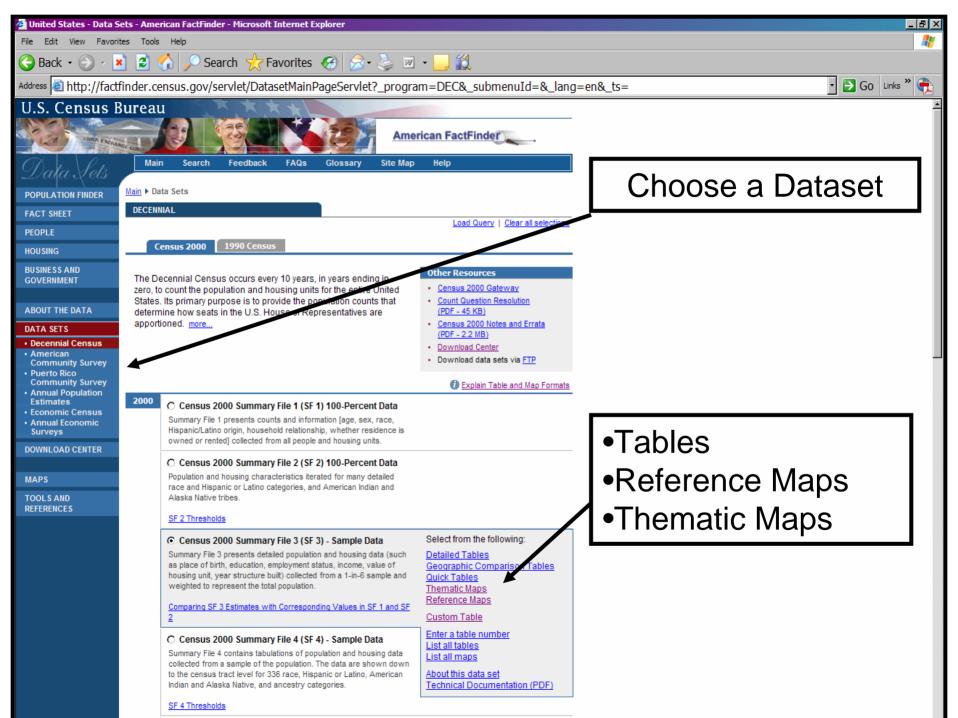




How do I get the Data?

3. Use the Data Sets button

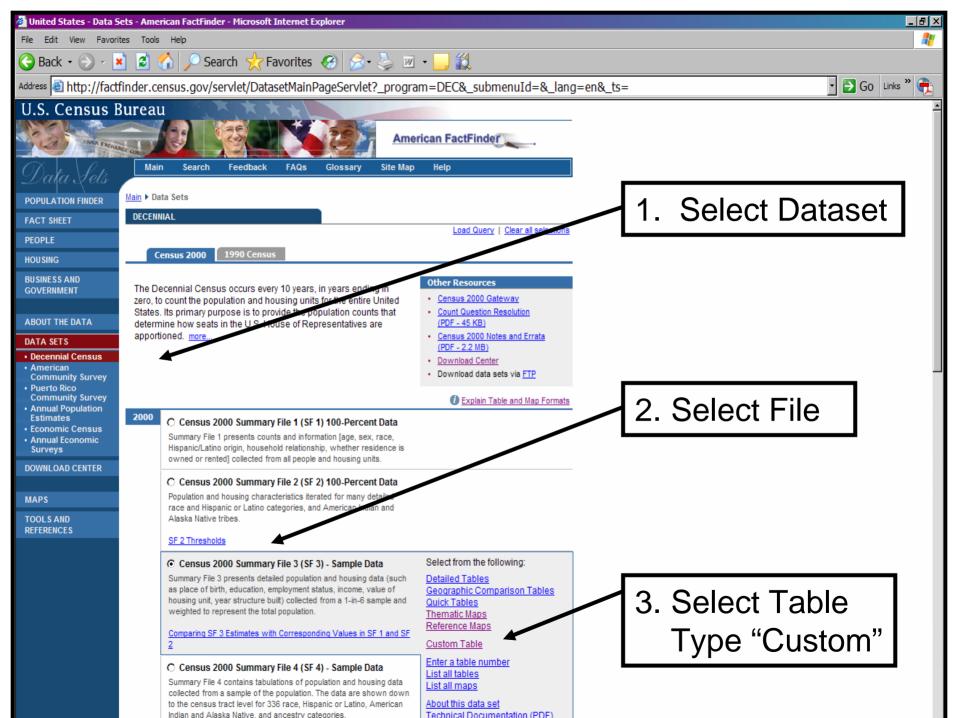
- Choose the correct dataset
 - Depends on the question
- What format do I want the data in?
 - Custom Tables
 - Reference Maps
 - Thematic Maps

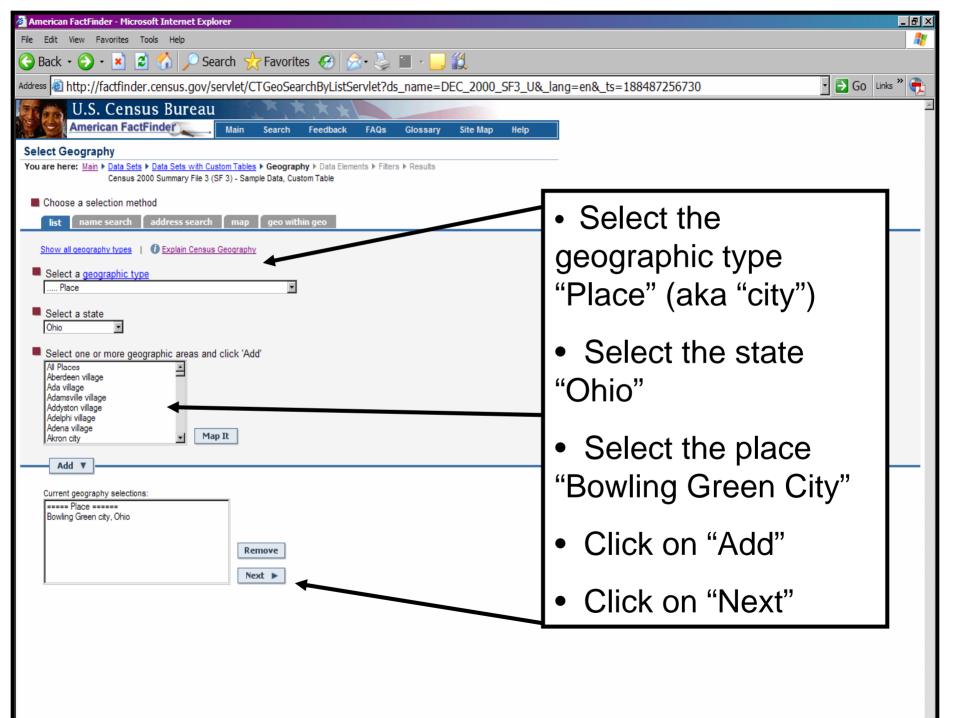


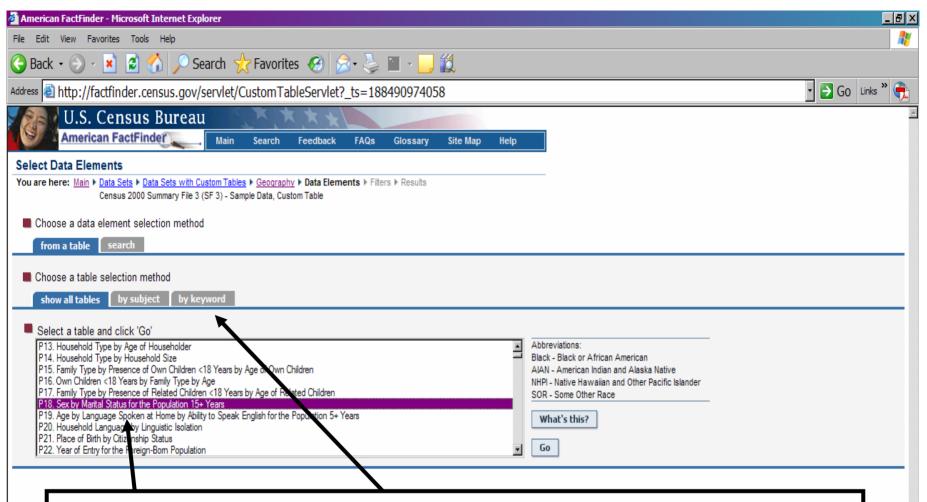
Tables

- Different types of tables
 - Custom, Detailed, Quick, Geographic Comparison Tables, etc
- Depends on the question and dataset from which the data is taken

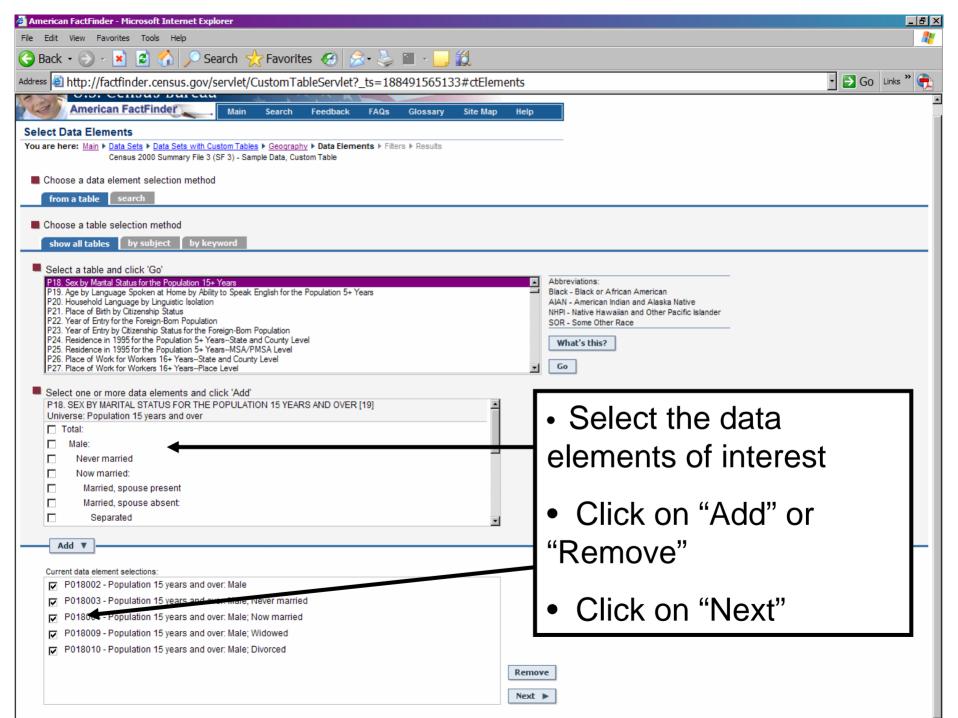
Question: How many marriageable men are in BG?

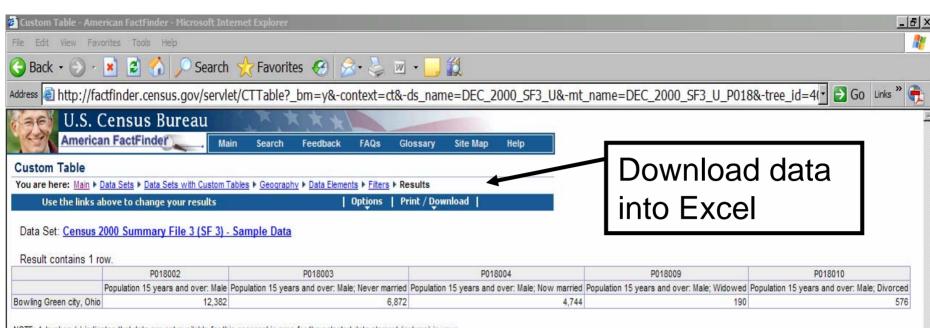






- Select a table of interest, e.g. "Sex by Marital Status for the Population 15+ Years"
- Or search by subject or keyword, e.g. marital status
- Click on "Go"





NOTE: A hyphen (-) indicates that data are not available for this geographic area for the selected data element (column) in your custom table. Please consult the <u>Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data Technical Documentation (PDF 6.92MB)</u> for more information

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.

The number of marriageable men in Bowling Green over the age of 15 years:

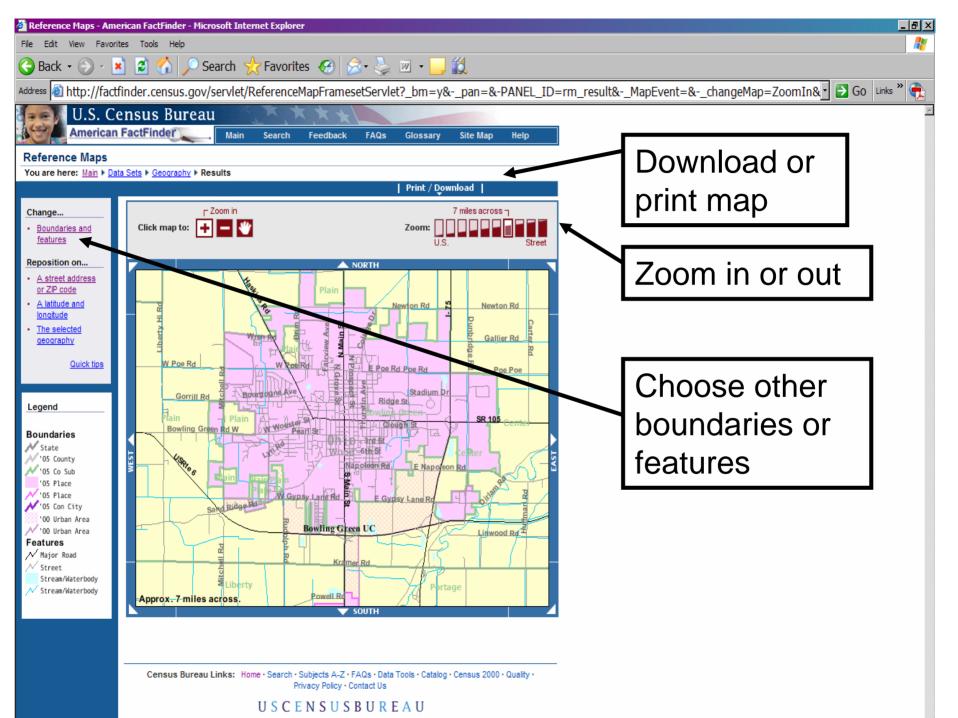
- Never Married = 6872
- Widowed = 190
- Divorced = 576

Reference Maps

- Reference maps show selected boundaries for an area for which data have been tabulated
- Boundary selections include
 - Census tracts
 - School districts
 - Native American tribal boundaries
 - Voting Districts
 - More
- Click on Maps → Reference maps



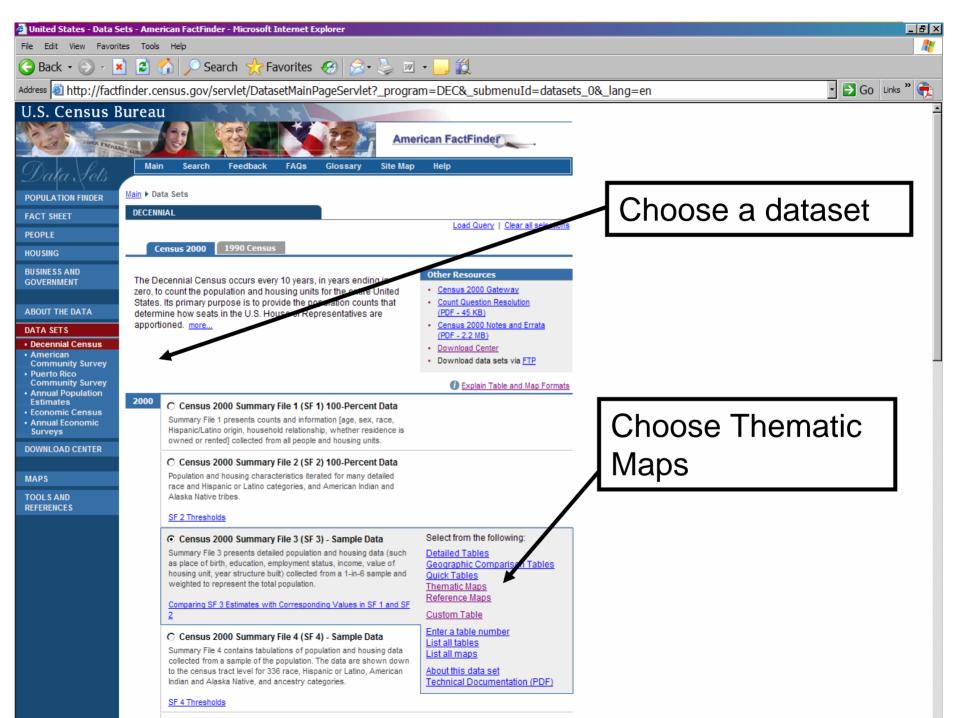
Enter state or zip code

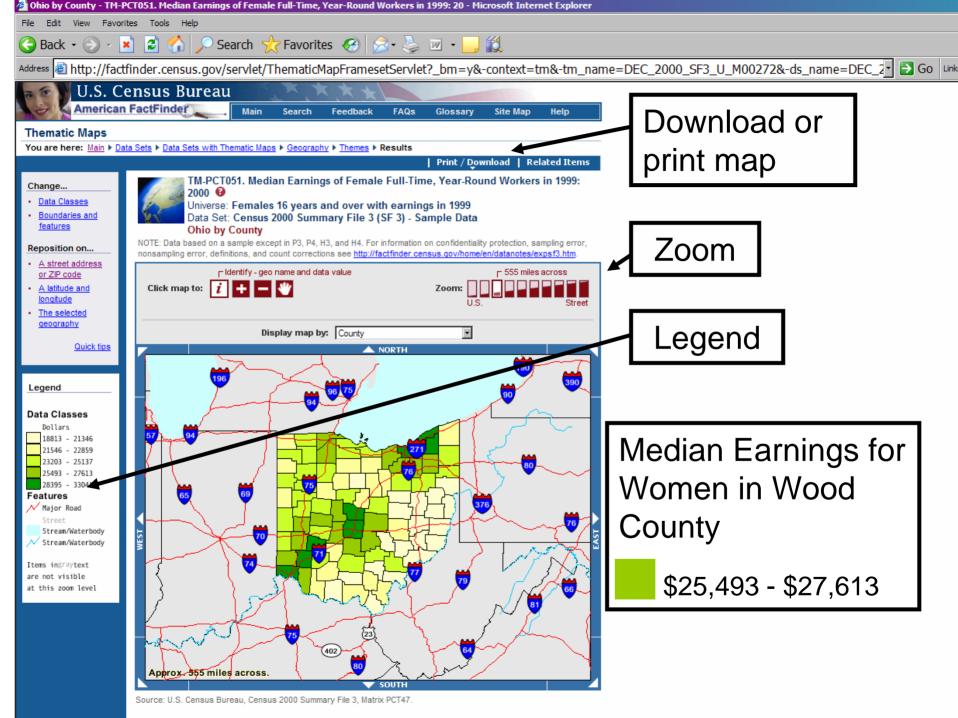


Thematic Maps

- Show interesting facts about places by using colors or patterns to shade areas on the map
- Used to show statistical data, such as population living in poverty or median income, displayed on a map

Question: How do the earnings for women in Wood county compare to the rest of Ohio?





...and so much more!

Please take time (now or in the future) to explore what FactFinder has to offer.

Upcoming Workshop

Grant Writing

- This workshop will guide you through the stages of planning and executing a grant proposal that clearly explains your potential unique contribution to research. From the early stages of defining the significance of your project and assessing the feasibility to the final stages of planning a budget and routing the proposal, this workshop will focus especially on grant-writing advice for more junior colleagues who are preparing their first internal and external funding proposals.
- Instructor: Dr. Wendy Manning
- Date: Monday, July 21
- Time: 12:00-1:00 pm
- Location: Bowen-Thompson Student Union, Room 314