

GoPIG Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2014
CU-Boulder
American FactFinder Exercises/Workshop

American FactFinder Tips and Tricks

Selecting Multiple Geographies in Advanced Search

Remember this mantra: Select, Add, Clear. Select, Add, Clear.

You must clear your current selection before adding a new geography.

Search for the place name, select the box, click "Add", and clear the geography name from the Geography Filter.

Browser Options

AFF works better in Firefox than Internet Explorer

Choose your Dataset

If you know which dataset would be most useful in answering your question, choose your dataset first.

If you do not know what *year* you need to select, go to Program and select the dataset program that you would like to use.

Race or Ethnic Groups

In question #8, the AFF exercise sheet asked specifically for "Mexicans". This is one example of where the Race or Ethnic Groups tab comes in handy.

Use the search box to type in a search term for a specific ethnicity or group.

Community Facts vs. Guided vs. Advanced Search

Community facts are best for straightforward, simple questions about population, income, education etc...

The decision to use Guided or Advanced search is up to you. It is suggested that you learn one really well and not worry about the other as much.

Mapping Tricks

At the top of your map, there is a small "i" button that is called "Identify Geography". After clicking on the "i" you may select any of the geographies on your map for a pop-up that gives detailed information about the area (state, county, city etc...)

To change the colors on your map, you must select 2 different colors and select "GO". Otherwise nothing will happen.

New AFF Exercises

1. What is the median age of the population for Macon city, GA? What is the source of this data?

ANSWER: 33.3 2010 Census

HINTS: Community Facts > Age tab

2. Using the latest American Community Survey 1-year data, what is the percentage of males 25 years and over with a graduate or professional degree in Oklahoma?

ANSWER: S1501 8.0%

HINTS: Guided Search > People > Topics > Education > Educational Attainment > Geographies > Oklahoma

3. Using the 2011 American Community Survey 3-year estimates for Boston, Massachusetts, what is the number of the population 65 years and over with no health insurance?

ANSWER: S2701 308

HINTS: Advanced Search > Refine your search results > table selection

4. In completing your beauty salon (812112) business plan, you will need to use the 2007 Economic census to document the number of beauty salons already located in Covington city, Washington. What is that number of establishments?

ANSWER: EC0700A1 11 establishments

HINTS: Advanced search > Topic tab > Dataset > 2007 economic census > Refine your search results

5. For your community block development grant, use the 2011 American Community Survey 3-year estimates to identify those Virginia counties or county equivalents with a population of 85 years and over at or above three percent.

ANSWER: GCT 0104 Roanoke 3.2, James City 3.1, Lynchburg 3.0

HINTS: Advanced Search > Topics > Product type = Geographic Comparison Table . Geography = State > Refine your search results = 85 years and over

6. You have just bought a beach front rental property in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina and are not sure what to charge in rent. Using the 2011 ACS 3-year estimates, which cash rent range has the higher number of renter-occupied units?

ANSWER: B25063 \$800-\$899

HINTS: Guided Search > Housing > Topics = Financial Characteristics = Gross Rent > Geographies = Myrtle Beach > Table

7. You work in an economic development office that monitors the job market in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan boroughs of New York. Using the 2011 ACS 1-year estimates, which borough has the higher number of females with a bachelor's degree or higher

living below the poverty level in the last 12 months? Map your results.

ANSWER: B17003 Brooklyn Borough, Kings Cy, NY

HINTS: Advanced Search > Refine your Search = income, education, bachelor's degree > Geographies = county subdivision > table selection > create a map

8. Using the 2011 ACS 1-year estimates for the cities of Dallas and Houston, Texas, which industry employs the higher percentage for Mexicans 16 years and over?

ANSWER: S0201 Selected Pop. Profile Construction; Dallas 22.3%, Houston 18.3%

HINTS: Guided Search > People > Topics Employment = Industry > Geographies = State = Place > Race & Ethnic Tab > Hispanic origin = Mexican

9. Using the 2011 ACS 3-year estimates, which city Flagstaff, Mesa, or Phoenix, Arizona, has the higher number of foreign-born grandparents responsible for their grandchildren under 18.

10. Using the most current ACS 5-year estimates, which census tract for Mercer County, PA, has the higher median household income? Map your results.

ANSWER: B19013 Census tract 313: \$68,906

HINTS: Advanced or Guided Search > Topics = people = income = household income > Geographies = census tracts = county

11. Using the latest ACS estimates, which St. Mary's County, Maryland, census tract has the higher number of veterans with a bachelor's degree or higher? What is that number?

ANSWER: Census tract 8756; 512

HINTS: Advanced search > Topics > Veterans > Dataset > Refine your search results = bachelor's degree or higher > Geographies = census tracts > modify = transpose rows and columns