

Another Batch of Census Data

by
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Summary File 3 has sample data from the long form questionnaire

Question: What do owner-occupied houses valued at \$144,200, workers who spend 19.6 minutes commuting to work each morning, and families with an annual income of \$59,036 have in common?

Answer: They're all about average for Alaska.

Thanks to all those Alaskans who took the time to complete the long form questionnaire for the 2000 Census, we know that \$144,200 is the median reported value of owner-occupied houses in Alaska, 19.6 minutes is the reported mean travel time to work, and \$59,036 is the reported median family income for the state.

Summary File 3

About five in six households were asked to complete the short form for Census 2000. This data collected of everyone in the country is often called "100-percent data." Data from the short form was released in 2001 and early 2002.

About one in six households (in rare cases one in eight, and in parts of rural Alaska as high as one in two) were asked to complete the long form questionnaire. Besides the same questions that were on the short form, the long form included additional, more detailed questions. Since these questions were asked only of a sample of the population, the data is sometimes referred to as

"sample" data. Three-page demographic profiles using some sample data were released earlier this year. Summary File 3 (SF3), released in late September of this year, is the first release from the full sample data set.

The database

The quantity of information available from SF3 is almost beyond comprehension. In an attempt to bring some order to this mass of data, the US Census Bureau formatted the data from SF3 into 813 different tables. Working with data users around the state to determine the most requested census data, Research and Analysis staff further refined the list of tables to a more manageable 106. This "all star" group of tables was included in R&A's web based interactive Census 2000 database.

The database is easy to use. Users first select from four broad categories, General Demographic Characteristics, Social Characteristics, Economic Characteristics, or Housing Characteristics, then pick a table of interest, and finally, select the geographic level. (For a partial list of table topics, see Exhibit 1.) Users can access the SF3 data on the web by going to <http://almis.labor.state.ak.us> and selecting "Census Information."

For access to all 813 SF3 tables, visit the US Census Bureau's American Factfinder site at <http://factfinder.census.gov>

1 SF3 Interactive Database

List of Tables

General Demographic Characteristics (13 tables)

Total population, Race, Hispanic or Latino, Sex by Age, and several household and family tables

Housing Characteristics (34 tables)

Housing Units; Occupancy Status; Vacancy Status; several “tenure” tables (Tenure refers to the distinction between owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units such as Tenure by Race of Householder and Tenure by Household Size); several tables about the housing structure such as Units in Structure, Year Structure Built, and Plumbing Facilities; and several housing cost tables such as Rent Asked, Mortgage Status, and Price Asked.

Social Characteristics (19 tables)

- 1 Language
- 2 Place of Work
- 1 Journey to Work
- 3 School Enrollment & Educational Attainment
- 1 Veterans Status
- 4 Disability
- 3 Households & Families
- 2 Marital Status
- 1 Grandparents as Caregivers
- 1 Migration

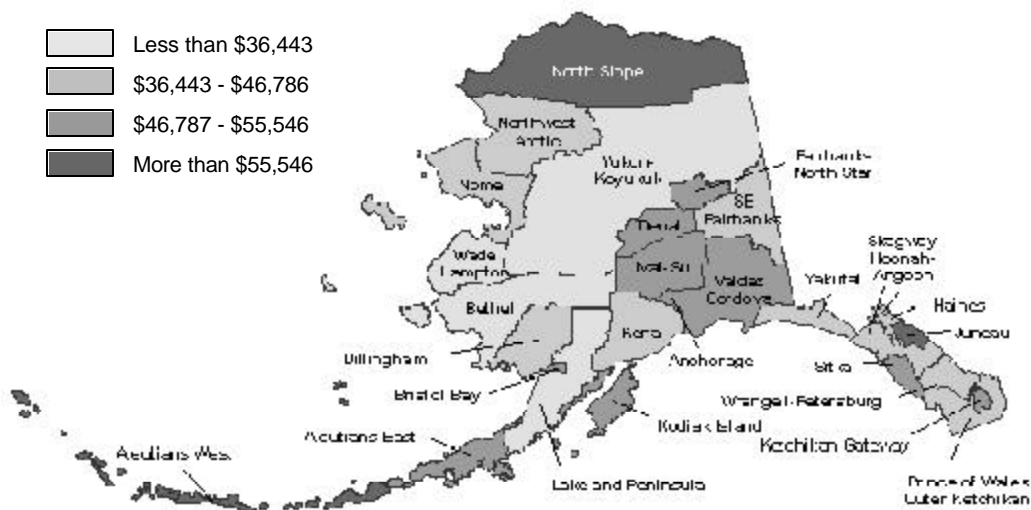
Economic Characteristics (40 tables)

Include:

- 5 Employment Status
- 2 Industry, Occupation & Class of Worker
- 13 Income for Households
- 7 Income for Family and Nonfamily
- 6 Income for Individuals
- 4 Poverty Status for Individual
- 1 Poverty Status for Families
- 2 Poverty Status for Households

Household Income 2

By borough and census area—Census 2000



Household income information was collected from the sample population and released in Summary File 3. North Slope Borough led all borough and census areas in the state in household income for 2000, followed by Juneau and Aleutians West. Wade Hampton experienced the lowest household income for 2000.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section, and US Census Bureau, 2000 Tigerline files