

### Commuting

The ACS asks about your daily commute—where you go, how you get there, what time you leave for work, and how long it takes—to understand where people are traveling during a normal day.

Precise information about your commuting patterns is crucial to planning improvements to roads and highways, developing transportation and services, and creating emergency response strategies.



#### **Disability and Health Insurance**

The ACS asks about a person's difficulty with specific daily living tasks: Do you have difficulty seeing or hearing? Do you have difficulty walking or climbing stairs or in dressing or bathing?

The ACS also asks whether people have health insurance, including type of health insurance for those who have health coverage plans.

Communities use these statistics to plan services such as transportation, employment programs, and public service accessibility for people with disabilities. Businesses that serve this population may also seek areas that have a high demand for their services.

From these statistics, we learn which groups are at risk of experiencing limited health care access, poor health, and poor health outcomes.



# **Housing Characteristics**

The ACS asks questions about plumbing, kitchen facilities, and other housing features to help identify areas with substandard housing.

Questions about the size and age of housing also flag local problems like overcrowding, health hazards, and congestion.

Through your ACS responses, we learn about communities eligible for housing assistance, rehabilitation loans, and other programs that help people afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing.

Your responses help communities plan solutions. In places where disaster strikes, these data are vital in planning recovery.



### **Owners and Renters**

The ACS asks about whether you own or rent your home, and the amount of monthly rent or how much the home and property are worth.

These statistics are used to analyze whether housing is affordable, protect owners and renters, and allocate and fund assistance programs. Governments use these statistics to understand changes in local housing markets, monitor affordability, qualify for assistance, and reduce the tax revenue losses from vacant or abandoned properties. Businesses use these data to design and market homes, and home goods.



## **People and Relationships**

The ACS asks respondents about their age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and their relationship to others in the household.

This information, along with other statistics, is used to monitor well-being, discrimination, and economic hardship. Federal agencies use this information to administer programs providing funds and services for groups such as single parents, low-income families, older people living alone, etc. Businesses use these estimates to evaluate local market demand for products and services.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey Questions and Why We Ask <www.census.gov/acs/www/about/why-we-ask-each-question/>.



U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU



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