

Below are the answers to the questions we received throughout the week. (Nearly all of this information I found on the Census website [[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)]. Also, don't forget to check out the FAQs and Glossary pages.)

Notes:

- When using ACS data, always keep in mind the Margin of Error and the inconsistency of variable in small scales
- Data at the block group level are not yet available for ACS data
- When using the Thematic Mapping tool, be aware of mapping ACS data and try to map percentages as opposed to counts

The City of Syracuse can be defined under any of these terms:

Place - A concentration of population either legally bounded as an incorporated place, or identified as a Census Designated Place (CDP) including comunidades and zonas urbanas in Puerto Rico. Incorporated places have legal descriptions of borough (except in Alaska and New York), city, town (except in New England, New York, and Wisconsin), or village.

Census Designated Place (CDP) - A statistical entity, defined for each decennial census according to Census Bureau guidelines, comprising a densely settled concentration of population that is not within an incorporated place, but is locally identified by a name. CDPs are delineated cooperatively by state and local officials and the Census Bureau, following Census Bureau guidelines. Beginning with Census 2000 there are no size limits.

County subdivision – A legal or statistical division of a county recognized by the Census Bureau for data presentation. The two major types of county subdivisions are census county divisions and minor civil divisions.

Minor civil division (MCD) – A primary governmental and/or administrative subdivision of a county, such as a township, precinct, or magisterial district. MCDs exist in 28 states and the District of Columbia. In 20 states, all or many MCD's are general-purpose governmental units: Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wisconsin. Most of these MCD's are legally designated as towns or townships.

Compare different geographic levels:

Product type: Comparison Profile

Select each geography into Your Selections.

Example: New York State, Onondaga County, and Syracuse

Is there a way to plug in multiple addresses within the county and then compare or map where they fall in the Census map?

From the left-hand options, choose Geographies

On the top of the pop-up menu, click on Address

Search an address and the results will show you census tract and other geographical information

Or

When creating a thematic map, search an address in the Find a Location tab

To show the specific place on the map, add a marker under the Map Markers tab

How can you compare areas where census tract boundaries have changed?

A slide in the powerpoint (attached to this email) showed where a census tract in Syracuse was split due to a population increase from 2000. Because there are now two tracts where there was previously one, you cannot show a population change for the individual tracts. You can only show an increase of the one tract in 2000 to the combined two tracts in 2010.

How to find more info on census tract changes over time:

This link compares the universe of Census 2000 tracts to the universe of 2010 Census tracts:

http://www.census.gov/geo/www/2010census/tract_rel/tract_rel.html

This link shows a chart of all the geographic boundary changes in New York State:

<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/bndrychanges/changenotedisplay.php>

Search the number of nonprofit organizations in Onondaga County, NY

From the left-hand options, choose the Industry Codes tab

In the Search box, type in: Philanthropy, Nonprofit Organizations, Volunteering

Choose your desired search result

Under the Geographies tab, narrow your search to Onondaga County

*Unfortunately, these topics are only available at the county level. For more information, visit this link

http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/cats/social_insurance_human_services/philanthropy_nonprofit_organizations_volunteering.html

Other Helpful Census Data Sources

CNY Vitals

<http://cnyvitals.org/onondaga/>

NYS Data Center

www.empire.state.ny.us/NYSDataCenter.html

Cornell Program on Applied Demographics

<http://pad.human.cornell.edu/>

Syracuse Mapsonline (online database of GIS layers, including Census data; will be updated by October)

www.mapsonline.net/syracuse

Syracuse Community Geography

www.communitygeography.org