

Opening Comments

American Community Survey Data User Workshop June 28, 2011

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2005-2009 ACS 5-Year Estimates

What we released

Design of products for data users based largely on historical product line

Fundamental differences were acknowledged – period estimates and reduced precision



2005-2009 ACS 5-Year Estimates

What we released

5-year estimates included essentially all topics covered in 2000

Same formats – tables, files, public use files

Same access – American FactFinder

Same geographic detail

Some missing tables, some new tables



2005-2009 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Quality Assessments

Item Allocation Rates

	2000 Census	2009 ACS
Educational Attainment	7.2	4.6
Employment Status	11.1	4.2
Wage/salary	20.0	14.0
Tenure (owner/renter)	8.0	0.7
Mortgage	18.6	1.4
Real estate taxes	32.0	14.4

2005-2009 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Quality Assessments

	Interviewed persons		Percent	
	Census 2000	5-year ACS	Census 2000	5-year ACS
Nation	43,459,449	22,556,247	15.4	7.5
Georgia	1,113,498	585,991	13.6	6.2
Texas	3,096,667	1,560,051	14.9	6.5
Indiana	904,038	504,173	14.9	7.9
Washington	853,607	479,449	14.5	7.4
Vermont	160,403	77,239	26.3	12.4



"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition

Today, partly sunny, brisk and cold, high 30. Tonight, partly cloudy, breezy and cold, low 24. Tomorrow, cold, clouds and sunshine, high 35. Weather map appears on Page A7.

VOL. CLX . . No. 55,255

© 2010 The New York Times

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2010

\$2.00

POLITICS ENABLES MEXICAN FUGITIVE TO DEFANG A LAW

LINKED TO DRUG CARTEL

Suspect Slips by Police
to Join Congress, but
Loses Immunity

By RANDAL C. ARCHIBOLD

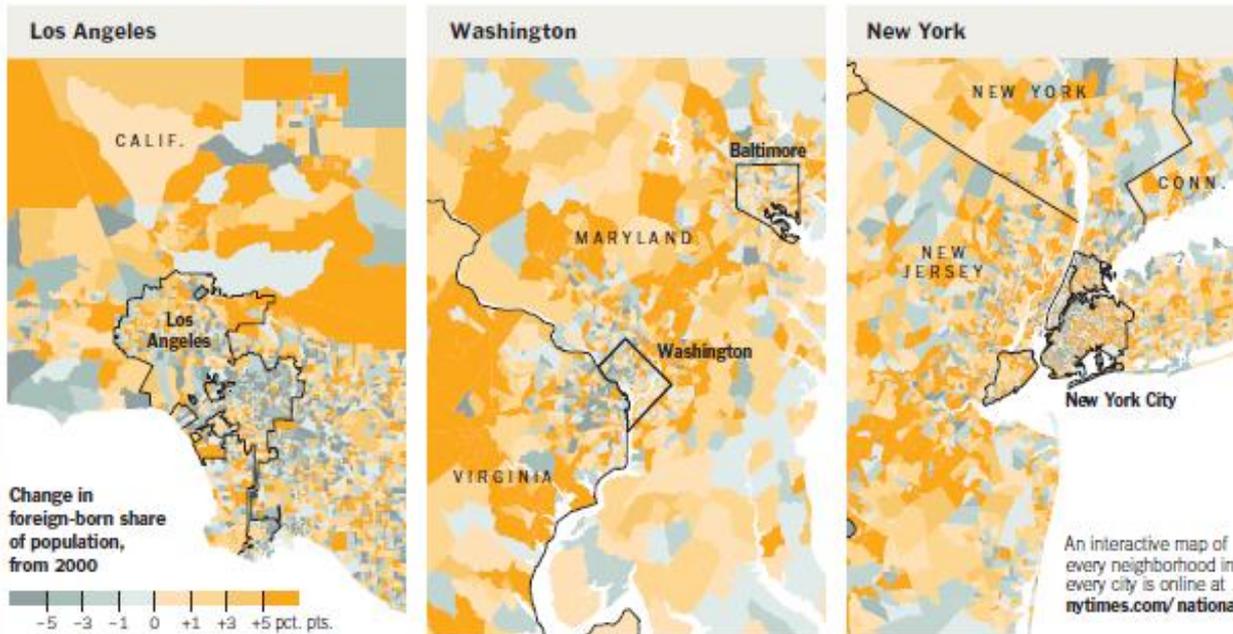
MEXICO CITY — Despite being a federal fugitive, accused of laundering millions of dollars for one of Mexico's most ruthless drug cartels, Julio César Godoy says he simply walked into the national legislature here unnoticed in September, right past the cordon of federal police officers watching the building.

He then raised his right arm, swore allegiance to the Mexican Constitution and, 15 months after disappearing from public view, finally claimed the congressional seat he won last year.

It was too late for prosecutors to do much about it. Mr. Godoy's newly conferred status came with a special perk: immunity

Immigrants Growing in American Suburbs

Many of the areas with the largest increases in immigrants were outside of city centers, according to new data from the Census Bureau. Immigrants have traditionally settled in cities, but in the last decade, they have followed jobs to rural and suburban areas. **Article, Page A15.**



THE NEW YORK TIMES

U.S. INTELLIGENCE OFFERS DIM VIEW OF AFGHAN WAR

DISPUTE WITH MILITARY

Classified Reports Cite
Pakistan's Failure to
Curb Insurgents

By ELISABETH BUMILLER

WASHINGTON — As President Obama prepares to release a review of American strategy in Afghanistan that will claim progress in the nine-year-old war there, two new classified intelligence reports offer a more negative assessment and say there is a limited chance of success unless Pakistan hunts down insurgents operating from havens on its Afghan border.

The reports, one on Afghanistan and one on Pakistan, say that although there have been gains for the United States and NATO in the war, the unwillingness of Pakistan to shut down militant sanctuaries in its lawless tribal region remains a serious

China Sets Rules and Wins Wind Power Game

By KEITH BRADSHAW

BEIJING TURBINE

markets, particularly the United States, where General Electric has long been the leader.

In Health Law, Old Arguments

Can't Afford

2005-2009 ACS 5-Year Estimates Expectations

- Challenges for some users
 - Concept of multiyear estimates
 - Reliability of estimates for smallest areas
- Many users would ignore period estimates and margins of error



Current Status

2010 ACS Release Schedule

Sep 2011	2010 ACS 1-year estimates
Oct 2011	2008-2010 ACS 3-year estimates
Dec 2011	2006-2010 ACS 5-year estimates
Spring 2012	2006-2010 ACS 5-year detailed population products



Current Status

User issues

- Diversity of users and lack of access to many categories of users
- Increasing demand for detailed files for increasingly complex uses
- Often contradictory needs – how to determine priorities
- Continued need for communication, education and outreach



Current Status

Quality issues

- Sample size and reliability concerns
- Data errors
- Maintaining high quality - response and other key measures
- Managing risks associated with changes



Looking Ahead

Program Review

- New strategic vision for the ACS that improves overall operations
- Improve ACS capacity to produce timely and relevant products
- Has begun, expected duration – 6 to 18 months



Looking Ahead

Program Review

- 1. Strategic Review**
2. Business Process
3. Systems Engineering
- 4. Product Line Review**
- 5. Methodology Improvements**
6. Program Management Processes
- 7. Communication and Stakeholder Analysis**
8. Research and Evaluation

Looking Ahead

Working with Users

- Recognition that the Census Bureau must do more to work with the data user community
- Look forward to feedback and ideas from today's workshop



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Any views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.

