United States® Census Bureau

2020 Census
Supplemental Demographic and Housing Characteristics File (S-DHC)

FCSM POLICY AND RESEARCH CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2024

MICHAEL HAWES

SENIOR STATISTICIAN FOR SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

KEY POINTS

- Tables combine characteristics about people and households to provide:
    - The average size of families and households.
    - Counts of people living in certain types of households.
- Most of the tables are also available by race and Hispanic origin.

United States®
Census
Bureau

WHERE THE DATA COME FROM

The S-DHC reflects data from across the census form:

- Age
- Sex
- Race
- Hispanic origin
- Relationship to the householder
- Tenure (whether the home is owned or rented)

---

3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home — *Mark* ☒ *ONE box.*

- ☐ Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? *Include home equity loans.*
- ☐ Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
- ☐ Rented?
- ☐ Occupied without payment of rent?

→ **NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.**

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- ☐ **No**, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- ☐ Yes, Mexican, Mexican Am., Chicano
- ☐ Yes, Puerto Rican
- ☐ Yes, Cuban
- ☐ Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin – *Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Colombian, Guatemalan, Spaniard, Ecuadorian, etc.* ⬎

---

9. What is Person 1's race?
Mark ☒ *one or more boxes* **AND** *print origins.*

- ☐ White – *Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, Lebanese, Egyptian, etc.* ⬎
- ☐ Black or African Am. – *Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.* ⬎
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native – *Print name of enrolled or principal tribe(s), for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe, Mayan, Aztec, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, etc.* ⬎

- ☐ Chinese
- ☐ Filipino
- ☐ Asian Indian
- ☐ Other Asian – *Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.* ⬎
- ☐ Vietnamese
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Japanese
- ☐ Native Hawaiian
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Chamorro
- ☐ Other Pacific Islander – *Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.* ⬎

- ☐ Some other race – *Print race or origin.* ⬎

---

6. What is Person 1's sex? *Mark* ☒ *ONE box.*

- ☐ Male   ☐ Female

---

3. How is this person related to Person 1? *Mark* ☒ *ONE box.*

- ☐ Opposite-sex husband/wife/spouse
- ☐ Opposite-sex unmarried partner
- ☐ Same-sex husband/wife/spouse
- ☐ Same-sex unmarried partner
- ☐ Biological son or daughter
- ☐ Adopted son or daughter
- ☐ Stepson or stepdaughter
- ☐ Brother or sister
- ☐ Father or mother
- ☐ Grandchild
- ☐ Parent-in-law
- ☐ Son-in-law or daughter-in-law
- ☐ Other relative
- ☐ Roommate or housemate
- ☐ Foster child
- ☐ Other nonrelative

---

7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? *For babies less than 1 year old, do not write the age in months. Write 0 as the age.*

Age on April 1, 2020 [____] years

Print numbers in boxes.
Month [__] Day [__] Year of birth [____]

TABLES

- Average household size by age.*
- Household type for the population in households.
- Population under the age of 18 years by relationship and household type.*
- Population in families by age.*
- Average family size by age.*
- Family type and age for own children under 18 years.
- Total population in occupied housing units by tenure.*
- Average household size of occupied housing units by tenure.*

*Tables marked with an asterisk are also available by race and Hispanic origin.

Note: The final table shells are included on the "SDHC Tables" tab of the 2020 Census Data Product Crosswalk.

RACE AND ETHNICITY GROUPS

The tables repeated by major race and ethnicity groups are identified with the letters A through I:

A.   White alone

B.   Black or African American alone

C.   American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) alone

D.   Asian alone

E.   Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander (NHPI) alone

F.   Some Other Race alone

G.   Two or More Races

H.   Hispanic or Latino

I.   White alone, not Hispanic or Latino

EXAMPLE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DHC AND S-DHC TABLES

DHC (separate tables)

- How many married couple households had children living in them.

- The number of children.

Person characteristic

Household characteristic

S-DHC

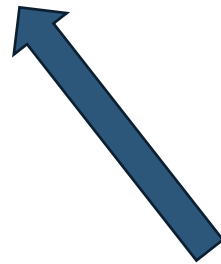- How many children live in married couple families.

Person characteristic

Household characteristic

ANOTHER EXAMPLE

DHC

- How many households owned their home with a mortgage or a loan.

Household characteristic

S-DHC

- How many people live in a home that's owned with a mortgage or a loan.

Person characteristic

Household characteristic

United States® census Bureau
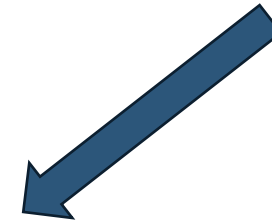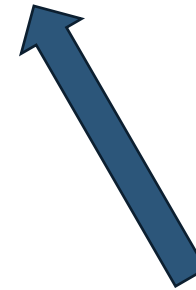
GEOGRAPHY

- Nation
- States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico

The S-DHC is provided for limited geographies because of concerns about meeting data quality and accuracy standards given confidentiality considerations.

United States®
Census
Bureau

RACE AND ETHNICITY: MAKING COMPARISONS

- Consider improvements to how we collected, coded and tabulated race data.
  - Blog: [Improvements to the 2020 Census Race and Hispanic Origin Question Designs, Data Processing, and Coding Procedures](#)

- Use caution when comparing 2020 Census Asian, NHPI and AIAN race data with 2019 or earlier American Community Survey (ACS) data.
  - Improvements were implemented in the ACS in 2020.

- The 2020 Census Hispanic origin data from the ethnicity question **are** comparable with the 2010 Census and with the ACS regardless of data year.

HOUSEHOLD TYPE: COMPARISONS WITH 2010 CENSUS

- Inclusion of same-sex couples

2010
Same-sex married couples
If no children or other relatives present – edited and shown as unmarried partners and included in nonfamily households.

2020
Same-sex married couples
Included in estimates of families because they are married couples.

- The household type 2020 Census data are generally comparable with the ACS data.

United States®
Census
Bureau

HOUSEHOLD TYPE: COMPARISONS WITH 2010 CENSUS CONT.

- Updated labels

2010   **2020**
husband-wife families   ⟶ married couple families
male householder, no wife   ⟶ male householder, no spouse
present   present
female householder, no husband ⟶ female householder, no spouse
present   present

United States®
Census
Bureau

TENURE: COMPARISONS WITH 2010

- No major changes to housing questions from 2010.

- Housing data are generally comparable to the 2010 Census and the American Community Survey (ACS).

SIMILAR ACS DATA

B11003 | Family Type by Presence and Age of Own Children Under 18 Years

	Estimate	Margin of Error
∨ Total:	84,045,684	±133,737
∨ Married-couple family:	61,421,188	±171,809
∨ With own children of the householder under 18 years:	22,871,453	±86,999
Under 6 years only	5,064,116	±46,631
	4,611,967	±43,016

S1101 | Households and Families

Label	Total		Married-couple family household	
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Estimate	Margin of Error
∨ HOUSEHOLDS				
Total households	131,332,360	±130,190		
Average household size	2.49	±0.01		

B25010B | Average Household Size of Occupied Housing Units by Tenure (Black or African American Alone Householder)

	Estimate	Margin of Error
∨ Average household size --		
∨ Total:	2.41	±0.01
Owner occupied	2.66	±0.01
Renter occupied	2.21	±0.01

United States® Census Bureau

SO WHY USE THE S-DHC?

- Based on the 2020 Census data
    - Despite challenges during collection, over a tens of million households directly responded to the census
    - Far more responses than any Census survey, including the ACS

United States® Census Bureau