Accessing Census Data in 2019: The Transition to data.census.gov

Tammy Anderson

Center for Enterprise Dissemination (CED)

U.S. Census Bureau

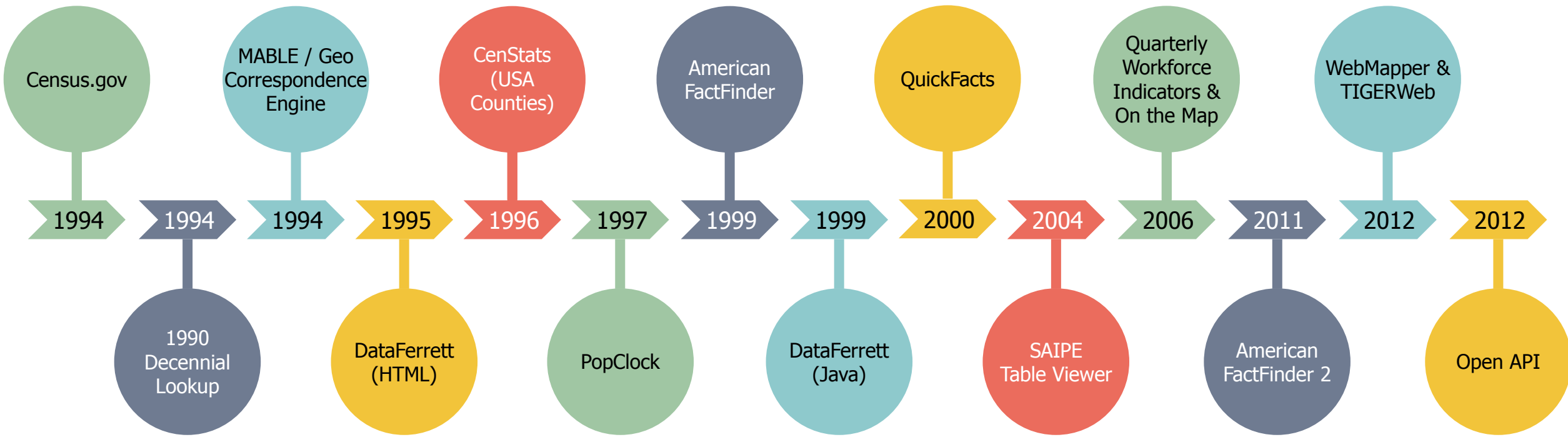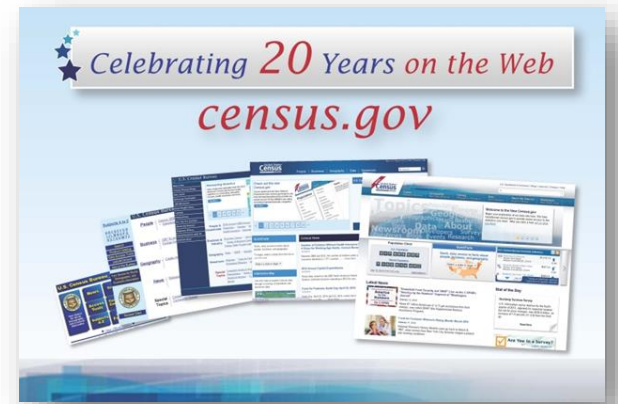# Outline

- Vision

- Current Snapshot

- Using data.census.gov: Tips/tricks & live demo

- Looking Ahead

- Q&A

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Census Bureau Mission

To serve as the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy.

Census Bureau Online History

Census.gov

MABLE / Geo Correspondence Engine

CenStats (USA Counties)

American FactFinder

QuickFacts

Quarterly Workforce Indicators & On the Map

WebMapper & TIGERWeb

| 1994 | 1994 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1999 | 1999 | 2000 | 2004 | 2006 | 2011 | 2012 | 2012 |

1990 Decennial Lookup

DataFerrett (HTML)

PopClock

DataFerrett (Java)

SAIPE Table Viewer

American FactFinder 2

Open API

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New Enterprise Dissemination

✓ Streamline access to data

✓ Maintain the best of our current tools

✓ Reduce redundancies and operational costs

✓ Provide greater access to Census Bureau API

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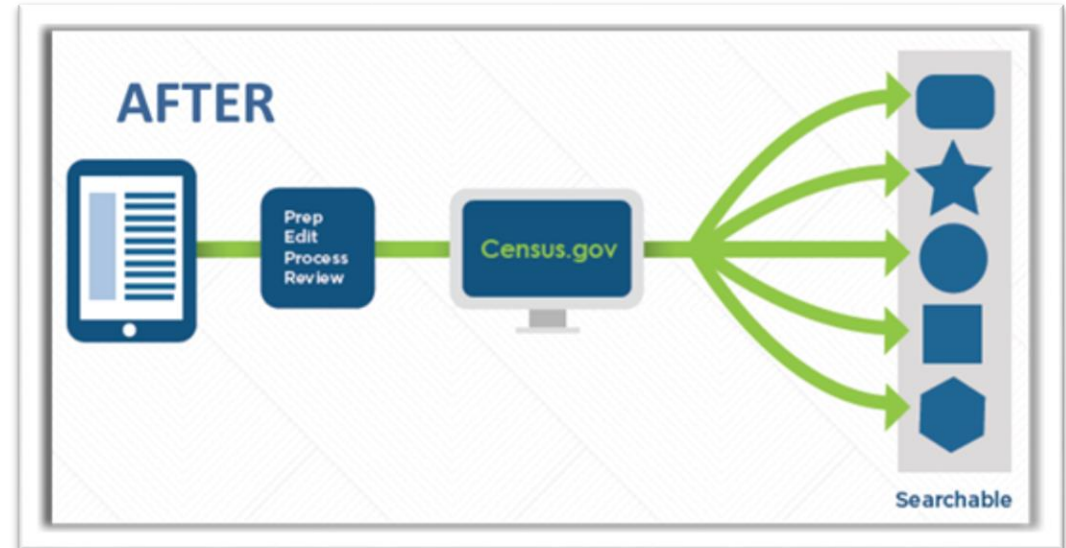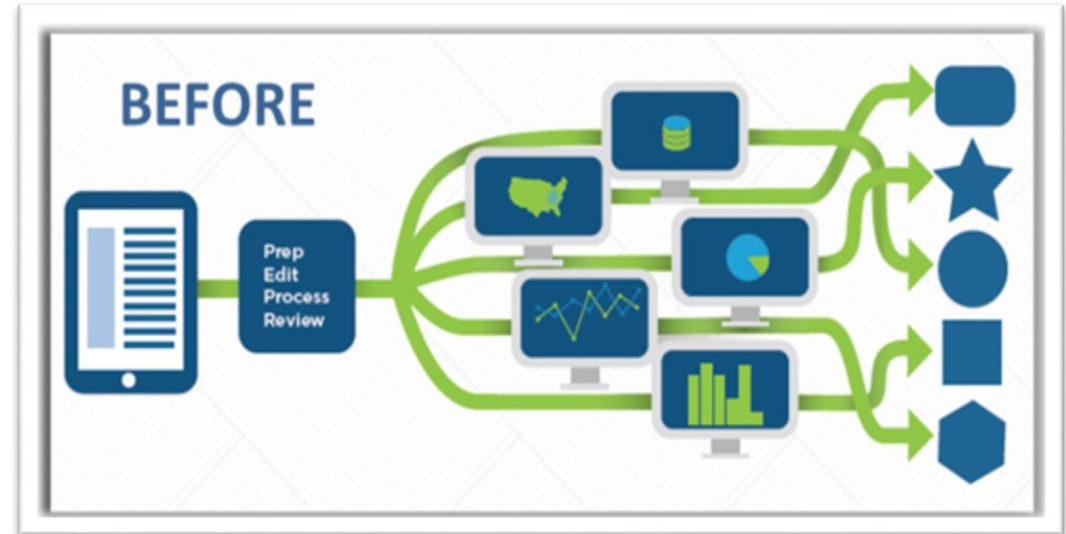
Vision – Integrate new platform with census.gov

Current Snapshot

Data in the New Platform: American Community Survey

Data Product	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Detailed Tables	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subject Tables	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Supplemental Tables	–	–	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓
Selected Population Profiles							✓	✓
Data Profiles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Comparison Profiles	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Selected Population Tables (5-Year)		–	–	–	–		–	–
American Indian Alaska Native Tables (5-Year)		–	–	–	–		–	–

ACS data back to 2005 will be added to the API

✓: Available now

Blank cell: Coming soon

Data in the New Platform: Decennial and Econ

Data Product	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Decennial Census (Summary File 1, 113th & 115th Congress Detailed Tables)	✓	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Economic Census US Basic Data	–	–	✓	–	–	–	–	
County Business Patterns	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Non-Employer Statistics	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Survey of Business Owners (Company Summary & Characteristics of Business Owners)	–	–	✓	–	–	–	–	–

✓: Available now

Blank cell: Coming soon

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2019 Milestones

Summer 2019
- **End of new data releases on American FactFinder**
- **First data releases exclusively on new platform (Nonemployer, Public Sector)**

Fall 2019
Major data releases:
- **2018 ACS**
- **2017 Economic Census**

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Feedback on data.census.gov we recently implemented

"No easy way to change years or datasets when looking at a table."

"Occasionally I had to wait five whole minutes for it to load. The system was often slow and froze."

"Advanced Search: Find results with...is very confusing."

"If you hadn't said something about the tiny "t", I would have kept thinking that the only data loaded in EDDE were data for 2017 ACS 1-Year."

"The table names are truncated and you have to do a lot of clicking to find the table you need."

"There seems to be a lot of white space in the tables, limiting how much is visible when first navigating to the table."

"Seems to be no back buttons to change search variables, just browser buttons."

Tips & Tricks and Live Demo

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Single Search - Quick Wins for All Users
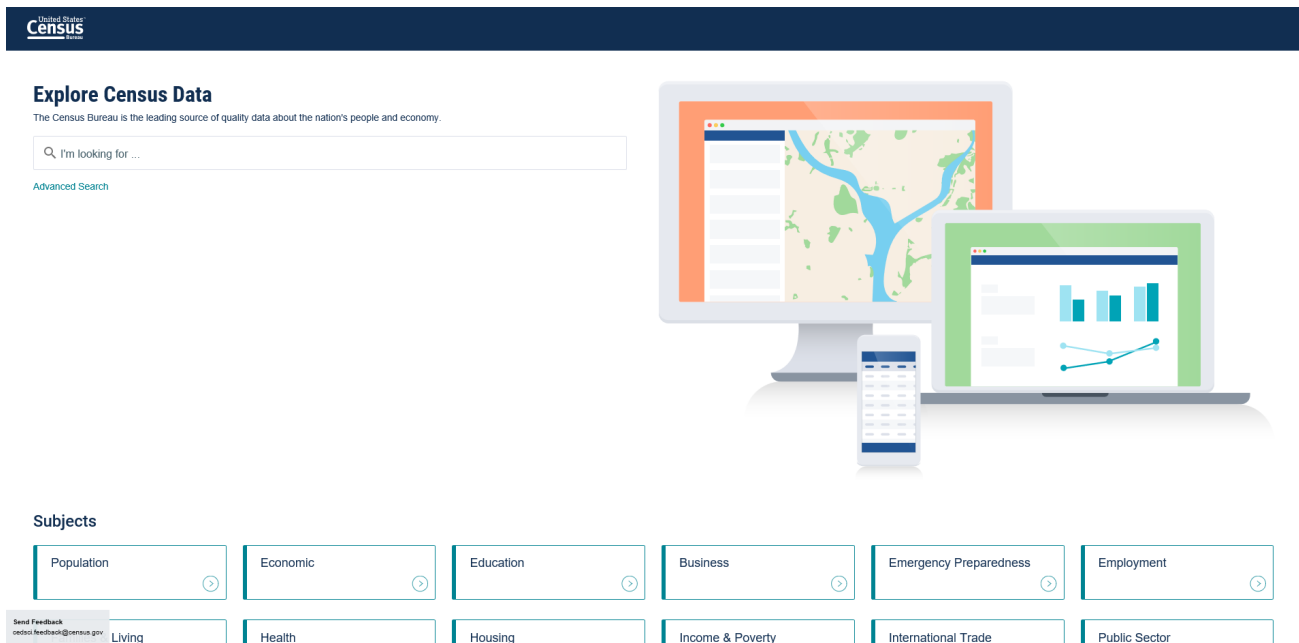
Use for quick wins to find things like:

- **Simple statistics**
  e.g. health insurance in Arizona

- **Profile for a single geography**
  e.g. Arizona profile

- **NAICS**
  531110

- **Table ID**
  B19001

- **Groups of tables**
  CP

Explore Census Data

The Census Bureau is the leading source of quality data about the nation's people and economy.

🔍 I'm looking for ...

Advanced Search

Subjects

| Population | Economic | Education | Business | Emergency Preparedness | Employment |
| Living | Health | Housing | Income & Poverty | International Trade | Public Sector |

Send Feedback
cedsci.feedback@census.gov

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Search for Groups of Tables

CP: Provides all 5 Comparison Profiles

B27: Provides all 32 Detailed Tables for Health Insurance

B19001: Provides main table plus race iterations B19001A-I

Search by NAICS Code (e.g. 4451)

Advanced Search – More Complex Searches

- **Survey/Program or Table Type**
  e.g. ACS 1-Year Detailed Tables
- **Geographies with complex names**
  e.g. Census Tract 100.01, Bibb County, AL
- **Collections of geographies**
  e.g. All places in the United States
- **Cross tabulations**
  e.g. Health insurance by full/part-time by sex
- **Detailed pop groups**
  Race, Tribal, Hispanic Origin, Ancestry, and country of birth groups

Explore the new layout of topics in the advanced search

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Use Advanced Search To Access Tables Iterated by Pop Groups

Step 1 (Optional): Select Table Type
Surveys → ACS 1-Year Estimates Selected Population Profiles
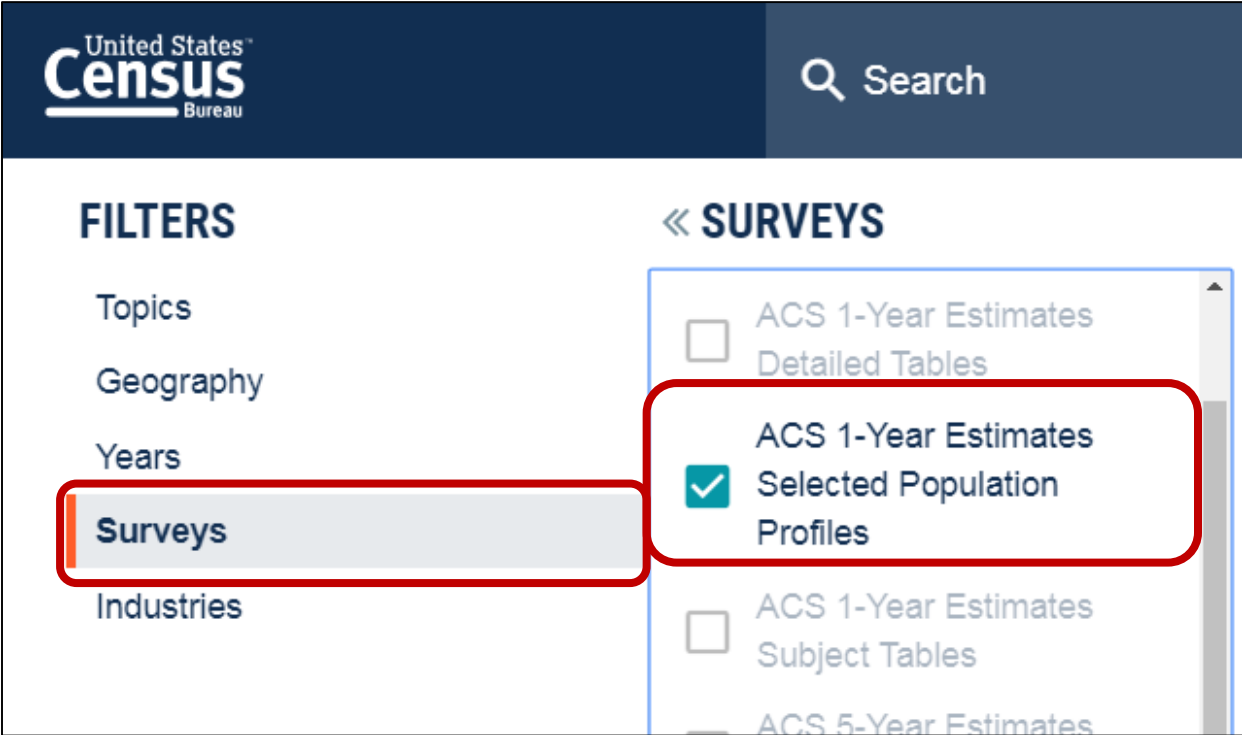
Step 2: Select Detailed Population Group(s) using **Topics**:
- **Populations and People** (Ancestry & Country of Birth)
- **Race and Ethnicity** (Race, Tribal, & Hispanic Origin)
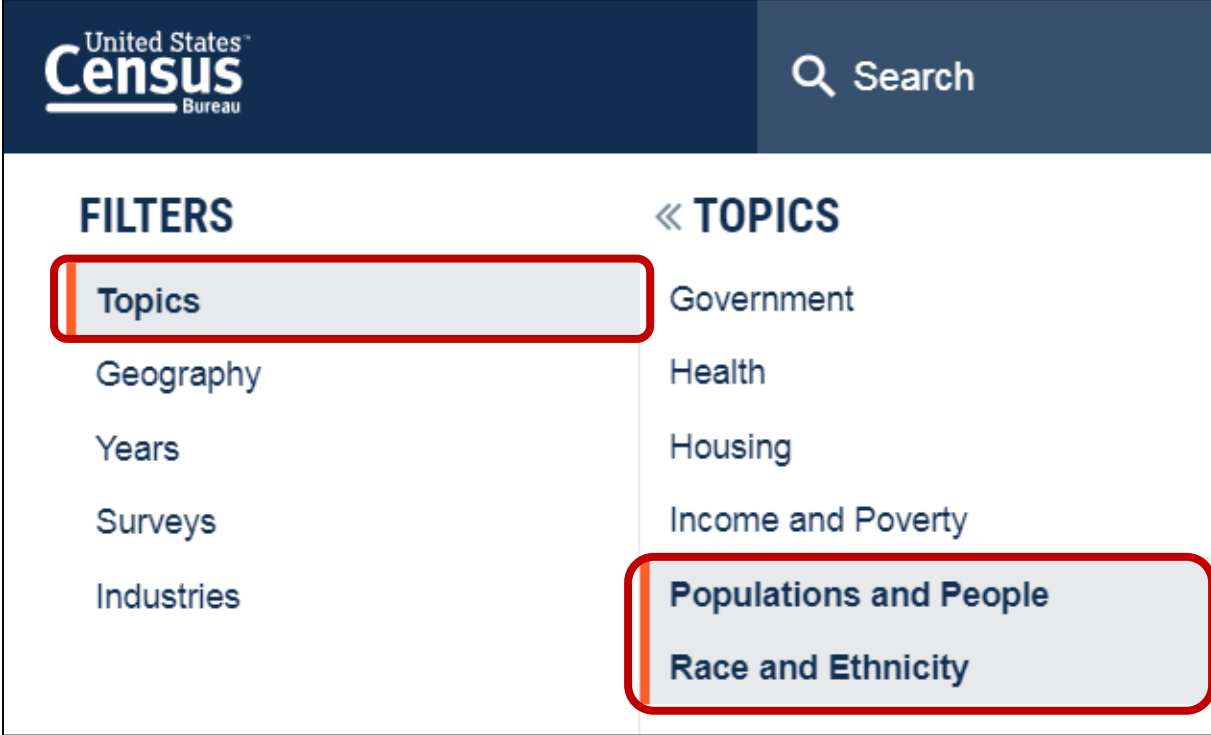
Finding Population Groups: Ancestry

Topics → Populations and People → Ancestry

Finding Population Groups: Country of Birth

Topics → Populations and People → Native and Foreign Born → Foreign Born

Finding Population Groups: Race & Hispanic Origin

Topics → **Race and Ethnicity** → Select a path into one of the high level race or Hispanic Origin groups

Select Results without Checkboxes to Dig Deeper

You may need to make additional selections to get to the most detailed population groups. Click a result with a checkbox adds the filter to your selections. Clicking a result without checkboxes open a new panel that provides more detailed options

Example – To get data for the Navajo population: Topics → Race and Ethnicity → American Indian & Alaska Native → American Indian → Navajo → Navajo Nation tribal grouping alone or in any combination

Keep in mind – Population Thresholds

Thresholds for ACS 1-year Selected Population Profiles

- 500,000+ people in your geo of interest
- 65,000+ people in the specific pop subgroup

Process to access data for tables repeated by detailed population groups is the same for different ACS tables, including the ACS 5-year special release of:

- Selected Population Tables
- American Indian/Alaska Native Tables

Many pop groups will be grayed out in the advanced search of data.census.gov until these tables have been migrated

Looking Ahead

Feedback on data.census.gov we are working on now

"After backing out and starting over, I received the message "Sorry, that table is too large to display.""

"The geo selection feature in data.census.gov is very poorly designed as of right now!"

"Is it possible to have the column heading wrap in a cell rather than have to be 'stretched' out because it is on one line?"

"When selecting geographies, the list also is somewhat in alphabetical order but also somewhat not. It is confusing."

"I get that many users don't want to bother with MOEs...but as a scientific bureau, we should have MOEs displayed as a default. They're very important for understanding an estimate."

"I want the ability to select more geographies in bulk like "All census tracts in the US and PR""

Current Geo Filter Experience

FILTERS
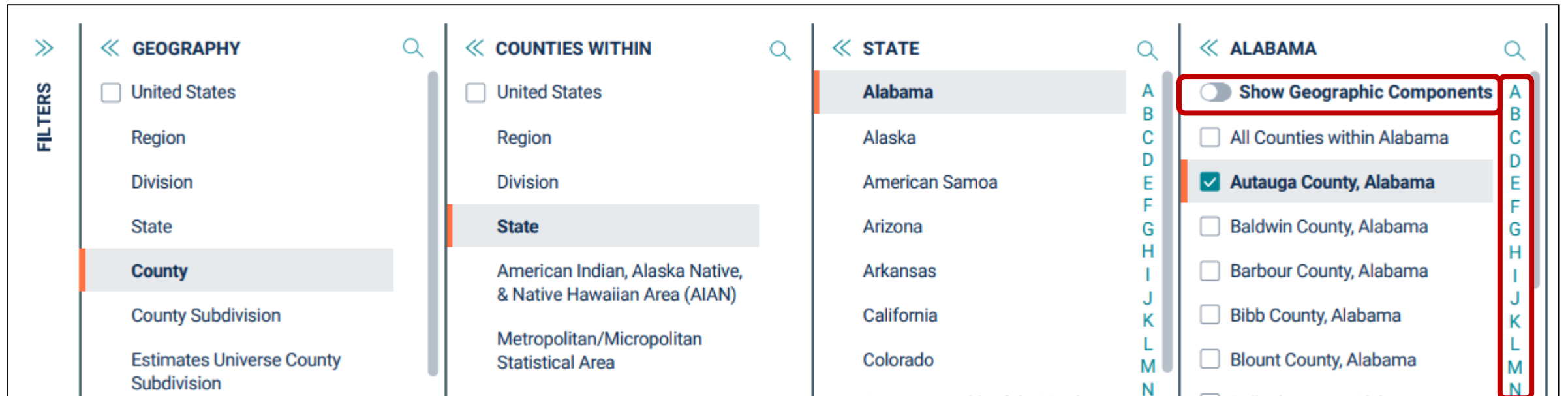
- Topics
- **Geography**
- Years
- Surveys
- Industries

« GEOGRAPHY

- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area within State
- Principal City (or part) within State within Metro/Micro Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area-State-County
- Metropolitan Division within Metropolitan Statistical Area
- Metropolitan Statistical Area-Metropolitan Division-State
- Metropolitan Statistical Area-Metropolitan Division-State-County

« METROPOLITAN STATIST...

- ☐ Adrian, MI Micro Area
- ☐ Aguadilla-Isabela, PR Metro Area
- ☐ Aguadilla-Isabela-San Sebastian, PR Metro Area
- ☐ Akron, OH Metro Area
- ☐ Alamogordo, NM Micro Area
- ☐ Albany, GA Metro Area
- ☐ Albany, OR Metro Area
- ☐ Albany-Lebanon, OR Micro Area
- ☐ Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY Metro Area
- ☐ Albemarle, NC Micro Area
- ☐ Albert Lea, MN Micro Area

- Long list
- No hierarchy
- Common summary levels buried

- Lazy loading (geographies pull up in sections from the API)

Coming Soon: Summary Level Codes & Search

Coming Later: Another filtering option

- **New filtering option:** Choose your geography through a series of clicks instead of complex labels

- **Geographic components (urban/rural) hidden from default view**
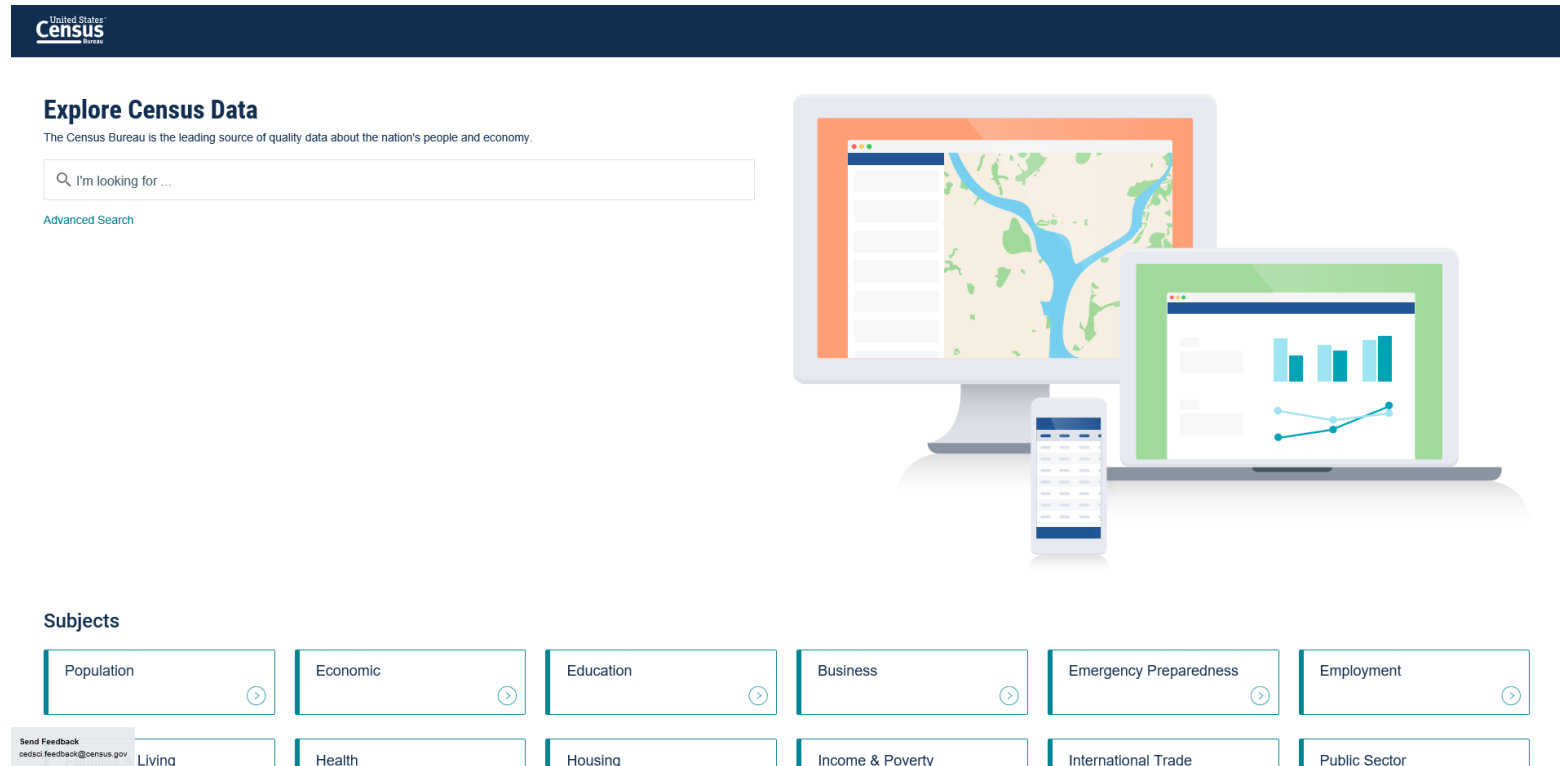
- **A to Z**

*This is a wireframe only to show some of the user needs that we are working to meet. The exact build may differ and could come incrementally across multiple future releases.

Plans to Add More Checkboxes to Select All Geos in a List

Our Development Depends on YOUR Feedback

Check out our preview platform at data.census.gov and provide comments at cedsci.feedback@census.gov.

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Learn More – Release Notes and FAQs
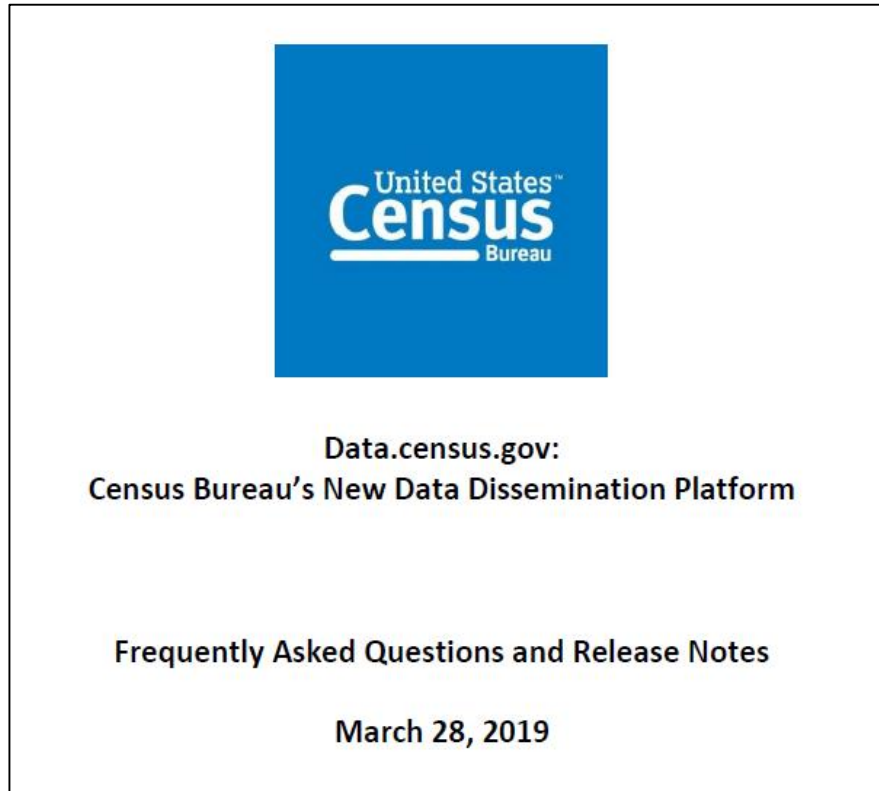
Includes:

- Answers to common questions
- Chart of available data
- List of features and functionality
- Known Issues

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Data.census.gov:
Census Bureau's New Data Dissemination Platform

Frequently Asked Questions and Release Notes

March 28, 2019

data.census.gov/assets/faqs-release-notes.pdf

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Questions? We're Here to Help

Dissemination Outreach Branch: Ext. 3-8327; cedsci.feedback@census.gov

KaNin Reese (Chief)

301-763-3493

kanin.l.reese@census.gov

Tyson Weister

301-763-9135

tyson.weister@census.gov

Belva Kirk

301-763-4502

belva.a.kirk@census.gov

Tammy Anderson

301-763-5247

tammy.s.anderson@census.gov