

New 3-year aggregated American Community Survey (ACS) data will be valuable!

The 3-year aggregates will show the first data since Census 2000 for areas with 20,000 to 65,000 persons. For areas with > 65,000 persons that receive annual data, the 3-year aggregates reduce data fluctuations.

Three years of survey completes will be combined in order to release one set of more reliable figures.

The tradeoff for this data with increased accuracy is that it has a longer time frame and is somewhat harder to interpret.

| Omaha, NE annual data | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | | <u>2003-2005 aggregate</u> | <u>Conclusion</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|----------------------------|--|
| Individuals in Poverty | 50,368 | 51,567 | 57,020 | VERSUS | 52,846 | The 3-year aggregate figures have less variability and more reliability (smaller MOE and confidence interval). |
| Base Population | 371,799 | 371,061 | 371,917 | | 371,582 | |
| Poverty Percentage | 13.5 | 13.9 | 15.3 | | 14.2 | |
| Margin of Error on Pov % (+/-) | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | | 0.8 | |
| 90% Confidence Interval | 11.9 - 15.1 | 12.4 - 15.4 | 13.8 - 16.8 | | 13.4 - 15.0 | |

Areas that will (likely) have 2005-2007 (3-year) aggregate data released in August 2008

| Counties | Places | School Districts | Micropolitan Areas |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Douglas* Platte | Omaha* North Platte | Omaha Public* North Platte | Grand Island (Hall, Howard, Merrick Counties)* |
| Lancaster* Cass | Lincoln* Norfolk | Lincoln Public* Hastings | Hastings (Adams, Clay Counties) |
| Sarpy* Dawson | Bellevue Columbus | Millard Public* Columbus | Kearney (Buffalo, Kearney Counties) |
| Hall Gage | Grand Island Papillion | Bellevue Public Westside | Lexington (Dawson, Gosper Counties) |
| Buffalo Dakota | Kearney Sioux City, IA* | Grand Island Ralston | Norfolk (Madison, Pierce, Stanton Counties) |
| Scotts Bluff Saunders | Fremont Council Bluffs, IA | Papillion-LaVista Elkhorn | North Platte (Lincoln, Logan, McPherson Co.) |
| Dodge Woodbury, IA* | Hastings | Kearney Sioux City, IA* | Scottsbluff (Scotts Bluff, Banner Counties) |
| Lincoln Pottawattamie, IA* | | Fremont Council Bluffs, IA | |
| Madison Yankton, SD | | Norfolk | * denotes areas that receive annual data. |
| Adams | | | Other areas receive their first ACS data in 2008. |

Learn more about 3-year aggregated ACS data at our annual Data Conference August 14, 2008.