

## Census Household and Family Indicators

### I. Definitions

**Households** include all persons who occupy a housing unit. The persons can be related or unrelated. Two unrelated persons living together would be a household. All families are households.

**Family households (families)** consist of a householder and one or more other persons living in the same household who are related by birth, marriage or adoption.

**Percent of family households is calculated as:**

$$\frac{\text{Number of family households} \times 100}{\text{Number of households}}$$

**Non-family households** include unrelated persons living in the same housing unit or persons living alone.

**Percent of non-family households is calculated as:**

$$\frac{\text{Number of non-family households} \times 100}{\text{Number of households}}$$

**Families with own children < 18** includes married couple families, male-headed families (with no spouse present), female-headed families (with no spouse present) with children aged < 18.

**Percent of families with children < 18, headed by a married couple family** is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Families with children < 18, headed by a married couple} \times 100}{\text{family households with own children < 18}}$$

**Percent of families with children < 18, headed by a single male** is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Families with children < 18, headed by a single male} \times 100}{\text{family households with own children < 18}}$$

**Percent of families with children < 18, headed by a single female** is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Families with children < 18, headed by a single female} \times 100}{\text{family households with own children < 18}}$$

## Information regarding household & family indicators in NEO CANDO

---

**Marital Status** is determined for all persons aged 15 and over. Both counts and percents are provided. Marital status is classified as follows:

**Never married**, which includes people who have never been married and those whose marriage was annulled.

**Married** refers to married people who were counted in the same household and those who were not counted in the same household. Those not counted in the same household could include a spouse who was working and living away from home, in an institution, or in the armed forces and away.

**Separated**, which includes those with legal separations, those living apart who have intentions of getting a divorce, and those permanently or temporarily separated due to marital problems.

**Divorced** refers to those who are legally divorced and have not remarried.

**Widowed** includes widows and widowers who have not remarried.

## II. Precautions and Information regarding use of data

The Census occurs every ten years on the decade. However, the actual data are not available for 2-3 years following the Census. NEO CANDO contains selected tables from the 1990 and 2000 Census. All 1990 and 2000 Census data tables are available at [American FactFinder](#).

Information from the Census is derived either from questions asked of the entire population or from questions asked of only a sample of the population. Questions asked of every person are called the 100-percent or short-form questions. The short-form questions include basic demographic and housing information. The questions asked of a sample of the population are called sample or long-form questions. Approximately 1 in 6 households received the long-form questionnaire. The long-form questions, in addition to the demographic and housing information, include data about income, employment status and educational attainment. [Click here](#) to view copies of the 1990 and 2000 Census questionnaires.

The Census questionnaire is either mailed to households or delivered by census enumerators (mainly in rural areas). The Census Bureau follows up, either by phone or in person, with those who have not responded to the questionnaire.

The Census Bureau releases a number of files containing different geographic levels and/or different variables. The data in NEO CANDO from the 1990 Census are extracted from [Summary Tape File 3A \(STF3A\)](#) and [Summary Tape File 1A \(STF1A\)](#). The STF3A is a sample file (derived from the long-form questionnaire), which is weighted to represent the entire population, and the STF1A contains the 100-percent count data (short-form questionnaire). The 2000 Census data in NEO CANDO are extracted from [Summary File 3 \(SF3\)](#) (sample data) and [Summary File 1 \(SF1\)](#) (100-percent count data). The 100% counts may differ from the sample counts for

## Information regarding household & family indicators in NEO CANDO

---

the same variable particularly at the census tract level.

**NOTE:** The number of households and the number of families came from the Summary File 1, 100-percent count. The household type variables in NEO CANDO come from Summary File 3, the sample data.

The 1990 data in NEO CANDO have been put into the 2000 census tract boundaries to allow for comparisons between the 1990 and 2000 Censuses. Some census tract boundaries and numbers change from Census year to Census year. In order to accurately compare the data over time, the data must be in the same geographic boundaries. For those census tracts that have changed between the 2 Census years, we used GIS techniques to determine the proportion of the 1990 tract population that lived in the corresponding 2000 tract.

### III. Data source and suggested citation

**Source of Census Data:** U.S. Bureau of the Census

**Update Schedule:** Every 10 years -- data are generally available within 2 years of the actual Census

**Years Available:** 1990 and 2000

**Geographic Coverage:** 8 County Cleveland-Akron Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA), which includes Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties, and the following counties: Ashland, Columbiana, Erie, Huron, Mahoning, Richland, Stark, Trumbull and Wayne Counties

**Suggested Citation:** NEO CANDO system, Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, MSASS, Case Western Reserve University (<http://neocando.case.edu>).

### IV. Links to related web sites

[Gateway to 2000 Census](#)

[Families and Living Arrangements -- Census Bureau](#)

[Marital Status and Living Arrangements -- Census Bureau](#)