

## Census Data Analysis

John Callewaert

<b>Name of Course</b>	SOC 101: Individual and Community
<b>Course Level</b>	100
<b>Possible subject Areas</b>	Sociology, demography
<b>Quantitative concepts/skills that students will develop</b>	<p><b>Master the use of basic algebraic, geometric tools in settings where context provide meaning.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Perform basic arithmetic<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Decimals</li><li>▪ Percentages</li><li>▪ Percent Increase and Decrease</li><li>▪ Focus population as percent of larger population</li></ul></li><li>○ Perform basic algebraic and symbolic manipulations<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Solving equations</li><li>▪ Substitution and Evaluation</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Gather and analyze information, construct and test hypotheses, draw inferences, and make well-reasoned decisions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Use various sources, including technology, to gather, analyze and present quantitative information</li></ul>
<b>Overview</b>	<p>Students will work with the US Census Bureau's <i>American FactFinder</i> website to gather data for a state or major city of their choice for 2005 and 2000. They will then calculate the population differences as well as percent increase or decrease for the following variables in Excel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Total population</li><li>○ Number of individual 65 years and older</li><li>○ The two largest racial categories</li><li>○ Number of individuals who speak a language other than English at home</li><li>○ Individuals below poverty level</li><li>○ Variable of student's choice</li><li>○ US Population or state population</li></ul>

<b>Measurable outcomes or learning goals of your activity</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will gain an understanding of the history and application of the census.</li> <li>2. Students will develop the skills required to access and analyze census data from the US Census Bureau's website "American FactFinder"</li> <li>3. Students will develop and practice skills for analyzing census data in an Excel spreadsheet template.</li> <li>4. Students will prepare brief written reports summarizing the results of their analyses</li> <li>5. Students will be able to apply these skills in other course projects</li> </ol>
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## MAIN ACTIVITY

Sociology 101 (C-HN)  
Fall 2007  
Instructor: John Callewaert

**PowerPoint Presentation "U.S. Census Overview"** (attached)

**Census Exercise:**

1. Go to the US Census Bureau's *American FactFinder* website (<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/saff/main.html?lang=en>)
2. Review the *American FactFinder* brochure found at: (<http://factfinder.census.gov/home/en/mso06aff.pdf>)
3. Select a state or major city for this exercise except; New Hampshire, Manchester, NH and Detroit, MI. If *American FactFinder* does not display data for the 2005 American Community Survey, select a larger city.
4. Locate and download the template for this exercise from the course Blackboard site under "Documents/Census Exercise." Save the template to your "P" drive.
5. Complete the spreadsheet, filling in the yellow cells. Follow directions and formulas on the spreadsheet.
6. Examples of completed spreadsheets can be found on the course Blackboard site under "Documents/Census Exercise."
7. Save your completed template to your "P" drive with your last name in the file name.
8. Write a half-page summary of your findings noting what you think is significant and why. Save your completed summary to your "P" drive with your last name in the file name.
9. Send your completed template and summary to the course instructor as email attachments.

**Attachments:**

1. Template
2. Example: Manchester
3. Example: Detroit
4. Example: New Hampshire

<p><b>Describe how you plan to assess the effectiveness of this module</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will be given a pre-test (see below).</li> <li>2. The submitted templates and summaries will demonstrate if the students will be able to complete the assignment with understanding or not.</li> <li>3. Following the exercise, several of the pre-test questions will be repeated on the mid-term exam.</li> <li>4. The degree to which students utilize the exercise skills in other course assignments (Hurricane Katrina case study analysis and group research report ) will also demonstrate the effectiveness of the module.</li> </ol>
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<p><b>Pre Test</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Circle the correct answer unless indicated otherwise.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the population of the United States?             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 60 million</li> <li>b. 300 million</li> <li>c. 500 million</li> <li>d. 1 billion</li> </ol> </li>   <li>2. The US, historically, has completed a census every             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Year</li> <li>b. 5 years</li> <li>c. 10 years</li> <li>d. 25 years</li> </ol> </li>   <li>3. The census provides information on             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Total population</li> <li>b. Veterans</li> <li>c. Housing</li> <li>d. Origins and Language</li> <li>e. All of the above</li> </ol> </li>   <li>4. Two correct expressions of seven percent are (circle two answers)?             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. .70</li> <li>b. .007</li> <li>c. 7%</li> <li>d. 70%</li> <li>e. .07</li> </ol> </li>   <li>5. A class has 25 students. One day 5 students were absent. What is the percentage of</li> </ol>
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absent students?

- a. 0.2%
- b. 20%
- c. 0.8%
- d. 80%
- e. 25%

6. Last year your salary was \$40,000. This year your salary is \$41,200. What is the percent increase of your salary from last year to this year?
- a. 30%
  - b. 3%
  - c. .3%
  - d. 2.9%
  - e. .29%
7. The population of Germany in 1950 was 68,374,572. In 2000 it was 82,187,909. What was the percent increase in population in Germany from 1950 to 2000?
- a. 20.2%
  - b. .202%
  - c. 16.8%
  - d. .168%
  - e. 14.4%
8. In 2000, the population of NH was 1,235,786 with the Under 5 Years population at 75,685. Of the total NH population Over 5 Years, 96,088 people reported speaking a language other than English at home. That represents what percentage of the total NH population Over 5 Years old?
- a. .077%
  - b. 7.7%
  - c. .083%
  - d. 8.3%
  - e. 6.1%

Answers:

1. B; 2. C; 3. E; 4. C & E; 5. B; 6. C; 7. A; 8. D