

CENSUS 2006 NOTES

The 2006 data products are the first to include the Group Quarters, or (GQ) population. The GQ population includes all people not living in households. ACS data were collected from residents who were currently residing in the GQs when the ACS was conducted at that location. Data are collected at two types of group quarters: institutional, including residences such as correctional facilities, nursing homes, and psychiatric hospitals; and non-institutional, which include residences such as college dormitories, military barracks, group homes, and shelters.

The GQ population was not included in the 2005 ACS, thus data users have to be careful when comparing 2005 to 2006. Comparisons should be made only if the geographic area of interest does not include a substantial GQ population. A good example of why this is important centers around age compositions of a certain area. Many types of GQ populations have age compositions that are very different from the household population, thus the inclusion of the GQ population could have a noticeable impact on an area's age distribution. For example, a town with a large university may see a surge in the number of 18 and 19 year olds. This does not necessarily mean that these 18 and 19 year olds are new to the town, but that they live in the university dormitories and were not included in previous years of ACS data collection.

The GQ population will be included in many of the tables for the "total population." Every table that should be a "total population" table will include the GQ population. But, tables describing household characteristics will not include GQ data. For example tables such as Median Household Income, will only have data from the population living in households.

Total population geographic population estimate July 2, 1006: 1,256,951 (City of San Diego); 2,941,454 (County of San Diego).

Preliminary Estimates of Weighted Average Poverty Thresholds for 2006

Size of Family Unit	Estimated Threshold
1 person (unrelated individual).....	\$10,295
Under 65 years	10,488
65 years and over	9,669
2 people	\$13,166
Householder under 65 years	13,569
Householder 65 years and over	12,196
3 people	\$16,079
4 people	20,615
5 people	24,375
6 people	27,544
7 people	31,225
8 people	34,694
9 people or more	41,588

HUD Thresholds

State Income Limits for 2006

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County	Income Category	Number of Persons in Household							
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
San Diego County	Extremely Low	14,500	16,550	18,650	20,700	22,350	24,000	25,650	27,300
Area Median Income:	Very Low Income	24,150	27,600	31,050	34,500	37,250	40,000	42,800	45,550
64,900	Lower Income	38,650	44,150	49,700	55,200	59,600	64,050	68,450	72,850
	Median Income	45,400	51,900	58,400	64,900	70,100	75,300	80,500	85,700
	Moderate Income	54,500	62,300	70,100	77,900	84,100	90,400	96,600	102,800

Income Inequality (Middle Class)

The Census Bureau does not have an official definition of the "middle class," but it does derive several measures related to the distribution of income and income inequality. Traditionally, the Census Bureau uses two of the more common measures of income inequality: the shares of aggregate income received by households (or other income recipient units such as families) and the Gini index (or index of income concentration). In the shares approach, we rank households from lowest to highest on the basis of income and then divide them into equal population groups, typically quintiles. We then divide the aggregate income of each group by the overall aggregate income to derive shares. The Gini index incorporates more detailed shares data into a single statistic which summarizes the dispersion of the income shares across the whole income distribution. The Gini index ranges from zero, indicating perfect equality (where everyone receives an equal share), to one, perfect inequality (where all the income is received by only one recipient).

Generally, the long-term trend has been toward increasing income inequality. Since 1969, the share of aggregate household income controlled by the lowest income quintile has decreased from 4.1 percent to 3.6 percent in 1997, while the share to the highest quintile increased from 43.0 percent to 49.4 percent. Most noticeably, the share of income controlled by the top 5 percent of households has increased from 16.6 percent to 21.7 percent. Over the same time period, the Gini index rose 17.4 percent to its 1997 level of .459.

Researchers believe that changes in the labor market and, to a certain extent, household composition affected the long-run increase in income inequality. The wage distribution has become considerably more unequal with workers at the top experiencing real wage gains and those at the bottom real wage losses. These changes reflect relative shifts in demand for labor differentiated on the basis of education and skill. At the same time, long-run changes in society's living arrangements have taken place also tending to exacerbate household income differences. For example, divorces, marital separations, births out of wedlock, and the increasing age at first marriage have led to a shift away from married-couple households to single-parent families and nonfamily households. Since nonmarried-couple households tend to have lower income and income that are less equally distributed than other types of households (partly because of the likelihood of

fewer earners in them), changes in household composition have been associated with growing income inequality.

Industry (population data)

Information on industry relates to the kind of business conducted by a person's employing organization. For employed people the data refer to the person's job during the reference week. For those who worked at two or more jobs, the data refer to the job at which the person worked the greatest number of hours. Some examples of industrial groups shown in products include agriculture, forestry, and fisheries; construction; manufacturing; wholesale or retail trade; transportation and communication; personal, professional and entertainment services; and public administration.

Household – A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit. (People not living in households are classified as living in group quarters.) A housing unit is a house, an apartment, a mobile home, a group of rooms, or a single room that is occupied (or if vacant, is intended for occupancy) as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other people in the building and which have direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated people who share living arrangements.

Family – A family consists of a householder and one or more other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may be comprised of a group of unrelated people or of one person living alone – these are called nonfamily households.

Families are classified by type as either a “married-couple family” or “other family” according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives. The data on family type are based on answers to questions on sex and relationship that were asked of all people.

Income in the Past 12 Months

The data on income were derived from answers to Questions 41 and 42, which were asked of the population 15 years old and over. “Total income” is the sum of the amounts reported separately for wage or salary income; net self-employment income; interest, dividends, or net rental or royalty income or income from estates and trusts; social security or railroad retirement income; Supplemental Security Income (SSI); public assistance or welfare payments; retirement, survivor, or disability pensions; and all other income.

Receipts from the following sources are not included as income: capital gains, money received from the sale of property (unless the recipient was engaged in the business of selling

such property); the value of income “in kind” from food stamps, public housing subsidies, medical care, employer contributions for individuals, etc.; withdrawal of bank deposits; money borrowed; tax refunds; exchange of money between relatives living in the same household; gifts and lump-sum inheritances, insurance payments, and other types of lumpsum receipts.

Income of Households – This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income. Although the household income statistics cover the past 12 months, the characteristics of individuals and the composition of households refer to the time of enumeration. Thus, the income of the household does not include amounts received by individuals who were members of the household during all or part of the past 12 months if these individuals no longer resided in the household at the time of enumeration. Similarly, income amounts reported by individuals who did not reside in the household during the past 12 months but who were members of the household at the time of enumeration are included. However, the composition of most households was the same during the past 12 months as at the time of enumeration.

Earnings – Earnings are defined as the sum of wage or salary income and net income from self-employment. “Earnings” represent the amount of income received regularly for people 16 years old and over before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc. An individual with earnings is one who has either wage/salary income or self-employment income, or both. Respondents who “break even” in self-employment income and therefore have zero self-employment earnings also are considered “individuals with earnings”