

DATA & APPLICATIONS ONLINE

U.S. Census Grids

Overview

The U.S. Census gridded (raster) data sets transform Census variables corresponding to irregularly shaped census block and block group boundaries (vector or shape files) into a regular surface for faster and easier analysis. This data collection includes 43 variables encompassing population and housing counts and other socioeconomic characteristics for regions and cities of the United States and Puerto Rico. Data sets are currently available for the year 2000; those for 1990 are forthcoming.

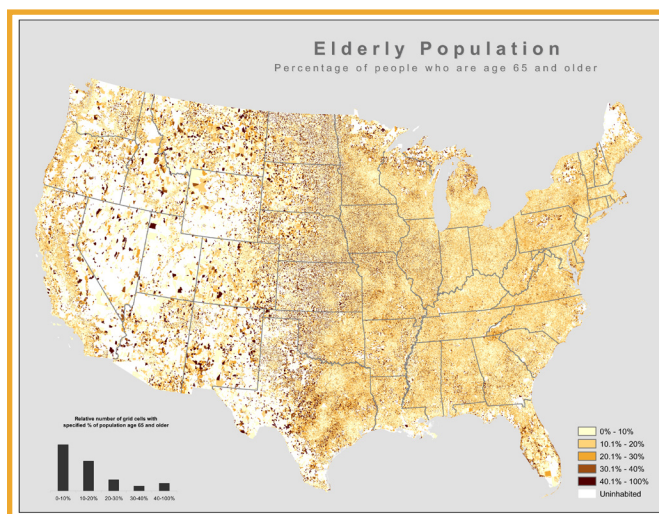
Data

Go to <http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/usgrid> to download maps and data. Data sets for the United States and Puerto Rico are available at a resolution of 30 arc-seconds or approximately 1 kilometer. Also available: data sets for 50 metropolitan statistical areas with a population of one million or more, at a resolution of 7.5 arc-seconds, or approximately 250 meters.

Project Highlights

- 30 multi-panel maps of selected variables.
- Description of methods of data transformation and census source files used in gridding.
- Different types of data, including:

Individual data—age distribution, race, ethnicity, income, poverty, educational level, and immigrant status.



Household data—household size, one-person households, female-headed households with children under 18, and linguistically isolated households.

Housing unit data—occupied housing units without a vehicle, and year of construction.

- U.S. Census Grids were used to describe spatial patterns of factors underlying individual vulnerability in the region affected by U.S. Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

To learn more, go to <http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/usgrid>

