

pdCensus2000 – Getting Started Guide

pdCensus2000 is a comprehensive United States national database with more than 150 valuable demographic variables drawn from Census 2000 data along with latitude and longitude coordinates, all sorted at multiple summary levels: National, State, County, County Subdivision, Census Tract, Census Block Group, 3-digit Zip Code Tabulation Area and 5-digit Zip Code Tabulation Area.

This product covers all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Built-in are the most useful counts and calculations from U.S. Census Bureau Summary Files 1 and 3, and succeeding updates, encompassing the areas of geography, population, age, race, housing, income and employment.

Included Database Files

Three different file formats are included to insure compatibility with any database system. Each of the files contains the same data.

- pdCensus2000.csv (comma-delimited ASCII text—MS Excel compatible)
- pdCensus2000.txt (fixed length ASCII text)
- pdCensus2000.dbf (dBase/FoxPro—easily imports into MS Access)

Included User Documentation

- README.txt (general information)
- This Getting Started Guide
- pdCensus2000-List.pdf (list of included demographic variables)
- pdCensus2000-Layout.pdf (layout & data definitions)
- Distance-Formulas.pdf (distance calculation formulas & instructions)
- Site License (see Licensing below)

Version Number

The version number of each copy of *pdCensus2000* is written in the first or second row of the first column of the database files in **X.X.X** format. The first

numbers is the version of the release. The number after the first dot is the update for the version indicated. The number after the second dot references a minor revision.

Layout & Data Definitions

File specifications can be found in the included *pdCensus2000-Layout.pdf* file. This gives the name of each field, the character type (character/alphanumeric or numeric), the width (including any decimal points, the starting point and the ending point) and the definition of the field contents.

Instructions

pdCensus2000 is drawn from U.S. Census Bureau 2000 *Summary File 1* (SF1) and *Summary File 3* (SF3), and succeeding updates. SF1 documents actual counts from the Census, while SF3 provides estimates based on long-form responses.

The product includes separate record sorts for each of eight summary levels: National, State, County, County Subdivision, Census Tract, Census Block Group, 3-digit Zip Code Tabulation Area and 5-digit Zip Code Tabulation Area.

Users can match at any of the summary levels against their lists to append the 2000 Census demographics contained in the fields beginning with **LAT**. Note that while coverage is very high, the U.S. Census Bureau does not provide data for every field in every record.

The following fields are matched against at each summary level:

GeoFlag	Summary Level	Field(s) Matched Against
S	State	STNUM
C	County	STNUM + COUNUM
D	County Subdivision	STNUM + COUNUM + COUSUB
T	Census Tract	STNUM + COUNUM + TRACT
G	Census Block Group	STNUM + COUNUM + TRACT + BLKGRP
3	3-Digit Zip Code Tabulation Area	ZCTA3
Z	5-Digit Zip Code Tabulation Area	ZCTA

Latitude and longitude coordinates are provided in three formats: six-decimal, degrees/minutes/seconds (DMS) and converted to radians (for use in trigonometry functions—15 decimal places). The decimal and radian formats are most useful when calculating distances and radiuses while the DMS format is ideal when printing out the coordinates in documents and on websites.

For those calculating distances and radiuses, formulas and instructions are contained in the included *Distance-Formulas.pdf* file.

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