Census and ACS in the Classroom: Incorporating Online Statistical Analysis and Mapping

Center for Urban Research

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Statistical and Mapping Tools

• Capacities of the Center for Urban Research
  – CUNY Data Service
  – CUNY Mapping Service

• Online Statistical Analysis Site

• OASIS and NYS Data Center online mapping sites

• Feedback and discuss information
The Center for Urban Research
- Founded in 1994
- Basic and applied research on NYC and other large cities in U.S. and abroad
- Two constituent units

CUNY Data Service
- Founded in 1982 as local affiliate of the NY State Data Center and US Census Bureau
- Archive of data from 1980, 1990, and 2000 decennial censuses, 2005 ACS, other federal (CPS) and local (HVS) data sources
- Long & deep experience analyzing complex data sets, matching them with administrative data, for wide range of clients

CUNY Mapping Service
- Founded 2006 with expertise from NYPIRG’s Community Mapping Assistance Project
- Expertise in all aspects of interactive web mapping applications, empowering organizations to exploit the spatial dimensions of their operating data, and all forms of spatial data analysis
CUNY Data Service: Selected Projects

- **Serve a wide variety of clients**: NYS Department of Labor, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York Daily News, Newsday, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York, Census Information Centers

- **Look at basic trends**: profiles of Latino groups in metropolitan New York

- **Federally funded basic research**: New Yorkers’ Judgments of Seriousness of Police Misconduct and Fairness of Punishments (National Science Foundation)

- **Prepare for Census 2010**: Identifying geographic areas with a high probability of undercounted housing units (Empire State Development Corp/NY State Data Center)

- **Workforce analysis**: changing distribution of occupations and industries in the 28 county NY Metropolitan Statistical Area (CUR and CUNY)
CUNY Data Service

• Relationships with researchers at
  – city and state agencies
  – NY State Data Centers
  – private companies
  – local newspapers
  – not-for-profit agencies
  – three Census Information Centers in NYC

• Actively involved with graduate student research
Target Groups for Our Training Services

- Members of New York’s Census Data Centers
- Colleagues at other Non-Profit Organizations
- CUNY Graduate Students
  - some experience with major statistical software
  - many lack statistical software on desktop
  - need for quick data analyses
Course and Online Efforts

This semester:

- Advanced Statistics Course, Paul Attewell

- Social and Economic Data, John Abowd, Cornell University (RDC)

- Online Data Analysis and Mapping
Online Statistical Analysis

Most commonly requested datasets

- 2000 PUMS
- 2005 American Community Survey
- 2006 Current Population Survey
- 2005 NYC Housing & Vacancy Survey

http://cur.gc.cuny.edu
CUNY Mapping Service

- Skilled developers of web-based applications using ArcIMS
- Worked with wide range of clients on analyzing spatial data
  - Archdiocese of New York
  - NYC Department of Finance
- OASIS
• Open Accessible Space Information System at [www.oasisnyc.net](http://www.oasisnyc.net)
• More than 300,000 people use the site every year to make more than 1 million maps – on track for 2 million maps in 2007
• Graduate students and others use it as an educational resource
• NYC agency staff, real estate professionals, neighborhood groups, and others use it to study neighborhoods
• 60 organizations have partnered to support OASIS – community greening groups, educators, individuals, businesses, nonprofits, and city, state, & federal agencies
• OASIS is the most promising platform for displaying public and other data for community mapping in New York City – free and all in one place