

Exploring Your Data

For this exercise, you will need to access the U.S. Census QuickFacts web page at www.census.gov/quickfacts/table/PST045215/00 and then complete the following steps.

1. Enter your state name into the field at the top of the form and select the name to search.
2. Repeat the process for the county you work in.
3. At this point, you should see three columns of data for your state, your county, and the United States. Scroll through to see and compare all of the topics.
4. Fill in the table below using the statistics represented on the web page.

	Your Community	Your State	The United States
Population			
Persons under 5 years			
Persons under 18 years			
Foreign born %			
Median value of owner-occupied housing units			
Medium gross rent			
Persons per household			
Language other than English spoken at home			
High school graduate or higher			
Bachelor's degree or higher			
In civilian labor force, percent of population 16 years+			
Median household income			
Persons in poverty			

Use information from your district and your school to complete the following chart. First, identify the guidelines used to determine who receives free and reduced-price lunch in U.S. public schools.

Free lunch:

Reduced-price lunch:

Total Number of Students Enrolled	Your District	Your School
Percentage of students eligible for free meals		
Percentage of students eligible for reduced-price meals		

What surprises you most from your exploration of the census data?

What do the facts regarding your district and your school's free and reduced-price lunch participation imply about poverty and children living in poverty?