

Finding Data: Your Hometown

In college, both in the classroom and in internships and research, you will almost certainly have to work with data. This exercise will show you some good places to find data while enhancing your class experience. There are some statistics that we will discuss in class and they will be more meaningful if you can share statistics from your hometown. Follow the steps below to get the data we will need. Please record your data in the class Google Doc using my hometown as an example. If a statistic is not available, leave the cell blank. Even if your hometown is already listed, please create a new entry in the spreadsheet. This should take 10-15 minutes to do complete. Please have this completed **before** we meet so I have time to analyze the data.

Google Doc:

<https://docs.google.com/a/stanford.edu/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0Anr7RczgIvNbdFhxTFFuY0ZIOHRhOW9FbIJXWHc4akE#gid=0>

The U.S. Census Bureau is one of the best places to begin research. To find your hometown, [click here](#)¹ to pull up a map of the United State. Click on your state then find your city on the drop down menu near the top of the screen. Record the following information:

1. Population, 2010
2. Persons under 18 years, percent, 2012
3. Persons 65 years and older, percent 2012
4. Living in same house 1 year & over, percent, 2007-2011
5. Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2007-2011
6. Housing units, 2011
7. Homeownership rate, 2007-2011
8. Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2007-2011
9. Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2007-2011
10. Persons below poverty level, percent, 2007-2011
11. Persons per square mile, 2010

¹ <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html>