

THE RURAL DATA PORTAL

How to Use the *Rural Data Portal*: An Overview

The *Rural Data Portal* is a simple, easy to use, on-line resource that provides essential information on the social, economic, and housing characteristics of communities in the United States.

The *Rural Data Portal* provides over 350 data indicators for your community. Most of the information provided in the *Rural Data Portal* comes from Housing Assistance Council (HAC) tabulations of various public use data sets such as the 2010 Census of Population and Housing, the American Community Survey (ACS), and Home Mortgage Disclosure Act Data.

I. To get started using the *Rural Data Portal*, go to: www.ruraldataportal.org



1. To get specific data for your community, first select a geography.

You can choose to access data for the Nation, a State, or a County.

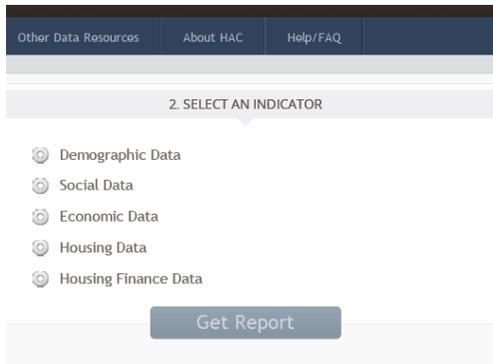
You can also choose to get Rural, Suburban, or Urban-specific data for the Nation and States.



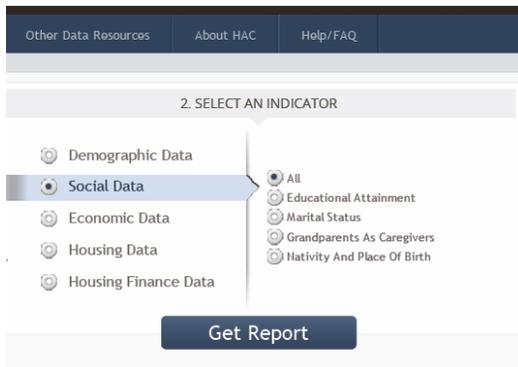
TIP: The data portal is targeted toward rural communities, but a wide range of information is presented for suburban and urban areas as well.

2. Next, select an indicator. First choose from a list of general data categories.

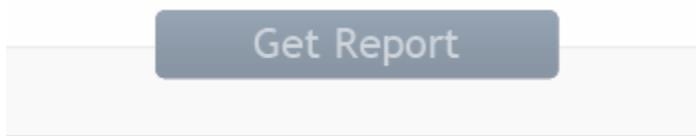
TIP: There are five main categories of information in the Rural Data Portal including Demographic, Social, Economic, Housing, and Mortgage and Finance characteristics. Within these broad classifications, there are an additional 40 plus sub-categories of data.



3. Then a select a specific data indicator. Or, you can alternatively choose to get data for all indicators in a category.



4. Then click the “Get Report” button at the bottom right corner of the selection tab.



5. The *Rural Data Portal* then produces an output statement of your data request. For comparison purposes the data output also presents national characteristics for the selected indicators.

Get Data About the Data Maps Other Data Resources About HAC Help/FAQ

Economic Data, 2010

Butte County, South Dakota

Source: HAC Tabulations of the ACS 2006-10 Economic Data.

Data Reliability Legend:
 ■ Highly Reliable Estimate
 ■ Reliable Estimate
 ■ Low Reliability Estimate
 ■ Not Available

	Butte County, South Dakota			United States	
	Number	Percent	Reliability	Number	Percent
INDIVIDUAL POVERTY STATUS					
Total Population From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	9,782	(X)	■	296,141,149	(X)
Total Population Living Below Poverty Threshold in Last 12 Months	1,529	15.6	■	40,917,513	13.8
Population Age 18 or Older From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	7,323	(X)	■	223,290,849	(X)
Population Age 18 or Older Living Below Poverty Threshold in Last 12 Months	915	12.5	■	26,937,016	12.1
Population Age 65 or Older From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	1,536	(X)	■	37,400,761	(X)
Population Age 65 or Older Living Below Poverty Threshold in Last 12 Months	136	8.9	■	3,554,291	9.5
Population Related Children Under Age 18 From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	2,414	(X)	■	72,473,525	(X)
Related Children Under Age 18 Living Below Poverty Threshold	569	23.6	■		(X)
Population Related Children Ages 5 to 17 From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	1,713	(X)	■	52,650,975	(X)
Related Children Ages 5 to 17 Living Below					

New Report

6. After a statement is produced, you have the option to export the output into several different formats. Scroll to the right-hand corner of the output statement and select one of the three export formats. You have the option to:

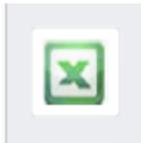
Print the output statement;



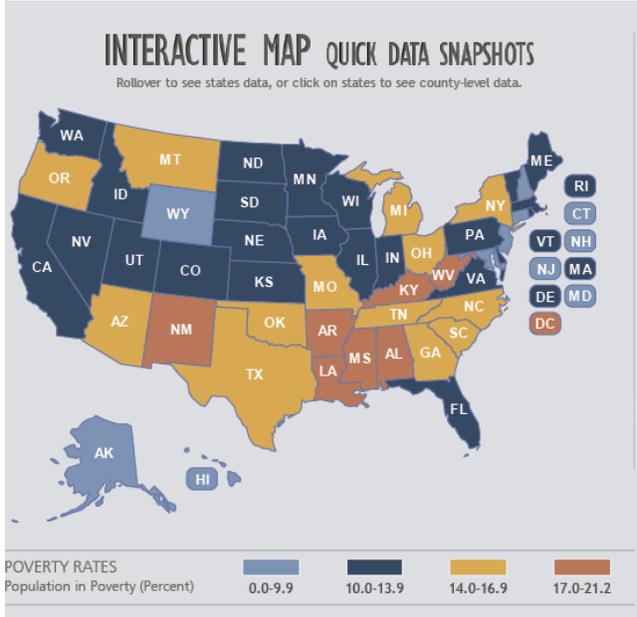
Save the output as an Adobe PDF document;



Or you can download the data into an excel spreadsheet. In this format you can customize or calculate the data in a way that works best for you.

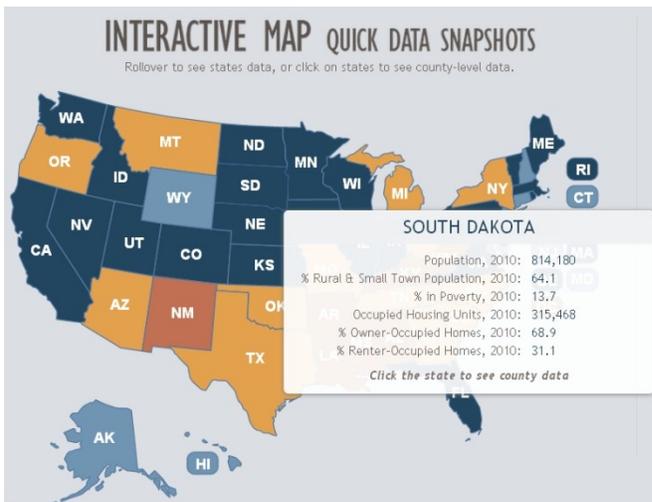


II. You can also search for data using the *Rural Data Portal's* interactive mapping function.

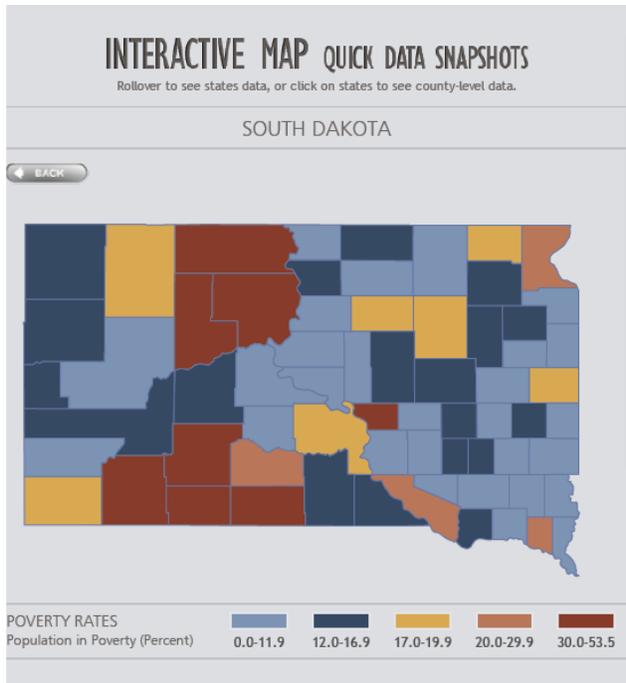


1. Scroll down on the main page or click on [“Maps”](#) in the main toolbar.

2. You can scroll over the map to get basic information for a state.



3. To get specific information for counties, click on a state to access a county-level map.



4. Then click on a specific county to access a data output for that county.

III. Another feature of the *Rural Data Portal* is a “Data Reliability Indicator.”



The *Rural Data Portal’s* reliability index helps users determine the statistical accuracy of data estimates derived from the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS).

The reliability index is presented to help users determine the statistical accuracy of data estimates presented from the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey (ACS). The *Portal’s* reliability index utilizes a coefficient of variation (CV) calculated for each county-level estimate presented from ACS data.

Most county-level data output statements produced by the *Rural Data Portal* present a color coded reliability indicator.

1. A green box indicates a “High Reliability” data estimate.

Total Population From Which Poverty is Determined ACS 2006-10 Estimate	9,782	(X)	■
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2. A yellow box indicates a “Reliable” data estimate.

Population Age 18 or Older Living Below Poverty Threshold in Last 12 Months	915	12.5	■
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3. And a red box indicates a “Low Reliability” data estimate. A low (or red) reliability indicator is essentially a caution as well as a suggestion to review the data estimate more closely.

Population Age 65 or Older Living Below Poverty Threshold in Last 12 Months	136	8.9	■
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4. For estimates with a red reliability code (or high coefficient of variation), we advise that users consult the [Census website](#) and review the specific margin of error to make a determination on whether or not to use these data.

TIP: Reliability estimates in the Rural Data Portal are only presented for county-level data that derive from American Community Survey (ACS) data. Generally, ACS survey samples are large enough at higher levels of geography (nation and state) that data estimates are largely reliable. Reliability estimates are also not presented for count-level data from the 2010 Census of Population Housing and 2010 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data. These data sources do not permit the calculation of a reliability estimate.

For more information the data reliability indicator in the *Rural Data Portal* please go to the “[About the Data](#)” tab.

IV. Other Data Resources for Rural Communities.

The *Rural Data Portal* also provides links to other information and data resources for your community. To access these links, go to the [Other Data Resources](#) tab on the main toolbar.



V. Questions or need more information?

For more information about the *Rural Data Portal* scroll to the [“About the Data”](#) or the [“Help/FAQ”](#) tab on the toolbar. Or email HAC at dataportal@ruralhome.org.

So we invite you to visit www.ruraldataportal.org to start [“Taking Stock”](#) of important social, economic, and housing conditions in your community.