

How do I use the Thematic Maps in American FactFinder?

A Thematic Map reveals the geographic patterns in statistical data. The shading intensity on a Thematic Map is directly related to the value associated with the data. Lighter shading is used for the lower data values. As the shading becomes darker and more intense, data values increase.

Locating Thematic Maps in American FactFinder:

- Population Finder, Fact Sheet, People, and Housing - Thematic Maps are available by topic and geography.
- Data Sets - All Census 2000 Summary Files contain Thematic Maps with the exception of the Island Areas. Thematic Maps are also available in the 2005 American Community Survey, the Annual Population Estimates, the 2002 Economic Census, and will soon be available for the Annual Economic Surveys.
- Maps - Thematic Maps are accessible from the Maps link on the left navigation menu on the American FactFinder main page. Select Thematic Maps (data).

Using Thematic Maps:

1. Select a map theme from the list on the Thematic Maps page.
 - The result is a map showing the data by class for the United States by State. Click the identify button then click a geographic area on the map to view the data. A pop-up window will display the name and value for the geographic area selected. The geographic area will be identified on the map by an arrow.
 - For the American Community Survey maps, the identify pop-up displays the geographic area name, the estimate, and the [margin of error](#).
2. View all Thematic Map Themes available using Data Sets
 - Select Data Sets from the left navigation menu on the American FactFinder main page.
 - Select a Data Set (Decennial Census / American Community Survey)
 - Select a specific data set (Summary File 1 / 2005 American Community Survey).
 - Select Thematic Maps from the list to the right of the data set description.
 - Select Geography - Select the level of geographic coverage for the map.
 - Select Thematic Map - Scroll through the list of map themes or use the by subject or by keyword search options to locate maps for a specific topic.
 - Click Show Result to view the map.

Customizing Thematic Maps:

- Use the links under the **Change...** heading on the upper left side of the Thematic Map page to change the classing method by which the data values are assigned, select boundaries and features to change the map's appearance, or specify a title for the map.
- Use the **Reposition on ...** links to locate a specific address or ZIP Code on the map, find the latitude and longitude, or to return to your original selection.
- Use the **View ...** links to view the data from the map as a Ranking Table. Click on the Without Statistical Significance link to show the areas that are not statistically different on the map.
- To select a different geographic area or map theme use the **Geography** and **Themes** links located at the top of the map page (the You are here: links). To change the Data Set selection use the Data Sets with Thematic Maps link.
- Use **Print/Download** to print the map, download the data used to create the thematic map, or to download a PDF version of the map and legend.
- Use **Related Items** to select from a list of other data formats (i.e., Products, Quick Tables, Geographic Comparison Tables, etc.) related to the currently selected theme.

For additional help using Thematic Maps in American FactFinder use the [Creating and Using Maps Tutorial](#).