

The purpose of this glossary is to provide definitions of frequently used terms within the 2000 and 2020 Databook of the Sullivan County Databook Series, in addition to other terms that may be applicable and of use. The terms and definitions contained within this document are not exhaustive to all the terms that may be used or referenced within each Databook series. The terms and definitions within this glossary are sourced directly from the Census Glossary of the U.S. Census Bureau.

To view the definitions contained within this glossary, in addition to other terms that may not be included within this document, please visit the Census Glossary of the U.S. Census Bureau at www.census.gov/glossary/

American Community Survey (ACS): A nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. The ACS replaced the decennial census long form in 2010 and thereafter by collecting long form type information throughout the decade rather than only once every 10 years.

Questionnaires are mailed to a sample of addresses to obtain information about households that is, about each person and the housing unit itself.

The American Community Survey produces demographic, social, housing and economic estimates in the form of 1-year, 3-year and 5-year estimates based on population thresholds. The strength of the ACS is in estimating population and housing characteristics. It produces estimates for small areas, including census tracts and population subgroups.

Although the ACS produces population, demographic and housing unit estimates, the Census Bureau's population estimates program produces and disseminates the official estimates of the population for the nation, states, counties, cities and towns, and estimates of housing units for states and counties.

For 2010 and other decennial census years, the Decennial Census provides the official counts of population and housing units.

Bedroom: A bedroom is a finished room specifically designed to be used for sleeping. A den, a space in the attic, or abasement that could be converted to a bedroom is not counted as a bedroom. A one-room house or efficiency is considered to have one bedroom.

Bedrooms: *The number of bedrooms is the count of rooms designed to be used as bedrooms; that is, the number of rooms that would be listed as bedrooms if the house, apartment, or mobile home were on the market for sale or for rent. Included are all rooms intended to be used as bedrooms even if they currently are being used for some other purpose.*

Block Group (BG): *A statistical subdivision of a census tract, generally defined to contain between 600 and 3,000 people and 240 and 1,200 housing units, and the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates sample data. A sub-division of a census tract (or, prior to 2000, a block numbering area), a block group is a cluster of blocks having the same first digit of their four-digit identifying number within a census tract.*

Census Block: *A statistical area bounded by visible features, such as streets, roads, streams, and railroad tracks, and by nonvisible boundaries, such as selected property lines and city, township, school districts, and county boundaries.*

A block is the smallest geographic unit for which the Census Bureau tabulates decennial census data.

Many blocks correspond to individual city blocks bounded by streets, but blocks – especially in rural areas – may include many square miles and may have some boundaries that are not streets. The Census Bureau established blocks covering the entire nation for the first time in 1990. Previous censuses back to 1940 had blocks established only for part of the nation. Over 8 million blocks were identified for Census 2000 and over 11 million blocks were identified for the 2010 Census.

Census: *A complete enumeration, usually of a population, but also of businesses and commercial establishments, housing, farms, governments, and so forth.*

Census Tract: *A small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county delineated by a local committee of census data users for the purpose of presenting data. Census tracts nest within counties, and their boundaries normally follow visible features, but may follow legal geography boundaries and other non-visible features in some instances, Census tracts ideally contain about 4,000 people and 1,600 housing units.*

Cohort: *A group of individuals born in the same calendar year or group of years. Also referred to as a birth cohort.*

Decennial Census: *The census of population and housing, taken by the Census Bureau in years ending in 0 (zero). Article I of the Constitution requires that a census be taken every ten years for the purpose of reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives. Title 13 of the U. S. Code provides the authorization for conducting the census in Puerto Rico and the Island Areas.*

Design Type for Multifamily Housing:

Townhouse: Side by side housing units that do not meet the definition of single-family houses.

Conventional Apartments: These structures have units above and below each other.

Employees: Employees include all persons paid for personal services performed in the indicated pay period, including any persons in a paid leave status. Employees who have multiple responsibilities are reported once at the functional classification which is their primary responsibility. Contractors and their employees are excluded.

Employed: Employed includes all civilians 16 years old and over who were either (1) "at work" -- those who did any work at all during the reference week as paid employees, worked in their own business or profession, worked on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers on a family farm or in a family business; or (2) were "with a job but not at work" -- those who did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation, or other personal reasons. Excluded from the employed are people whose only activity consisted of work around the house or unpaid volunteer work for religious, charitable, and similar organizations; also excluded are people on active duty in the United States Armed Forces. The reference week is the calendar week preceding the date on which the respondents completed their questionnaires or were interviewed. This week may not be the same for all respondents.

Employment Status: Employment status identifies those who 1) worked at any time during a specific week; 2) were on temporary layoff and available for work; 3) did not work during the reference week but had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent (excluding layoff); 4) did not work during the reference week but were looking for work during the last four weeks and were available to work during the reference week; and 5) were not in the labor force.

Employment: Paid employment consists of full and part-time employees, including salaried officers and executives of corporations, who were on the payroll in the pay period including March 12. Included are employees on sick leave, holidays, and vacations; not included are proprietors and partners of unincorporated businesses.

Employers: Businesses with payroll and paid employees

Family Type: Refers to how the members of a family are related to one another. Families may be a "Married Couple Family," "Female householder, no spouse present" or "Male householder, no spouse present."

Families and Primary Individuals: In the American Housing Survey, while any occupant of a housing unit is called a household member, each household includes either one of the following:

A family, which is the householder and all (one or more) other people living in the same household who are related to the householder by blood, marriage, or adoption.

A primary individual, which is a householder who lives alone or with nonrelatives only. Although only one primary individual is identified per household, the household also may include one or more roommates, lodgers, resident employees, or other people unrelated to the householder. These nonrelatives are considered members of the household but not of the family. The definition of families and primary individuals is significant in that some income items namely, current income and food stamps are collected only for the family or primary individual.

Family Income: The sum of the income of all family members 15 years and older living in the household. Families are groups of two or more people (one of whom is the householder) related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together; all such people (including related subfamily members) are considered as members of one family.

Family Household: A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of his or her family.

A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in census tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members than do families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. Not all households contain families since a household may comprise a group of unrelated people or one person living alone.

Floor Area:

Single-family: Floor area is defined as all completely finished floor space, including space in basements and attics with finished walls, floors, and ceilings. This does not include a garage, carport, porch, unfinished attic or utility room, or any unfinished area of the basement.

Multifamily: Square footage for multifamily buildings is defined as all floor and associated living space. Floor space is defined as the floor area of all completely finished living space in the building, including the basement and attic, with finished walls, floors, and ceilings. This does not include a garage, carport, porch, unfinished attic or utility room, or any unfinished area of the basement. The basement does not count as a floor unless it contains two or more housing units.

Full-time, year-round workers in designated calendar year: All people 16 years old and over who usually worked 35 hours or more per week for 50 to 52 weeks in the designated calendar year.

Full-time Equivalent Employment: Full-time equivalent is a computed statistic representing the number of full-time employees that could have been employed if the reported number of hours worked by part-time employees had been worked by full-time employees. This statistic is calculated separately for each function of a government by dividing the "part-time hours paid" by the standard number of hours for full-time employees in the particular government and then adding the resulting quotient to the number of full-time employees.

Gross Rent: The amount of the contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities (electricity, gas, and water and sewer) and fuels (oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc.) if these are paid for by the renter (or paid for the renter by someone else). Gross rent is intended to eliminate differentials which result from varying practices with respect to the inclusion of utilities and fuels as part of the rental payment.

Household Size: The total number of people living in a housing unit.

Household Type and Relationship: Households are classified by type according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives. Examples include: married-couple family; male householder, no wife present; female householder, no husband present; spouse (husband/wife); child; and other relatives.

Householder: The person, or one of the people, in whose name the home is owned, being bought, or rented. If there is no such person present, any household member 15 years old and over can serve as the householder.

Two types of householders are distinguished; a family householder and a nonfamily householder:

A family householder is a householder living with one or more people related to him or her by birth, marriage, or adoption. The householder and all people in the household related to him are family members.

A nonfamily householder is a householder living alone or with nonrelatives only.

Household: *A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit (such as a house or apartment) as their usual place of residence.*

A household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household. The count of households excludes group quarters. There are two major categories of households, "family" and "nonfamily." Household is a standard item in Census Bureau population tables.

Household Income: *The sum of the income of all people 15 years and older living in the household. A household includes related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, or employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit, is also counted as a household.*

Housing Unit: *A housing unit, as defined for purposes of these data, is a house, an apartment, a group of rooms, or a single room intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other individuals in the building and which have a direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hall.*

In accordance with this definition, each apartment unit in an apartment building counts as one housing unit. Housing units, as distinguished from "HUD-code" manufactured (mobile) homes, include conventional "site-built" units, prefabricated, panelized, sectional, and modular units.

Housing unit statistics also exclude group quarters (such as dormitories and rooming houses), transient accommodations (such as transient hotels, motels, and tourist courts), moved or relocated buildings, and housing units created in an existing residential or nonresidential structure. Units in assisted living facilities are considered to be housing units, however, units in nursing homes are not considered to be housing units.

Housing Unit Density: *Number of housing units within a geographic entity (for example, United States, state, county, place) divided by the land area of that entity measured in square kilometers or square miles. Density is expressed as both "housing units per square kilometer" and "housing units per square mile" of land area.*

Labor Force: *The labor force includes all people classified in the civilian labor force, plus members of the U.S. Armed Forces (people on active duty with the United States Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard). The civilian labor force consists of people classified as employed or unemployed.*

Land Area: An area measurement providing the size, in square miles, square kilometers, or square meters, of the land portions of geographic entities for which the Census Bureau tabulates and disseminates data.

Living Quarters: Any site where people live, stay, or could live. Living quarters are classified as housing units or group quarters. They are usually found in structures intended for residential use, but also may be found in structures intended for nonresidential use as well as tents, vans, shelters for people without housing, dormitories, barracks, and so forth, or they might not be associated with a structure at all.

Marital Status: Adults are generally classified by marital status as being married, never married, separated, divorced or widowed.

Median Income: The median income divides the income distribution into two equal groups, one having incomes above the median, and other having incomes below the median.

Multifamily Housing: Residential buildings containing units built one on top of another and those built side-by-side which do not have a ground-to-roof wall and/or have common facilities (i.e., attic, basement, heating plant, plumbing, etc.)

Multi-Unit Structure: A building that contains more than one housing unit (for example, an apartment building).

Nationality: The status of belonging to a particular nation by birth, origin or naturalization.

Nonemployer: A nonemployer business is one that has no paid employees, has annual business receipts of \$1,000 or more (\$1 or more in the Construction industry), and is subject to federal income taxes.

Nonrelatives: This category includes any household member, including foster children, not related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Can include roomer or boarder, housemate or roommate, or unmarried partner.

Nonfamily Household: A nonfamily household consists of a householder living alone (a one-person household) or where the householder shares the home only with people to whom he/she is not related (e.g., a roommate).

Occasional Use: *In the American Housing Survey, these are units held for weekend or other occasional use throughout the year. Second homes may be classified as occasional use or as seasonal.*

Occupants per Room: *Obtained by dividing the number of people in each occupied housing unit by the number of rooms in the unit.*

Occupied Housing Unit: *A housing unit is classified as occupied if it is the usual place of residence of the person or group of people living in it at the time of enumeration.*

Owner-Occupied Housing Unit: *A housing unit is owner occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for.*

Part-time Employees: *Employees—Persons paid on a part-time basis during the designated pay period. Included are those daily or hourly employees usually engaged for less than the regular full-time workweek, as well as any part-time paid officials.*

People in Family: *Total number of people living in one household and related to the householder.*

People in Household: *Total number of people living in one housing unit.*

Per Capita Income: *the mean income computed for every man, woman, and child in a particular group. It is derived by dividing the total income of a particular group by the total population.*

Population Density: *Total population within a geographic entity (for example, United States, state, county, place) divided by the land area of that entity measured in square kilometers or square miles. Density is expressed as both "people per square kilometer" and "people per square mile" of land area.*

Population Estimates: *The calculated number of people living in an area as of a specified point in time, usually July 1st. The estimated population is calculated using a component of change model that incorporates information on natural increase (births, deaths) and net migration (net domestic migration, net international migration) that has occurred in an area since the latest decennial census.*

Rooms: *Rooms include living rooms, dining rooms, kitchens, bedrooms, finished recreation rooms, enclosed porches suitable for year-round use, and lodgers' rooms.*

Renter-Occupied Housing Unit: *All occupied units which are not owner occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter-occupied.*

Seasonal Units: *In the American Housing Survey, these units are intended by the owner to be occupied during only certain seasons of the year. They are not anyone's usual residence. A seasonal unit may be used in more than one season; for example, for both summer and winter sports. Published counts of seasonal units also include housing units held for occupancy by migratory farm workers. While not currently intended for year-round use, most seasonal units could be used year-round.*

Single-Family House: *The single-family statistics include fully detached, semidetached (semi attached, side-by-side), row houses, and townhouses. In the case of attached units, each must be separated from the adjacent unit by a ground-to-roof wall in order to be classified as a single-family structure. Also, these units must not share heating/air-conditioning systems or utilities, such as water supply, power supply, or sewage disposal lines. Single-family statistics do not include units built one on top of another and those built side-by-side that do not have a ground-to-roof wall and/or have common facilities (i.e., attic, basement, heating plant, plumbing, etc.).*

Survey: *A data collection activity involving observation or questionnaires for a sample of a population. (A census is a 100-percent sample survey; it collects information about every member of a population.) Surveys are normally less expensive to conduct than censuses; hence, they may be taken more frequently and can provide an information update between censuses. Often, they are used to collect a wider variety of information than is collected in a census.*

Tenure: *Refers to the distinction between owner-occupied and renter-occupied housing units.*

Town: *A type of minor civil division in the New England states, New York, and Wisconsin and a type of incorporated place in 30 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

Unemployed: *All civilians 16 years old and over are classified as unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work" during the reference week, and (2) were actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included as unemployed are civilians who did not work at all during the reference week, were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off, and were available for work except for temporary illness.*

Unemployment Rate: *Represents the number of unemployed people as a percentage of the civilian labor force.*

Units in Structure: *A structure is a separate building that either has open spaces on all sides or is separated from other structures by dividing walls that extend from ground to roof. In determining the number of units in a structure, all housing units, both occupied and vacant, are counted.*

Unmarried-Partner Household: Household in which the householder reports having an unmarried partner—a person with whom they share living quarters and have an intimate relationship.

Usual Residence: Usual residence is a concept used in the decennial census to determine where a person should be counted in the census. Usual residence is defined as the place where a person lives and sleeps most of the time. This place is not necessarily the same as a person's voting residence or legal residence.

Usual Residence Elsewhere: A housing unit temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people with a usual residence elsewhere is classified as vacant. The occupants are classified as having a "Usual residence elsewhere" and are counted at the address of their usual place of residence.

Vacant Housing Unit: A housing unit is vacant if no one is living in it at the time of enumeration, unless its occupants are only temporarily absent. Units temporarily occupied at the time of enumeration entirely by people who have a usual residence elsewhere are also classified as vacant.

Vacancy Status: Unoccupied housing units are considered vacant. Vacancy status is determined by the terms under which the unit may be occupied, e.g., for rent, for sale, or for seasonal use only.

Village: A type of incorporated place in 20 states, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Census Bureau treats all villages in New Jersey, South Dakota, and Wisconsin and some villages in Ohio as county subdivisions.

Water Area: An area measurement providing the size, in square miles, square kilometers, or square meters, of the water portions of geographic entities for which the Census Bureau tabulates and disseminated data.

Year Structure Built: The data on year structure built were obtained from both occupied and vacant housing units. Year structure built refers to when the building was first constructed, not when it was remodeled, added to, or converted. The data relate to the number of units built during the specified periods that were still in existence at the time of enumeration.

Zip Code: A ZIP (Zone Improvement Plan) Code is a five-digit code assigned by the U.S. Postal Service to a section of a street, a collection of streets, an establishment, structure, or group of post office boxes, for the delivery of mail. The Census Bureau uses only five-digit ZIP codes for the addresses and address ranges in most 2010 Census and Census 2000 operations.