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ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

# Congress of the United States

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## Knowing Your Constituency: Congressional District and State Profiles from the 2005 American Community Survey

This past August, the Census Bureau released detailed 2005 population, economic, and social data from the first full American Community Survey (ACS). Available by District and State and updated annually, these data are crucial for the proper functioning of the federal government.

In particular, ACS numbers allow Members of Congress to get an accurate, current picture of the nature of their constituencies and give decision makers the data they need for the appropriate distribution of federal funds—for highways, school lunches, block grants, et cetera.

In light of the importance of ACS data to Congress, the Brookings Institution will offer a one-hour webcast to guide Congressional staff on using the web to access detailed ACS data by District and State, including one tool specifically created by the Census Bureau for Congress (<http://fastfacts.census.gov>).

The one-hour live webcast is offered tomorrow, Friday, September 29, 2006, at 10:00-11:00 AM and 12:00-1:00 PM EDT. No prior registration is required.

The webcast is the third Brookings Briefing on the Census provided to Congressional staff this year under the sponsorship of the Subcommittee on Federalism and the Census. While the first two briefings were on Capitol Hill, this third one is designed to be accessible by Congressional staff regardless of location.

We urge you and your colleagues to tune into the Brookings tutorial on the ACS and learn how it can assist your office in better serving your constituents and your Representative or Senator.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Turner  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Federalism and the  
Census



Wm. Lacy Clay  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Federalism and the  
Census