

# American Community Survey

## September, 20 2007 SPP Embargo Data Release

### *SPP's (Selected Population Profiles)*

The “Selected Population Profile” is a single table that can be viewed, or “iterated” for many race, ethnic, and ancestry groups. The population group choices are similar to those found in the Census 2000 Summary Files 2 and 4. Selected Population Profile's are published for the nation, states, and other geographic areas that have a total population of 1,000,000 and a group or iterated population of 65,000 or greater.

Under the *SPP* directory there will be a subdirectory for each published geographic summary level, within each of these geographic summary level directories there will be a directory for each race/ancestry iteration that meets the publishable criteria above. There will be an Excel spreadsheet named by geography name for each iteration example:

[http://www2.census.gov/acs2006/SPP/040States/African \(599\)/California.xls](http://www2.census.gov/acs2006/SPP/040States/African (599)/California.xls)

The spreadsheets contain 5 columns of data each (Total Population does not have columns 4 and 5):

- Column 1 – Line Description
- Column 2 – Total Population Estimate
- Column 3 – Total Population Margin of Error
- Column 4 – Iterated Population Estimate
- Column 5 – Iterated Population Margin of Error

### **Margin of error (MOE)**

A margin of error is the maximum difference between an estimate and its upper or lower confidence bounds. A confidence interval can be created by adding the margin of error to the estimate (for an upper bound) and subtracting the margin of error from the estimate (for a lower bound). In doing this, it is important not to allow either the lower bound or the upper bound of the confidence interval to go beyond the range of possible values for an estimate. For example, an estimate of children enrolled in school in a geographic area cannot be less than 0. Therefore, its lower bound can also not be less than 0. All published margins of error for the American Community Survey are based on a 90 percent confidence level.