



## *When will ACS data be available for my community? (cont.)*

The ACS samples nearly 3 million addresses each year. The annual ACS sample is smaller than that of the Census 2000 long-form sample. As a result, the ACS needs to combine population or housing data from multiple years to produce reliable numbers for small counties, neighborhoods, and other local areas. To provide reliable information for communities each year, the ACS will provide 1-, 3-, and 5-year estimates.

ACS data are very timely because they are released in the year immediately following the year in which they are collected. Table 2 (reverse side) provides a timetable for data released by the American Community Survey. The first 1-yr estimate was released in 2006 for the year 2005 for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more. A new 1-yr estimate has been released for these areas every year since. In the fall of 2008, the ACS released the first 3-yr estimates for the years 2005-2007. These 3-yr estimates were available for geographic areas with a population of 20,000 or more. In 2010, the ACS released the much anticipated 5-yr estimates (for the period of 2005-2009) that provide data for all geographic areas—including census tracts and block groups. And remember, new 1-yr, 3-yr and 5-yr estimates will be released every year, henceforth!

## *Detailed ACS 2010 timeline for data release*

**SEPT. 2011\*** - 2010 1-yr estimates for geographic areas with a population of 65,000 or more

**OCT 2011\*** - 2008-2010 3-yr estimates for geographic areas with a population of 20,000+.

**DEC 2011\*** - 2006-2010 5-yr estimates for ALL census geographic areas regardless of population size—including census tracts and block groups.

\*Current anticipated release dates, subject to change

## *Where can I find data for my community?*

ACS data is available for FREE through the American Factfinder—the U.S. Census Bureau's online data access tool. The URL is [www.factfinder.census.gov](http://www.factfinder.census.gov)

If you have any questions or need any assistance accessing data for your community please contact our Data Dissemination Specialist Alexandra Barker at 617-519-1099 or via e-mail at [Alexandra.s.barker@census.gov](mailto:Alexandra.s.barker@census.gov)