

Appendix A

ACS Geographic Terms and Concepts

The Geographic Terms and Concepts used in the American Community Survey are the same as other Census Bureau products with the exception of those listed below. See the Census 2000 Geographic Terms and Concepts [PDF] at <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/glossry2.pdf> or the Geographic Areas Reference Manual (GARM – vintage 1990) at <http://www.census.gov/geo/www/garm.html> for definitions of other geographic terms and concepts. The ACS is conducted in the United States and Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico, the survey is known as the Puerto Rico Community Survey or PRCS.

Combined New England City and Town Area (CNECTA) – Adjacent New England City and Town Areas (see glossary term New England City and Town Area) that have a high degree of employment interchange may be combined to form Combined New England City and Town Areas (or CNECTAs). New England City and Town Areas that are part of a CNECTA retain their separate identities.

Combined Statistical Area (CSA) – Defined by the federal Office of Management and Budget for use by federal statistical agencies according to the Census data, adjacent metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas may be combined to form a CSA if the areas have a high degree of employment interchange. Each metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area retains its own identity.

Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) – Core Based Statistical Area is a collective term for both metropolitan and micropolitan areas.

Metropolitan Division – A metropolitan statistical area with population greater than 2.5 million may be divided into smaller groups known as metropolitan divisions.

Metropolitan Statistical Area/Micropolitan Statistical Area – Metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas (metro and micro areas) are geographic entities defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget for use by Federal statistical agencies in collecting, tabulating, and publishing Federal statistics. A metro area contains a core urban area of 50,000 or more population, and a micro area contains an urban core of at least 10,000 (but less than 50,000) population. Each metro or micro area consists of one or more counties and includes the counties containing the core urban area, as well as any adjacent counties that have a high degree of social and economic integration (as measured by commuting to work) with the urban core.

New England City and Town Area (NECTA) – is a geographic entity defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget for use by Federal statistical agencies in describing aspects of the New England region in the United States. NECTA is based on the concept of a core area with a large population nucleus, plus adjacent communities having a high degree of economic and social integration with that core. Similar to the metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas, a metropolitan NECTA has an urban core

of at least 50,000 population, while a micropolitan NECTA has an urban core of at least 10,000 inhabitants but less than 50,000.

New England City and Town Area (NECTA) Division – A New England City and Town Area with population greater than 2.5 million may be divided into smaller groups known as NECTA Divisions.

State Designated Tribal Statistical Area (SDTSA) – Statistical entities for state recognized American Indian tribes that do not have a state recognized land base (reservation). SDTSAs are identified and delineated for the U.S. Census Bureau by a state liaison identified by the governor's office in each state. Formerly known as State Designated American Indian Statistical Area (SDAISA).