

Econ Quiz – 9/23/10

How many parents are working?

By Bill Pinkovitz and Colette Hershey

According to the most recent U.S. Census data, 40,389 Dane County households (21.5 percent of all households in the county) include a husband, wife and at least one child under the age of eighteen.

Question: In what percentage of those households are both mom and dad employed?



Answer: 82.6 percent

The US Census Bureau's 2009 American Community Survey reports that both parents worked in 33,363 of the 40,389 married couple families with children in Dane County.

Statewide, the average is 81.1%; nationwide working families account for 70.4% of married families with children under eighteen.

About the data – American Fact Finder & the American Community Survey

The American Fact Finder is an interactive application supports the Economic Census, the American Community Survey, the 1990 Census, Census 2000 and the latest Population Estimates.

<http://factfinder.census.gov> and <http://factfinder2.census.gov>

Note: The US Census Bureau is the middle of switching sites and preparing for the release of information from the 2010 Census. Data might be split between the two sites.

The American Community Survey is a nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing.

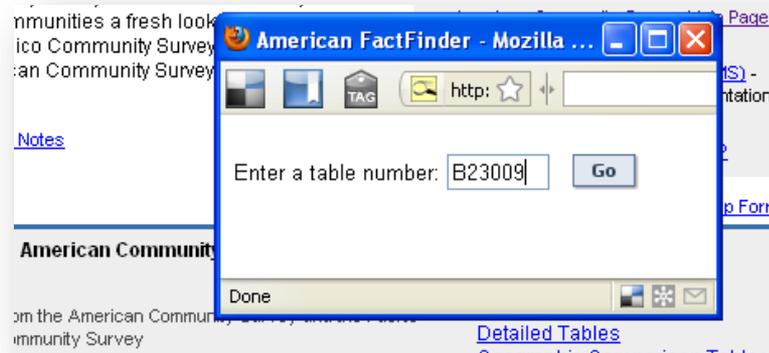
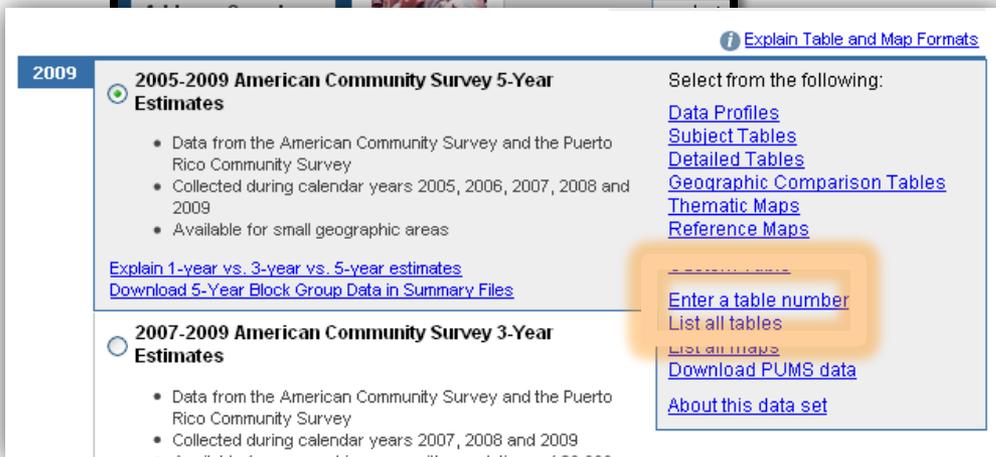
<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

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1. Start here: <http://factfinder.census.gov>
2. In the left handed column, go down to **Data Sets**. Click the text and the selection should expand. Click **American Community Survey**.
3. A new page should pull up for the 2005-2009 American Community Survey. Under the list **Select From the Following**, click **Enter a Table Number**

4. In the pop up table that appears, type in B23009.



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The screenshot shows the U.S. Census Bureau American FactFinder interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'Main', 'Search', 'Feedback', 'FAQs', and 'GI'. Below that, the page title is 'Select Geography'. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'You are here: Main > Data Sets > Data Sets with Detailed Tables > Geography > Tables > Results > 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Detailed Tables'.

Under 'Choose a selection method', there are buttons for 'list', 'name search', 'address search', 'map', and 'geo within geo'. The 'list' button is selected.

There are two links: 'Explain Census Geography' and 'Where are Geographic Components (Urban and Rural)?'.

The main section is 'Select a geographic type'. A dropdown menu is open, showing options: 'County', 'Nation', 'Region', 'Division', 'State', 'County Subdivision', 'Place(Remainder (or part))', 'Census Tract (or part)', and 'Subminor Civil Division'. 'State' is selected.

Below this, there's a section 'Select one or more geographic areas and click 'Add''. A list of counties in Wisconsin is shown: Price County, Racine County (highlighted), Richland County, Rock County, Rusk County, Sauk County, Sawyer County, and Shawano County. There are 'Explain Missing, Changed and Duplicate Geographies' and 'Map It' links.

An 'Add' button is highlighted.

At the bottom, 'Current geography selections:' shows '==== County =====' and 'Racine County, Wisconsin'. There's a 'Remove' button and a 'Show Result' button.

A note says: 'Download data for more than 7,000 geographic areas using the [Download Center](#).'

5. In **Select Geographic Type**, select **State, County**. This will give you specific information about a counties in a state. A list will appear below asking you to specific what state. Select your state.

6. Once you have selected the state, a list of counties in that state will appear. Highlight the county you wish to study. (In this example, we're going to look at **Racine County**.) Click the **Add** button. This will add the county's information to the list the program is about to create for you. If you want data on multiple counties, go ahead and add the additional information.

7. Click **Show Result**. This will bring up a table with the information you'll need to use.

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[B23009. PRESENCE OF OWN CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS BY F. WORKERS IN FAMILY IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS - Universe: FAMIL](#)
 Data Set: [2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates](#)
 Survey: American Community Survey

NOTE. Although the American Community Survey (ACS) produces population, demographic, and housing unit estimates, the ACS is not a census. The ACS is part of the Population Estimates Program that produces and disseminates the [official estimates estimates of housing units for states and counties](#).

For information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and

Racine County, Wisconsin		
	Estimate	Margin of Error
Total:	51,195	+/-907
With own children under 18 years:	22,978	+/-645
Married-couple family:	15,389	+/-638
No workers	75	+/-47
1 worker	3,034	+/-372
2 workers:	9,579	+/-522
Husband and wife worked	9,111	+/-492
Other	468	+/-116
3 or more workers:	2,701	+/-296
Husband and wife worked	2,551	+/-271
Other	150	+/-98
Other family:	7,589	+/-517
Male householder, no wife present:	1,894	+/-310
No workers	102	+/-63
1 worker	1,354	+/-283
2 workers	205	+/-103
3 or more workers	33	+/-38
Female householder, no husband present:	5,895	+/-434
No workers	644	+/-170
1 worker	4,325	+/-395

8. We found out how many married households with children under 18 were working two or more jobs by adding together the totals in **2 workers (9,579)** and **3 or more workers (2,701)** in the **With Own Children Under 18** and divide it by the total number of **married-couple families (15,389)**. We find that **79.8%** of married couples with children under 18 years old are both working in Racine County.

9. You can use the information from this table to figure out similar statistics on single parent and other types of households.

10. Going back to Step 5, you can also change the scope of your search to find out state and nationwide totals.

11. That's it! Enjoy your homemade Econ Quiz.

How many parents are working?

In Racine County:

12,280 (**79.8%**)
married couple families
have two or more workers
contributing towards
household income.

Broken link? Something wrong with the directions?

These websites often move information around without notifying users. It's possible we have provided a broken link. E-mail [Bill Pinkovitz](mailto:Bill.Pinkovitz) if you come across a broken link.