

# **New Census Bureau Data Products to Meet Unanticipated Needs**

Presented at the ASA Workshop on  
Survey Disruptions

March 15, 2007

# Overview of Presentation

## Background

- Population Estimates Program
- American Community Survey

## Census Bureau Decisions

- Challenges in Collecting Data
- Products to Develop

## Special Products

# Population Estimates Program

## Official population estimates

- Monthly estimates of total population of the U.S. by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin
- Annual estimates of total population of the 50 states, DC, and counties by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin

# American Community Survey

Large survey in all counties in US and all municipios in Puerto Rico

Produces socioeconomic and housing data by demographics

# American Community Survey

Continuous data collection by mail, phone and personal visit methods

Designed to produce annual period estimates describing calendar year

- 2005 ACS included single-year estimates for areas with populations of 65,000 and greater
- 3-year and 5-year estimates will be needed for smaller areas

2005 marked the first year of full implementation – every county, nationwide

# Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

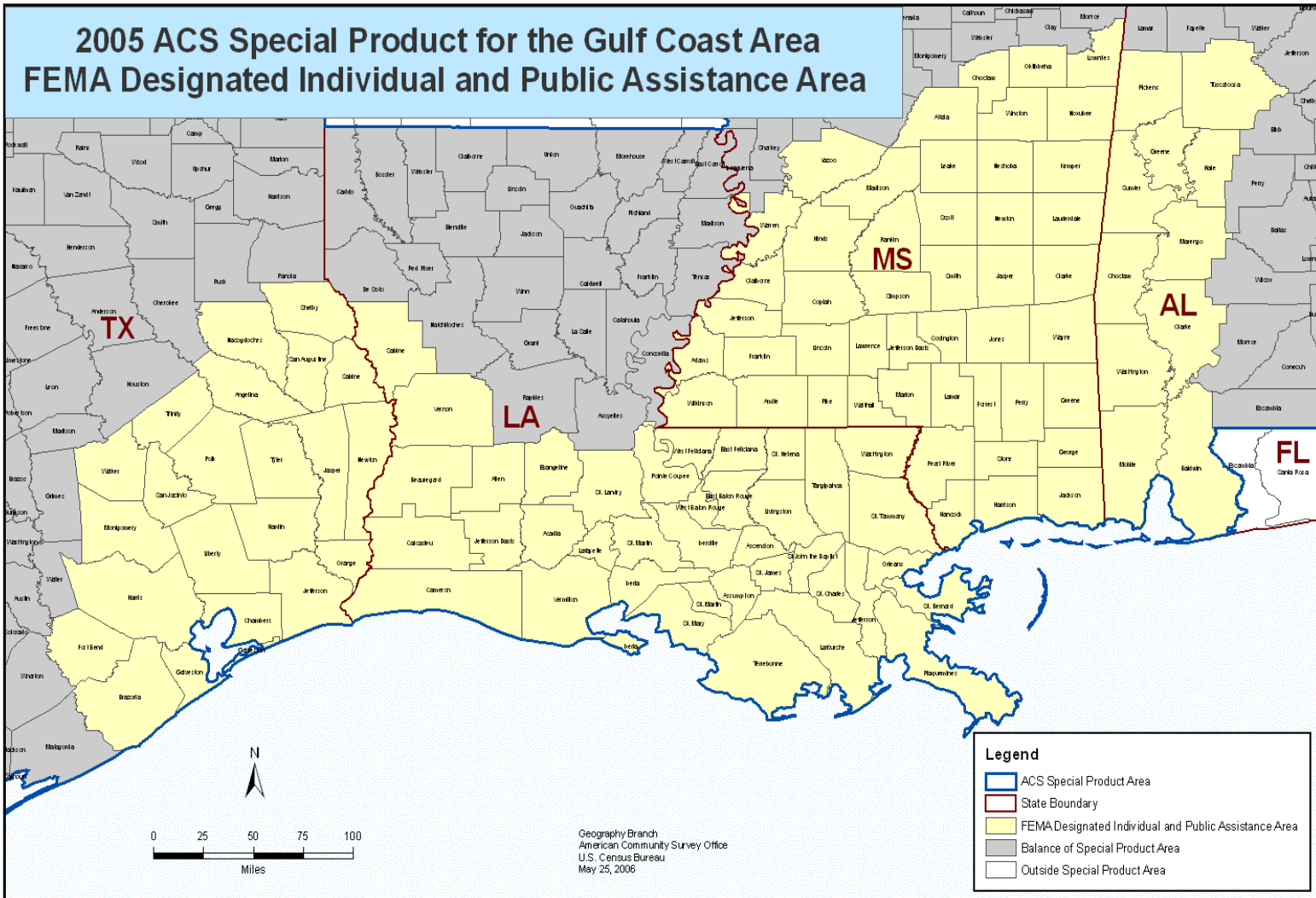
**August 29 (Katrina) and September 24  
(Rita)**

- Made landfall less than one month apart

## **Disaster Area**

- FEMA designated 117 counties as eligible to receive public and individual assistance

# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area FEMA Designated Individual and Public Assistance Area



# Assessment of Census Bureau Programs

Immediate changes to data collection methods and procedures

Efforts to ensure delivery of key deliverables including ACS products and official population estimates



# Assessment of Utility for Gulf Coast Areas

Official population estimates would reflect the population as of July 1, 2005

ACS estimates would represent annual average characteristics for 12-month period

# Population Estimates Program Decisions

Proceed with normal schedule for production and release of official sets of July 1, 2005 population and housing estimates

Produce additional special product

# Special Population Estimates

Estimates of the household population size for 117 counties as of January 1, 2006

Methods included extrapolated household population estimates to 1/1/06 and cumulative net migration estimates as of 1/1/06

# Example of Special Population Estimates

Louisiana County Estimates	Official Series - 7/1/04	Official Series - 7/1/05	Special Estimate - 1/1/06
Orleans	443,430	437,186	158,353
St. Bernard	64,848	64,576	3,361
East Baton Rouge	396,882	396,735	413,700

# Special Population Estimates – Major Findings

East Baton Rouge, LA gained approximately  
17,000 people

Mississippi Gulf Coast counties lost a total of  
nearly 50,000 people

Most of the Texas population increase was  
seen in Harris County (about 93,000  
increase)

# American Community Survey Decisions

Immediate changes were needed to  
continue ongoing data collection effort

Continue with plans to produce first set of  
full sample 2005 ACS data products  
using 12 months of sample

Produce additional special product based  
on a subset of the 12 months of data

# 2005 American Community Survey Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area

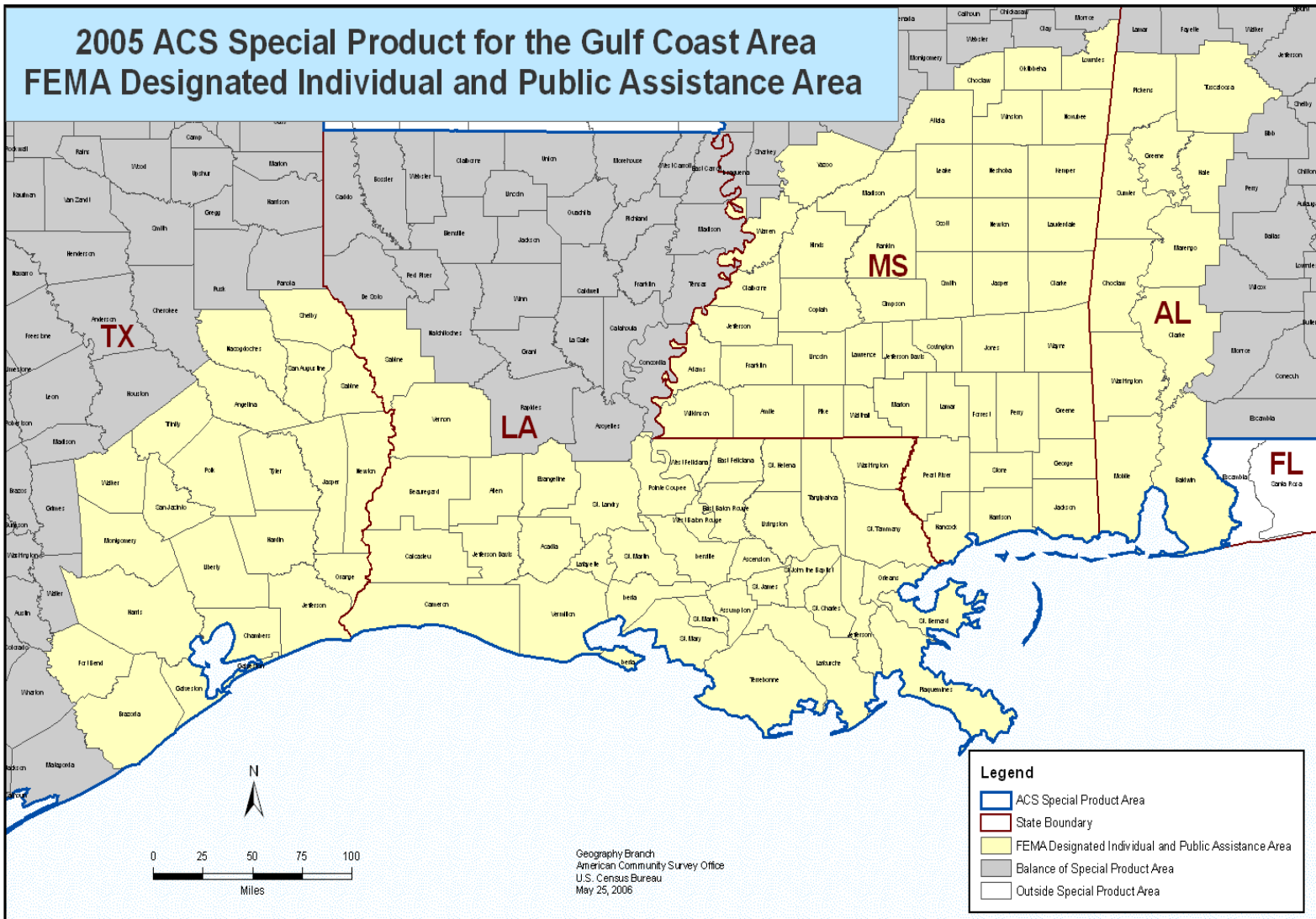
Defined 63 specific geographic areas

Counties/parishes or combinations of  
counties/parishes in AL, LA, MS, TX

Produced two sets of estimates covering  
two time periods for four profiles

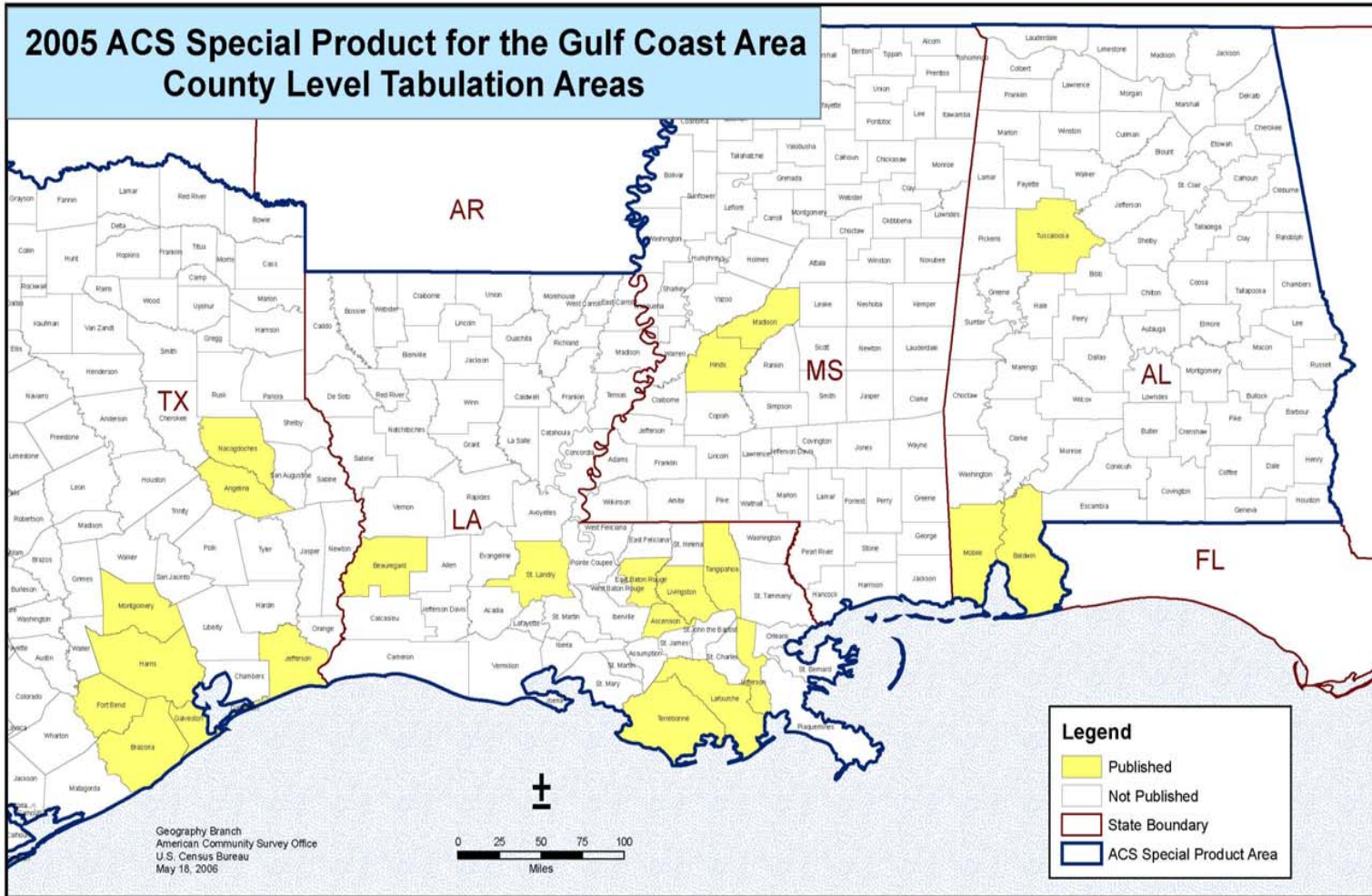
- January through August 2005
- September through December 2005

# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area FEMA Designated Individual and Public Assistance Area

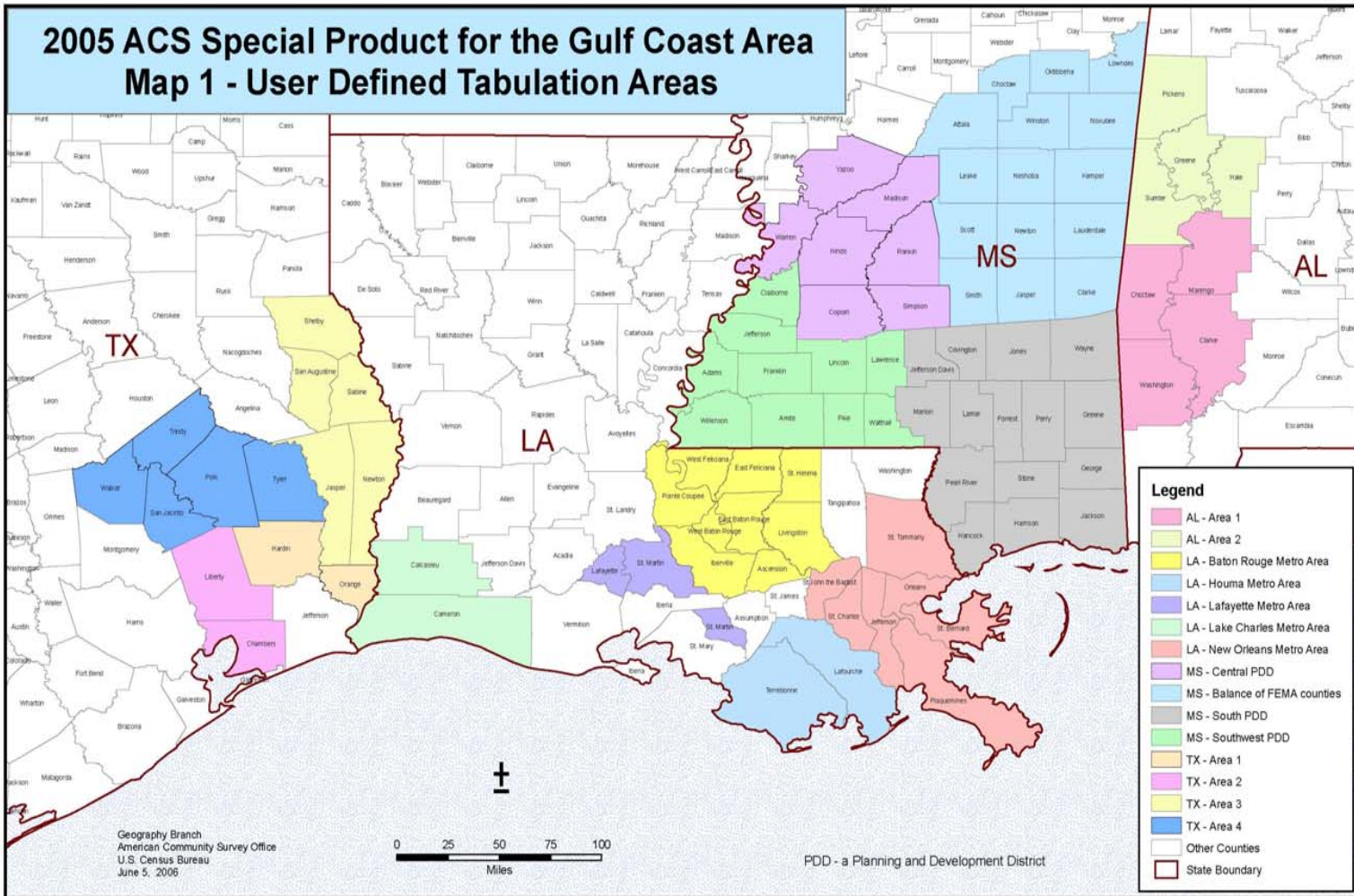




# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area County Level Tabulation Areas

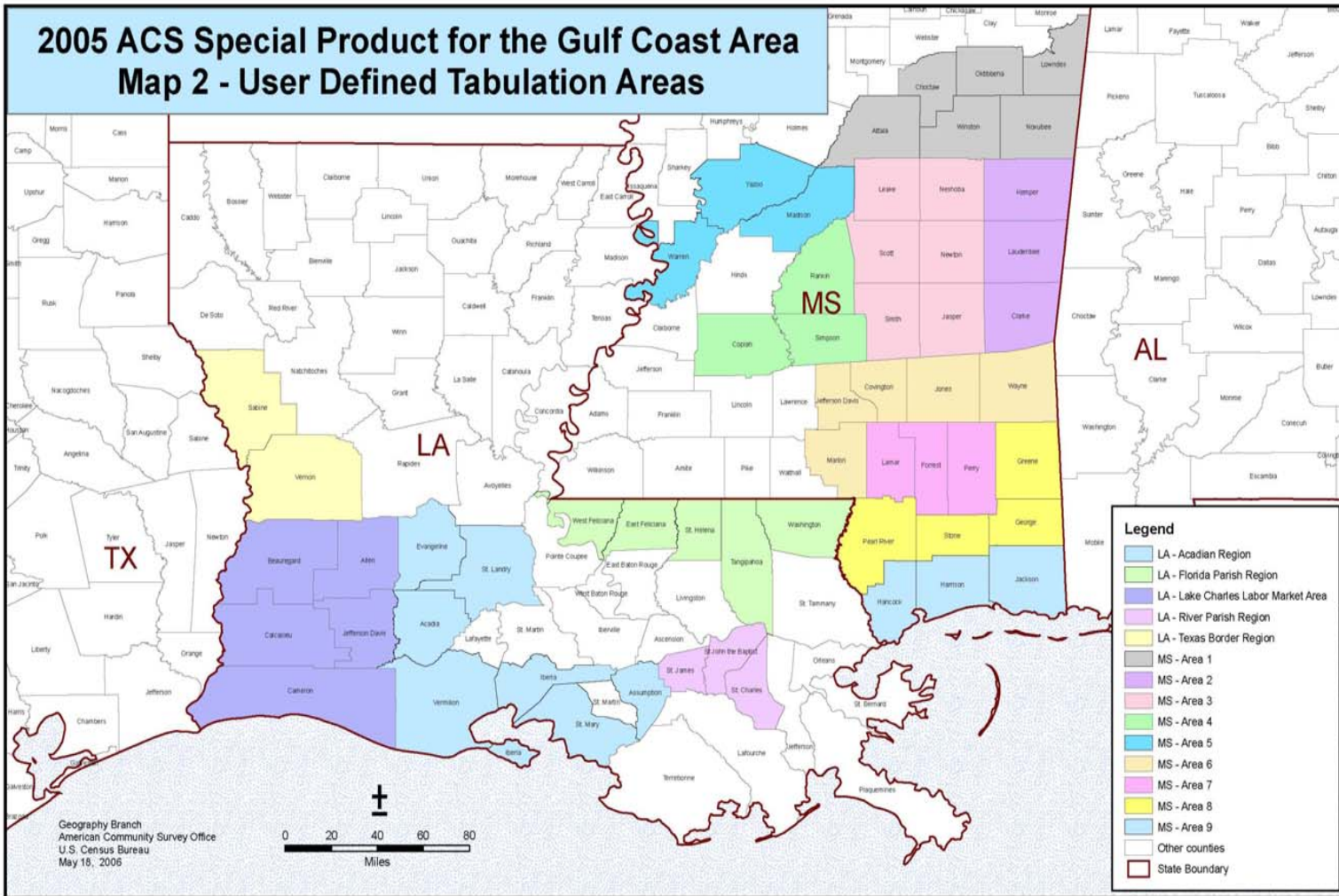


# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area Map 1 - User Defined Tabulation Areas



# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast Area

## Map 2 - User Defined Tabulation Areas



# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast : An Example

New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA Metropolitan Statistical Area Data Profiles - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: [http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/gulf\\_coast/tables/tab4\\_katrinaK0100US2203v.htm](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Products/Profiles/gulf_coast/tables/tab4_katrinaK0100US2203v.htm)

**U.S. Census Bureau**

**2005 American Community Survey Gulf Coast Area Data Profiles**

New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA Metropolitan Statistical Area Data Profiles

[Demographic](#) - Sex and Age, Race, Relationship, Household by Type  
[Social](#) - Education, Marital Status...  
[Economic](#) - Income, Employment, Occupation, Commuting to Work...  
[Housing](#) - Occupancy and Structure, Housing Value and Costs, Utilities...

An \* indicates that the January through August and September through December period estimates are significantly different at the 90% confidence level.  
 NOTE: Data are limited to the household population and exclude the population living in institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters.

**TABLE 4. PROFILE OF SELECTED HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS**

Selected Housing Characteristics	January through August 2005	Margin of Error	September through December 2005	Margin of Error	Statistical Significance <sup>1</sup>
Total housing units	552,454	+/-8647	418,171	+/-17214	*
Occupied housing units	89.2%	+/-1.7%	68.2%	+/-2.6%	*
Vacant housing units	10.8%	+/-2.0%	31.8%	+/-3.4%	*
<b>UNITS IN STRUCTURE</b>					
1-unit, detached	60.5%	+/-2.7%	64.9%	+/-4.3%	
1-unit, attached	10.0%	+/-1.7%	6.1%	+/-1.8%	*
2 units	6.0%	+/-1.1%	4.3%	+/-2.2%	
3 or 4 units	5.8%	+/-1.3%	5.0%	+/-2.3%	
5 to 9 units	4.6%	+/-1.1%	4.7%	+/-2.7%	
10 to 19 units	3.6%	+/-1.1%	5.1%	+/-2.5%	
20 or more units	6.4%	+/-1.6%	6.2%	+/-2.9%	
Mobile home	3.0%	+/-0.7%	3.8%	+/-1.5%	
Boat, RV, van, etc.	0.1%	+/-0.1%	0.1%	+/-0.1%	

# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast : Highlights

**Percentage of households receiving Food Stamp benefits in the past 12 months increased in the hurricane affected areas**

- Alabama (2.0 percentage-point increase)
- Louisiana (14.3 percentage-point increase)
- Mississippi (7.5 percentage-point increase)
- Texas (0.8 percentage-point increase)

**Percentage of vacant housing units increased in Louisiana (from 12.6% to 16.7%)**

# 2005 ACS Special Product for the Gulf Coast : Highlights

**Median age and racial composition of the household population in the New Orleans-Metairie-Kenner, LA Metropolitan Area changed**

- Median age increased from 37.7 to 41.6
- Black or African American alone or in combination with another race decreased from 37% to 22%
- White alone or in combination with another race increased from 59% to 73%

# Conclusions

**Reality that standard products could not meet Gulf Coast needs led to right choice to produce special products**

**Support by Executive Staff led to ability to be creative**

**Team effort by Census staff and partners allowed these products to be produced**

# For More Information

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