

A.T.L.A.S. MAPPING TOOL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

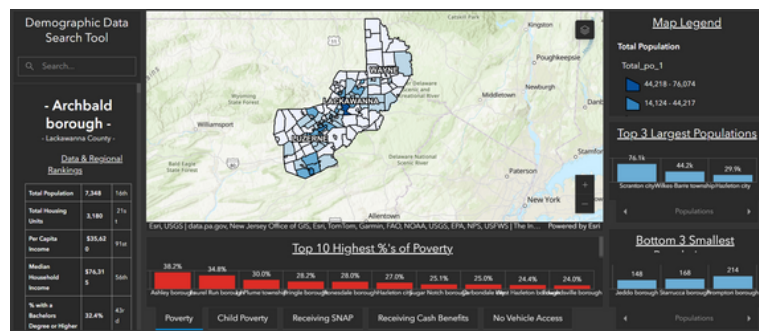
The Institute
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Q: What is A.T.L.A.S.?

A.T.L.A.S. stands for Advanced Tool for Local Analysis and Statistics. It's an interactive dashboard that displays key socioeconomic indicators for only municipalities across Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Wayne Counties in Pennsylvania.

Q: Who is this dashboard for?

A.T.L.A.S. is designed for community leaders, nonprofits, researchers, policymakers, grant writers, the general public, and anyone interested in data-informed decision-making.



Q: What kind of data does A.T.L.A.S. display and where does it come from?

A.T.L.A.S. includes demographic and socio-economic data sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey 5-year estimates, and includes:


Demographic Data

1. Total population
2. Total housing units
3. Per capita income
4. Median household income
5. % with bachelor's degree or higher

Socio-Economic Data

1. Poverty
2. Child poverty
3. SNAP recipients
4. Cash assistance recipients
5. Households with no vehicle access





Q: Can I download the data?



Yes, you can download the filtered data from the bar charts using the three-dot  button located at the top right of each chart. You cannot download an entire data set, only the data being viewed in the charts.

Q: How do I search data for a specific municipality?

Use the search bar in the top-left panel to search for a specific municipality. Then select the location of interest in the list (the selection will have a vertical yellow bar on the left side once selected), and the dashboard will zoom to the desired location. Click the location in the list again to remove the search. To search multiple locations at once refer to the next Q & A.

Q: How can I download data for only the region I want?

Select a Range of Locations: All Layers must be on. Use the selection tools by selecting the  icon in the top left corner of the map and choose a selection type. Select an area using one of two options. 1.  (Line) selection allows users to select only the area along the line they choose. 2.  (Lasso/Draw) selection allows the user to select any location within an area drawn. After making a selection, use the three-dot button  at the top right of the chart to download the filtered data.

Additionally, use the  button near to the tool icon to remove a selected area, or use the zoom to a selected area button  to pan and zoom to recenter the frame around the selected area. While the user has the ability to select as many locations as they want, downloadable data is restricted to the max number of datum allowed by the bar charts. A max of 10 for socioeconomic charts, and a max of three for demographic charts.



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Q: How do the bar charts work?

The bottom bar charts show the top municipalities for each of the socioeconomic indicators (10 max) and the bar charts to the right show the top and bottom municipalities for each of the demographic indicators (3 max). These charts are dynamic, if you zoom into a specific region on the map, the charts update to reflect the geographies visible in the map frame.

Q: What do the map layers show?

Each map layer corresponds to one of the dashboard's indicators. You can toggle them on or off to visualize geographic trends in poverty, education, transportation access, and more.

Q: How often is the dashboard updated?

The data is updated annually, typically following the release of new ACS 5-year estimates.

Q: Can I view this dashboard on a mobile device?

Yes! The dashboard works well on tablets and smartphones, though we recommend using a desktop for the best experience. Some features including downloading chart data, searching with the draw tool, or using the search window are not included in this version.

Q: Can I request a custom version of this dashboard for my organization?


There is potential to have the Institute create a dashboard for your organization. Please contact Teri Ooms (ooms@institutepea.org) or Jill Avery-Stoss (averystoss@institutepea.org) for more information.

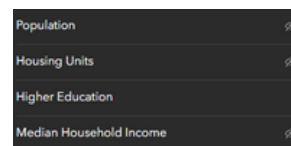
Q: Who can I contact for help or feedback?

Please reach out to Teri Ooms (ooms@institutepea.org), Jill Avery-Stoss (averystoss@institutepea.org), or Michael Shuba (shuba@institutepea.org) (creator of the A.T.L.A.S. tool).


Troubleshooting

Q: Why can't I see the data I want on the map?

In the map frame, each layer physically sits on another layer in the map, similar to how in the layer list a layer is listed on top of another layer and so forth. So, if the data in the map does not correlate with the data you're trying to view, there is potentially another layer visible in the map that is covering it up. Try turning on/make visible  only the layer you're attempting to view.



Q: Why aren't the charts updating when I move the map?

Make sure there isn't an area selected in the map. A selection in the map will filter all charts to that chosen area. Use the deselect button  located at the top left of the map to remove any selected areas and the charts should update to all the locations visible in the map frame.