

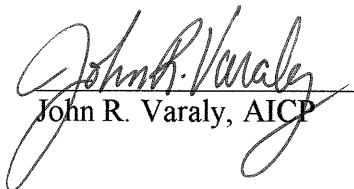
John R. Varaly, AICP
Varaly Associates
Professional Planning Consultants

50 FINN STREET
WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18705
PHONE (570) 574-3061
FAX (570) 829-6261
jackvaraly@hotmail.com

Memorandum

Dallas Township Comprehensive Plan Committee
Dallas Township Municipal Building
P.O. Box 518
Dallas PA 18612

As discussed during our last meeting, a significant portion of the Census Data that will be included into the Comprehensive Plan will be based upon estimates from the American Community Survey which is an on-going activity of the Census Bureau. I've attached information which provides a description of the data and process that is used by the American Community Survey. As you'll note the time span covered in for estimates are done at five year intervals for municipalities having a population of less than 20,000. Based upon Dallas Township's current population, the most recent American Community Survey data available will include the period from 2006-2010.


John R. Varaly, AICP

Encl.

cc: Dallas Township Board of Supervisors
Dallas Township Planning Commission.

U.S. Census Bureau

American Community Survey

The **American Community Survey (ACS)** is an ongoing statistical survey by the U.S. Census Bureau, sent to approximately 250,000 addresses monthly (or 3 million per year). It regularly gathers information previously contained only in the long form of the decennial census. It is the largest survey other than the decennial census that the Census Bureau administers.

American Community Survey (ACS) data

1. **The 2010 Census shows the *number* of people who live in the U.S. and the American Community Survey shows *how* people live.**

Use data from the American Community Survey to obtain demographic, social, economic, and housing characteristics.

Use numbers from the 2010 Census to obtain counts of the population and their basic characteristics (sex, age, race, Hispanic origin, and homeowner status).

2. **All American Community Survey data are estimates.**

The Census Bureau collects American Community Survey data from a sample of the population in the United States and Puerto Rico--rather than from the whole population. **All ACS data are survey *estimates*.** To help you interpret the reliability of the estimate, the Census Bureau publishes a margin of error (MOE) for every ACS estimate.

3. **American Community Survey collects and releases data by the calendar year for geographic areas that meet specific population thresholds.**

Data collected between...	Data pooled to produce	Data published for areas with
January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011	2011 ACS 1-year estimates	populations of 65,000+
January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2011	2009-2011 ACS 3-year estimates	populations of 20,000+
January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2011	2007-2011 ACS 5-year estimates	populations of almost any size

4. American Community Survey 1-, 3-, and 5-year estimates are period estimates, which means they represent the characteristics of the population and housing over a specific data collection period. Data are combined to produce 12 months, 36 months or 60 months of data. These are called 1-year, 3-year and 5-year data.