

RECENT REVIEWS

Profiles of America

*“The second edition was judged to be an outstanding work in 2003 and this new, massive four-volume compilation does not disappoint: it has been expanded and updated to provide statistical and descriptive information on every populated place in the country. The set features 17 new sources of statistical data drawn from the 2010 Census and other government and non-government sources, and covers more than 43,000 communities (almost 4,000 more places than the earlier edition). New statistics are provided for median age, average income, graduate/professional degrees, health insurance, persons with disabilities, and veterans, while the major subjects still cover geography, population, weather, economy, industry, health, housing, education, religion, and transportation. Each volume is organized alphabetically by state and then by county and place. The “User Guide” provides explanations of data fields and sources. Individual state indexes are located at the end of each state chapter, and there is also a master index that provides a complete listing of all populated counties and places. Two helpful state maps begin each chapter. New sections at the end of each volume, “Regional Comparative Statistics,” compare the 100 largest cities on such characteristics as occupation, marriage status, and crime. The “Regional Rankings” sections examine areas with populations of more than 10,000 on factors such as household size, ancestry, employment type, income, and poverty rate. A fascinating and thorough, albeit physically unwieldy, print publication. All libraries holding earlier editions will want to replace it with the new one. The publisher states that the buyers of the new edition will receive a free subscription to the online version, which makes the data in this resource even more appealing and infinitely more accessible. **Summing Up: ★★★** Highly recommended. All libraries, all readers.”*

-CHOICE, January 2016

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“This compilation of statistical information on more than 46,000 places in the U.S. breaks down into four regional volumes. These individual volumes are organized alphabetically by state, county, and place and include maps from the Bureau of the Census. State entries feature a black-and-white census map and an alphabetical place index. County entries contain statistical information, including population, religion, economy, taxes, education, housing, health, and presidential election returns in 2012.

Following the county summaries are community profiles (43,130 in all). These brief profiles include further information on housing, hospitals, safety, and school districts. There are two new sections to this edition: “National/Regional Comparative Statistics” and “National/Regional Rankings,” which compare 100 of the largest communities. Volume 1 contains an introductory “Explanation of Data,” while volume 4 contains the master alphabetical index. Individual state indexes are interspersed throughout the set. The set purchase includes a free subscription to the online version. Public and academic libraries owning the previous edition will want to update as use warrants.”

-Booklist, January 1, 2016 Issue

“The second edition was judged to be an outstanding work in 2003, and this new, massive four-volume compilation does not disappoint: it has been expanded and updated to provide statistical data drawn from the 2010 census and other government and non-government sources, and covers more than 43,000 communities (almost 4,000 more places than the earlier edition). New statistics are provided for median age, average income, graduate/professional degrees, health insurance, persons with disabilities, and veterans, while the major subjects still cover geography, population, weather, economy, industry, health, housing, education, religion, and transportation. Each volume is organized alphabetically by

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-CHOICE, January 2016 Issue

A Library Journal Best Reference Source

"Combining official census information and other public domain statistics with original research, this set provides the most comprehensive portrait of America ever published. It includes basic information on geography, weather, economic data, industries, housing, education, population, hospitals, crime rates, election results, newspapers and contact numbers for municipalities, counties, etc...While large academic and public libraries will want to acquire the entire set, smaller libraries can purchase regional volumes. An outstanding compilation."

- Library Journal

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“Originally published by Toucan Valley (1995), Profiles has been expanded and put on a regular timetable by Grey House. It covers 42,282 places in the US, and while coverage is more complete for counties than small towns, and for large cities than counties, coverage of even the smallest locations is significant and difficult to find elsewhere. The volumes are arranged alphabetically by state, then by county, and within county by place-name. Each state section has an alphabetical index of place-names and a state map showing all counties, large cities, and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (including those that cross state lines). The last volume has a complete place-name index...the set is scheduled for updating every ten years, following the release of decennial census figures.

Information is comprehensive and touches virtually all those topics at the county level...The great value of this set is its thorough treatment of every inhabited place in the US. Though it is often easy to find data for cities, metro areas, and sometimes countries from multiple sources, no other work offers this level of consistent and well-organized information about small places. It provides comparable information for both Hatfield, MA, a town of 3,249, and McCoy, Texas, and unincorporated postal area of 151, including: specific location (coordinates); basic geography; ethnic breakdown, including ancestry by specific country; population density; marriage rates; labor force and employment statistics; income; city taxes if any; education levels; home ownership; crime rate if any, and commuting information. Arrangement by county makes comparison of neighboring towns and regions easy, as well as inferences about town population, religious makeup, health and weather from the more complete county data. When the area includes a school district, college, or chamber of commerce, phone numbers are listed...Data are drawn primarily from the Census Bureau and other federal agencies, but other reliable information sources are used...and cited in the front

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- Choice

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