Chapter 2 Questions and Exercises

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas

1. Go to <https://www.census.gov/geographies/reference-maps/2020/demo/state-maps.html> and take a look at the map of metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas in your state. Which three MSAs within your state are closest to where you live?

You also might want to look at MSAs in adjoining states. Do you live in a metropolitan or a micropolitan statistical area, or in neither?

1. As mentioned in this chapter, there are 370 metropolitan statistical areas and 565 micropolitan statistical areas in the United States. For the state you have chosen,
* How many metropolitan areas are in your state?
* How many micropolitan areas are in your state?
* How many of the metropolitan areas in your state are part of larger CSAs?

Exploring and Comparing Important Characteristics of Metropolitan Areas

1. Using US census data at https://www.census.gov/data, select the MSA closest to your home or another MSA of your choice (other than the 20 presented in the book), and prepare charts for the racial and ethnic composition (percentages) of this MSA and its principal city. Of the 25 metro areas for which we have described the racial and ethnic composition in the book, which comes closest to describing the racial and ethnic composition in the MSA you have selected?
2. Using US census data at https://www.census.gov/data prepare tables for the median family income in the MSA and its principal cities that you used in question 3, which central (principal) cities in the chapter are most similar to your principal city?