

OnTheMap

Selection Area Chart

Local Employment Dynamics

The following poster-sized chart is designed to assist users with selecting an analysis area using the tools available in the Selection tab and Advanced tab.

- Start in the top left corner in the “What Selection Area Do I Want?” column and choose the row with the selection area type that most closely matches your desired area of interest.
- The five available selection area types are:
 - o Census Bureau-supported Geographies (i.e. Places, Counties, Congressional Districts, ZIP Codes, etc.)
 - o Freehand Area
 - o Simple Buffered Area
 - o Donut Buffer Selected Features
 - o Plume Selection Area.
- Move across the selected row from left to right. Each column provides text and images describing the inputs and expected outputs associated with each selection area type.

To access the **OnTheMap** application, click [here](#). For additional information about **OnTheMap**, including help pages and a glossary of terms, please click [here](#).

Note: These two steps can take place in any order

What Selection Area Do I Want?

Radio Buttons and Controls

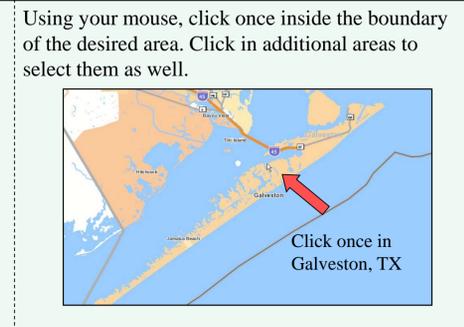
Draw/Click in Map Viewer

Selection Area Result

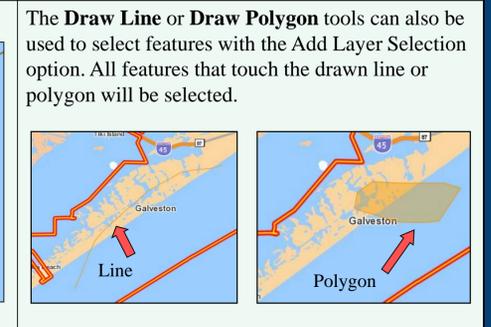
Additional Information

Places (Cities, CDPs, etc.), Counties, Congressional Districts, ZIP Codes, Census Tracts, School Districts, and other existing/predefined areas.
 Use the Add Layer Selection option to select existing Census geographies. When selecting features, the Point(s) selection tool is often the easiest to use, but features can also be selected using drawn lines or polygons. Look at the Add Layer Selection dropdown list to see the available options.
This example demonstrates selecting the city of Galveston, TX from the Places layer.

Activate the **Draw Point(s)** Drawing Tool button. Make sure the **Do Not Buffer** radio button is active. Select **Places (Cities, CDPs, etc.)** from the Add Layer Selection dropdown.

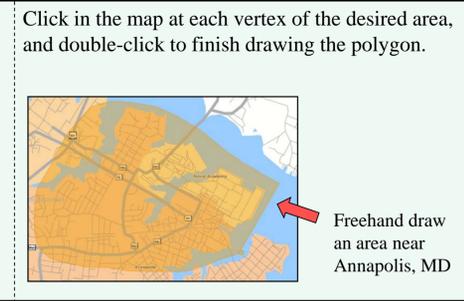


Click **Confirm Selection** at the top of the Selection tab. The selected area(s) will become outlined in red and the Selection Area popup will appear. Click **Clear Selection** to create a different selection area.



Freehand Area (i.e. a neighborhood, central business district, or other non-supported geographic area)
 Use the Draw Polygon (Freehand) tool to draw the desired selection area directly into the map viewer.
This example demonstrates drawing a freehand area near Annapolis, MD.

Activate the **Draw Polygon (Freehand)** tool button. Make sure the Add Layer Selection dropdown is set to **No Selected Layer** and the **Do Not Buffer** radio button is active.

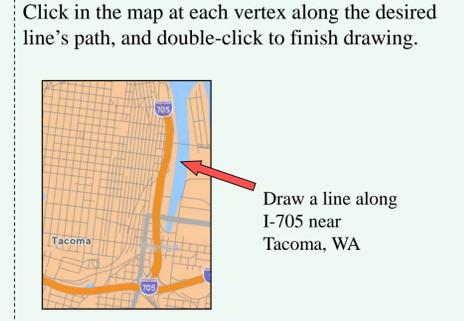


Click **Confirm Selection** at the top of the Selection tab. The selected area(s) will become outlined in red and the Selection Area popup will appear. Click **Clear Selection** to create a different selection area.

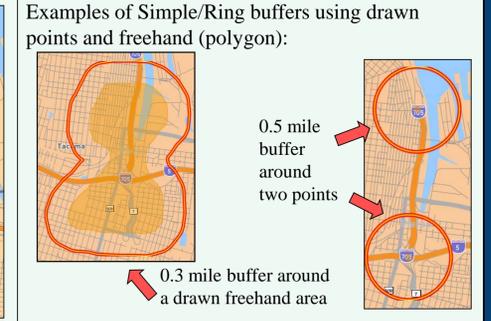
Freehand drawings can be edited by clicking in a drawn shape when the **Edit Drawn Shape** tool is active. Add, delete, and/or drag and drop vertices to modify the shape.

Simple Buffered Area (Points, Line, or Polygon)
 Use Add Buffer to Selection – Simple/Ring option to add a basic buffer to a drawn point(s), line, or polygon. Buffer radius units are miles and up to two decimals are accepted.
This example demonstrates buffering a drawn line using the Simple/Ring buffer option to select the area within a 1-mile radius of I-705 near Tacoma, WA.

Activate the **Draw Line** tool button. Make sure the Add Layer Selection dropdown is set to **No Selected Layer**. Activate the Simple/Ring radio button and enter "1" into the Radius entry box.

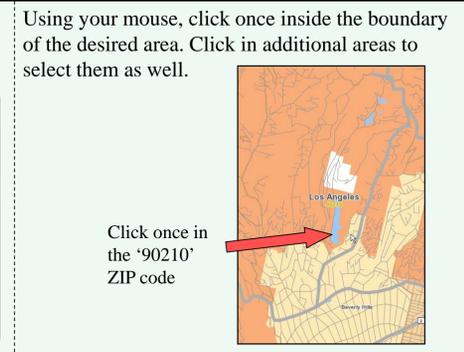


Click **Confirm Selection** at the top of the Selection tab. The selected area(s) will become outlined in red and the Selection Area popup will appear. Click **Clear Selection** to create a different selection area.

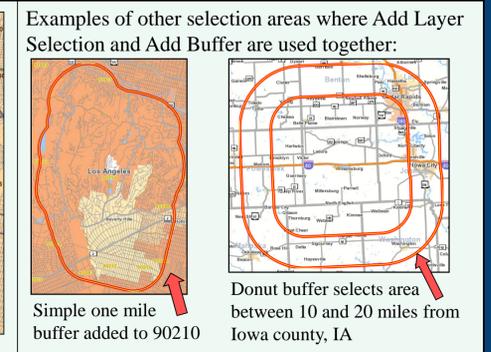


Donut Buffer Selected Features (Places, Counties, etc.)
 Use the Add Layer Selection and Add Buffer to Selection options together to buffer a selected Census geography feature. Adding a Donut buffer selects only the area between the inner and outer buffer radius.
This example demonstrates using the Donut buffer option to select the area within one and a half miles of the 90210 ZIP code border, not including the area within the ZIP code itself.

Activate the **Draw Point(s)** tool button. Select **ZIP Codes (ZCTA)** from the Add Layer Selection dropdown. Activate the Donut Buffer radio button and enter "0" into the Inside Radius entry box and "1.5" into the Outside Radius entry box.

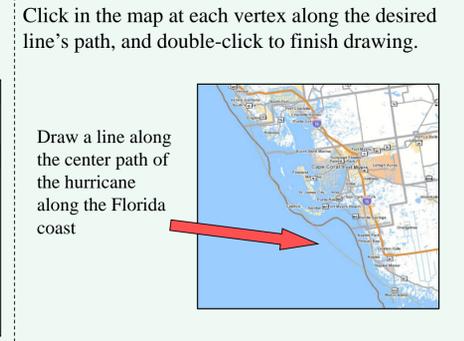


Click **Confirm Selection** at the top of the Selection tab. The selected area(s) will become outlined in red and the Selection Area popup will appear. Click **Clear Selection** to create a different selection area.



Plume Selection Area
 Use the Draw Line tool with the Plume buffer option to create a selection area with a gradually increasing buffer along a drawn line.
This example demonstrates how to create a selection area depicting a hurricane path along Florida's gulf coast as it increases in size from 5 to 25 miles in diameter.

Activate the **Draw Line** tool button. Make sure the Add Layer Selection dropdown is set to **No Selected Layer**. Activate the Plume Buffer radio button and enter "5" into the Start Radius entry box and "25" into the End Radius entry box.



Click **Confirm Selection** at the top of the Selection tab. The selected area(s) will become outlined in red and the Selection Area popup will appear. Click **Clear Selection** to create a different selection area.

The Plume Buffer option only functions with the **Draw Line** tool, and only when the Add Layer Selection dropdown is set.