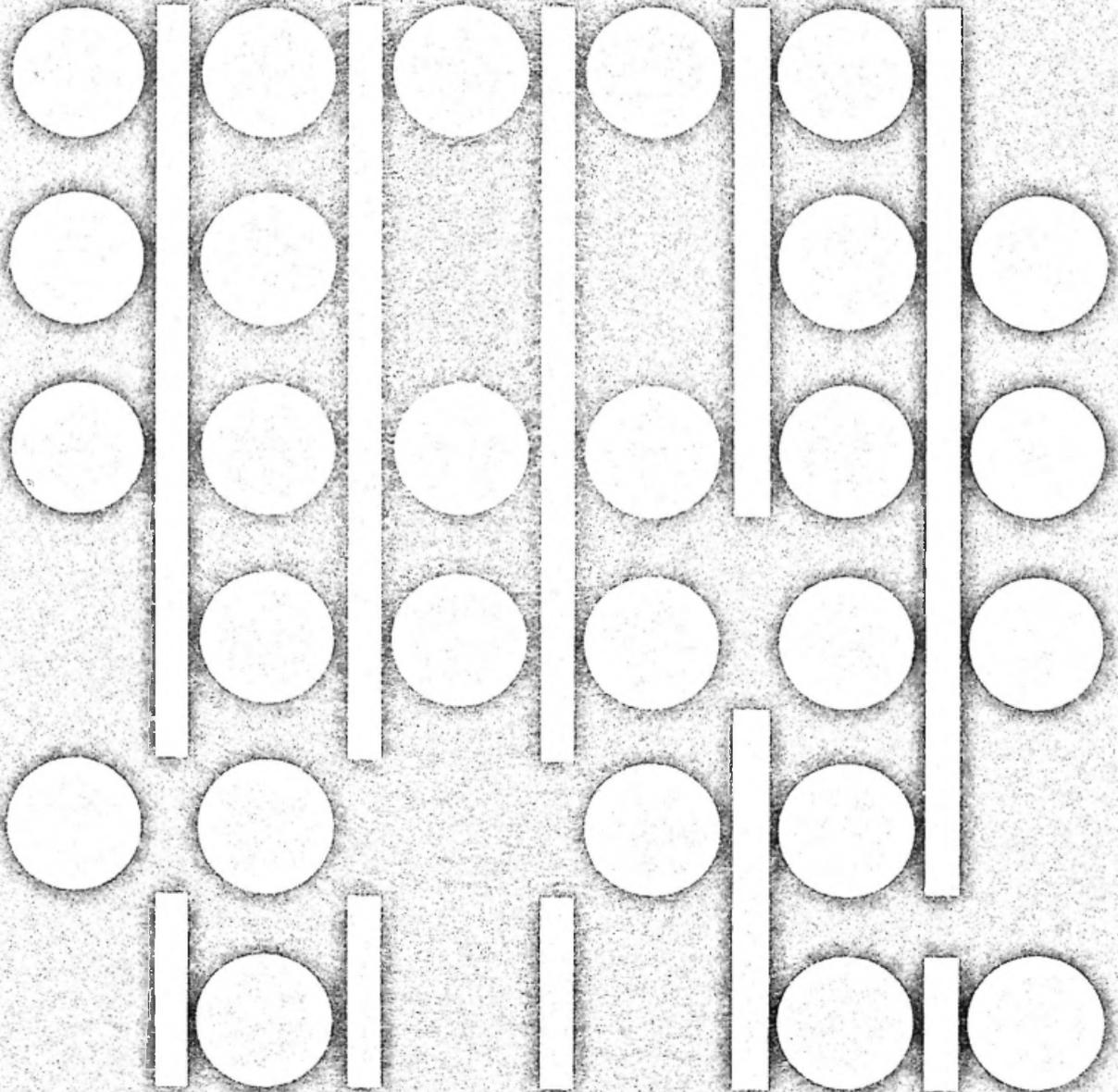


728.1  
: 308  
(016)  
H68d  
c.2

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Policy Development and Research



# Data Resources in Housing and Urban Development



## Foreword

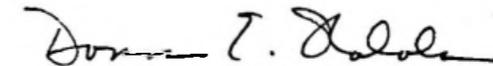
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through its Office of Policy Development and Research, has for some years been carrying out an extensive program of research, program analysis, and policy studies. The primary purpose of this work is to assist HUD policymakers in determining national housing and community development goals, but in addition many of our studies serve the information needs of other Federal agencies, State and local governments, industry, and the general public.

Because the data collected for our research and analysis can often be reanalyzed and made subject to secondary analysis for other purposes, PD&R is now making the data themselves accessible to the research community, knowing that such data can be of great help to scholars and researchers as they address urban issues.

This brochure describes the data files now available to the public—data from the Annual Housing Survey, from the Survey of Developmental Needs of Small Cities, and the Survey on the Quality of Community Life. In the pages that follow, we describe the purpose and methodology of each survey, summarize the kinds of data each survey collected, and explain where to obtain additional documentation, printed reports, and of course the data files themselves.

Each of the files represents substantial efforts by this office to collect national information on a subject of genuine importance. We are proud to make them available to the scholarly community, and we very much look forward to seeing the results of their use.

As additional files become available, they too will be announced in similar detail.



Donna E. Shalala  
Assistant Secretary  
for Policy Development and Research

## Annual Housing Survey

### Background

The Annual Housing Survey was developed to assess progress made toward realizing the goal of a decent home and suitable living environment for every American family. It is sponsored by HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research and conducted by the Bureau of the Census.

### Survey Description

The Annual Housing Survey (AHS) comprises two separate data collection efforts. First is a national survey of a sample of housing units. Second is a survey of a sample of housing units in 15 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) each year, with a total of 60 selected SMSA's being surveyed every 4 years. Housing units surveyed nationally represent a cross section of all housing in the Nation, updated every year to include new construction.

**National Sample.** National survey data are collected through a national sample drawn from the total housing supply. The initial sample (1973) consisted of approximately 60,000 units, including 16,000 rural units. The rural sample was doubled in 1974 to increase the reliability of AHS estimates of rural housing characteristics, resulting in a designated sample of 76,000 housing units for the 1974 survey, which grew to 80,000 units in the 1976 survey. Total sample size was reduced to 76,000 units in 1977 because of cost considerations. It was allowed to expand with the housing stock to approximately 80,000 units in 1980, when the AHS became the vehicle for the Components of Inventory Change Survey (CINCH), conducted every decade as part of the Decennial Census of Housing. The sample is expected to remain at approximately 80,000 units through 1983, after which a new or revised sample will be drawn, based on the 1980 census of housing findings.

**SMSA Samples.** Separate samples are taken in 60 selected SMSA's every 3 years (every 4 years beginning in 1978) on a rotating basis. In 12 of the SMSA's each sample is approximately 15,000 housing units (half inside and half outside the central city); in each of the remaining 48 SMSA's the sample size is about 5,000 units. Approximately 20 SMSA's were surveyed each year for survey years 1974-75 through 1977-78, while 15 SMSA's are to be surveyed each year thereafter.

### Survey Scope

Although the Annual Housing Survey utilizes questions and data from previous censuses and from special studies, its scope is wider. For the first time, annual data are being collected on how well housing equipment works, dependability and adequacy of neighborhood public services, presence and extent of housing problems, quality of neighborhood environment, characteristics of housing occupants and recent movers. Special supplements investigate energy conservation, the journey to work and its impact on the housing market, and other timely issues.

### Published Reports

Annual Housing Survey Reports for the Nation are published each year in six parts:

- A. General Housing Characteristics
- B. Indicators of Housing and Neighborhood Quality
- C. Financial Characteristics of the Housing Inventory
- D. Housing Characteristics of Recent Movers
- E. Urban and Rural Housing Characteristics
- F. Financial Characteristics by Indicators of Housing and Neighborhood Quality

A combined report is published for each SMSA, which includes all parts except part E.

Annual Housing Survey Reports are available from the Government Printing Office. Orders to GPO *must* specify the requested documents by order/stock number and *must* include payment in full (check or money order, no cash) unless you have established a deposit account. To order documents from GPO, to check prices, to find out if a publication is still in stock, or to find out how to open an account, call or write:

Superintendent of Documents  
U.S. Government Printing Office  
Washington, D.C. 20402  
202-783-3238

### Unpublished Tabulations

A large number of tabulations which are not included in published reports have been prepared to meet special needs. Tabulations are available from the Census Bureau for the cost of reproduction.

Additional information and lists of unpublished tabulations available from the national or SMSA samples may be obtained by contacting:

Housing Division  
Bureau of the Census  
Washington, D.C. 20233  
301-763-2880

### Public Use Microdata Files

To further enhance the usefulness of the Annual Housing Survey, the entire AHS data base is available for public use in microdata form. "Microdata" refers to unaggregated records for individual units in the survey, in a form modified to avoid identification of particular households.

Extensive tabulations are already available from AHS samples. AHS microdata files, however, permit data users to prepare numerous other tabulations designed to meet specialized needs and to employ various statistical analysis techniques appropriate for working with individual records.

AHS microdata provide all the information obtained from each household or vacant housing unit. Major categories of information include record identification, geography, household and structural characteristics, equipment, fuels and services, occupancy and vacancy characteristics, mobile home characteristics, housing and neighborhood characteristics, financial characteristics, plumbing characteristics, characteristics of recent movers, and energy conservation (included in the AHS national sample only).

SMSA microdata samples from the Annual Housing Survey may be ordered as a group or individually, one tape per SMSA. Technical documentation for any file, if desired in advance, may be ordered separately. To obtain pricing information, tapes, or technical documentation, call or write:

Customer Service Branch  
Data User Service Division  
Bureau of the Census  
Washington, D.C. 20233  
301-763-2400

## Survey of Developmental Needs of Small Cities

### Longitudinal Files

One of the unique characteristics of the AHS is that generally, except for new construction and losses, the same housing units remain in the sample from year to year. Thus, as more survey years become available, the AHS microdata will become increasingly important to the researcher interested in longitudinal analysis.

Longitudinal files can be obtained by calling or writing:

AHS Users' Office  
Center for the Social Sciences  
Columbia University  
814 International Affairs Building  
New York, New York 10027  
212-280-3093

### Background

Section 113 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1977 required HUD to submit a report to the U.S. Congress on the developmental needs of small cities. In response to this requirement, HUD conducted a multifaceted study of small cities, including a mail survey of chief executives.

### Survey Description

The purpose of the survey was to discover the developmental needs, priorities, and problems of small cities. Nearly 2,000 mayors, city managers, selectmen, and commissioners were asked about local problems, adequacy of facilities, basis of economic support, experience with growth and annexation, experience with Federal problems, and their needs for data and technical assistance.

In addition to standardized responses to pre-coded questions, local officials were given an opportunity to make general statements on developmental needs, to make recommendations on program duplication and on allocation of Federal funds, and to make comparisons between small and large cities.

Responses from individual cities necessarily reflected the city's own situation at the time — its governmental powers, current local crises, and the responding official's own perceptions of developmental needs. Taken together, however, responses give valuable insights into the problems and priorities of small cities.

To increase the survey's analytic potential, secondary data were collected and included in the data file for each city which submitted a completed questionnaire:

- Population in 1970 and 1975
- Number of people below poverty in 1970
- Percentage growth, 1970 to 1975
- Percentage growth of the city's county, 1970 to 1975
- Per capita income in 1974
- Per capita income of the city's county in 1974
- Number of houses in 1970
- Number of houses in 1970 which were built prior to 1939
- Change in per capita income, 1969 to 1974.

### Sample Design

Survey sample design stratified small cities according to population and location. Sample subcategories included four population groupings: 25,000-49,999; 10,000-24,999; 2,500-9,999 and less than 2,500. Each was further divided by "within SMSA" (or metropolitan) and "outside SMSA" (or nonmetropolitan), creating an eight-category sample.

The universe from which the sample was drawn included all cities with populations less than 50,000 which were not central cities of SMSA's. It also included Virginia independent cities, Pennsylvania boroughs, and New England towns with populations less than 50,000. There were 19,508 such cities in the universe.

A principal limiting factor in sample design was the amount of time and money available to conduct the survey and process the resultant data. With this in mind, HUD determined that no more than 2,000 cities should be sent questionnaires.

### Published Report

Data from this mail survey are included in the HUD report *Developmental Needs of Small Cities*. The report's Appendix contains the mail questionnaire and lists cities which responded to the survey. Single copies of the publication are available from HUD at no cost, while they last, by calling or writing:

HUD USER  
P.O. Box 280  
Germantown, Maryland 20767  
301-428-3105

### Public Use Data File

The Survey of the Developmental Needs of Small Cities data base is available for public use. Data tape in SPSS format (including survey items and demographic data) and complete documentation may be purchased from:

Social Science Data Library  
Institute for Research in Social Science  
Manning Hall 026A  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514  
919-966-1022

Cost of the data tape and documentation is approximately \$100 (subject to change). Allow about one month for processing and delivery.

## Survey on the Quality of Community Life

### Background

The Survey on the Quality of Community Life was stimulated by President Carter's 1978 pledge to formulate a comprehensive urban policy and his determination that citizens have an opportunity to participate in the formulation of such a policy.

In the course of the ensuing policy deliberations, State and local government officials, civil rights and corporate leaders, public interest and volunteer groups, business executives, and labor leaders were consulted. Public meetings were held throughout the Nation to provide forums for the expression of public sentiment. Finally, to assure the widest possible representation of opinion, HUD sponsored an extensive survey of public views and concerns about the Nation's cities, suburbs, small towns, and rural areas.

### Survey Description

During December 1977 and January 1978, Louis Harris and Associates conducted 7,074 one-hour, in-person interviews with adults, 18 years old and over. The questionnaire, which included both open and closed ended questions, contained over 250 items tapping respondents' views and concerns about their own communities and about community life in general.

Considering both sample size and questionnaire coverage, this was one of the largest and most comprehensive citizen surveys of its kind ever undertaken. In addition to providing numerous research opportunities to analysts interested in the quality of life area, the data base can be used as a standard against which to compare local studies of public attitudes toward community conditions and as a benchmark against which to evaluate changes in attitudes over time.

The Survey on the Quality of Community Life comprises seven parts:

- 1. General considerations about the quality of urban life.** These questions relate to community satisfaction, comparative evaluations of the attributes of various kinds and sizes of communities, assessments of what urban America used to be like, and beliefs about the changing character of the Nation's communities.
- 2. Community problems facing Americans.** These questions deal with what respondents see as the specific problems affecting their communities and how respondents evaluate the severity of those problems.
- 3. Sociology of American neighborhoods.** Questions on this topic focus on the frequency with which neighbors interact and on respondents' preferences for neighborhoods of varying social compositions.
- 4. How Americans use their cities and suburbs.** This cluster of questions relates to the public's use of various facilities inside and outside of cities. It also includes questions on work location and commuting patterns.
- 5. Performance of government.** Several questions tap respondents' views about the quality of local public services. Others tap views about the relative responsiveness of various levels of government and about which level of government should fund and administer a variety of public services.
- 6. Residential and housing preferences of Americans.** These questions concern where respondents want to live and where they want their children to live. Questions elicit information on the factors which influence locational decisions and the types of dwelling units people prefer.

**7. Future expectations.** A number of items are included to assess respondents' perceptions of how conditions and services in their communities have changed in the last several years and how respondents think they may change in the next several years. Respondents are also asked about their plans to move in the near future.

To permit detailed sub-group analysis within the Nation's Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's), interviews were conducted with 3,229 residents of 300 central city sample points, 3,298 residents of 300 suburban (noncentral city portions of SMSA's) sample points and 547 residents of 50 nonmetropolitan sample points. Weighting procedures are available for purposes of national projections.

**Published Reports**

A summary report prepared by Louis Harris and Associates, *A Survey of Citizens' Views and Concerns about Urban Life*, includes salient findings from the survey. Marginal frequency distributions and cross-tabulations of many of the items included in the survey are also available in a companion publication, *The 1978 HUD Survey on the Quality of Community Life: A Data Book*. This 800-page resource volume also contains the basic version of the questionnaire used in the survey. Single copies of both publications are available from HUD at no cost, while they last, by calling or writing:

**HUD USER**  
P.O. Box 280  
Germantown, Maryland 20767  
301-428-3105

**Public Use Data File**

In addition to survey data, the data base contains a number of additional data items. Sample points which are incorporated places include the following data: population in 1960, 1970, and 1975; land area in square miles; unemployment data; proportion of persons below poverty level; type of government; bond rating; distance from central city; age of housing stock; per capita income.

Data tape in SPSS format (including survey items and demographic data) and documentation may be purchased from:

Social Science Data Library  
Institute for Research in Social Science  
Manning Hall 026A  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514  
919-966-1022

Cost of the data tape and documentation is approximately \$100 (subject to change). Allow about one month for processing and delivery.

728.1  
:308  
(016)  
H68d  
c.2

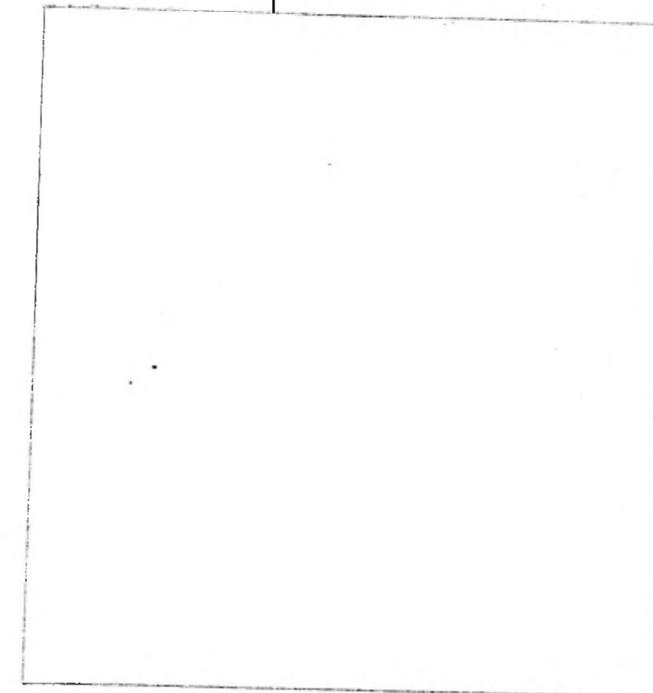
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
MAY 29 1980

LIBRARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

728.1 :308 (016) H68d c.2

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban  
Development...  
Data resources in housing and  
urban development.

DATE	ISSUED TO
------	-----------



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

451 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20410

Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

I would like to be notified about additional HUD data tapes as they become available. Please place my name on your mailing list.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently working in the following research areas:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postage and Fees Paid  
U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development  
HUD-401

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

